AMENDED IN COMMITTEE 7/10/2024 ORDINANCE NO.

FILE NO. 240726

1	[Administrative Code - Workforce Housing and Affordable Middle-Income Revenue Bonds]
2	
3	Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to permit the issuance of bonds to
4	finance the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, or construction of middle-income
5	and workforce housing, and to establish ownership, tenancy, affordability, and
6	program requirements.
7	
8 9	NOTE: Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font. Additions to Codes are in single-underline italics Times New Roman font. Deletions to Codes are in strikethrough italics Times New Roman font.
10	Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial font. Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font.
11	Asterisks (* * * *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.
12	
13	Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:
14	
15	Section 1. Findings.
16	(a) The City's Regional Housing Needs Assessment creates a state-mandated
17	obligation to construct a minimum of 46,000 affordable units by 2030, comprised of at least
18	20,867 units for very low-income households, 12,014 units for low-income households, and
19	13,717 units for moderate-income households.
20	(b) Existing affordable housing programs target funding for very low-income and low-
21	income households, thereby creating a "missing middle" funding gap for middle-income and
22	workforce households.
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- (d) The City suffers from a deficit of affordable housing for many of its residents, including its middle-income residents, despite constructing and preserving more affordable housing per capita than any other city in California.
- (e) On April 30, 2019, the Board of Supervisors ("Board") adopted its Resolution No. 215-19 to approve the FY 2020-29 Capital Plan and formally recognize housing affordable to low- and moderate-income San Franciscans as integral to the City's public infrastructure and regular capital planning process.
- (f) The lack of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income essential workers impacts the City's economic health, and its resiliency in the face of disaster or other emergencies if first responders cannot afford to live in the City.
- (g) Market-rate development, which is based on private equity capital's rates of return, is volatile and tied to economic cycles, and demands rents that leave out middle-income workers from the housing market.
- (h) The City has an urgent need to address this growing housing affordability crisis for the health, welfare, and safety of its inhabitants.
- (i) The City is authorized under Section 103 and related provisions of the Internal Revenue Code to issue tax-exempt debt for capital projects with a governmental purpose, including for rental housing projects.
- (j) The City may also issue tax-exempt debt pursuant to Section 145 and related provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, and loan the proceeds to qualified non-profit entities to acquire, develop, construct, rehabilitate, improve, repair, and equip safe and sanitary affordable housing.

1	(k) The City supports the creation of additional preferences for occupations essential
2	to our local economic and cultural fabric, including but not limited to healthcare workers, first
3	responders, public sector and non-profit workers, and artists, and intends to explore the
4	creation of such preferences.
5	
6	Section 2. Chapter 43 of the Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Article
7	XV, consisting of Sections 43.15.1 through 43.15.28, to read as follows:
8	ARTICLE XV:
9	WORKFORCE HOUSING AND AFFORDABLE MIDDLE-INCOME REVENUE BOND LAW
10	
11	TITLE 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS
12	
13	SEC. 43.15.1. TITLE.
14	This Article XV may be cited as the Workforce Housing and Affordable Middle-Income Revenue
15	Bond Law.
16	
17	<u>SEC. 43.15.2. PURPOSE.</u>
18	The Board of Supervisors hereby finds and declares that it is necessary and essential, serves a
19	critical public purpose, and is a municipal affair, for the City to address its middle-income and
20	workforce affordable housing crisis by issuing bonds to finance the acquisition, development,
21	rehabilitation, and construction of housing for middle-income and workforce individuals and
22	households. The City can promote such interests pursuant to this Article XV without adversely
23	affecting areas outside the City and without conflicting with efforts by the State of California to solve
24	problems of statewide concern.
25	

1	SEC. 43.15.3. FULL AUTHORITY.
2	This Article XV is full authority for the issuance of bonds by the City for the purposes described
3	herein, and other purposes reasonably related and subordinate to the purposes described herein.
4	
5	SEC. 43.15.4. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.
6	(a) This Article XV shall be deemed to provide a complete, additional, and alternative
7	method for taking the actions authorized thereby, and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional
8	to the powers conferred by other laws, including the City's ability to issue debt pursuant to Article
9	I of this Chapter 43, and loan the proceeds thereof to an organization of the type described in
10	Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The issuance of bonds under the provisions of this
11	Article need not comply with the requirements of any other law applicable to the issuance of bonds.
12	(b) The purposes authorized hereby may be effectuated and bonds may be issued for any
13	such purposes under this Article XV notwithstanding that any other law may provide for such purposes
14	or for the issuance of bonds for like purposes and without regard to the requirements, restrictions,
15	limitations or other provisions contained in any other law.
16	(c) This Article XV shall not be construed to limit any power the City may have under any
17	other State or local law, including the City's ability to issue debt pursuant to Article I of this
18	Chapter 43, and loan the proceeds thereof to an organization of the type described in Section
19	501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed to
20	prohibit the City from exercising any power granted under any other State or local law.
21	
22	<u>SEC. 43.15.5. DEFINITIONS.</u>
23	Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms defined in this Article XV shall have the
24	following meanings:

1	"AMI" (or "Median Income") means the median family income, adjusted for household size, for
2	the San Francisco Metro Fair Market Rent Area published annually by the United States Department of
3	Housing and Urban Development pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937.
4	"BMR" means below market rate units.
5	"Bonds" means any bonds, notes, certificates, debentures, leases, or other obligations or
6	evidence of indebtedness issued, incurred, or undertaken by the City pursuant to this Article XV and
7	payable as provided in this Article.
8	"City" means the City and County of San Francisco or any entity controlled by the City and
9	County of San Francisco.
10	"Cost" means the total of all costs incurred by or on behalf of the City to carry out all works
11	and undertakings and to obtain all rights and powers necessary or incident to the acquisition,
12	development, construction, improvement, repair, maintenance, operation, or rehabilitation of a
13	Residence. "Cost" may include all costs of issuance of bonds for such purposes and costs for
14	acquisition, development, construction, improvement, repair, maintenance, operation, or rehabilitation
15	undertaken directly by either the City or a Sponsor.
16	"HUD" means the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to
17	Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937.
18	"Indenture" means any indenture, trust agreement, funding loan agreement, pledge and
19	assignment agreement, or other instrument providing for the issuance of and security of bonds.
20	"Median Income" has the same meaning as AMI.
21	"Program Administrator" means the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development
22	or its successor agency.
23	"Qualified 501(c)(3) Sponsor" means a Sponsor that has received a determination letter from
24	the Internal Revenue Service qualifying it as an organization of the type described in Section 501(c)(3)
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1	of the Internal Revenue Code, and whose charitable purpose is furthered by the financing, ownership,
2	and operation of a Residence pursuant to this Article XV.
3	"Residence" means real property improved with a structure primarily for residential rental
4	purposes. "Residence" includes real property improved with one or more structures primarily for multi-
5	family residential rental purposes. A Residence may consist of one or more legally subdivided portions
6	of a building and may consist of one or more entire buildings.
7	"Revenues" means any or all of the amounts received by or on behalf of the City: for the
8	payment of principal, interest, and all other charges with respect to a bond or a loan under this Article
9	XV; as payments under a loan, lease, sublease or sale agreement with respect to a Residence; as
10	proceeds received by the City from mortgage, hazard, or other insurance with respect to a Residence or
11	with respect to such a loan (or any property securing such loan), lease, sublease, or sale agreement; also
12	rents, charges, fees, income, and receipts derived by the City from the ownership, operation, or
13	disposition of a Residence; all other rents, charges, fees, income, and receipts derived by the City from
14	the financing of a Residence under this Article XV; any amounts received by the City as investment
15	earnings on moneys deposited in any fund securing bonds and such other legally available moneys; in
16	each case as the same may be pledged or assigned by the City as security for the payment of bonds
17	pursuant to an ordinance, or to any indenture or other financing document authorized by such
18	ordinance .
19	"Sponsor" means any individual, association, corporation, partnership, or other entity which is
20	approved by the City to undertake the acquisition, building, development, construction, rehabilitation,
21	improvement, management, or operation of a Residence pursuant to this Article XV.
22	"Stabilized Occupancy" means the point in time at which (1) all income-restricted units are
23	occupied for the first time, for a new construction Residence acquired or developed with proceeds of
24	bonds, (2) all income-restricted units are occupied for the first time after acquisition of the Residence,
25	for an existing Residence acquired without existing tenants or with tenants to be permanently relocated

1	or (3) all income-restricted units with existing over-income tenants upon acquisition of the Residence
2	have vacated such units and have been replaced with new tenants, for an existing Residence acquired
3	with existing tenants who will not be permanently relocated.
4	
5	<u>TITLE 2 RESIDENCES</u>
6	
7	SEC. 43.15.6. LOANS TO QUALIFIED 501(c)(3) SPONSORS.
8	The City may use the proceeds of bonds to make, purchase, or otherwise contract for the
9	making of, a mortgage loan or other secured loan to a Qualified 501(c)(3) Sponsor, upon such terms
10	and conditions as the City shall deem proper, for the Costs of a Residence.
11	
12	SEC. 43.15.7. SURPLUS REVENUES.
13	Subject to regulations approved by the Citywide Loan Committee pursuant to Section 43.15.13,
14	surplus revenues of a Residence shall be deposited into the Housing Trust Fund, established pursuant
15	to Charter Section 16.110.
16	
17	SEC. 43.15.8. AFFORDABILITY REQUIREMENTS.
18	Residences financed under this Article XV shall meet all the following affordability
19	<u>requirements:</u>
20	(a) The Sponsor, or any other owner of a Residence that is not the City, shall enter into a
21	regulatory agreement with the City for the life of the Residence to restrict occupancy of units to tenants
22	with household income not to exceed 120% of AMI, and monthly rent not to exceed one-twelfth of 30%
23	of 120% of AMI. Nothing in this Article XV shall limit the Board from requiring household incomes and
24	corresponding rent maximums to be lower than the preceding sentence.

1	(b) Initial rents for qualified households shall not exceed the lesser of: (1) 30% of one-
2	twelfth of the applicable annual income limit, or (2) at the election of the Sponsor, either (A) 15%
3	below comparable market rent as established by a third-party market study accepted by the City, or (B
4	the average 10% below Small Area Fair Market Rents established by HUD.
5	(c) Average income at Stabilized Occupancy in each Residence must be no greater than
6	100% of Median Income. Average rents at Stabilized Occupancy in each Residence must be no greater
7	than 30% of such average income limit.
8	(d) In instances of acquisition, no existing residents shall be involuntarily displaced. Units
9	will be made available to households meeting the income restrictions applicable to the Residence upon
10	voluntary vacancy of each such unit. Any existing tenants who elect to income-certify after the
11	acquisition of a Residence will have their rent adjusted to the applicable affordability levels. If a
12	Residence is subject to Administrative Code Chapter 37 (the Residential Rent Stabilization and
13	Arbitration Ordinance, or "Rent Ordinance") prior to acquisition, units will continue to be subject to
14	the Rent Ordinance and excluded from the regulatory agreement until the earlier of: (1) the existing
15	tenant voluntarily vacating the unit, or (2) the existing tenant income-certifying and executing a new
16	lease under the requirements of the regulatory agreement.
17	(e) Annual rent increases shall not exceed the lesser of the annual percentage change of
18	100% of AMI from the previous year or 4% of the existing rent.
19	
20	SEC. 43.15.9. RENTS AND CHARGES.
21	The City may fix rents, payments, fees, charges, and interest rates for financing under this
22	Article XV and may agree to revise from time to time such rents, payments, fees, charges, and interest
23	rates to reflect changes in interest rates on bonds, losses due to defaults, or changes in other expenses
24	related to this Article, including City administrative expenses, in each case subject to Section 43.15.8
25	and other applicable laws.

work, or improvement or to the lease, sublease, sale, or other disposition of City property under

Chapter 6 shall not be applicable to any action taken under this Article.

24

1	(b) The Public Utilities Commission shall supply electricity to a Residence financed
2	pursuant to this Article XV unless the Program Administrator determines, based on the feasibility
3	assessment described in Administrative Code Section 99.2, that the cost of City electricity service
4	imposes significant additional capital or operating costs to the acquisition, development,
5	improvement, repair, maintenance, rehabilitation, construction, or operation of such
6	Residence.
7	
8	SEC. 43.15.13. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR; REGULATIONS.
9	(a) The Program Administrator is responsible for the administration of this Article XV,
10	subject to any rules and regulations promulgated, pursuant to this Article. The Program Administrator
11	in consultation with the Controller's Office of Public Finance, shall prepare and submit to the Citywide
12	Loan Committee for approval, rules and regulations permitted under this Article, including but not
13	limited to rules and regulations for underwriting standards, surplus revenues, credit enhancement, and
14	Sponsor fees.
15	(b) Regulations for Income Certification Process.
16	(1) Incomes shall be certified only through providing one year's tax returns and a
17	voluntary statement of assets, except as otherwise required by a public subsidy.
18	(2) Initial credit and rental background checks shall be conducted concurrently
19	with initial income certification.
20	(3) Applicants shall be approved or denied within 20 business days of a
21	determination of preference made pursuant to Administrative Code Chapter 47.
22	(4) Recertification shall be limited to once every five years, unless otherwise
23	<u>required by law.</u>
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1	(c) The Program Administrator shall monitor each Residence for compliance with that
2	Residence's regulatory agreement for the term of such regulatory agreement and provide an annual
3	report to the Board of Supervisors on the status of this Article XV.
4	
5	SEC. 43.15.14. ADDITIONAL POWERS.
6	In addition to all other powers specifically granted by this Article XV, the City may do all things
7	necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this Article. Notwithstanding Section 43.1.17 of
8	this Chapter 43 or any other provision to the contrary, the City shall have the power to acquire, own,
9	lease, dispose of, and operate one or more Residences financed under this Article, in each case as a
10	business, in furtherance of the purposes of this Article.
11	
12	<u>TITLE 3 BONDS</u>
13	
14	SEC. 43.15.15. ISSUANCE OF BONDS; LOANS TO QUALIFIED 501(c)(3) SPONSORS.
15	The City may, from time to time, issue bonds approved by ordinance by the Board of
16	Supervisors for any of the purposes of this Article XV, including, but not limited to, the financing or
17	refinancing of Residences to be owned by the City, or the making of loans to Qualified 501(c)(3)
18	Sponsors to finance or refinance Residences owned by such Sponsors, and any other purpose
19	reasonably related thereto and necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this Article.
20	
21	SEC. 43.15.16. BONDS NOT DEBT OF CITY.
22	(a) Every issue of bonds shall be a limited obligation of the City payable from all or any
23	specified part of the Revenues and the moneys and assets authorized in this Article XV to be pledged or
24	assigned to secure payment of bonds. Such Revenues, moneys, or assets shall be the sole source of
25	repayment of such issue of bonds and shall constitute a special fund for purposes of Section 18 of

1	Article XVI of the California Constitution. Bonds issued under the provisions of this Article XV shall
2	not be deemed to constitute a debt or liability of the City or a pledge of the faith and credit of the City
3	but shall be payable solely from specified Revenues, moneys, and assets. The issuance of bonds shall
4	not directly, indirectly, or contingently obligate the City to levy or pledge any form of taxation or to
5	make any appropriation for their payment.
6	(b) All bonds shall contain on their face a statement to the following effect: Neither the faith
7	and credit nor the taxing power of the City is pledged to the payment of the principal of or premium or
8	interest on this bond.
9	
10	SEC. 43.15.17. COST OF ISSUANCE; RESERVE FUNDS; CAPITALIZED BOND
11	<u>INTEREST.</u>
12	In determining the amount of bonds to be issued, the City may include all costs of the issuance
13	of such bonds, reserve funds, and capitalized bond interest.
14	
15	SEC. 43.15.18. LEGISLATION AND BOND TERMS.
16	(a) Notwithstanding any other ordinance, the Board of Supervisors by ordinance may take
17	any and all actions necessary to authorize, issue, and repay the bonds, including, but not limited to,
18	modifying schedules of rents, loan payments, rates, and charges to provide for the payment and
19	retirement of such bonds.
20	(b) Bonds may be issued as serial bonds, term bonds, finance leases, installment payment
21	obligations, loans, notes, certificates of participation, or pass-through certificates, or any combination
22	thereof. Bonds shall be authorized by ordinance by the Board of Supervisors and shall bear such date
23	or dates; mature at such time or times; bear interest at such fixed or variable rate or rates; be payable
24	at such time or times; be in such denominations; be in such form, either coupon or registered; carry
25	such registration privileges; be executed in such manner; be payable in lawful money of the United

1	States of America at such place or places; and be subject to such terms of redemption and have such
2	other terms and conditions as such ordinance, or any indenture authorized by such ordinance to be
3	entered into by the City, may provide. Bonds may be sold at either public or private sale and for such
4	prices as the City shall determine. Interest on bonds may be excluded or included from gross income of
5	the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes.
6	
7	SEC. 43.15.19. BOND PROVISIONS.
8	Any ordinance authorizing any bonds or any issue of bonds, or any indenture authorized by
9	such ordinance to be entered into by the City, may contain provisions respecting any of the following
10	terms and conditions, which shall be a part of the contract with the holders of such bonds:
11	(a) The terms, conditions, and form of such bonds and the interest and principal to be paid
12	<u>thereon;</u>
13	(b) Limitations on the uses and purposes to which the proceeds of sale of such bonds may be
14	applied, and the pledge or assignment of such proceeds to secure the payment of such bonds;
15	(c) Limitations on the issuance of additional parity bonds, the terms upon which additional
16	parity bonds may be issued and secured, and the refunding of outstanding bonds;
17	(d) The setting aside of reserves, sinking funds, and other funds and the regulation and
18	disposition thereof;
19	(e) The pledge or assignment of all or any part of the Revenues and of any other moneys or
20	assets legally available therefor and the use and disposition of such Revenues, moneys, and assets;
21	(f) Limitation on the use of Revenues for operations, administration, or other expenses of
22	the City;
23	(g) Investment of Revenues and the proceeds of bonds;
24	
25	

1	(h) Specification of the acts or omissions to act which shall constitute a default in the duties
2	of the City to holders of such bonds, and providing the rights and remedies of such holders in the event
3	of default, including any limitations on the right of action by individual bondholders;
4	(i) The appointment of a corporate trustee to act on behalf of the City and the holders of its
5	bonds, the pledge or assignment of loans, deeds of trust, mortgages, leases, subleases, sale contracts,
6	and any other contracts to such trustee, and the rights of such trustee;
7	(j) The procedure, if any, by which the terms of any contract with bondholders may be
8	amended or abrogated, the amount of such bonds the holders of which must consent thereto, and the
9	manner in which such consent may be given; and
10	(k) Any other provisions which the Board of Supervisors by ordinance may deem
11	reasonable and proper for the purposes of this Article XV and the security of the bondholders.
12	
13	SEC. 43.15.20. PLEDGE OF REVENUES, MONEY OR ASSETS; LIEN.
14	Any pledge of Revenues or other moneys or assets pursuant to this Article XV shall be valid and
15	binding from the time such pledge is made. Revenues, moneys, and assets so pledged and thereafter
16	received by the City shall immediately be subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical
17	delivery thereof or further act; and the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all
18	parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract, or otherwise against the City, irrespective of
19	whether such parties have notice thereof. Neither the ordinance, nor any indenture by which a pledge is
20	created need be filed or recorded except in the records of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.
21	
22	SEC. 43.15.21. NO PERSONAL LIABILITY.
23	Neither the members of the Board of Supervisors, the officers or employees of the City, nor any
24	person executing any bonds shall be liable personally on the bonds or be subject to any personal
25	liability or accountability by reason of the issuance thereof.

1	
2	SEC. 43.15.22. PURCHASE OF BONDS BY CITY.
3	The City shall have the power out of any funds available therefor to purchase its bonds. The
4	City may hold, pledge, cancel, or resell such bonds, subject to and in accordance with agreements with
5	the bondholders.
6	
7	SEC. 43.15.23. REFUNDING BONDS.
8	The City may issue bonds under this Article XV for the purpose of refunding any bonds then
9	outstanding.
10	
11	SEC. 43.15.24. VALIDITY OF BONDS.
12	The validity of the authorization and issuance of any bonds is not dependent on and shall not be
13	affected in any way by any proceedings taken by the City for the approval of any financing or the
14	entering into of any agreement, or by the failure to provide financing or enter into any agreement, for
15	which bonds are authorized to be issued under this Article XV.
16	
17	<u>TITLE 4 SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS</u>
18	
19	SEC. 43.15.25. LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION.
20	This Article XV, being necessary for the welfare of the City and its inhabitants, shall be liberally
21	construed to effect its purposes.
22	
23	SEC. 43.15.26. OMISSIONS NOT TO AFFECT VALIDITY OF BONDS.
24	Any omission of any officer or the City in proceedings under this Article XV or any other defect
25	in the proceedings shall not invalidate such proceedings or the bonds issued pursuant to this Article.

1	
2	SEC. 43.15.27. ARTICLE CONTROLLING.
3	To the extent that the provisions of this Article XV are inconsistent with the provisions of any
4	other ordinance, the provisions of this Article shall be deemed controlling.
5	
6	SEC. 43.15.28. SEVERABILITY.
7	If any part of this Article XV or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held
8	invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any other part or
9	application of this Article which can be given effect without the invalid part or application; and to this
10	end the provisions of this Article are declared to be severable. The Board of Supervisors hereby
11	declares that, regardless of such a holding, it would have adopted and passed this Article and each
12	title, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, and word therein, and application thereof,
13	unaffected by such a holding.
14	
15	Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
16	enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the
17	ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
18	of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.
19	
20	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
21	DAVID CHIU, City Attorney
22	By: /s/ KENNETH D. ROUX KENNETH D. ROUX
23	Deputy City Attorney
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