

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Building Code - Slope Protection Act]

Ordinance amending the Building Code to revise the scope section of the City's Slope Protection Act by deleting the reference to an obsolete map and re-enacting a paragraph that was omitted inadvertently in the adoption of the 2016 Code; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to forward this Ordinance to the California Building Standards Commission upon final passage.

Existing Law

Building Code Sections 106A.4.1.4 et seq. establishes the City's Slope Protection Act and requires permit applications for the construction of new buildings or structures, and certain other construction work on property subject to the Act, to undergo additional review for structural integrity and effect on slope stability. The properties subject to the requirements are those where any portion of the property lies within either (1) areas of "Earthquake-Induced Landslide" in the specified Seismic Hazard Map released by the California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Technology or (2) the "Landslide Hazard Areas" mapped as "Landslide Locations" by URS/John A. Blume & Associates, Engineers, in what is known as the Blume Map.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed amendments delete the reference in Building Code Section 106A.4.1.4.3 to the Blume Map, which is now obsolete. It also re-enacts language inadvertently omitted in the adoption of the 2016 Code.

Background Information

On January 1, 2017, the 2016 California Building Code went into effect. Every three years the State of California enacts a new Building Code and other state codes, which are enforced by a local jurisdiction. Local amendments to these state codes that have been adopted during the intervening period are not automatically carried forward but must be re-enacted and made applicable to the new state code with the required findings. In the Board's re-enactment of San Francisco's Building Code amendments at the end of 2016, the last paragraph of the scope section of the City's Slope Protection Act was dropped unintentionally. This ordinance re-enacts that paragraph in addition to deleting the reference to the now-obsolete Blume Map.

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