

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Public Works Code - Exemption of Banner Fees and Inspection Fees - Leather and LGBTQ Cultural District and SoMa Pilipinas-Filipino Cultural Heritage District]

Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to exempt the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Cultural District from banner permit fees and inspection fees for the placement of up to 200 banners on up to 200 City-owned poles within that Cultural District; and to codify the existing exemption of the SoMa Pilipinas – Filipino Cultural Heritage District from banner permit fees and inspection fees for the placement of up to 300 banners on up to 300 City-owned poles within that Cultural District; and affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

Public Works Code Section 184.78 specifies a process and conditions under which banners may be placed on City-owned utility poles.

In 2019, the Board of Supervisors approved Ordinance No. 214-19, which waived the banner fees under the Public Works Code for up to 300 banners placed on City-owned poles by SoMa Pilipinas, for an indefinite period beginning September 24, 2018.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would amend Public Works Code Section 184.78 to include an express exemption of the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Cultural District from banner permit fees and inspection fees for the placement of one banner on one City-owned utility pole within the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Cultural District, on up to up to 200 City-owned poles.

Also, this ordinance would codify the existing exemption of the SoMa Pilipinas – Filipino Cultural Heritage District from banner permit fees and inspection fees for the placement of one banner on one City-owned utility pole within the SoMa Pilipinas – Filipino Cultural Heritage District, on up to 300 City-owned poles.

In addition, this ordinance would authorize both Cultural Districts (each an “Exempt Cultural District”) to modify the content or design of the banners installed under Public Works Code Section 184.78(q) and to remove and replace such banners without incurring banner permit fees and inspection fees for up to two times per year with respect to each applicable City-owned utility pole.

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