



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Executive Summary Planning Code Text Change

HEARING DATE: NOVEMBER 29, 2012

Project Name: **Amendments relating to the Valencia Street NCT:
Personal Services on the Third Floor**

Case Number: 2012.1327T [Board File No. 12-0880]

Initiated by: Supervisor Campos / Introduced September 4, 2012

Staff Contact: Aaron Starr, Legislative Affairs
aaron.starr@sfgov.org, 415-558-6362

Reviewed by: AnMarie Rodgers, Manager Legislative Affairs
anmarie.rodgers@sfgov.org, 415-558-6395

Recommendation: **Recommend Approval**

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

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

PLANNING CODE AMENDMENT

The proposed Ordinance would amend the San Francisco Planning Code, Section 726.52, of the Zoning Control Table, for the Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District to: 1) permit a "Personal Service" use on the third story and above with a Conditional Use Authorization; and 2) making environmental findings, Planning Code Section 302 findings, and findings of consistency with General Plan and the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.

The Way It Is Now:

"Personal Service" is principally permitted on the first floor, requires conditional use authorization on the second floor and is prohibited on the third floor and above.

The Way It Would Be:

"Personal Service" would be allowed on the third floor and above with conditional use authorization. The controls for the first and second floors would not change.

ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS

Planning Code Section 790.16 defines "Personal Service" as "[a] retail use which provides grooming services to the individual, including salons, cosmetic services, tattoo parlors, and health spas, or instructional services not certified by the State Educational Agency, such as art, dance, exercise, martial arts, and music classes."

The intention behind this legislation is to allow an existing massage school to expand and operate on the third floor. This particular massage school is not considered an "Institution" per the Planning Code because it is not certified by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges; it is considered "Personal Service" because it is not certified. Passing this legislation will not allow a massage establishment on the third floor. Massage establishments are either considered "Medical Service" if all of the therapists are certified by the State or a "Massage Establishment" if any of the therapists are not licensed by the State. Both of these uses are prohibited on the third floor and above in the Valencia Street NCT.

REQUIRED COMMISSION ACTION

The proposed Ordinance is before the Commission so that it may recommend adoption, rejection, or adoption with modifications to the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends that the Commission recommend approval of the proposed Ordinance and adopt the attached Draft Resolution to that effect.

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Traditionally, "Personal Service" was prohibited above the ground story because of a concern for loss of dwelling units. This concern is obviated in the Valencia Street NCT because residential conversion is now prohibited above the first floor. Establishing a "Personal Service" use on the third floor will allow greater flexibility for business and property owners in the Valencia Street NCT if the use is determined to be necessary or desirable by the Planning Commission.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposal to amend Planning Code Section 726.52 (Personal Service Use in the Valencia NCT) would result in no physical impact on the environment. The proposed amendment is exempt from environmental review under Section 15060(c)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines.

PUBLIC COMMENT

As of the date of this report, the Planning Department has received one phone call inquiring about the proposed legislation.

RECOMMENDATION:	Recommendation of Approval
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Attachments:

- Exhibit A: Draft Planning Commission Resolution
- Exhibit B: Board of Supervisors File No. 12-0880



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Draft Planning Commission Resolution

HEARING DATE NOVEMBER 29, 2012

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Recommendation: **Recommend Approval**

RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPT A PROPOSED ORDINANCE THAT WOULD AMEND THE SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 726.52, OF THE ZONING CONTROL TABLE, FOR THE VALENCIA STREET NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL TRANSIT DISTRICT TO: 1) PERMIT A "PERSONAL SERVICE" USE ON THE THIRD STORY AND ABOVE WITH A CONDITIONAL USE AUTHORIZATION; AND 2) MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS, PLANNING CODE SECTION 302 FINDINGS, AND FINDINGS OF CONSISTENCY WITH GENERAL PLAN AND THE PRIORITY POLICIES OF PLANNING CODE SECTION 101.1.

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2012, Supervisors Campos introduced a proposed Ordinance under Board of Supervisors (hereinafter "Board") File Number 12-0880, which would amend the San Francisco Planning Code, Section 726.52, of the Zoning Control Table, for the Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District to: 1) permit a "Personal Service" use on the third story and above with a Conditional Use Authorization; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission (hereinafter "Commission") conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider the proposed Ordinance on November 29, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Ordinance has been determined to be categorically exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act Section 15060(c)(2); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has heard and considered the testimony presented to it at the public hearing and has further considered written materials and oral testimony presented on behalf of Department staff and other interested parties; and

WHEREAS, all pertinent documents may be found in the files of the Department, as the custodian of records, at 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has reviewed the proposed Ordinance; and

MOVED, that the Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Board of Supervisors **approves** the proposed Ordinance.

FINDINGS

Having reviewed the materials identified in the preamble above, and having heard all testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

1. Traditionally, "Personal Service" was prohibited above the ground story because of a concern for loss of dwelling units. This concern is obviated in the Valencia Street NCT because residential conversion is now prohibited above the first floor. Establishing a "Personal Service" use on the third floor will allow greater flexibility for business and property owners in the Valencia Street NCT if the use is determined to be necessary or desirable by the Planning Commission.

1. **General Plan Compliance.** The proposed Ordinance and the Commission's recommended modifications are consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan:

I. COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ELEMENT

OBJECTIVE 6

MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN VIABLE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL AREAS EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO CITY RESIDENTS.

Policy 6.1

Ensure and encourage the retention and provision of neighborhood-serving goods and services in the city's neighborhood commercial districts, while recognizing and encouraging diversity among the districts.

The proposed Ordinance would permit Personal Service uses on the third floor, which allows businesses greater flexibility on where they can locate and encourages the retention and provision of neighborhood-serving services by increasing the availability of spaces in which they can operate.

8. **Planning Code Section 101 Findings.** The proposed amendments to the Planning Code are consistent with the eight Priority Policies set forth in Section 101.1(b) of the Planning Code in that:

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

The proposed Ordinance would permit Personal Service uses on the third floor, which allows businesses greater flexibility on where they can locate and encourages the retention and provision of neighborhood-serving services by increasing the availability of spaces in which they can operate.

2. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to

preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods;

Existing housing and neighborhood character will be conserved because existing residential units on the third floor cannot be displaced by new personal service uses.

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

The proposed Ordinance will have no adverse effect on the City's supply of affordable housing.

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

The proposed Ordinance will not result in commuter traffic impeding MUNI transit service or overburdening the 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 Ordinance would not cause displacement of the industrial or service sectors due to office development, and future opportunities for resident employment or ownership in these sectors would not be impaired.

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

The proposed Ordinance will have no impact on the City's ability to achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

7. That the landmarks and historic buildings be preserved;

Landmarks and historic buildings would not be negatively impacted by the proposed Ordinance.

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

The City's parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas would be unaffected by the proposed Ordinance.

- 8. Planning Code Section 302 Findings.** The Planning Commission finds from the facts presented that the public necessity, convenience and general welfare require the proposed amendments to the Planning Code as set forth in Section 302.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission hereby recommends that the Board ADOPT the proposed Ordinance as described in this Resolution and in the proposed Ordinance.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Commission at its meeting on November 29, 2012.

Jonas P. Ionin
Acting Commission Secretary

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED: November 29, 2012

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District]

Ordinance amending the San Francisco Code, Section 726.52, of the Zoning Control Table, for the Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District to: 1) permit a personal service use on the third story and above with a Conditional Use Authorization; and 2) making environmental findings, Planning Code Section 302 findings, and findings of consistency with General Plan and the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.

Existing Law

Article 7 of the Planning Code establishes a number of Neighborhood Commercial Districts with special zoning controls. Section 726.1 establishes the Valencia Street Neighborhood Transit District (NCT), which is in the Mission District and lies along Valencia Street between 14th Street and Cesar Chavez.

The Valencia Street NCT Zoning Control Table, among other things, controls uses on the first story and above. A Personal Service Use is a permitted use on the first story, is allowed as a Conditional Use on the second story, and is not permitted on the third story and above. Planning Code Section 790.16 defines Personal Service as "[a] retail use which provides grooming services to the individual, including salons, cosmetic services, tattoo parlors, and health spas, or instructional services not certified by the State Educational Agency, such as art, dance, exercise, martial arts, and music classes."

Amendments to Current Law

This legislation would amend the Valencia Street NCT Zoning Control Table to allow a Personal Service use on the third story and above with a Conditional Use authorization.

Background Information

Traditionally, Personal Service was prohibited above the ground story because of a concern for loss of dwelling units. This concern is obviated in the Valencia Street NCT because of relatively recent controls in the District that ensure the preservation of housing. Since Personal Service is currently conditionally permitted on the second story in this District, the use should also be conditionally permitted on the third story and above.

1 [Planning Code - Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the San Francisco Code, Section 726.52, of the Zoning Control**
4 **Table, for the Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District to: 1) permit a**
5 **personal service use on the third story and above with a Conditional Use**
6 **Authorization; and 2) making environmental findings, Planning Code Section 302**
7 **findings, and findings of consistency with General Plan and the Priority Policies of**
8 **Planning Code Section 101.1.**

9 NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
10 deletions are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman*~~.
11 Board amendment additions are double-underlined;
12 Board amendment deletions are ~~strike through normal~~.

12

13 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

14 Section 1 Findings.

15 (a) The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this
16 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources
17 Code Section 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of
18 Supervisors in File No. _____ and is incorporated herein by reference.

19 (b) Pursuant to Planning Code Section 302, this Board finds that these Planning Code
20 amendments will serve the public necessity, convenience and welfare for the reasons set forth
21 in Planning Commission Resolution No. _____ and the Board hereby incorporates such
22 reasons herein by reference. A copy of Planning Commission Resolution No. _____ is on
23 file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____.

24 (c) This Board finds that these Planning Code amendments are consistent with the
25 General Plan and with the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section 101.1 for the reasons set

1 forth in Planning Commission Resolution No. _____ and the Board hereby
2 incorporates such reasons herein by reference.

3 Section 2. The San Francisco Planning Code is hereby amended by amending Section
4 726.1, to read as follows:

5 **SEC. 726.1. VALENCIA STREET NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL TRANSIT DISTRICT.**

6 The Valencia Street Commercial Transit District is located near the center of San
7 Francisco in the Mission District. It lies along Valencia Street between 14th and Cesar Chavez
8 (Army) Street, and includes a portion of 16th Street extending west toward Dolores Street.
9 The commercial area provides a limited selection of convenience goods for the residents of
10 sections of the Mission and Dolores Heights. Valencia Street also serves a wider trade area
11 with its retail and wholesale home furnishings and appliance outlets. The commercial district
12 also has several automobile-related businesses. Eating and drinking establishments
13 contribute to the street's mixed-use character and activity in the evening hours. A number of
14 upper-story professional and business offices are located in the district, some in converted
15 residential units.

16 The Valencia Street District has a pattern of large lots and businesses, as well as a
17 sizable number of upper-story residential units. Controls are designed to permit moderate-
18 scale buildings and uses, protecting rear yards above the ground story and at residential
19 levels. New neighborhood-serving commercial development is encouraged mainly at the
20 ground story. While offices and general retail sales uses may locate at the second story of
21 new buildings under certain circumstances, most commercial uses are prohibited above the
22 second story. In order to protect the balance and variety of retail uses and the livability of
23 adjacent uses and areas, most eating and drinking and entertainment uses at the ground
24 story are limited. Continuous retail frontage is promoted by prohibiting drive-up facilities, some
25 automobile uses, and new nonretail commercial uses. Parking is not required, and any new

1 parking is required to be set back or below ground. Active, pedestrian-oriented ground floor
 2 uses are required.

3 Housing development in new buildings is encouraged above the ground story. Housing
 4 density is not controlled by the size of the lot but by requirements to supply a high percentage
 5 of larger units and by physical envelope controls. Existing residential units are protected by
 6 prohibitions on upper-story conversions and limitations on demolitions, mergers, and
 7 subdivisions. Given the area's central location and accessibility to the City's transit network,
 8 accessory parking for residential uses is not required.

9 **SEC. 726. VALENCIA STREET NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL TRANSIT DISTRICT**
 10 **ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

No.	Zoning Category	§ References	Valencia Street Transit		
			Controls by Story		
		§ 790.118	1st	2nd	3rd+
§ 726.52	Personal Service	§ 790.116	P	C	<u>C</u>

17 Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days from the
 18 date of passage.

19 Section 4. This section is uncodified. In enacting this Ordinance, the Board intends to
 20 amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles, numbers,
 21 punctuation, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent part of the Planning Code that are
 22 explicitly shown in this legislation as additions, deletions, Board amendment additions, and
 23

1 Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under the official title
2 of the legislation.

3

4 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
5 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

6 By: _____
7 JUDITH A. BOYAJIAN
8 Deputy City Attorney

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SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
EDWIN M. LEE, MAYOR

October 26, 2012

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Board of Supervisors
City Hall room 244
1 Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4694

File No. 120880 [Planning Code - Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District]

Small Business Commission Recommendation: **Approve**

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

On October 22, 2012 the Small Business Commission held a hearing on Board of Supervisors File No. 120880 and voted 6-0 to recommend approval.

The Commission thanks Supervisor Campos for recognizing that there is an opportunity to expand the flexibility for businesses to locate a personal service on the third floor on the Valencia Street Neighborhood Commercial Transit District.

The Commission notes that the likelihood of ADA challenges increase on upper stories of buildings, especially the older ones that are located in many of our commercial districts. The Commission asks that the Planning Department work with the Office of Small Business to help increase awareness of disability access requirements to businesses proposing to locate to 2nd story and above commercial spaces.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Regina Dick-Endrizzi'.

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director, Office of Small Business

Cc: Jason Elliott, Mayor's Office
Supervisor Campos
AnMarie Rogers, Planning Department