

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Japantown Special Use District Provisions]

Ordinance amending the San Francisco Planning Code Section 249.31 to: 1) prohibit a Medical Service Use or a Business or Professional Service Use on the Ground Floor in the Area Zoned NC-2 in the Japantown Special Use District; and 2) making environmental findings, Planning Code Section 302 findings, and findings of consistency with the General Plan and the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.

Existing Law

Planning Code Section 249.31 establishes the Japantown Special Use District (SUD), which is the eight-block area shown on Sectional Map 2SU of the Zoning Map. There are several planning subdistricts within the Japantown SUD, including the Post Street commercial core that is zoned NC-2. The controls require notice and Conditional Use authorization for certain activities.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed legislation would prohibit a Medical Service use or a Business or Professional Service Use on the ground floor of the area within the Japantown SUD that is zoned NC-2.

Background Information

One of the purposes for the Japantown Special Use District stated in Section 249.31 is to "[s]trengthen and support Japantown's identity through recognition of its planning subdistricts including the Geary Boulevard corridor; Japantown Center; Post Street commercial core; Sutter Street community/cultural core; Buchanan Mall; Fillmore Street corridor; and surrounding residential districts." The proposed legislation will support the Post Street commercial core by preserving the ground floor for active commercial uses.