File	No.	100444

Comm	ittee	Item	
Board	ltem	No	3

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Cmte Board				
Legislativ Introducti Departme MOU Grant Info Grant Buc Subcontra Contract/ Award Le	e re Digest re Digest re Analyst Report re Analyst Report ron Form (for hearin rnt/Agency Cover Le rmation Form riget ract Budget Agreement tter		or Rep	ort
OTHER (Use back	side if additional s	pace is ne	eded)
Completed by: <u>Joy L</u> Completed by:		Date Date	04/1	5/10

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 20 pages. The complete document is in the file.

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and

1		
2	Report]	
3	Motion affirming the certification by the Planning Commission of the Final	
4	Environmental Impact Report for the 555 Washington Street Project.	
5		
6	WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor proposes to demolish two buildings at 501-505	
7	Washington Street and 545 Sansome Street, and construct a 38-story, approximately 390	
.8	foot-tall building topped with a mechanical penthouse and architectural screening reaching in	
9	height to approximately 430 feet, which building would contain approximately 332,000 gross	
10	square feet of floor area, including 248 residential units, 4,640 square feet of ground-floor	
11	retail space, and four levels of subsurface parking with 215 parking spaces plus 2 car share	
12	spaces, and which project would also renovate and dedicate Redwood Park as a public park	
13	(the "Project"); and	
14	WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor applied for environmental review for the Project and	
15	for approvals including an increase in the cumulative shadow limits for Maritime Plaza and to	
16	establish cumulative shadow limits for Sue Bierman Park, a shadow impact determination	
17	under Section 295 of the Planning Code, dedication of Redwood Park, General Plan	
18	consistency determination, amendments to the height and bulk maps of the Planning Code	
19	and General Plan, various exceptions under Section 309 of the Planning Code, an open	
20	space variance; and vacation of Mark Twain Alley (City Planning File 2002.0133EMRKXV);	
21	and	
22	WHEREAS, The Planning Department ("Department") determined that an	
23	Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") was required and provided public notice of that	

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determination by publication in a newspaper of general circulation on November 27, 2007;

1	WHEREAS, On March 25, 2009, the Department published the Draft Environmental
2	Impact Report ("DEIR"); and
3	WHEREAS, The Planning Commission held a duly advertised public hearing on the
4	DEIR on May 7, 2009, at which time public comment was received on the DEIR and written
5	comments were received through May 18, 2009; and
6	WHEREAS, The Department prepared responses to comments received at the public
7	hearing and in writing during the 54-day public review period for the DEIR, prepared revisions
8	to the text of the DEIR and published a Draft Comments and Responses document on
9	January 7, 2010; and
0	WHEREAS, A Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) was prepared by the
1	Department, consisting of the DEIR, any consultations and comments received during the
2	review process, any additional information that became available, and the Draft Comments
3	and Responses document, all as required by law; and
4	WHEREAS, On March 18, 2010, the Commission reviewed and considered the FEIR
5	and, by Motion No. 18046, found that the contents of said report and the procedures through
6	which the FEIR was prepared, publicized, and reviewed comply with the provisions of the
7	California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31 of
8	the San Francisco Administrative Code; and
9	WHEREAS, By Motion No. 18046, the Commission found the FEIR reflected the
20	independent judgment and analysis of the Department and Commission, was adequate,
21	accurate and objective, and that the Comments and Responses document contained no
22	significant revisions to the DEIR and certified the FEIR, finding that the Project described in
23	the FEIR will have a project-specific unavoidable significant effect on the environment on
24	historical resources in that it would demolish a potentially significant historic building at 545

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Sansome Street, and

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1	WHEREAS, By Motion No. 18047, the Commission adopted CEQA findings related to
2	the Project approvals, including a statement of overriding considerations, and adopted a
3	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project, and
4	WHEREAS, on March 18, 2010, at a joint hearing with the Recreation and Park
5	Commission, the Planning Commission and the Recreation and Park Commission approved
6	raising the cumulative shadow limit for Maritime Plaza and establishing a cumulative shadow
7	limit for Sue Bierman Park, found that net new shadow from the project would not be adverse,
8	and authorized the allocation of the cumulative shadow limits for Sue Bierman Park and
9	Maritime Plaza to the Project, and the Recreation and Park Commission recommended to the
10	Board of Supervisors that the Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the execution of
11	the documentation effectuating the expansion, renovation, improvement and subsequent
12	dedication of Redwood Park to the City, and accept the dedication of Redwood Park pursuant
13	to such documentation; and,
14	WHEREAS, On April 2, 2010, Sue Hester, on behalf of San Franciscan's for
15	Reasonable Growth, and Vedica Puri, on behalf of Telegraph Hill Dwellers, filed appeals of
16	the FEIR with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors; and,
17	WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on the Project to review
18	the decision by the Planning Commission to certify the FEIR; and
19	WHEREAS, The Board has reviewed and considered the FEIR, the appeal letter(s), the
20	responses to concerns document that the Planning Department prepared, the other written
21	records before the Board of Supervisors, and heard testimony and received public comment
22	regarding the adequacy of the FEIR; and
23	WHEREAS, The FEIR files and all correspondence and other documents have been
24	made available for review by the Board of Supervisors, the Commission, and the public, which

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1	files are available for public review by appointment at the Department offices at 1650 Mission
2	Street, and are part of the record before the Board of Supervisors; now therefore be it,
3	MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors finds that based on the whole record before it
4	there are no substantial Project changes, no substantial changes in Project circumstances,
5	and no new information of substantial importance that would change the conclusions set forth
6	in the FEIR; and be it
7	FURTHER MOVED, That after carefully considering the appeal of the FEIR, including
8	the written information submitted to the Board of Supervisors and the public testimony
9	presented to the Board of Supervisors, this Board hereby affirms the decision of the Planning
10	Commission in its Motion No. 18046 to certify the FEIR and finds the FEIR to be complete,
11	adequate and objective and reflecting the independent judgment of the City and in compliance
12	with CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines, and Administrative Code Chapter 31.
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