LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Park Code - Temporary Surcharge - Japanese Tea Garden]

Ordinance amending the Park Code to permit the Recreation and Park Department General Manager to impose a surcharge of \$1 per non-resident adult visitor at the Japanese Tea Garden to fund the restoration of that facility, until such time as the restoration is complete; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

The Park Code allows the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) to charge admission fees for visitors to the Japanese Tea Garden. The rates vary depending on the age of the visitor, and whether the visitor is a San Francisco resident.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would allow RPD to impose an additional surcharge of \$1 on each non-resident adult visitor to Japanese Tea Garden, on top of the regular admission fees, in order to fund the restoration of the Pagoda at the Japanese Tea Garden. The surcharge would expire upon completion of the restoration. There would be no additional surcharge on San Francisco residents (regardless of age), non-resident minors (under the age of 18), or non-resident seniors (65 and older).

Background Information

The Pagoda is in need of a significant renovation given its age and historic significance. The renovation would include structural stabilization, dry rot wood repairs, and roofing replacement and re-painting, and is estimated to cost between \$1.5 million and \$2 million. RPD believes the surcharge will raise approximately \$400,000 per year, and also intends to seek other sources of funds to help achieve this fundraising goal.

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