

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bayview Business Summit 2025 Announces Keynote Speaker and Program Highlights *Bayview Merchants Association Centennial Celebration Generously Supported by Avenue Greenlight*

San Francisco, CA — The Bayview Merchants Association (BMA), celebrating its **100-year anniversary** in 2025, has announced program details for the upcoming **Bayview Business Summit 2025**. The all-day event will take place at **9 AM**, on **Thursday, September 18, 2025**, at the **Southeast Community Center (1550 Evans Avenue, San Francisco)**, bringing together entrepreneurs, business leaders, city officials, and community members for a day of insight, opportunity, and celebration.

BMA is honored to welcome **Dr. Tara Lynn Gray**, Former Director of the **California Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA)**, as the keynote speaker. Dr. Gray was sworn in as the fifth director of CalOSBA in 2021 and served as the voice for California's 4.2 million small businesses in the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. She brings decades of leadership experience as a business owner, chamber executive, and advocate for equity and inclusion in economic development.

Program highlights include:

- **9:00 AM Plenary Session:** Opening remarks from BMA leadership, Supervisor Shamann Walton, and community partners
- **Workshops:** Topics include *Demystifying the Loan Approval Process*, *Strategies to Help Your Nonprofit Flourish*, *Navigating the New Digital Frontier*, and *Government Contracting*
- **11:30 AM Centennial Awards Luncheon:** Honoring 100 years of Bayview business leadership
- **Procurement & Information Fair (10 AM–3 PM):** Connecting businesses with resources and opportunities

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Tara Lynn Gray as our keynote speaker and to offer a program that provides real tools and insights for our business community," said Dontaye Ball, President of the Bayview Merchants Association. "As we mark 100 years of service, this Summit is both a celebration of our legacy and an investment in the future of Bayview businesses."

BMA extends special thanks to **Avenue Greenlight**, whose generous support has helped make this centennial celebration possible. Avenue Greenlight funds merchant associations and

community groups across San Francisco to strengthen commercial corridors and neighborhood vitality.

Tickets & Registration

The event is free but requires advance registration. BMA members receive two free tickets to the Summit. Membership information and registration are available here:

events.humanitix.com/bayview-business-summit-2025

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Press Kit

A media kit containing this release, the August announcement, flyers, leadership headshots, and curated historical photographs from the BMA archives is available here:

drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1nQiyL47INMupdPaGkri7ieQIQ4DMFF7g

(Images are cleared for editorial use; credit Bayview Merchants Association archives.)

About the Bayview Merchants Association

Founded in 1925, the Bayview Merchants Association (BMA) is a business advocacy organization dedicated to supporting and promoting the economic vitality of San Francisco's Bayview neighborhood. For 100 years, BMA has worked to foster a thriving business environment, strengthen community ties, and ensure Bayview remains a dynamic and integral part of San Francisco's economy.

About Avenue Greenlight

Avenue Greenlight provides funding to merchant organizations and community groups to lead improvements in their commercial corridors and surrounding neighborhoods. Learn more at

avenuegreenlightsf.org.