

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST
(Amended in Committee, 3/31/14)

[Planning, Building Codes - Small Business Month Fee Waiver]

Ordinance waiving fees in the Planning and Building Codes for certain façade improvements during the month of May every year; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making findings of consistency with the General Plan and priority policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.

Existing Law

The Planning Code establishes permit fees for certain applications, including awning replacement and for signs. The Building Code establishes permit fees to review the structural integrity of awning replacements among other types of permit review.

Amendments to Current Law

In recognition of Small Business Month, this legislation would waive Planning Code fees for awning replacement and for signs on awnings for small businesses during the month of May every year. The Ordinance also would waive Building Code fees related to review of the structural integrity of awning replacements for small businesses during the month of May every year. The legislation would define small businesses to be those with 100 or fewer employees and delegate to the Directors of City Planning and Building Inspection the ability to establish a process to certify that a business meets this definition. The Ordinance would affirm the Planning Department's California Environmental Quality Act determination and make findings of consistency with the City's General Plan and priority policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.

Background Information

This Legislative Digest reflects amendments adopted by the Land Use and Economic Development Committee at its meeting on March 31, 2014, to apply the fee waivers every May instead of only in May 2014.

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