LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Board of Appeals Surcharges on Fees]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to adjust surcharges on fees imposed under Planning Code, Section 350, and Building Code, Section 110A, for actions that may be appealed to the Board of Appeals; authorizing the Controller to make future adjustments to ensure that the costs of the Board of Appeals' services are recovered without producing revenue which is significantly more than such costs; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

Existing law imposes a surcharge on permit and license review and renewal fees for permits and licenses issued or approved by various City authorities based on each department's allocable share of Board of Appeals costs. The surcharges currently reflected in the Administrative Code have been adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index pursuant to Section 10G.2 of the Administrative Code.

Amendments to Current Law

These amendments would adjust the surcharges on fees imposed under Planning Code Section 350 and San Francisco Building Code Section 110A to \$44.00, based on each department's history of appeals filed with the Board of Appeals and consistent with the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget for the Board of Appeals. In addition, the proposed ordinance amends Section 10G.2 to allow for future adjustments to the surcharges, as determined by the Controller, to produce revenues sufficient to support the costs of providing the services without producing revenue which is significantly more than such costs, in addition to adjustments to the surcharges based on changes to the Consumer Price Index.

Background Information

This legislation is designed to reduce the dependency of the Board of Appeals on funding from the City's General Fund by adjusting surcharges in an equitable manner to generate sufficient revenue, together with Board of Appeals filing fees, to meet the operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, attributable to administering the administrative appeals process at the Board of Appeals. It would also allow the Controller to make future adjustments based upon the costs of the Board of Appeal's services, in addition to adjustments based on changes to the Consumer Price Index.

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