

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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## MEMORANDUM

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Date: December 6, 2023  
To: Planning Department/Planning Commission  
From: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee  
Subject: Board of Supervisors Legislation Referral - File No. 231223  
Planning Code - Parcel Delivery Service

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- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Determination  
(*California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 et seq.*)
  - Ordinance / Resolution
  - Ballot Measure
  
- Amendment to the Planning Code, including the following Findings:  
(*Planning Code, Section 302(b): 90 days for Planning Commission review*)
  - General Plan     Planning Code, Section 101.1     Planning Code, Section 302
  
- Amendment to the Administrative Code, involving Land Use/Planning  
(*Board Rule 3.23: 30 days for possible Planning Department review*)
  
- General Plan Referral for Non-Planning Code Amendments  
(*Charter, Section 4.105, and Administrative Code, Section 2A.53*)  
(Required for legislation concerning the acquisition, vacation, sale, or change in use of City property; subdivision of land; construction, improvement, extension, widening, narrowing, removal, or relocation of public ways, transportation routes, ground, open space, buildings, or structures; plans for public housing and publicly-assisted private housing; redevelopment plans; development agreements; the annual capital expenditure plan and six-year capital improvement program; and any capital improvement project or long-term financing proposal such as general obligation or revenue bonds.)
  
- Historic Preservation Commission
  - Landmark (*Planning Code, Section 1004.3*)
  - Cultural Districts (*Charter, Section 4.135 & Board Rule 3.23*)
  - Mills Act Contract (*Government Code, Section 50280*)
  - Designation for Significant/Contributory Buildings (*Planning Code, Article 11*)

Please send the Planning Department/Commission recommendation/determination to John Carroll at [john.carroll@sfgov.org](mailto:john.carroll@sfgov.org).

1 [Planning Code - Parcel Delivery Service]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the Planning Code to require Conditional Use authorizations for**  
4 **establishing Parcel Delivery Service uses, prohibit Parcel Delivery Service as an**  
5 **accessory use, and revise zoning control tables to reflect these changes; affirming the**  
6 **Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act;**  
7 **and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code,**  
8 **Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority**  
9 **policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

10 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
11 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
12 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.  
13 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
14 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.  
15 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
16 subsections or parts of tables.

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

18

19 Section 1. Findings.

20 (a) The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this  
21 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources  
22 Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
23 Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms this  
24 determination.

25 (b) On \_\_\_\_\_, the Planning Commission, in Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_,  
adopted findings that the actions contemplated in this ordinance are consistent, on balance,  
with the City’s General Plan and eight priority policies of Planning Code Section 101.1. The

1 Board adopts these findings as its own. A copy of said Resolution is on file with the Clerk of  
2 the Board of Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_\_, and is incorporated herein by reference.

3 (c) Pursuant to Planning Code Section 302, this Board finds that these Planning Code  
4 amendments will serve the public necessity, convenience, and welfare for the reasons set  
5 forth in Planning Commission Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_, and the Board adopts such  
6 reasons as its own. A copy of said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
7 Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference.

8  
9 Section 2. The Planning Code is hereby amended by revising Sections 102, 210.1,  
10 210.2, 210.3, 210.4, 303, 712, 830, 831, 832, 833, 836, 838, 839, and 840, to read as follows:

11  
12 **SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS.**

13 \* \* \* \*

14 **Service, Parcel Delivery.** A Non-Retail Automotive Use limited to facilities for the  
15 unloading, sorting, and reloading of local retail merchandise for deliveries, including but not  
16 limited to cannabis and cannabis products, where the operation is conducted entirely within a  
17 completely enclosed building, including garage facilities for local delivery trucks, but excluding  
18 repair shop facilities. Within ~~Where permitted in~~ PDR Districts, this use is not required to be  
19 operated within a completely enclosed building. *Parcel Delivery Service use requires a*  
20 *Conditional Use authorization pursuant to Section 303(cc) and is not allowed as an accessory use to*  
21 *any other principal use.*

22 \* \* \* \*

23 **SEC. 210.1. C-2 DISTRICTS: COMMUNITY BUSINESS.**

24 \* \* \* \*

25 **Table 210.1**

**ZONING CONTROL TABLE FOR C-2 DISTRICTS**

<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>C-2</b>
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Service, Parcel Delivery	§§ 102, 303(cc)	C
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 210.2. C-3 DISTRICTS: DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 210.2**

**ZONING CONTROL TABLE FOR C-3 DISTRICTS**

<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>C-3-O</b>	<b>C-3-O(SD)</b>	<b>C-3-R</b>	<b>C-3-G</b>	<b>C-3-S</b>
* * * *						
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>						
* * * *						
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>						
* * * *						
Service, Parcel Delivery	§§ 102, 303(cc)	C	C	C	C	<u>CP</u>

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 210.3. PDR DISTRICTS.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 210.3**

**ZONING CONTROL TABLE FOR PDR DISTRICTS**

<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>PDR-1-B</b>	<b>PDR-1-D</b>	<b>PDR-1-G</b>	<b>PDR-2</b>
* * * *					
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>					
* * * *					
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>					
* * * *					
Service, Motor Vehicle Tow	§ 102	P	P	P	P
<u>Service, Parcel Delivery</u>	<u>§§ 102, 303(cc)</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>
* * * *					

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 210.4. M DISTRICTS: INDUSTRIAL.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 210.4**

**ZONING CONTROL TABLE FOR M DISTRICTS**

1	<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>M-1</b>	<b>M-2</b>
2	* * * *			
3	<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>			
4	* * * *			
5	<b>Automotive Use Category</b>			
6	* * * *			
7				
8	Parking Lot, Public	§§ 102, 142, 156	C	C
9	<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<i>§§ 102, 303(cc)</i>	<u>C</u>	<u>C</u>
10	* * * *			

11 \* \* \* \*

12 **SEC. 303. CONDITIONAL USES.**

13 \* \* \* \*

14 (bb) **Social Service and Philanthropic Facilities in Chinatown Visitor Retail,**  
 15 **Chinatown Residential Neighborhood Commercial, and Chinatown Community**  
 16 **Business Districts.** With regard to a Conditional Use application for a Social Service or  
 17 Philanthropic Facility use pursuant to Section 121.4 of this Code, in addition to consideration  
 18 of the criteria set forth in subsection (c) above, the Planning Commission shall, in order to  
 19 grant a Conditional Use Authorization, find that the proposed use will primarily serve the  
 20 Chinatown neighborhood.

21 (cc) Parcel Delivery Services.

22 (1) Criteria. *With respect to a Conditional Use application for Parcel Delivery Service*  
 23 *use as defined in Section 102 of the Planning Code, in addition to the criteria in subsections (c) and (d)*  
 24 *above, the Planning Commission shall consider the following:*

1                                    (A) The extent to which the use will adversely impact traffic patterns and  
2 queuing times and add total vehicle miles traveled, including by delivery drivers and couriers operating  
3 to and from the site;

4                                    (B) The greenhouse gas emissions resulting from operating of the site, including  
5 from indirect sources such as courier and delivery vehicles;

6                                    (C) The impact that the use will have on public transit, public safety, and  
7 emergency response, with particular attention paid to the rate of workplace injury associated with the  
8 use and moving violations and traffic accidents requiring public safety or emergency service response;  
9 and

10                                   (D) An economic impact study. The Planning Department shall prepare an  
11 economic impact study using City staff or shall, consistent with the Charter, select a consultant from a  
12 pool of pre-qualified consultants to prepare the economic impact study required by this subsection (cc).  
13 The economic impact study shall be considered by the Planning Commission in its review of the  
14 application. In the event a consultant is used, the applicant shall bear the cost of paying the consultant  
15 for their work preparing the economic impact study, and any necessary documents prepared as part of  
16 that study. The applicant shall also pay an administrative fee to compensate Planning Department and  
17 City staff for their time reviewing the economic impact study, as set forth in Section 359 of this Code.  
18 The study shall evaluate the potential economic impact of the applicant's proposed project, including:

19                                    (i) **Employment Analysis.** The report shall include the following  
20 employment information: a projection of both construction-related and permanent employment  
21 generated by the proposed project, and a discussion of whether the employer of the proposed project  
22 will pay a living wage, inclusive of non-salary benefits expected to be provided, relative to San  
23 Francisco's cost of living. The employment analysis shall also include a discussion of the past  
24 employment practices of the proposed operator, if any.

1 (ii) **Fiscal Impact.** The report shall itemize public revenue created by the  
2 proposed project and public services needed because of the proposed project, relative to net fiscal  
3 impacts to the General Fund. The impacts to the City's public facilities and infrastructure shall be  
4 estimated using the City's current assumptions in existing nexus studies (including area plan, transit,  
5 open space in-lieu fee and other impact fees), and should account for any contributions the proposed  
6 project would make through such impact fee payments.

7 (2) **Required Additional Conditions.** All Parcel Delivery Service facilities shall be  
8 subject to at least the following conditions of project approval:

9 (A) **Electrification.** Facilities shall include necessary infrastructure and  
10 electrical capacity to accommodate and charge electric vehicles—including electric heavy-duty  
11 delivery trucks, employee vehicles, and all other zero-emission vehicles accessing the facility; power  
12 refrigeration for refrigerated spaces; and serve any other processes that would otherwise rely upon  
13 fossil fuel combustion. Facilities shall install battery storage to address power disruption. Diesel  
14 back-up generators shall only be permitted if the facility demonstrates battery storage is infeasible and  
15 shall meet CARB's Tier 4 emission standards or meet the most stringent in-use standard, whichever has  
16 the least emissions.

17 (B) **Idling of Vehicles.** To reduce idling emissions from transport trucks, the  
18 facility shall have signage placed at truck access points, loading docks, and truck parking areas that  
19 clearly notes idling for more than three minutes is strictly prohibited on the subject property. The  
20 facility shall fund placement of similar signs installed by the City in the adjacent streets used for  
21 access. Each sign placed outside the property should note the California Air Resources Board idling  
22 prohibitions on the adjacent streets and include telephone numbers of the building facilities manager  
23 and the California Air Resources Board to report violations. All signage should be made of weather-  
24 proof materials. All site and architectural plans submitted to the City shall note the locations of these  
25 signs.



1           **SEC. 712. NC-3 – MODERATE-SCALE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL**  
 2 **DISTRICT.**

3           \* \* \* \*

4           **Table 712. MODERATE-SCALE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT NC-3**  
 5   **ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

		<b>NC-3</b>		
<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>Controls</b>		
* * * *				
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>				
* * * *				
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL USES</b>		<b>Controls by Story</b>		
		<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd+</b>
* * * *				
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>				
<b>Automotive Uses*</b>	§§ 102, 187.1, 202.2(b), <u>303(cc)</u>	C	NP	NP
* * * *				

19           \* \* \* \*

20           **SEC. 830. CMUO—CENTRAL SOMA MIXED USE-OFFICE DISTRICT.**

21           \* \* \* \*

22   **Table 830**

23           **CMUO—CENTRAL SOMA MIXED USE-OFFICE DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

<b>Central SoMa Mixed Use-Office District Controls</b>				
<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>Controls</b>		

1  
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<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS &amp; USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Service, Motor Vehicle Tow	§ 102	C
<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<i>§§ 102, 303(cc)</i>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 831. MUG – MIXED USE-GENERAL DISTRICT.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 831**

**MUG – MIXED USE-GENERAL DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

Zoning Category	§ References	Mixed Use-General District Controls
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Service, Motor Vehicle Tow	§ 102	C(1)
<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<i>§§ 102, 303(cc)</i>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 832. MUO – MIXED USE-OFFICE DISTRICT.**

1 \* \* \* \*

2 Table 832

3 MUO – MIXED USE-OFFICE DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE

Zoning Category	§ References	Mixed Use-Office District Controls
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Public Parking Lot	§ 102	NP
<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<i> §§ 102, 303(cc)</i>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

14 \* \* \* \*

15 SEC. 833. MUR – MIXED USE-RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

16 \* \* \* \*

17 Table 833

18 MUR – MIXED USE-RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE

Zoning Category	§ References	Mixed Use-Residential District Controls
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		

* * * *		
Public Parking Lot	§ 102	NP
<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<i>§§ 102, 303(cc)</i>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 836. SALI – SERVICE/ARTS/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 836**

**SALI – SERVICE/ARTS/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

Zoning Category	§ References	Service/Artis/Light Industrial District Controls
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Public Parking Lot	§ 102	NP
<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<i>§§ 102, 303(cc)</i>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 838. UMU – URBAN MIXED USE DISTRICT.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 838**

**UMU – URBAN MIXED USE DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>Urban Mixed Use District Controls</b>
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Public Parking Lot	§ 102	NP
<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<i> §§ 102, 303(cc)</i>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 839. WMUG – WSOMA MIXED USE-GENERAL DISTRICT.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 839**

**WMUG – WSOMA MIXED USE-GENERAL DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>Western SoMa Mixed Use- General District Controls</b>
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Public Parking Lot	§ 102	NP

<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<u>§§ 102, 303(cc)</u>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

**SEC. 840. WMUO – WSOMA MIXED USE-OFFICE DISTRICT.**

\* \* \* \*

**Table 840**

**WMUO – WSOMA MIXED USE-OFFICE DISTRICT ZONING CONTROL TABLE**

<b>Zoning Category</b>	<b>§ References</b>	<b>Western SoMa Mixed Use-Office District Controls</b>
* * * *		
<b>NON-RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS AND USES</b>		
* * * *		
<b>Automotive Use Category</b>		
* * * *		
Public Parking Lot	§ 102	NP
<i>Service, Parcel Delivery</i>	<u>§§ 102, 303(cc)</u>	<u>C</u>
* * * *		

\* \* \* \*

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.

1           Section 4. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors  
2 intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,  
3 numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal  
4 Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment  
5 additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the “Note” that appears under  
6 the official title of the ordinance.

7  
8  
9 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
10 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

11 By: /s/ Robb Kapla  
12       ROBB KAPLA  
13       Deputy City Attorney

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## **LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Planning Code - Parcel Delivery Service]

**Ordinance amending the Planning Code to require Conditional Use authorizations for establishing Parcel Delivery Service uses, prohibit Parcel Delivery Service as an accessory use, and revise zoning control tables to reflect these changes; affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

### Existing Law

Section 102 of the Planning Code includes many definitions of uses that are permitted, conditional, or not permitted under the City’s zoning and planning regulations. Parcel Delivery Service (“PDS”) is defined as a non-retail automotive use where parcels can be loaded, unloaded, and sorted for delivery. PDS is either permitted or subject to a conditional use authorization in most manufacturing, PDR, mixed use, and commercial districts and not permitted in all other zoning districts. PDS is currently subject to interim controls that require a conditional use authorization in all areas where, under the code, it would otherwise be principally permitted. The interim controls expire on March 30, 2024.

### Amendments to Current Law

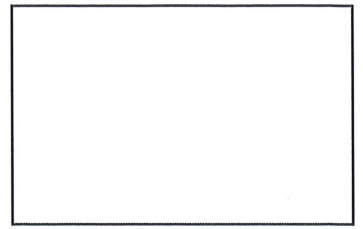
The Proposed Legislation would amend the definition of PDS and all applicable zoning districts to require a conditional use authorization where formerly it was principally permitted. The Proposed Legislation lists specific criteria the Planning Commission must consider and findings it must make in determining whether to grant a conditional use authorization for PDS uses. The criteria include assessing transit and traffic impacts, greenhouse gas emissions, and public and worker safety of the PDS use, and the results of an economic impact study of the proposed project. The Proposed Legislation would also require that any conditional authorization include electrification measures and adherence to vehicle idling limitations.

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## Introduction Form

*(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)*



I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
- 2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference)  
*(Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)*
- 3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
- 4. Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor [ ] inquires..."
- 5. City Attorney Request
- 6. Call File No. [ ] from Committee.
- 7. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No. [ ]
- 9. Reactivate File No. [ ]
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on [ ]

The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):

- Small Business Commission     Youth Commission     Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission     Building Inspection Commission     Human Resources Department

General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):

- Yes                       No

*(Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)*

Sponsor(s):

Chan

Subject:

Planning Code - Parcel Delivery Service

Long Title or text listed:

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to require Conditional Use authorizations for establishing Parcel Delivery Service uses, prohibit Parcel Delivery Service as an accessory use, and revise zoning control tables to reflect these changes; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: