



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission Resolution No. 19758 General Plan Text Amendment

HEARING DATE OCTOBER 20, 2016

Case No.: 2014.0556GPA
Project Name: Vision Zero: Proposed General Plan Amendments
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RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPT AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL PLAN TO UPDATE THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT AND URBAN DESIGN ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN TO REFLECT THE CITY'S VISION ZERO POLICY; AFFIRMING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT'S DETERMINATION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT; AND MAKING FINDINGS OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE GENERAL PLAN AND THE EIGHT PRIORITY POLICIES OF PLANNING CODE SECTION 101.1.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, Section 4.105 of the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco mandates that the Planning Department shall periodically recommend to the Board of Supervisors for approval or rejection proposed amendments to the General Plan; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco adopted Vision Zero as a policy in 2014, committing to build better and safer streets, educate the public on traffic safety, enforce traffic laws, and adopt changes to city policies to save lives; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Planning Department, under the direction of the Planning Commission, is to shape the future of San Francisco and the region by: generating an extraordinary vision for the General Plan and in neighborhood plans; fostering exemplary design through planning controls; improving our surroundings through environmental analysis; preserving our unique heritage; encouraging a broad range of housing and a diverse job base; and enforcing the Planning Code; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Department works with other city agencies including the SFMTA, SFDPW, SFCTA, SFDPH on initiatives such as the Better Streets Plan, WalkFirst, the Pedestrian Strategy, the Bicycle Strategy, the Vision Zero Two Year Action Strategy and various streetscape and public realm projects to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission adopted resolution 19174 in June 2014, to include Vision Zero in near term and long term planning documents, including the San Francisco General Plan, as appropriate;

WHEREAS, Because the General Plan does not currently reference Vision Zero, the proposed amendment would update the General Plan to reflect the City's Vision Zero policy; and

WHEREAS, per Planning Code Section 340, on July 7, 2016, the Planning Commission adopted Resolution No. 19689, initiating amendments to the Transportation Element and Urban Design Element, and;

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission (hereinafter "Commission") conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider the proposed Ordinance on October 20, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, The proposed amendments are not defined as a project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2) and 15378 because they do not result in a physical change in the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has heard and considered the testimony presented to it at the public hearing and has further considered written materials and oral testimony presented on behalf of Department staff and other interested parties; and

WHEREAS, all pertinent documents may be found in the files of the Department, as the custodian of records, at 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has reviewed the proposed Ordinance; and

MOVED, that the Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Board of Supervisors **approve** the proposed ordinance.

FINDINGS

Having reviewed the materials identified in the preamble above, and having heard all testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

1. The City and County of San Francisco adopted Vision Zero as a policy in 2014.
2. City departments, including the Planning Department, have adopted resolutions in support of Vision Zero and identified near and long term actions that could help the city achieve this goal.
3. The proposed amendments will fulfill the direction outlined in the Planning Commission 2014 resolution to update the policies and objectives in the general plan to help achieve Vision Zero.
4. The Commission supports the proposed amendments because they will ensure that the General Plan appropriately reflects the City's Vision Zero policy.
5. **General Plan Compliance.** The Commission finds that the proposed Ordinance is consistent with the General Plan.

6. **Planning Code Section 101 Findings.** The proposed amendments to the Planning Code are consistent with the eight Priority Policies set forth in Section 101.1(b) of the Planning Code in that:

1. That existing neighborhood-serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses enhanced;

The proposed amendment would have no adverse effect on neighborhood serving retail uses or opportunities for employment in or ownership of such businesses.

2. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods;

The proposed amendment would have no adverse effect on the City's housing stock or on neighborhood character.

3. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced;

The proposed amendment would have no adverse effect on the City's supply of affordable housing.

4. That commuter traffic not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking;

While the proposed amendment would not result in commuter traffic impeding MUNI's transit service, overburdening the streets or altering current neighborhood parking.

5. That a diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced;

The proposed amendment would not adversely affect the industrial or service sectors or future opportunities for resident employment or ownership in these sectors.

6. That the City achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake;

While the proposed amendment would not adversely affect achieving the greatest possible preparedness against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

7. That the landmarks and historic buildings be preserved;

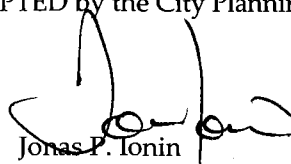
The proposed amendment would have no effect on preservation of landmarks or historic buildings.

8. That our parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development;

The proposed amendment would have no adverse effect on parks and open space or their access to sunlight and vista.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby recommends that the Board ADOPT the proposed Ordinance to amend the Urban Design Element and the Transportation Element of the General Plan.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the City Planning Commission on October 20, 2016



Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES: Fong, Richards, Hillis, Johnson, Koppel, Melgar

NOES: None

ABSENT: Moore

DATE: October 20, 2016