

[Extending the duration of the Film Rebate Program and limiting the rebate available to film productions for police services.]

**Ordinance amending Administrative Code Section 57.8 by extending the Film Rebate Program through June 30, 2012 and modifying the definition of "qualified production cost" to in order limit rebates available to film productions for the use of certain police services.**

Note: Additions are single-underline italics Times New Roman; deletions are ~~strikethrough italics Times New Roman~~. Board amendment additions are double underlined. Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by amending Section 57.8, to read as follows:

**SEC. 57.8. FILM REBATE PROGRAM**

(a) Purpose. The purpose of the Film Rebate Program is to increase the number of qualified film productions being made in San Francisco, increase the number of City residents employed in the filmmaking industry, and encourage the resulting economic benefits to increased filmmaking in San Francisco.

(b) Definitions. As used in this Section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Principal photography" means the time period and phase of film production during which the main photography occurs.

(2) "Qualified low-budget film production" means a feature-length film, television film, television pilot, or each episode of a television series, regardless of the medium used to create or convey it, that is: (i) produced by a film company that expends at least 55 percent of the total principal photography days exclusively in the City and (ii) has a total budget of no

1 more than \$3,000,000. "Qualified low-budget film production" shall not include: (i) a  
2 documentary film, news or current affairs program, interview or talk program, instructional film  
3 or program, film or program consisting primarily of stock footage, sporting event or sporting  
4 program, game show, award ceremony, film or program intended primarily for industrial,  
5 corporate or institutional end-users, fundraising film or program, commercials, music videos,  
6 or "reality" program; or (ii) a production for which records are required under Title 18 United  
7 States Code section 2257, to be maintained with respect to any performer in such production.

8 (3) "Qualified film production" means a feature-length film, television film, television  
9 pilot, or each episode of a television series, regardless of the medium used to create or  
10 convey it, that is created by a film company that expends at least 65 percent of the total  
11 principal photography days exclusively in the City. "Qualified film production" shall not include:

12 (i) a documentary film, news or current affairs program, interview or talk program,  
13 instructional film or program, film or program consisting primarily of stock footage, sporting  
14 event or sporting program, game show, award ceremony, film or program intended primarily  
15 for industrial, corporate or institutional end-users, fundraising film or program, commercials,  
16 music videos, or "reality" program; or (ii) a production for which records are required under  
17 Title 18 United States Code section 2257, to be maintained with respect to any performer in  
18 such production.

19 (4) "Qualified production cost," means the following expenses of a qualified low-  
20 budget film production or a qualified film production:

21 (A) Any taxes, with the exception of hotel or sales taxes, paid to the City, or any of its  
22 constituent departments, the proceeds of which are placed in the general fund;

23 (B) Any moneys paid to the City, or any of its constituent departments, for the use of  
24 City property, equipment, or employees, ~~including, but not limited to additional~~ other than police  
25

1 services as described in Chapter 10B of this Administrative Code except as authorized in  
2 subsection (D) below; and

3 (C) Any daily use fees charged by the Film Commission, pursuant to Section 57.5 of  
4 the Administrative Code, to engage in film production in the City.; and

5 (D) Police services as described in Chapter 10B of this Administrative Code, provided that  
6 the such services do not exceed 4 police officers per day for a total of 12 hours maximum per day per  
7 officer.

8 (c) Rebate Program.

9 (1) *Allowance of Rebate.* A qualified low-budget film production or qualified film  
10 production that pays qualified production costs shall be entitled to a rebate, to be calculated  
11 as provided herein, provided that the qualified production has entered into a first source hiring  
12 agreement with the City that demonstrates good faith efforts to hire economically  
13 disadvantaged individuals referred by the San Francisco Workforce Development System to  
14 work for the qualified production. Good faith efforts shall include, at a minimum, consulting  
15 with the FSHA for the purpose of preparing a list of positions for which individuals referred by  
16 the City might qualify, providing that list to the FSHA at least two weeks prior to the first day of  
17 shooting, and documenting efforts to contact and interview job candidates referred by the City  
18 to fill the positions listed.

19 (2) *Amount of Rebate.* The City shall pay one dollar for each dollar the qualified low  
20 budget film production or qualified film production paid in qualified production cost not to  
21 exceed \$1.8 million dollars by June 30, ~~2012~~2009. The rebate shall be paid from the fund into  
22 which the qualified production cost was originally deposited. In no event shall the amount of  
23 any rebate paid after April 1, 2009 exceed \$600,000.00. The rebate shall not be paid from  
24 funds dedicated under bond or other legal financing covenants. Rebates paid under this  
25


1 Ordinance (~~Ordinance no. 64-09~~) shall be paid only to those qualified film productions whose  
2 filming commenced on or after the effective date of this Ordinance.

3 (3) *Implementation.* After holding a public hearing, the Executive Director of the Film  
4 Commission, in consultation with the Controller, shall promulgate rules and regulations to  
5 establish the procedures for implementation of the Film Rebate Program. Such rules shall  
6 include provisions describing the application process, the standards used to evaluate the  
7 applications, the documentation that will be required to substantiate the amount of the rebate,  
8 the appeal process, and any such other provisions as deemed necessary and appropriate to  
9 carry out the Film Rebate Program.

10 (d) Reports. The Executive Director shall report annually to the Board of Supervisors  
11 on the implementation of the Film Rebate Program. The report shall include a list of each  
12 qualified film production, residency of employees, and the total of qualified production costs  
13 submitted and paid to each film production. Annually for the first three years after enactment  
14 of this Ordinance the Controller shall perform an assessment and review of the effect of the  
15 Film Rebate Program. Based on such assessment and review, the Controller shall prepare  
16 and submit an analysis to the Board of Supervisors. The Analysis shall be based on criteria  
17 deemed relevant by the Controller, and may include but is not limited to data contained in the  
18 annual reports to the Board of Supervisors submitted by the Director of the Film Commission.

19 (e) The Film Rebate Program shall expire on June 30, ~~2012~~2009, unless extended by  
20 ordinance. If the Film Rebate Program is not extended, the City Attorney shall cause this  
21 Section to be removed from future editions of the San Francisco Municipal Code without  
22 further action of the Board.

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
2 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

3 By:   
4 Adine K. Varah  
5 Deputy City Attorney  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



# City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Tails Ordinance

---

**File Number:** 090627

**Date Passed:**

Ordinance amending Administrative Code Section 57.8 by extending the Film Rebate Program through June 30, 2012, and modifying the definition of "qualified production cost" in order to limit rebates available to film productions for the use of certain police services.

---

June 30, 2009 Board of Supervisors — PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar,  
Maxwell, Mirkarimi

Noes: 1 - Daly

July 7, 2009 Board of Supervisors — FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar,  
Maxwell, Mirkarimi

Noes: 1 - Daly

File No. 090627

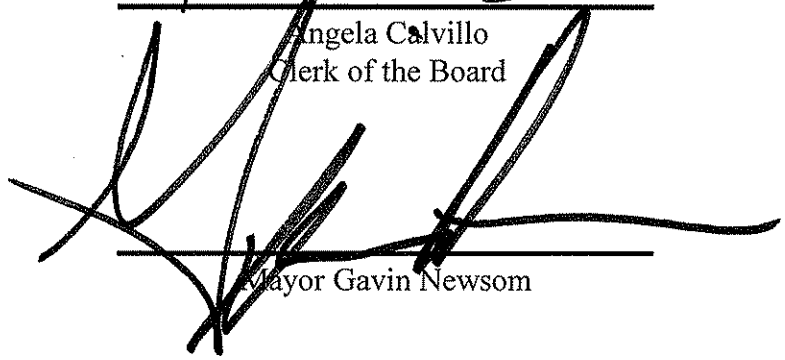
I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance  
was **FINALLY PASSED** on July 7, 2009 by  
the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
County of San Francisco.



Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

7/15/2009

Date Approved



Mayor Gavin Newsom