



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission Resolution No. 20024

HEARING DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2017

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Project Name: Planning Commission Policy: Removal of Residential Flats
Record Number: 2016-003658GEN
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ADOPTING A POLICY THAT REQUIRES MANDATORY DISCRETIONARY REVIEW OF ANY PROJECT IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS THAT RESULTS IN THE REMOVAL OF A RESIDENTIAL FLAT.

WHEREAS, Objective 2 of the City's 2014 Housing Element states that "conserving and improving the existing (housing) stock is critical to San Francisco's long term housing strategy;" and

WHEREAS, the City is currently at 207% production and entitlement of market rate housing units, 16% production and entitlement of units affordable to moderate income households, and 31% production of below-market rate housing, as defined in the 2015-2022 RHNA goals;

WHEREAS, currently market-rate housing is frequently not accessible to moderate-income families, making between 80-120% of area median income;

WHEREAS, for the purpose of this Resolution a 'Residential Flat' is to be defined as a common San Francisco housing typology consisting of a single dwelling unit, generally occupying an entire story within a building, and having exposure onto open areas at the front and rear of the property;

WHEREAS, this unit typology satisfies a number of housing needs, particularly for middle-income families,

WHEREAS; a dwelling unit can currently be relocated, or altered, such that it no longer functions as a Residential Flat without public notification or review by the Planning Commission, so long as the proposal complies with all other requirements of the Planning Code;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission is pursuing legislative amendments to Planning Code Section 317 that would require changes to the review process for projects that remove Residential Flats.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission hereby adopts a new policy that requires a Mandatory Discretionary Review application to be filed for any building or site permit that proposes the modification of a Residential Flat such that it is no longer a Residential Flat; and, be it


FURTHER RESOLVED, that projects increasing the number of dwelling units within a building will not be subject to this policy; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this policy will allow time for the orderly completion of a planning study and for the adoption of appropriate legislation; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this policy will sunset after the adoption of the Residential Expansion Threshold legislative initiative currently underway; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this policy shall apply to all building or site permit applications to remove a Residential Flat where the application has not been filed as of the effective date of this Resolution.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Commission at its meeting on October 12, 2017.


Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES: Richards, Hillis, Fong, Koppel and Melgar

NOES: Johnson

ABSENT: Moore

ADOPTED: October 12, 2017