

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code, Public Works Code and Subdivision Code - Better Streets Plan Implementation]

Ordinance adopting the Better Streets Plan; amending Chapter 98.1 of the Administrative Code to require street improvements to conform with the policies and guidance of the San Francisco Better Streets Plan (“Better Streets Plan”); amending various sections of the Planning Code to consolidate requirements for street improvements; to require street improvements to follow the policies and guidance of the Better Streets Plan; to expand and modify existing requirements for provision of street trees; to require specified projects to submit a streetscape plan with application submission; and to describe additional requirements for certain areas of the city subject to neighborhood streetscape plans, including Downtown and Rincon Hill; amending various sections of the Public Works Code to be consistent with the Better Streets Plan, including waiving public right-of-way occupancy fees for Better Streets Plan elements; amending Sections 1335, 1336, and 1337 of the Subdivision Code to require streetscape, pedestrian, and stormwater improvements consistent with the Better Streets Plan as part of subdivision approvals; and making findings, including environmental findings and findings that the Planning Code amendments and General Plan amendments are consistent, on balance, with the General Plan and Planning Code Section 101.1.

Existing Law

The San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 98.1 established a planning process for the Better Streets Plan and its principles. Different sections of the Planning Code, Public Works Code, and Subdivision Code addressed various aspects of street and sidewalk design, street furniture, and street trees and other amenities in the public realm and the requirements for public and private projects affecting or adjacent to the public right-of-way.

Amendments to Current Law

This Ordinance would amend the Administrative Code, Planning Code, Public Works Code, and Subdivision Code to incorporate elements of the Better Streets Plan and require that designated public and private projects adjacent to or otherwise affecting the public right-of-way include these elements under certain circumstances. The legislation would establish a Planning Department review and approval process for street and streetscape design treatments, including street trees and pedestrian and stormwater improvements. Such review process would involve all affected City agencies. The Ordinance also makes environmental findings and findings of consistency with the General Plan and Planning Code Section 101.1.

Background Information

This Ordinance is part of companion legislation concerning General Plan amendments to reflect the Better Streets Plan.