

1 [Planning, Building Codes - Accessory Dwelling Unit Fee Deferral]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the Planning and Building Codes to allow project sponsors to**  
4 **defer payment of certain fees for Accessory Dwelling Units; affirming the Planning**  
5 **Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making**  
6 **findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of**  
7 **Planning Code, Section 101.1; and making findings of public necessity, convenience,**  
8 **and welfare pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302.**

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

13

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

15

16 Section 1. Environmental and Land Use Findings.

17 (a) The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this  
18 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources  
19 Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
20 Supervisors in File No. 250718 and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms  
21 this determination.

22 (b) On September 11, 2025, the Planning Commission, in Resolution No. 21804,  
23 adopted findings that the actions contemplated in this ordinance are consistent, on balance,  
24 with the City's General Plan and eight priority policies of Planning Code Section 101.1. The  
25

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. 250718, 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. 21804, and the Board adopts such reasons as  
6 its own. A copy of said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File  
7 No. 250718 and is incorporated herein by reference.

8 (d) Pursuant to Charter Section 4.121 and Building Code Section 104A.2.11.1.1, the  
9 Building Inspection Commission considered this ordinance at a duly noticed public hearing  
10 held on \_\_\_\_\_ 2025.

11 (e) No local findings are required for this ordinance under California Health and Safety  
12 Code Section 17958.7 because the amendments to the Building Code contained in this  
13 ordinance do not regulate materials or manner of construction or repair, and instead relate in  
14 their entirety to administrative procedures for implementing the code, which are expressly  
15 excluded from the definition of a “building standard” by California Health and Safety Code  
16 Section 18909(c).

17  
18 Section 2. Article 3 of the Planning Code is hereby amended by revising Section 350,  
19 to read as follows:

20  
21 **SEC. 350. FEES.**

22 \* \* \* \*

23 (j) **Deferred or Reduced Fee; Fee Waivers.**

24 (1) Any fraternal, charitable, benevolent, or any other nonprofit organization,  
25 that is exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue laws of the United States and the

1 Revenue and Taxation Code of the State of California as a bona fide fraternal, charitable,  
2 benevolent, or other nonprofit organization, or public entity, that submits an application for the  
3 development of residential units all of which are affordable to low and moderate income  
4 households, as defined by the United States Housing and Urban Development Department,  
5 for a time period that is consistent with the policy of the Mayor's Office of Housing and  
6 Community Development and the Successor to the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency,  
7 may defer payment of the fees except those for discretionary review and appeals to the Board  
8 of Supervisors until (A) before final Planning Department approval of the building permit,  
9 preparatory to issuance of the building permit, before the building permit is released to the  
10 applicant, or (B) within one year of the date of action on the application, whichever comes  
11 first. This deferral provision shall apply notwithstanding the inclusion in the development of  
12 other nonprofit ancillary or accessory uses. Should the project be withdrawn prior to final  
13 Planning approval, the applicant shall pay time and material costs pursuant to Section 350(g).

14 (2) An exemption from paying the full fees specified for discretionary review or  
15 appeals to the Board of Supervisors may be granted when the requestor's income is not  
16 enough to pay for the fee without affecting their ability to pay for the necessities of life,  
17 provided that they demonstrate to the Planning Director or the Director's designee that they  
18 would be substantially affected by the proposed project.

19 (3) Certain of the fees charged in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) are  
20 subject in some circumstances to waiver, as stated in Section 4 of Ordinance No. 149-16 in  
21 Board of Supervisors File No. 160632, or as stated below *in subsections (4) and (5)*. Description  
22 of the waivers below does not affect the other waiver provisions in Section 4 of Ordinance No.  
23 149-16.:

24 ~~(4) *Small Business Month Fee Waivers:*~~ **Small Business Month Fee Waivers.** No  
25 Planning Department fees shall apply to a Small Business that applies for a permit for awning

1 replacement or signs on awnings during the month of May. No Planning Department fees  
2 shall apply to a Small Business that applies for a permit for a new awning installation or a  
3 Business Sign pursuant to Section 604 during the months of May 2023 and May 2024. For  
4 purposes of this subsection (j)(34), a Small Business shall be a business with a total workforce  
5 of 100 or fewer fulltime employees. To the extent this provision for Small Business Month Fee  
6 Waivers differs from the description in subsection (f) on page 43 of Ordinance No. 149-16, this  
7 provision governs.

8 (5) Accessory Dwelling Units. Sponsors of Accessory Dwelling Unit projects may defer  
9 payment of any fees required by this Section 350 until issuance of the First Certificate of Occupancy for  
10 the project, as defined in Section 107A.13.1 of the San Francisco Building Code, or a date no later than  
11 twenty-four months after approval of the First Construction Document, as defined in Section 107A.13.1  
12 of the San Francisco Building Code, for said Accessory Dwelling Unit project, whichever is earlier.  
13 This option to defer payment may be exercised by submitting a deferral request to the Department on a  
14 form provided by the Department prior to issuance of the First Construction Document.

15 \* \* \* \*

16  
17 Section 3. Chapter 1A of the Building Code, Section 107A, is hereby amended by  
18 revising Section 107A.4, to read as follows:

19  
20 ~~**107A.4 Expiration of plan review.** (See Section 106A.3.7.)~~

21 **107A.4 Accessory Dwelling Unit Administrative Fee Deferral Program.** The sponsor of an  
22 Accessory Dwelling Unit project approved under Planning Code Sections 207.1 or 207.2 may elect to  
23 defer payment of any fees required pursuant to Sections 107A.2, 107A.3, 107A.3.1, and 107A.3.4 to a  
24 date no later than issuance of the First Certificate of Occupancy for the project, as defined in Section  
25 107A.13.1, or a date no later than twenty-four months after approval of the First Construction

1 Document, as defined in Section 107A.13.1, for said Accessory Dwelling Unit project, whichever is  
2 earlier. This option to defer payment may be exercised by submitting a deferral request to the  
3 Department on a form provided by the Department prior to issuance of the First Construction  
4 Document.

5  
6 Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after  
7 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the  
8 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within 10 days of receiving it, or the Board  
9 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.

10  
11 Section 5. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors  
12 intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,  
13 numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal  
14 Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment  
15 additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the “Note” that appears under  
16 the official title of the ordinance.

17  
18 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
19 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

20 By: /s/ Peter Miljanich  
21 PETER MILJANICH  
22 Deputy City Attorney

23 n:\legana\as2025\2500254\01851842.docx

24  
25