

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Castro Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Cultural District]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the Castro Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Cultural District in and around the Castro neighborhood; to require the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development to submit written reports and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor describing the cultural attributes of the District and proposing strategies to acknowledge and preserve the cultural legacy of the District; and affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

The Board of Supervisors has recognized five neighborhoods with distinct cultural heritage as “cultural districts” in San Francisco. Chapter 107 of the Administrative Code outlines the process by which the Board intends to create new cultural districts in the future.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would establish the Castro Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Cultural District in and around the Castro neighborhood. The ordinance sets forth the geographic boundaries of the District and describes the District’s rich cultural history and character.

The ordinance would require the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development to prepare a Cultural, History, Housing, and Economic Sustainability Strategy Report (CHHESS Report). The CHHESS Report will include a demographic and economic profile of the District, including past, current, and future trends; analyze and record the District’s cultural heritage; identify areas of concern that could inhibit the preservation of the District’s unique culture; and propose legislative, economic, and other solutions and strategies to support the District. By June 30, 2021, the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development will submit the report to the Board of Supervisors for the Board’s consideration and possible approval. The Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development will prepare additional progress reports every three years thereafter.

The ordinance also would require the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development to enter an agreement with a competitively selected community-based organization to assist the City with community outreach, preparation of the content of the CHHESS Report, and development of strategies to support and preserve the culture of the District.