Permits issued by SF Public Works
Bureau of Street Use and Mapping

- Additional Street Use
- Banners
- Bicycles, Scooters and Bikes
- Public Trash and Chutes
- Debris Docks
- Display Merchandise
- Street Tables
- Free Sample Merchandise
- General Encroachment
- Suppression of Conformity Right of Way
- Major Encroachment
- Urban Sidewalk Encroachment
- Mobile Food Facility (Fixed Trucks)
- Mobile Storage Container
- Night Noise
- Notice to Vacate
- Outward Driveway (over 20 ft)
- Pedestrian
- Pipe Borer / Security Burials
- Sidewalk
- Sidewalk Landscaping
- Sidewalk Reconstruction*
- Special Sidewalk
- Street Space Occupancy*
- Street Improvement
- Trash Chutes
- Temporary Occupancy
- Tree Planting and Removal
- Underground Tank Removal
- Utility Encroachment
- Vault Encroachment
- Wireless Box

Why landscape your sidewalks?

- Create better conditions for street trees
- Improve quality of ground water
- Improve livability of neighborhood
- Increase property values
- Landscaped sidewalks look great
- Provides habitat for birds and butterflies
- Reduce stormwater run-off
- Sequester carbon

SIDEWALK LANDSCAPE PERMITS

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San Francisco Public Works
Street Use and Mapping
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: (628) 271-2000

San Francisco Public Works
Permit Center
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 200
Processing Hours:
- 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
  Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Wednesday
- Closed on official holidays

How do I participate?

Apply for a Sidewalk Landscaping Permit through San Francisco Public Works’ Bureau of Street Use and Mapping.

Application Form and Fee Schedule available:

- In Person: 49 South Van Ness Ave. Suite 200
- By Calling: (628) 271-2000
- Online: sfpublicworks.org/Permits

“How-To” videos, plant palettes and designs, and templates can also be found under the Sidewalk Landscaping page under the “Permits” tab on the website.

NOTE: San Francisco Public Works may find it necessary to request additional information after the initial application review.
What steps do I need to take?

1. Determine if your sidewalk is wide enough to install sidewalk landscaping. In general, the following apply:
   • Urban Areas with adjacent parking
     Minimum Width: 11 ft
     (4 ft unobstructed sidewalk + 3 ft planting +
     2 ft courtesy strip)
   • Residential Areas or alleyways with parking
     Minimum Width: 9 ft
     (4 ft unobstructed sidewalk + 3 ft planting +
     2 ft courtesy strip)

2. Determine if you, the property owner or agent of property owner, are committed to maintain landscaping. Often an agent of the property owner is interested in installing sidewalk landscaping, however the property owner will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the sidewalk and landscaped area and there must sign the application.

3. Determine if you plan to hire a landscape designer or provide plan and plant list yourself. You can prepare your own plan. The most important elements are sidewalk width, your proposed planting area dimensions and any existing utilities or site conditions.

4. Determine if you wish to hire a contractor to do the work or do the work yourself.

5. You may also opt to hire a contractor to saw cut and remove the portion of concrete sidewalk slated for new sidewalk planting and do the planting yourself.

What information should be included in the required application drawings?

Include the following measurements:
- Width of sidewalk (from back of curb)
- Length and width of new planting bed along curb
- Length and width of new planting bed along building
- Length of your property along sidewalk
- Width of driveway
- Width of entries (doorways and stairs)
- Width of remaining unobstructed concrete sidewalk
- Proposed width of accessible path from parking spot
- Width of courtesy strips (2 ft minimum)
- Width of clear access to utility

Include the following elements in your plan:
- Identify property line
- Identify ways
- Above-ground utilities (utility poles, hydrants, etc.)
- Below-ground utilities (PAAE, Comcast, AT&T, etc.)
- Street furniture and elements (benches, mailboxes, etc.)
- Existing trees
- Identify existing planting areas and tree wells, proposed new trees, proposed new sidewalk landscape bed.
- Type of adjacent curbside parking (parallel, perpendicular or diagonal), and proposed edging treatment, if any.

SAN FRANCISCO
CLIMATE ZONE MAP

ZONE 1 COASTAL (FOG BELT)
COLD TEMPERATURE DEW POINT SUMMER MISTY INFLUENCE WEST OF THE MOUNTAIN SLOPES, MARINE INFLUENCE THROUGHOUT
ZONE 1.

ZONE 2 Transition
COLD TO MODERATE TEMPERATURE, SUBTROPICAL MIST, WITH HYDRANGEA OF THE MOUNTAIN SLOPE.

ZONE 3 BAY (GULF) ELEVATION 200 FEET OR MORE IN THE BAY AREA, FOGGY SUMMER DAYS WARM TO HOT SUMMER.

NOTES:
1. MODERN FLOWING CONTEMPORARY TRADE WINDS.
2. MODERN TROPICAL TRADE WINDS.
3. PLANTS APPEAL FOR CONDITIONS
ZONE 1
AND 3 ARE ALSO SUITABLE FOR ZONE 2.

Keep in mind the Climate Zone Map and Sidewalk Landscaping Drought Tolerant List for a list of plants suited for San Francisco.

How do I determine what plants are suited for my sidewalk?

Select plants that are suited to your climate zone in San Francisco and tolerate the micro-climatic conditions of your site. San Francisco Public Works encourages the use of drought tolerant and California native plants.

The City can be divided simply into three zones:
1. Fog Belt
2. Transition
3. Sun Belt

Refer to the San Francisco Climate Zone Map and Sidewalk Landscaping Drought Tolerant List for a list of plants suited for San Francisco.

Your Urban Forestry inspector can also answer questions and provide suggestions for plant choices. For more information, contact SF Public Works at (628) 652-8733.

templates available at sfpublicworks.org/SidewalkLandscaping