



## MEMORANDUM

DATE October 30, 2023  
TO Michael Van Lonkhuyzen, Planning Manager  
FROM Bruce Brubaker and Pranjali Deokule (PlaceWorks)  
SUBJECT General Plan/Specific Plan and Zoning Code Amendments

### Introduction

The City of Daly City is developing a new Commercial Mixed Use (C-MU) zoning district for its Mission Street and Geneva Avenue corridors to allow for the future development of new multi-family residential and mixed-use development. Implementation of this new zoning district requires a General Plan, Zoning Code and BART Station Area Specific Plan Amendment. Below are text and exhibits for these amendments.

### Reason for General Plan/Specific Plan Amendment

The Daly City 2030 General Plan has designated almost all property within the Study Area as Commercial – Mixed Use (C-MU). During the course of developing the new C-MU zoning district it became clear that some additional parcels should be made C-MU designation for several reasons:

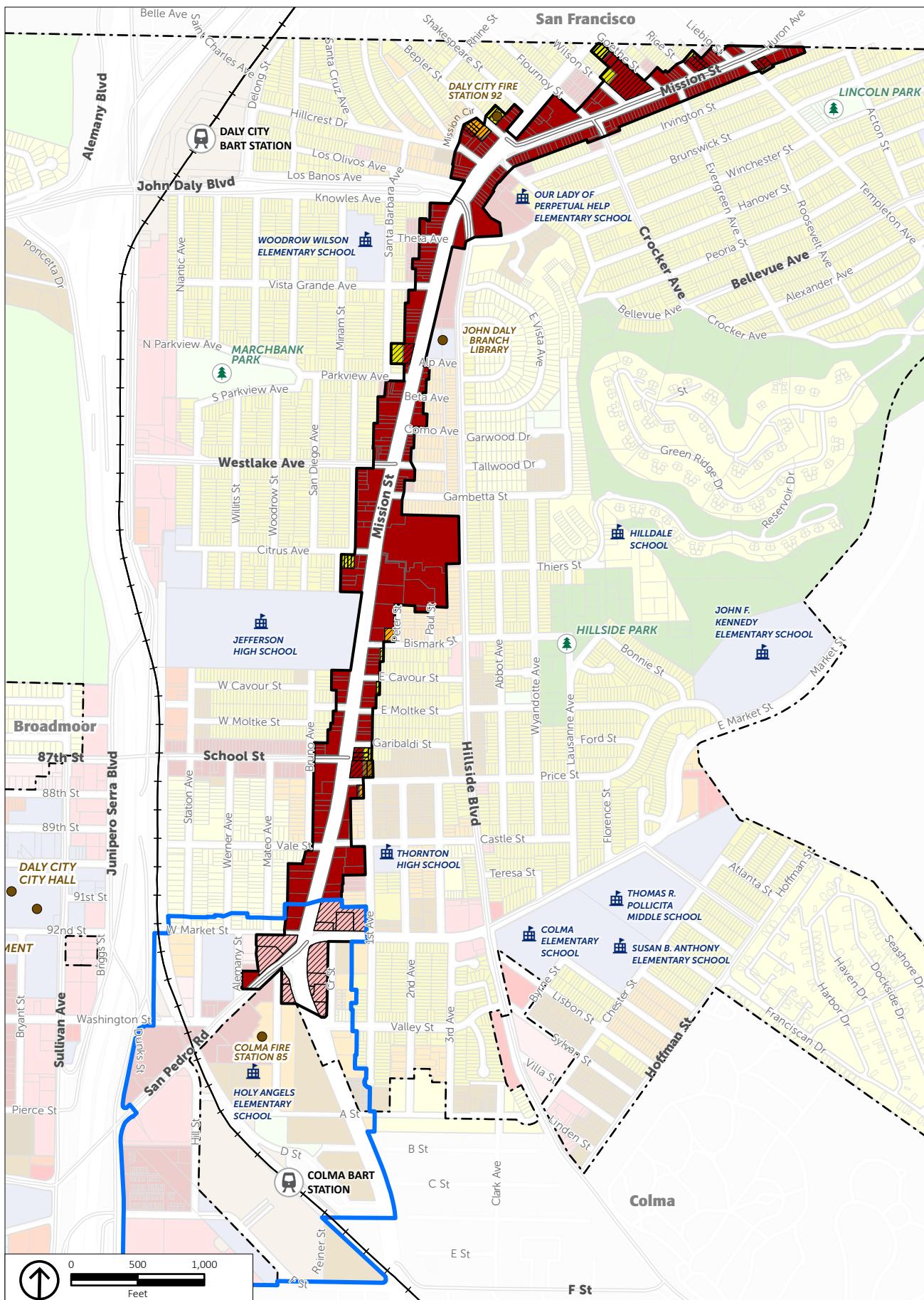
- » Some parcels are split designation, with part of the parcel designated C-MU (facing Mission or Geneva) and some of the parcel another designation such as Medium Density Residential. These parcels with a single designation will be more straightforward for future development.
- » Some C-MU parcels are abutting parcels with a different designation but have the same ownership. Should the property owner choose to develop they would likely apply for redesignation. This will streamline the development feasibility of those parcels.
- » Some parcels, particularly in the BART Station Area Specific Plan, are facing Mission Street and have similar potential for pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use development. These are commercial properties proposed to change to the C-MU designation to serve as the southern terminus of the C-MU Mission Street Corridor. This will require an amendment to the BART Station Area Specific Plan as described in the last section of this memo.

All properties designated C-MU are allowed to remain with their existing land uses subject to certain provisions. See the text regarding Existing Non-Conforming Uses in the Zoning Amendment, described later in this document.

## **General Plan Amendment**

Parcels shown hatched in Figures 1.1 and 1.2 are changed to be Commercial-Mixed Use land use designation. Replace General Plan Land Use Map with the revised General Plan Land Use Map as shown in Figures 2.1 and 2.2.

No other changes to the General Plan are required.



Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

## Mission Street Existing General Plan Designations



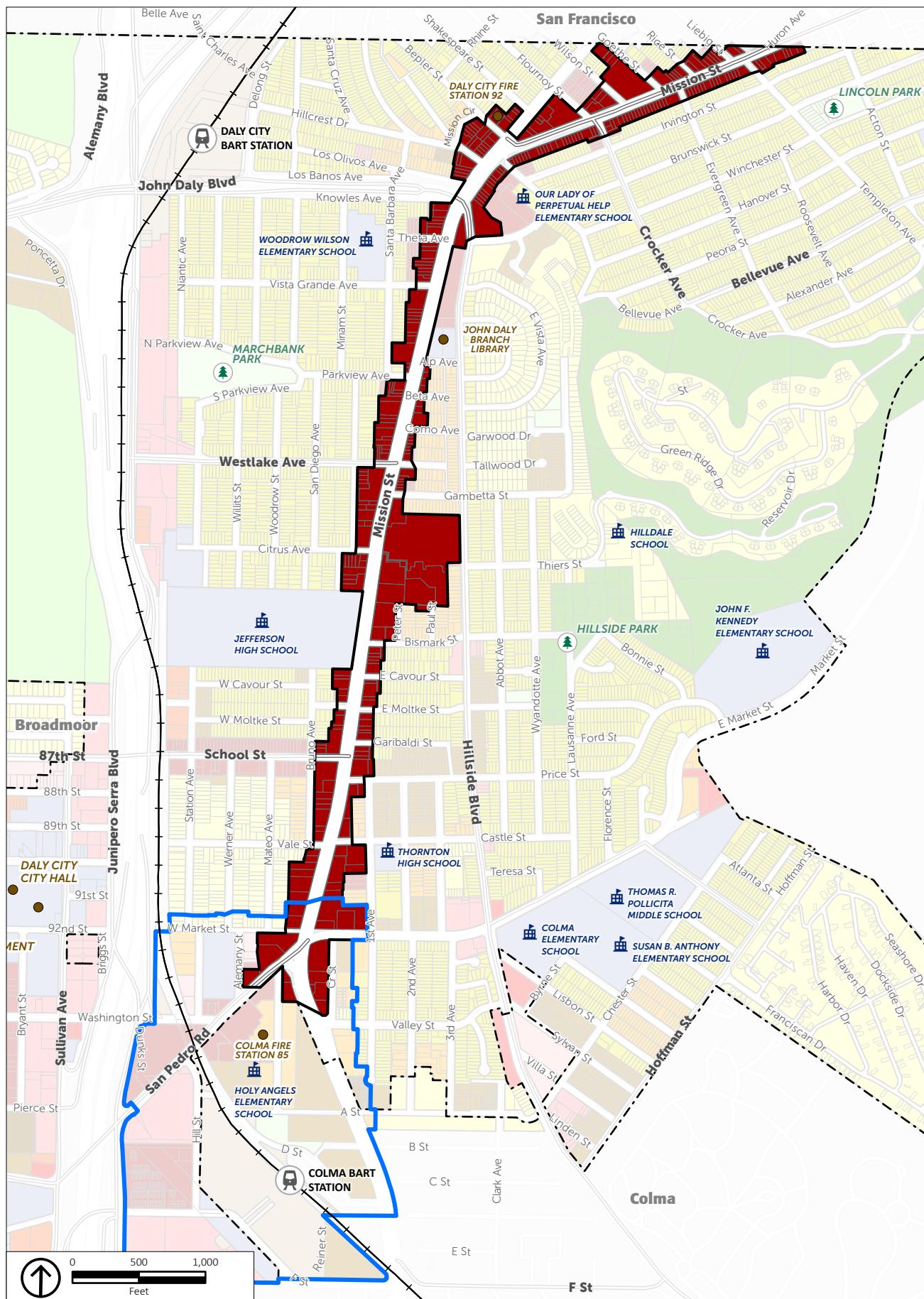
Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

Figure 1.2

## Geneva Avenue Existing General Plan Land Use Designations

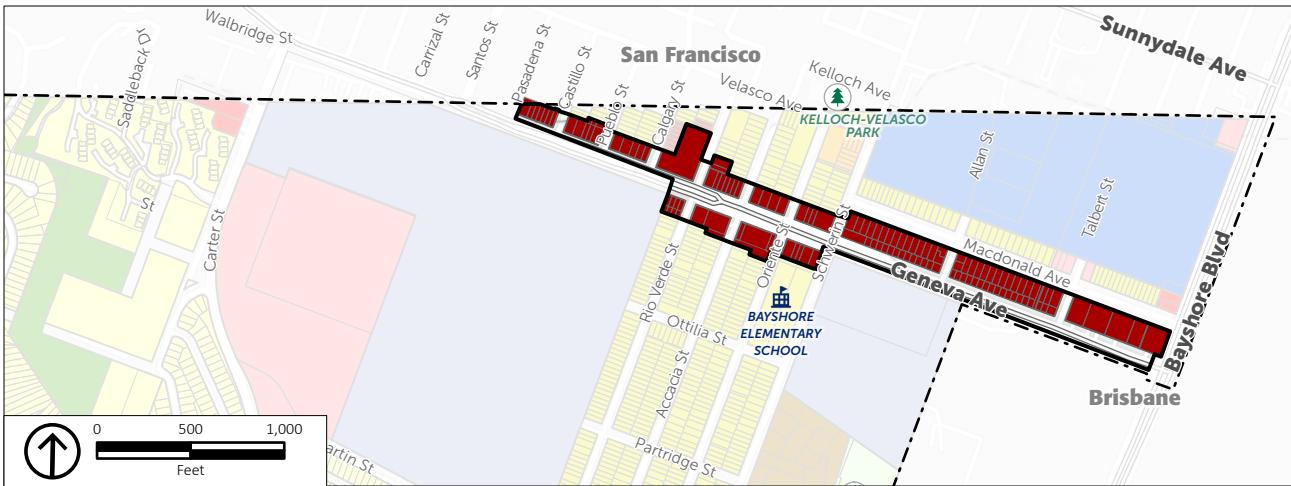
### Legend

	BART Stations
	Other Landmarks and Community Facilities
	Parks
	Schools
	BART Route
	Project Area
	Daly City Limit
	BART Specific Plan Boundary
	Parcels
	Proposed Change to Commercial Mixed Use (C-MU) Designation
<b>General Plan Land Uses</b>	
<b>Residential</b>	
	Low Density (R-LD)
	Medium-Low Density (R-MLD)
	Medium Density (R-MD)
	High Density (R-HD)
	Very High Density (R-VHD)
<b>Recreation and Open Space</b>	
	Public Park (PP)
	Private Recreation (PR)
	Open Space Preservation (OSP)
<b>Commercial</b>	
	Neighborhood (C-N)
	Retail and Office (C-RO)
	Office (C-O)
	Service (C-S)
	Mixed Use (C-MU)
<b>Industrial</b>	
	Industrial (I)
<b>Public &amp; Institutional Facilities</b>	
	BART (BART)
	Public Facility (PF)
	Hospital (H)



Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

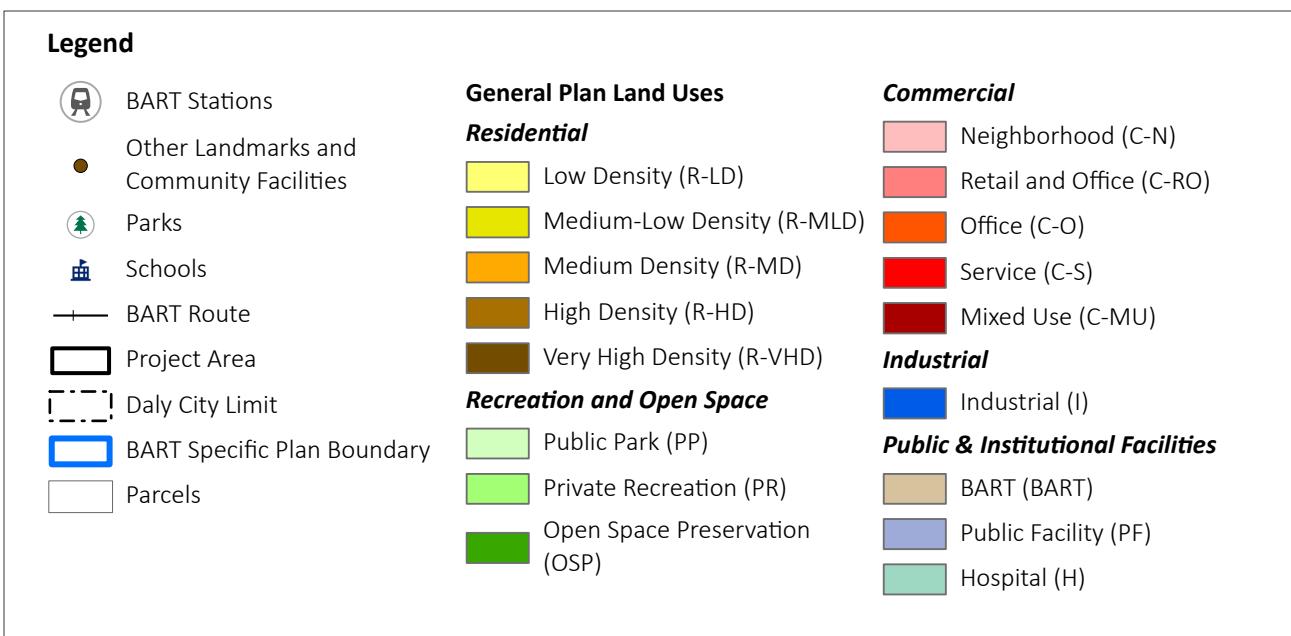
## Mission Street Proposed General Plan Designations



Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

Figure 2.2

## Geneva Avenue Proposed General Plan Land Use Designations



## **Reason for Zoning Amendment**

Most parcels within the Mission Street and Geneva Avenue project boundaries are zoned Light Commercial (C-1) and other zoning districts that do not allow for multifamily residential development. However, as described above, these parcels have a land use designation of Commercial Mixed Use (C-MU) in the General Plan, which envisions vibrant mixed-use corridors on Mission Street and Geneva Avenue. Therefore, the Zoning Code needs to be changed to reflect the General Plan policy direction for properties along Mission Street and Geneva Avenue in the study area. To this end a new zoning district, Commercial-Mixed Use (C-MU) will be added to the Zoning Ordinance, and the Zoning Map will be changed to show C-MU along Mission Street and Geneva Avenue, with primary exceptions being to parcels that have been previously zoned as Planned Development. The regulations for the new zoning district (C-MU) are only applicable to project applications that have been received by the city after the adoption date.

## **Zoning Amendment**

Add new chapter to Daly City Code of Ordinances:

### **17.XX C-MU COMMERCIAL MIXED-USE DISTRICT**

#### **17.XX.010 Purpose.**

To allow and provide regulatory incentives and/or requirements for developers to construct buildings which contain a high density of housing and/or a vertical mix of uses (e.g., retail or restaurant uses) at the street level and office or residential uses at levels above the street. This district generally includes parcels fronting Mission Street and Geneva Avenue, and includes certain parcels within the BART Station Area Specific Plan intended for mixed-use development.

#### **17.XX.020 Uses.**

##### **Permitted Uses**

The following structures and uses are permitted in the C-MU district without the requirement for a use permit:

##### **Residential Uses**

Multiple-family Dwellings (two or more units), when constructed in conjunction with retail, office, or other non-residential uses at the street level; group home/boarding house; rest home; live/work residential units; accessory dwelling units (per city standards).

##### **Non-residential Uses**

Animal grooming not involving overnight boarding; athletic clubs and health studios; assembly uses, including churches, lodges, and social and meeting halls; business and trade schools; childcare facilities

and play gyms; hotels, including extended stay hotels; movie theaters and complexes; offices uses, including professional offices, medical and dental offices, and medical clinics; payday lending establishments subject to the separation requirements contained in Chapter 17.40.080; personal service uses, including nail and hair salons, massage businesses where employees are licensed by the State of California; pharmacies; restaurants that do not provide a drive-through window; retail uses, including alcohol sales, not specified as requiring a use permit; seasonal temporary uses (e.g., Christmas tree lots); smoke shops and tobacco store businesses subject to the separation requirements contained in Chapter 17.40.070.

#### Accessory Uses

The following uses are permitted in the C-MU district when accessory to or commenced concurrently with or subsequent to permitted uses: other accessory uses and structures customarily appurtenant to a multi-family residential permitted use when in compliance with Title 25 of the California Administrative Code; vehicle charging facilities not required by the Green Building Standard Code when proposed on the same parcel as a primary use.

#### Conditional Uses

The following structures and uses are permitted in the C-MU district upon first receiving approval of a use permit, subject to the requirements of Chapter 17.44: animal hospitals and kennels; businesses whose principal use is for the operation of amusement devices, i.e., arcades; emergency medical care, including urgent care clinics and hospitals; food sales on temporary basis, including farmers markets and food truck sales; pharmacies providing a drive-through window; retailers where more than 50 percent of the store stock retail value is products containing tobacco, electronic cigarettes, personal vaporizers, or electronic nicotine delivery systems; vehicle or equipment rental; and vehicle storage.

#### Prohibited Uses

The following uses shall not be allowed in the C-MU district: automotive dealers and auto retail, sales, and repair, unless previously operating on the same site prior to January 1, 2008; retailers where more than 10 percent of the store stock retail value is products that are firearms, such as handguns and long guns, to individuals in an open shopping format, or firearm parts, or any business that engages in the repair of firearms and/or firearm parts; car wash and detailing shops; manufacturing uses; outdoor retail sales; parking lots not associated with a primary use, including vehicle charging facilities not required by the Green Building Standard Code; restaurants providing a drive-through window, including operational and physical expansions thereto; service stations, including operational and physical expansions thereto; single-family attached/detached residential uses.

#### Nonconforming Uses

As required by Chapter 17.42 "Nonconforming Uses" of the Daly City Zoning Ordinance, existing nonconforming uses within the C-MU district shall be permitted to continue or remain until there has been a structural alteration, an enlargement or increase in space occupied, change in the nonconforming use, moving of said nonconforming building, abandonment or discontinuance of the

nonconforming use, damage pursuant to Section 17.42.060, or the use has been determined to be a nuisance by the city council, with the following exception: single family residential buildings, and accessory structures, and accessory dwelling units on the same property, that existing on the date of the C-MU zone district adoption shall, for the purpose of the Zoning Ordinance, be considered conforming land uses and modifications to such structures shall be subject to the regulations applicable to single-family homes in the R-1 Single Family District. Otherwise, the nonconforming use shall be changed to a conforming use and the nonconforming use cannot thereafter be reestablished.

#### **17.XX.030 Height Regulations**

No new structure in the C-MU district shall exceed ten stories or 120 feet in height, as measured according to DCMC 17.04.010 – Definitions – Building Height. The minimum height of any new structure in the C-MU district shall be three stories or 30 feet. Any new buildings abutting lots zoned R-1 (Single-family Residential District) or R-1/A (Single-family/Duplex Residential District) and over three stories or 30 feet high (whichever is lesser), shall adhere to the transitional height requirements in the C-MU Objective Design Standards.

Building height is measured from the curb at the centerline of the building to the building's highest point. See Section 17.40.040 of the Daly City Zoning Ordinance for building height exceptions. For building structures with a flat roof, the height of the building shall be measured to the roof, not the parapet. Stair and elevator towers at the building roof may exceed the maximum building height by up to ten feet.

#### **17.XX.040 Lot Area and Lot Width**

For the purpose of subdividing land, the minimum lot area in the C-MU district shall be 10,000 square feet. This regulation shall not apply to lot assemblages and mergers.

For the purpose of subdividing land, the minimum lot width in the C-MU district shall be 100 feet. This regulation shall not apply to lot assemblages and mergers.

The proposed lot area and lot width are higher than the minimum lot areas and widths required within other City zoning districts to 1) encourage lot mergers or the assemblage of smaller contiguous parcels to develop a larger residential or mixed-use project and 2) prohibit sites larger than 10,000 square feet to subdivide into sites smaller than 10,000 square feet.

#### **17.XX.050 Lot Coverage**

A minimum of 50 percent of the lot is required to be covered by new buildings and structures in the C-MU district, not including stormwater treatment structures, carports, and accessory structures.

A maximum of 100 percent of the lot shall be allowed to be covered by buildings and structures in the C-MU district.

New buildings abutting lots zoned R-1 (Single-family Residential District) or R-1/A (Single-family/Duplex Residential District) and over three stories or 30 feet high (whichever is lesser) shall follow the transitional height requirements and yard requirements in the C-MU Objective Design Standards.

#### **17.XX.060 Usable Open Space Requirements**

The requirements for usable open space shall follow the City's existing requirements in Section 17.38.020 of the Zoning Ordinance or requiring 150 square feet of usable open space for each dwelling unit.

However, the C-MU district shall allow flexibility in which the 150 square feet calculation may include private open space for the dwelling unit (i.e., decks and balconies), shared open space for the building's occupants (i.e., terraces, roof decks, etc.), and publicly accessible open space on the ground floor. All private open space shall be improved as usable amenity space to the satisfaction of the Planning Division.

#### **17.XX.070 Yard Requirements**

All structures in the C-MU district shall be subject to the following regulations:

- A. Minimum Front Yard. Minimum front yard shall be dependent on the existing sidewalk width along the primary building frontage to create a minimum of a 10-foot sidewalk if the primary building frontage is along Mission Street and a 10-foot sidewalk if the primary building frontage is along Geneva Avenue. Any new sidewalk within the property line will require a public right-of-way easement or dedication to the City.
- B. Maximum Front Yard. The building structure shall be set back no more than ten feet from the property line. The setback space may be used for landscape or usable open space but not parking. Larger setbacks are allowed where needed for usable public gathering space, driveways, or garage entries.
- C. Minimum Rear Yard. No requirement. If the building structure is abutting lots zoned R-1 (Single-family Residential District) or R-1/A (Single-family/Duplex Residential District) and over three stories or 30 feet high (whichever is lesser), the project must adhere to C-MU Objective Design Standards that address context sensitivity.
- D. Minimum Side Yard. No requirement. If the building structure is abutting lots zoned R-1 (Single-family Residential District) or R-1/A (Single-family/Duplex Residential District) and over three stories or 30 feet high (whichever is lesser), the project must adhere to C-MU Objective Design Standards that address context sensitivity.

#### **17.XX.080 Parking**

Parking shall for new construction adhere to Chapter 17.34 – Off-Street Parking and Loading, unless otherwise superseded by State law. Applications for new development seeking parking reductions pursuant to State law shall provide an analysis as to how the proposal qualifies for the parking reduction sought as part of a complete application.

### **17.XX.090 Objective design standards and conformity review**

Construction of all new buildings, additions of full or partial floors or additional building height to existing buildings shall conform to the Objective Design Standards (ODS) adopted by the City Council. The intention of the ODS is that they be implemented using no personal or subjective judgment by the Planning Division staff. The Objectives Design Standards shall provide guidance for Site Design, Building Design, Context Sensitivity, and Landscaping.

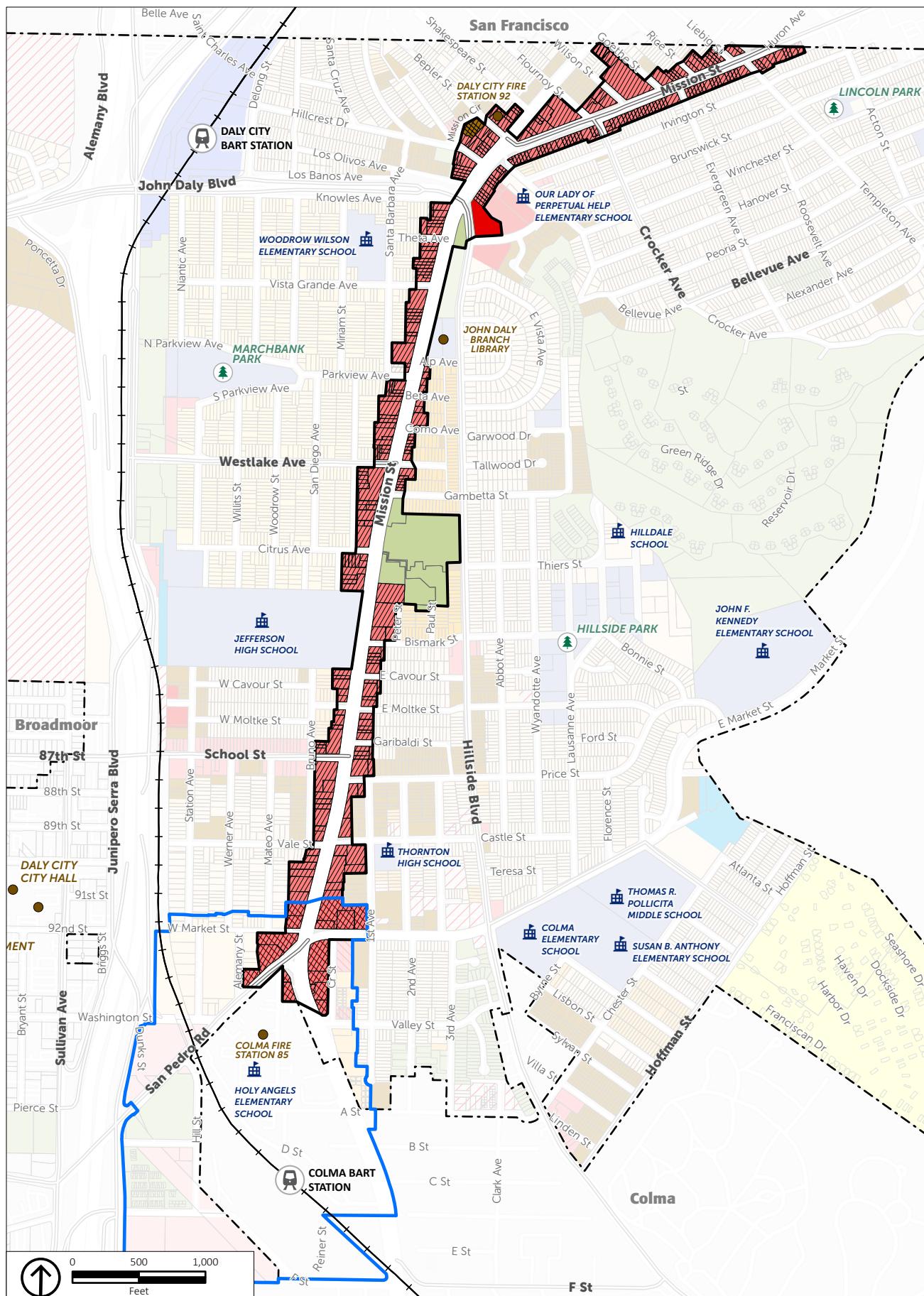
Not less than 180 days prior to the submittal of any building permit for construction subject to the ODS, the applicant shall request Conformity Review from the Planning Division staff to ensure that the project for which the permit is sought is in conformance with the ODS. Upon receipt of the Conformity Review submittal, the Planning Division staff shall determine if the project conforms to the ODS. Within 45 calendar days of the submittal, the Planning Division shall provide the applicant with its written findings and recommendations. The applicant shall consider any recommendations made by the Planning Division staff and shall resubmit the project for re-review, if necessary. Within 30 calendar days of the re-submittal, the Planning Division staff shall provide the applicant with the written findings and recommendations. All subsequent re-reviews of the Design Review Consultant shall be allotted the same 30-day review.

Should the applicant fail to address the recommendations of the Planning Division staff, the Planning Division shall not approve the release of any building permit to construct the project. Should the applicant disagree with the recommendations of the Planning Division staff, the applicant may appeal the specific recommendations with which the applicant disagrees to the City Council, which shall consider the appeal within 30 calendar days. This consideration shall occur without public notice to adjacent property owners. The City Council may not itself request review of the project.

The Conformity Review process outlined in this section shall be a review of the ODS only and shall not include review by other City departments/divisions, which shall instead be conducted at the time of building permit submittal.

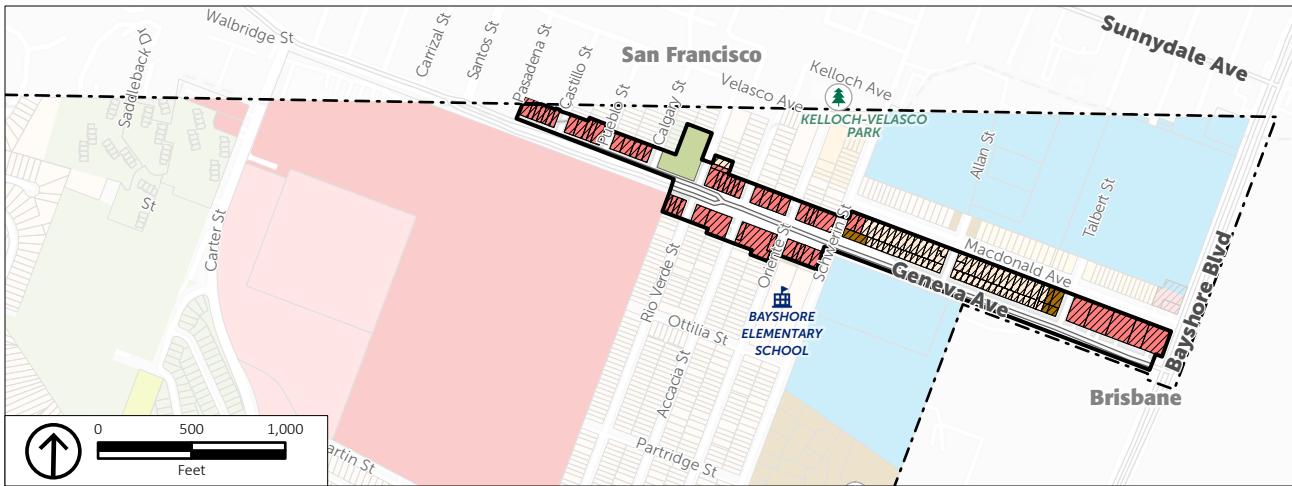
## **Revised Zoning Map**

Parcels shown hatched in the Existing Zoning Map shown in Figures 3.1 and 3.2 are changed to be Commercial-Mixed Use (C-MU) zoning district. Replace Zoning Map with the revised Zoning Map as shown in Figures 4.1 and 4.2.



Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

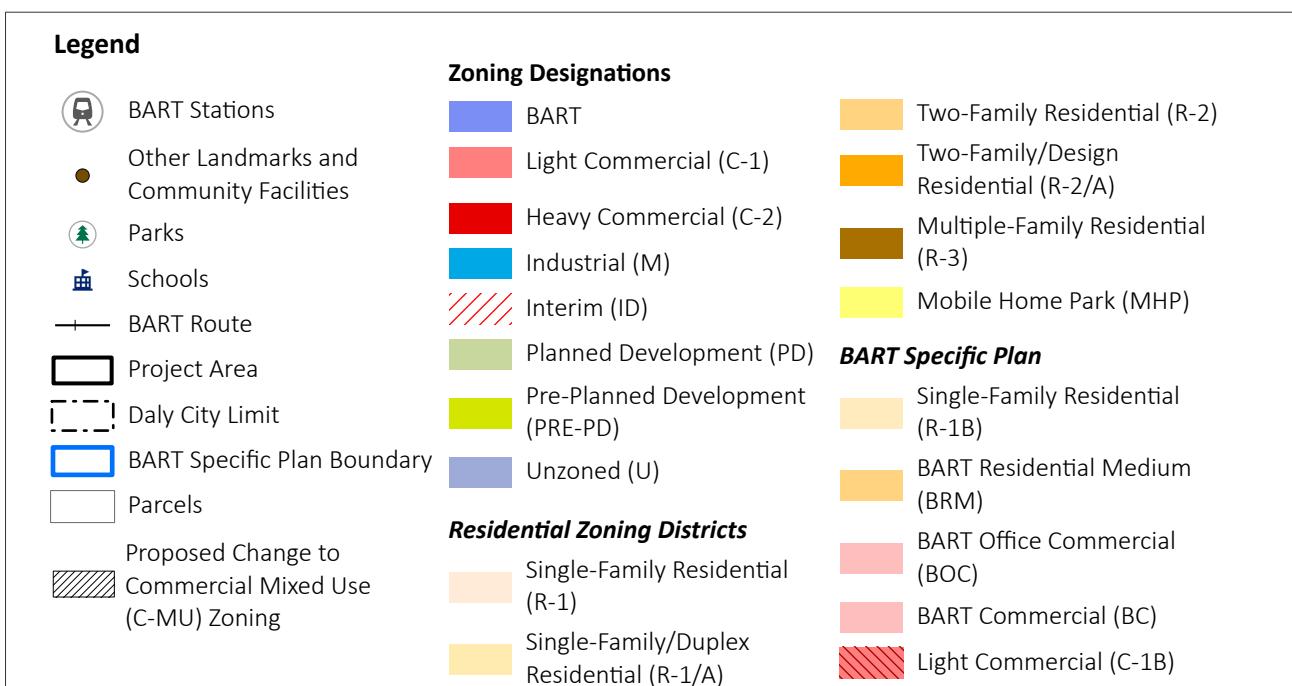
## Mission Street Existing Zoning Districts

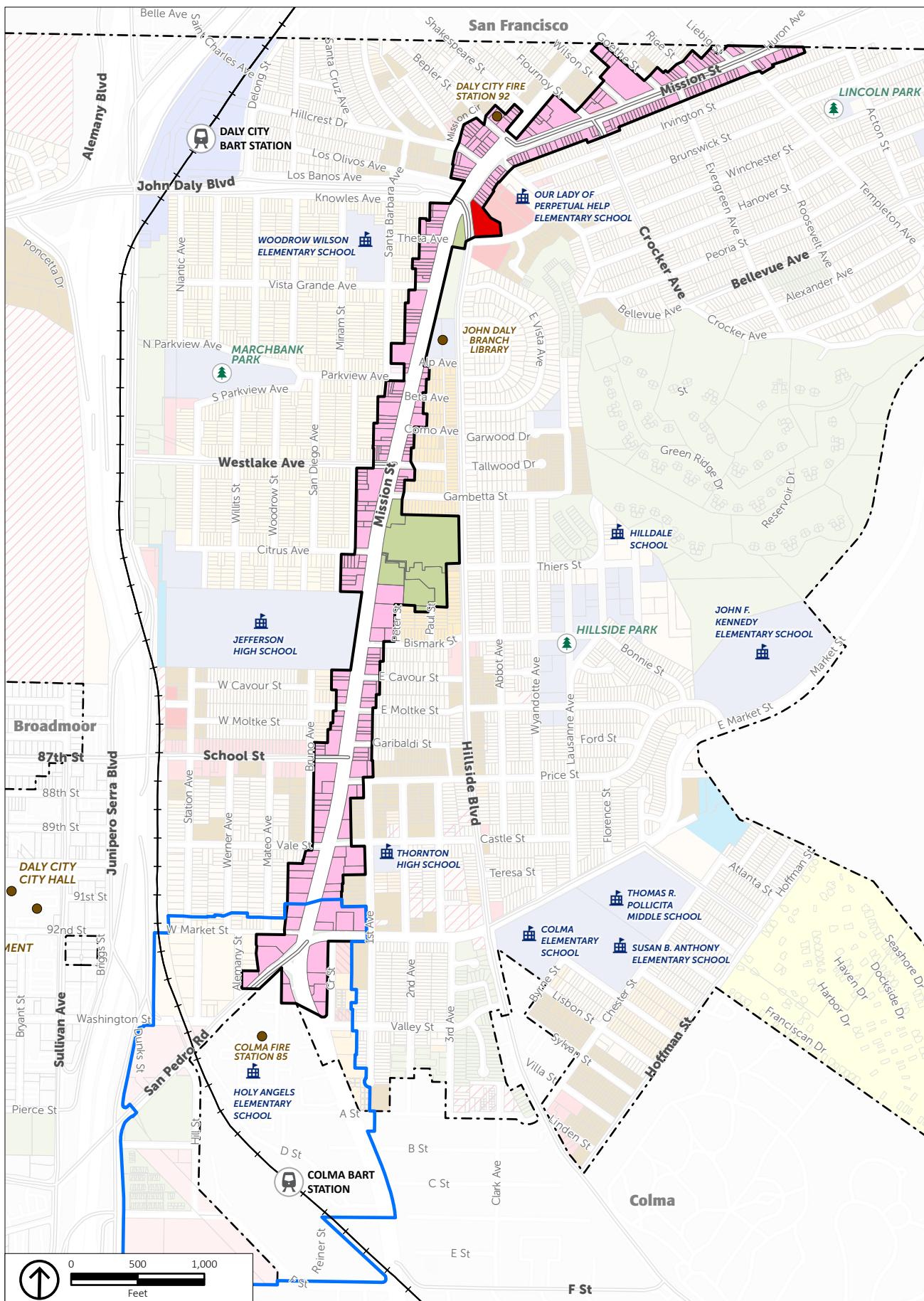


Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

Figure 3.2

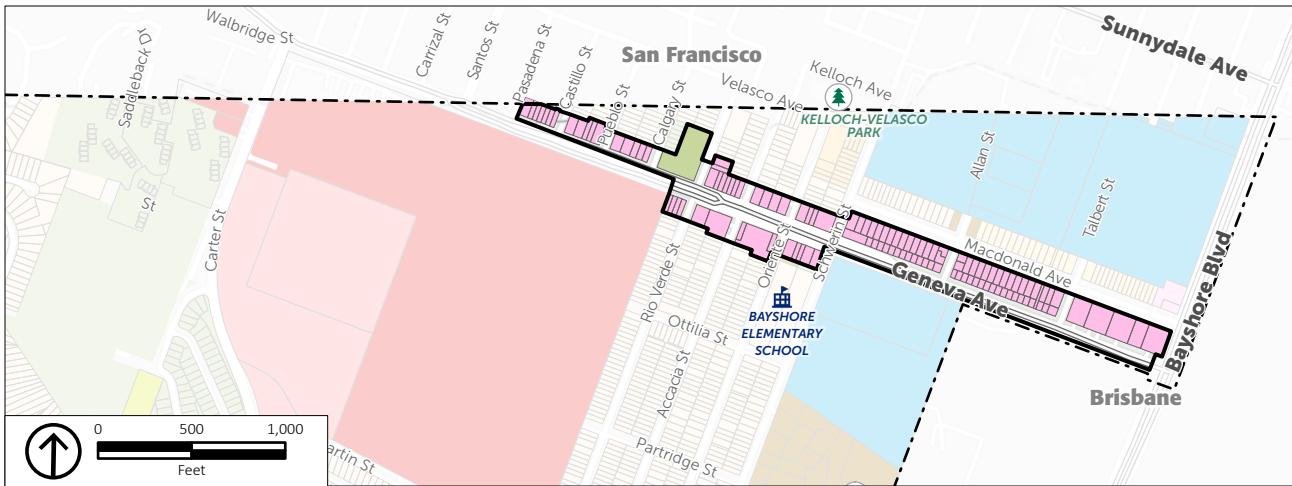
## Geneva Avenue Existing Zoning Districts





Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

## Mission Street Proposed Zoning Districts



Source: Daly City, 2022; PlaceWorks, 2023.

Figure 4.2  
Geneva Avenue Proposed Zoning Districts

