



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission Resolution No. 18646 HEARING DATE JUNE 14, 2012

Date: June 7, 2012

Case No.: 2011.1401M

Project: General Plan Amendment- Updating the Community Safety Element of the San Francisco General Plan

Staff Contact: Lily Langlois – (415) 575-9083
lily.langlois@sfgov.org

Reviewed By: Sarah Dennis-Phillips– (415) 558-6314
sarah.dennis@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPT A PROPOSED ORDINANCE THAT WOULD AMEND THE SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL PLAN BY: AMENDING THE COMMUNITY SAFETY ELEMENT; AND MAKING FINDINGS, INCLUDING FINDINGS OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE GENERAL PLAN AND THE EIGHT PRIORITY POLICIES OF PLANNING CODE SECTION 101.1 AND FINDINGS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT.

WHEREAS, Section 4.105 of the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco mandates that the Planning Department shall periodically recommend to the Board of Supervisors for approval or rejection proposed amendments to the General Plan.

San Francisco has not updated the Community Safety Element since 1997. The 2012 update establishes policies and programs to protect San Francisco from risks associated with natural and manmade disasters. In San Francisco, this a particularly critical element of the General Plan because of the great risks posed by seismic hazards and large earthquakes.

The San Francisco Planning Department, in partnership with the City Administrator's Office and the Department of Emergency Management, and in coordination with other City agencies, developed an update to the Community Safety Element of the General Plan. The 2012 update incorporates new information about hazards faced by the City, incorporates information on current programs dealing with disaster preparedness, response and recovery, and expands its focus to better address the City's objectives of mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery.

Planning Code Section 101.1(b) establishes eight priority policies and is the basis by which differences between competing policies in the General Plan are resolved. The project is consistent with the eight priority policies, in that:

1. That existing neighborhood serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in or ownership of such businesses enhanced.

The proposed update would not negatively impact neighborhood serving retail uses or future opportunities for employment. Its policies towards economic recovery would aid in the preservation of these uses after a disaster.

2. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods.

The proposed change would not have a negative impact housing and neighborhood character. Its proposed policies to reduce structural hazards would help conserve and protect housing from disaster-related impacts.

3. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced.

The proposed change would not impact affordable housing.

4. That commuter traffic not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking.

The proposed change would not impede MUNI transit services, overburden streets, or neighborhood parking.

5. That a diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced.

The proposed change would not adversely affect the industrial or service sectors.

6. That the City achieves the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

The proposed change supports preparedness at all levels, and would significantly increase the City's ability to prevent injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

7. That landmarks and historic buildings be preserved.

The proposed change would not have an impact on landmarks or historic buildings. Proposed policies would protect historic resources in the aftermath of a disaster and increase their ability to survive future earthquakes.

8. That our parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development.

The proposed change would not have an effect on parks and open spaces.

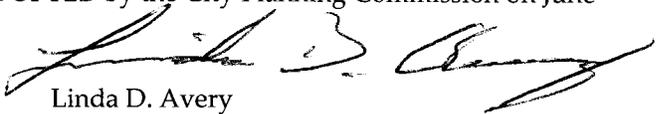
Analysis of applicable General Plan Objectives and Policies has determined that the proposed action is, on balance, consistent with the General Plan.

WHEREAS, per Planning Code Section 340, that on May 17, 2012, the Planning Commission adopted Resolution No. 18625, initiating amendments to the Community Safety Element of the General Plan, and

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2012, the Environmental Planning Division of the Planning Department published a Preliminary Negative Declaration, which reviewed and analyzed the proposed 2012 Community Safety Element update and found that the proposed update would not have a significant effect on the environment. Because the proposed update was found to have either a less-than-significant impact or no impact under all impact areas, no mitigation measures were required. The Preliminary Negative Declaration was provided for public review from May 23, 2012 until June 12, 2012. On June 12, 2012, it was finalized as the Final Negative Declaration (FND). The FND and the file for the environmental review is available for public review at the Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street. In accordance with the actions contemplated herein, this Commission has reviewed the FND and concurs with its conclusions and finds that the actions contemplated herein are within the scope of the project described and analyzed in the FND.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Planning Code Section 340, the Planning Commission does hereby adopt and incorporate by reference as though fully set forth herein the Final Negative Declaration and find that the public necessity, convenience and general welfare require the proposed amendments and therefore adopts references to the 2012 Community Safety Element contained in the attached ordinance, approved as to form by the City Attorney in Exhibit D, and recommends approval of these amendments to the Board of Supervisors.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the City Planning Commission on June 14, 2012


Linda D. Avery
Commission Secretary

AYES: Antonini, Borden, Fong, Miguel, Moore, Sugaya, Wu

NOES:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED: June 14, 2012