

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Public Works Code - Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program]

Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to authorize Public Works to perform graffiti abatement on private properties in commercial areas at no cost to property owners, solely at property owners' request and upon property owners' authorization and property owners' waiver of claims associated with the graffiti abatement; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

On August 4, 2022, the City and County of San Francisco adopted Ordinance No. 174-22, which created a 27-month-long pilot program enabling the Department of Public Works ("Public Works") to perform graffiti abatement on private property in specified commercial corridors at no cost to the property owner, following receipt of the property owners' written consent. Commercial property owners and small businesses have appreciated the services provided under this program and the program has resulted in meaningful abatement of graffiti in commercial corridors.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would amend the Public Works Code to replace the graffiti abatement pilot program with a permanent program, authorizing Public Works to perform graffiti abatement on private properties in specified commercial corridors at no cost to property owners, solely at property owners' request and upon property owners' authorization and property owners' waiver of claims associated with the graffiti abatement. The graffiti abatement program would operate as long as Public Works has sufficient funds to operate the program.

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