

## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Building Code - Dedicated Telecommunications Space; Fiber-Ready Cabling]

**Ordinance amending the Building Code to require new commercial buildings of 25,000 square feet or more and new residential buildings of three units or more to provide a dedicated telecommunications space in a centrally located place in the building and to install fiber-ready cabling that is connected to an approved telecommunications network; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings of local conditions under the California Health and Safety Code; and directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to forward the legislation to the California Building Standards Commission as required by State law.**

### Existing Law

There is no existing law being amended.

### Amendments to Current Law

The ordinance adds a new section to Chapter 27 of the Building Code, which deals with electrical components, equipment, and systems. It requires all new Business or Mercantile buildings that are 25,000 gross square feet or more and all new Residential buildings of three or more units to provide a dedicated telecommunications space in a central building location which meets specified minimum requirements and provides for telecommunication service providers to install their systems in the building. Buildings subject to the ordinance must also provide fiber to the premises and optical network terminals connected to an approved telecom network.

To enable the City to respond to the constantly-changing and evolving technology in the telecommunications industry, the Building Official is authorized to approve alternative designs and other methods of compliance consistent with the ordinance's purpose and intent. In consultation with experts in the field, the Building Official may also develop performance-based design and minimum capacity criteria in lieu of the specific requirements set forth. Generally applicable alternative designs and methods of compliance, and any performance-based design and minimum capacity criteria, must be published in an Administrative Bulletin.

### Background Information

In Section 709 of the California Public Utilities Code, the State Legislature stated several telecommunications policies for California. Among the eight policy goals listed was the Legislature's intent to (1) encourage the development and deployment of new technologies and the equitable provision of services in a way that efficiently meets consumer need, (2) encourage the availability of a wide choice of state-of-the-art services, (3) and promote

FILE NO. 171139

economic growth, job creation, and the substantial social benefits that will result from the rapid implementation of advanced information and communications technologies by adequate long-term investment in the necessary infrastructure. This legislation furthers the State's stated legislative intent as well as similar public policy objectives of the City.

n:\legana\as2017\1700287\01225260.docx