File No.	230167	Committee Item No	2
		Board Item No. <u>7</u>	

# **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Committee:	Rules Committee	Date	May 1, 2023
Board of Su	pervisors Meeting	Date	May 16, 2023
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H	Form 700 Information/Vacancies (Boards/Comr	nissio	ns)
	Public Correspondence		,
OTHER	(Use back side if additional space is	needed	d)
$\square$	CEQA Determination		
	Public Works Response		
	COB Memo		
HH			
HH			
Completed   Completed	by: Victor Young by:	Date Date	April 27, 2023

# AMENDED IN COMMITTEE 5/1/2023 ORDINANCE NO.

FILE NO. 230167

1	[Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization]
2	
3	Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to create a
4	Permit Prioritization Task Force responsible for <u>developing a recommended Citywide</u>
5	list of prioritized permits and project types and recommending permit prioritization
6	guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the
7	Department of Public Works, requiring those departments to review and update their
8	permit prioritization guidelines periodically, and requiring the commissions that
9	oversee each department to approve the department's permit prioritization guidelines;
10	and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California
11	Environmental Quality Act.
12	NOTE: Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font.
13	Additions to Codes are in single-underline italics Times New Roman font.  Deletions to Codes are in strikethrough italics Times New Roman font.  Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial font.
14	Board amendment additions are in <u>additioned Anamont.</u> Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font.  Asterisks (* * * *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code
15	subsections or parts of tables.
16	
17	Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:
18	
19	Section 1. California Environmental Quality Act.
20	The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this
21	ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources
22	Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of
23	Supervisors in File No. 230167 and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms
24	this determination.
25	

Section 2. Findings.

- (a) Officers and employees of the City must treat all permit applicants in an ethical, fair, expeditious, and courteous manner. If the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works determine to prioritize certain types of permits over others, they should do so in an open and transparent way with the input of departmental staff, oversight commissions, and the public.
- (b) Requiring an open and transparent process of determining permit prioritization will reduce the possibility of favoritism or the appearance of impropriety between City officials and permit applicants and increase public confidence in the fairness and equity of departmental policies and procedures.
- (c) Departmental permit review performance will improve with goal setting, data analysis, and increased coordination between permit review departments.

Section 3. Article III, Chapter 4, of the Campaign and Government Conduct Code is hereby amended by revising Section 3.400, to read as follows:

### SEC. 3.400. PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESSING.

(a) **EQUAL TREATMENT OF PERMIT APPLICANTS.** It shall be the policy of the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, the Department of Public Works and the officers and employees of such departments to treat all permit applicants the same regardless of the relationship of the applicant and/or the applicant's representatives to any officer or employee of the City and County and regardless of whether the applicant hires a permit consultant to provide permit consulting services. Intentional preferential treatment of any permit applicant and/or the applicant's representatives by any officer or employee of the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, or the Department of Public Works shall subject the officer or employee to disciplinary action for official misconduct.

(b) <b>APPLICATION PRIORITY.</b> It shall be the policy of the Department of
Building Inspection, the Planning Department, the Department of Public Works and the
officers and employees of such departments to review, consider, and process all applications
revisions, corrections and other permit-related material in the order in which that type of
material is received unless there is a written finding of a public policy basis for not doing so,
such as the involvement of public funds in the project for which the permit is sought, or the
response to a delay caused by an earlier procedural error in processing the permit or another
permit for the same project. Absent such a finding, any officer or employee of the Department
of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, or the Department of Public Works who
intentionally fails to review, consider, and process all applications, revisions, corrections, and
other permit-related material in the order in which that type of material is received shall be
subject to disciplinary action for official misconduct. The Department of Building Inspection,
the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall each adopt written
guidelines for determining when there is a public policy basis for processing permit material
out of order and shall periodically review such guidelines as provided in subsection (c) of this
Section 3.400. For purposes of this $\pm \underline{S}$ ection $\underline{3.400}$ , and any corresponding written guidelines,
expediting of work consisting primarily of disability access improvements for real property
shall qualify as a public policy basis for processing permit material out of order, on a priority
basis.
(c) PERIODIC REVIEW AND COORDINATION OF PERMIT
PRIORITIZATION GUIDELINES. The Department of Building Inspection, the Planning
Department, and the Department of Public Works shall review and update their respective permit
prioritization guidelines as provided in this subsection (c).
(1) Interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force Review of Permit
Prioritization Guidelines.

1	(A) Establishment of Permit Prioritization Task Force. There is hereby
2	established an interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force ("Task Force") consisting of five
3	members. Four members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Director of the Department of
4	Building Inspection, the Planning Director, the Public Works Director, and the President of the Board
5	of Supervisors, respectively. All such appointees shall be City employees and shall serve at the
6	pleasure of their appointing authority; the appointee of the President of the Board of Supervisors shall
7	be an employee or official of the Board of Supervisors. The appointing authorities for the Task Force
8	shall make their initial appointments no later than 60 days after the effective date of the ordinance in
9	Board File No. 230167, creating the Task Force. The Director of the Permit Center or the Director's
10	designee shall also be a member of the Task Force and shall serve as chair of the Task Force. The
11	Permit Center shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.
12	(B) Powers and Duties of Task Force. The Task Force shall recommend
13	permit prioritization guidelines for the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department,
14	and the Department of Public Works to the respective department heads and oversight commissions.
15	The Task Force shall create a recommended endeavor to align the respective departments'
16	guidelines to achieve a common Citywide list of the prioritized permits and project types and
17	shall use that list to recommend changes to the departments' respective permit prioritization
18	guidelines, types of permits each department will prioritize. Each department shall have
19	discretion to designate department-specific priority permits. The permit prioritization guidelines
20	shall include a goal for the amount of time required for the department's review of each priority permit
21	<u>type.</u>
22	(2) Department and Commission Review and Approval of Permit Prioritization
23	Guidelines. The Building Inspection Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Public Works
24	Commission shall approve the permit prioritization guidelines and any changes to such guidelines for
25	the department each commission oversees. The department heads and oversight commissions

1	shall consider the Task Force's Citywide list of prioritized permits and project types and the
2	Task Force's recommendations in making modifications to the department's prioritization
3	guidelines. Each department shall retain discretion to designate department-specific
4	prioritized permits.
5	(3) No later than June 30, 2024, the Task Force shall approve the
6	recommended Citywide list of prioritized permits and project types, make recommendations to
7	<u>t</u> <u>The Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the Department of Public</u>
8	Works for updates to their respective prioritization guidelines, and each such department and
9	oversight commission shall approve any modifications to its prioritization guidelines shall
10	complete the first review of their existing prioritization guidelines pursuant to this subsection
11	(c) no later than December 31, 2023.
12	(4) Ongoing Review of Prioritization Guidelines. Following the first review
13	process required by subsection (c)(3) of this Section 3.400, the Department of Building Inspection, the
14	Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall review their prioritization guidelines
15	prior to June 30, 2026 and no later than June 30 every other year thereafter and, with commission
16	approval, make any changes deemed necessary or appropriate. The Director of the Permit Center may
17	reconvene the Task Force by providing notice to the appointing authorities of the Task Force members,
18	upon determining that it is in the public interest to modify the recommended Citywide list
19	prioritized permits and project types and/or to recommend modifications to one or more of the
20	departments' prioritization guidelines.
21	(5) Data Collection and Reporting. The Department of Building Inspection, the
22	Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall collect data on the processing time
23	for each permit type included in their respective permit prioritization guidelines. On an annual basis at
24	least 60 days prior to the reporting deadline to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors specified in this
25	subsection (c)(5), such departments shall each transmit to the Director of the Permit Center data

concerning the department's average processing time for each prioritized permit type in the previous
calendar year. The departments may separately report the average time the department is awaiting a
response from the permit applicant per prioritized permit type, where such data is available. Where
data is available, such departments shall also include data concerning the impact of prioritization on
permit types that are not prioritized. Alternatively, the departments may provide the Director of
the Permit Center direct access to their electronic permitting systems so that the Director may
gather the required data. The Director of the Permit Center shall compile such data and transmit and
annual report to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors no later than June 30, 20254, and every year
thereafter no later than June 30.

(6) Sunset. This subsection (c) shall expire by operation of law, and the Task Force shall terminate, on June 30, 2030, unless extended by ordinance. No later than January 1, 2030, the Director of the Permit Center shall submit a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor concerning reauthorization of this subsection (c). In the event that this subsection expires, the City Attorney shall cause it to be removed from the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code and shall renumber the subsections of this Section 3.400 to conform to the removal of subsection (c).

(ed) **PERMIT PROCESSING CODE OF CONDUCT.** No later than 60 days after the effective date of this Article, the Ethics Commission shall adopt a code of conduct for permit processing (the "Permit Processing Code of Conduct") containing ethical guidelines for permit applicants, permit consultants, and officers and employees of the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, the and Department of Public Works. The Permit Processing Code of Conduct shall be posted in a conspicuous place in each department, and a copy shall be distributed to each officer of the City and County who makes or participates in making decisions related to permit applications.

1	Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
2	enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the
3	ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
4	of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.
5	
6	Section 5. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors
7	intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,
8	numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal
9	Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment
10	additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under
11	the official title of the ordinance.
12	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
13	DAVID CHIU, City Attorney
14	By: /s/ Bradley A. Russi BRADLEY A. RUSSI
15	Deputy City Attorney
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25	

# LEGISLATIVE DIGEST (updated May 1, 2023)

[Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization]

Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to create a Permit Prioritization Task Force responsible for developing a recommended Citywide list of prioritized permits and project types and recommending permit prioritization guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works, requiring those departments to review and update their permit prioritization guidelines periodically, and requiring the commissions that oversee each department to approve the department's permit prioritization guidelines; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

# **Existing Law**

City law requires the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department and the Department of Public Works to treat all permit applicants the same and to process permits in the order they are received unless such departments have made a written finding that there is a public policy basis for prioritizing the review of certain types of permits. The departments are required to adopt written permit prioritization guidelines.

#### Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would create an interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force consisting of four members appointed by the Director of the Department of Building Inspection, Planning Director, Director of Public Works, and the President of the Board of Supervisors, respectively. The Director of the Permit Center or designee will also be a member of the Task Force and serve as its chair. The Task Force will develop a recommended Citywide list of prioritized permits and project types, and it will review the departments' existing permit prioritization guidelines and recommend appropriate modifications to the department heads and oversight commissions. The goal of the Task Force will be to align the departments' guidelines to streamline review of prioritized project types. The proposed ordinance will require the departments' oversight commissions to approve the updated prioritization guidelines and any subsequent changes to the guidelines, and will require the departments to periodically review and modify the guidelines as necessary or appropriate. Finally, the proposed ordinance will require the departments to collect and annually report data on processing times for prioritized permits and to report on the impact prioritization has on non-prioritized permits.

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Page 1

# **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

# **MEMORANDIIM**

		MEMORANDOM	
	Date: To: From: Subject:	February 24, 2023  Planning Department / Commission  Victor Young, Clerk of the Rules Committee  Board of Supervisors Legislation Referral - File No. 230167  Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization	
$\boxtimes$	(Californi ⊠	ia Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Determination ia Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 et seq.) Ordinance / Resolution Ballot Measure	
	(Planning	nent to the Planning Code, including the following Findings:  (Code, Section 302(b): 90 days for Planning Commission review)  eral Plan   Planning Code, Section 101.1   Planning Code, Section 302	
		nent to the Administrative Code, involving Land Use/Planning ule 3.23: 30 days for possible Planning Department review)	
	(Charter, (Require subdivisi relocation public he the annu	General Plan Referral for Non-Planning Code Amendments (Charter, Section 4.105, and Administrative Code, Section 2A.53) (Required for legislation concerning the acquisition, vacation, sale, or change in use of City property; subdivision of land; construction, improvement, extension, widening, narrowing, removal, or relocation of public ways, transportation routes, ground, open space, buildings, or structures; plans for public housing and publicly-assisted private housing; redevelopment plans; development agreements; the annual capital expenditure plan and six-year capital improvement program; and any capital improvement project or long-term financing proposal such as general obligation or revenue bonds.)	
		Preservation Commission  Landmark (Planning Code, Section 1004.3)  Cultural Districts (Charter, Section 4.135 & Board Rule 3.23)  Mills Act Contract (Government Code, Section 50280)  Designation for Significant/Contributory Buildings (Planning Code, Article 11)	

Please send the Planning Department/Commission recommendation/determination to Victor Young at Victor. Young@sfgov.org.

Not defined as a project under CEOA Guidelines Sections 15378 and 150600

Not defined as a project under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378 and 15060(c)(2) because it would not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

3/22/2023

### BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
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Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

# **MEMORANDUM**

Date:

March 13, 2023

To:

The Honorable Members, Board of Supervisors

From:

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

Subject:

Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization

(Permit Prioritization Task Force)

Board of Supervisors Rules of Order 2.21 establishes certain criteria that must be included in legislation creating and establishing, or reauthorizing, new bodies (boards/commissions/task forces/advisory bodies) and requires the Clerk of the Board to advise the Board on certain matters. In order to fulfill these requirements, the following is provided:

File No. 230167 Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization

Does a current body address the same or similar subject matter?

No. There are no other bodies that perform the same function as the Permit Prioritization Task Force.

Language requiring the body to meet at least once every four months

No. Section 5.48-7, entitled "Meeting and Procedures," states the following: "(b) Following the inaugural meeting, and not counting the inaugural meeting, the EIFD Public Financing Authority No. 1 shall hold a regular meeting not less than one time per year."

Language indicating members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority

Yes. The Section, entitled Periodic Review and Coordination of Permit," states: "All such appointees shall be City employees and shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority."

# Language establishing attendance requirements

No. There are no attendance requirements listed in the Ordinance. This requirement may not apply as all members are appointees of City departments and are City employees.

# Number of seats and qualifications

There are a total of five seats appointed as follows:

- Four members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Director of the Department
  of Building Inspection, the Planning Director, the Public Works Director, and the
  President of the Board of Supervisors, respectively. All such appointees shall be City
  employees and shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority; the appointee
  of the President of the Board of Supervisors shall be an employee or official of the
  Board of Supervisors.
- The Director of the Permit Center or the Director's designee shall also be a member of the Task Force and shall serve as chair of the Task Force.
- Term limits (i.e., commencement date? staggered terms?)

No. Term limits are not addressed, but this requirement may not apply as all members are appointees of City departments and are City employees.

# Administering department

Yes. The Permit Center shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.

# Reporting requirements

The Task Force shall recommend permit prioritization guidelines for the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works to the respective department heads and oversight commissions. The Task Force shall endeavor to align the respective departments' guidelines to achieve a common Citywide list of the types of permits each department will prioritize. Each department shall have discretion to designate department-specific priority permits. The permit prioritization guidelines shall include a goal for the amount of time required for the department's review of each priority permit type.

The Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall collect data on the processing time for each permit type included in their

respective permit prioritization guidelines. On an annual basis at least 60 days prior to the reporting deadline to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors specified in this subsection (c)(5), such departments shall each transmit to the Director of the Permit Center data concerning the department's average processing time for each prioritized permit type in the previous calendar year. The departments may separately report the average time the department is awaiting a response from the permit applicant per prioritized permit type, where such data is available. Where data is available, such departments shall also include data concerning the impact of prioritization on permit types that are not prioritized.

The Director of the Permit Center shall compile such data and transmit an annual report to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors no later than June 30, 2024, and every year thereafter no later than June 30.

# Sunset date

No. A sunset date is not indicated. It is suggested that the following language and sunset date be included:

•	Unless the Board of Supervisors, by ordinance, extends the term the Committee sh	ıall
	terminate on .	

From: <u>Schneider, Ian (DPW)</u>

To: Young, Victor (BOS); Buckley, Jeff (BOS)

Subject: RE: REFERRAL - BOS File No. 230167 Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization

**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2023 10:58:23 AM

Attachments: 230167 FYI.pdf

image001.png

Hi Victor and Jeff,

Our permit team has reviewed the legislation and has 2 comments:

Page 4, Line 16 – recommend the language be modified from "the types of permits" to "the types of permits or projects, or specified use/identified public benefit".

Page 5, Line 19 – Confirm the date for the first annual report as it differs from the prioritization guidelines timelines. (Note: Annual reporting begins prior to first prioritization guidelines and appropriate commission approval).

Thank you,

Ian Schneider (he/him)
Government Affairs Manager | (628) 271-3126
San Francisco Public Works | City and County of San Francisco
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1600 | San Francisco, CA 94103

From: Young, Victor (BOS) < victor.young@sfgov.org>

Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 3:58 PM

**To:** Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Short, Carla (DPW) <Carla.Short@sfdpw.org>; O'Riordan, Patrick (DBI) <patrick.oriordan@sfgov.org>; Hillis, Rich (CPC) <rich.hillis@sfgov.org>

**Cc:** Steinberg, David (DPW) <david.steinberg@sfdpw.org>; Schneider, Ian (DPW)

<ian.schneider@sfdpw.org>; Thomas, John (DPW) <John.Thomas@sfdpw.org>; Liu, Lena (DPW)

<lena.liu@sfdpw.org>; Lee, Patty (DBI) <patty.lee@sfgov.org>; Nicita, Carl (DBI)

<carl.nicita@sfgov.org>; Sider, Dan (CPC) <dan.sider@sfgov.org>; Teague, Corey (CPC)

<corey.teague@sfgov.org>; Tam, Tina (CPC) <tina.tam@sfgov.org>; Gibson, Lisa (CPC)

devyani.jain@sfgov.org>; Rodgers, AnMarie (CPC)

<anmarie.rodgers@sfgov.org>; Starr, Aaron (CPC) <aaron.starr@sfgov.org>; Navarrete, Joy (CPC)

<joy.navarrete@sfgov.org>; Watty, Elizabeth (CPC) <elizabeth.watty@sfgov.org>

**Subject:** REFERRAL - BOS File No. 230167 Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization

### Greetings:

The attached matter is being forwarded to your department for informational purposes (attached). If you have any comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

or email at victor.young@sfgov.org.

# **Victor Young**

**Board of Supervisors** 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall., Room 244 San Francisco CA 94102 phone 415-554-7723 | fax 415-554-5163 victor.young@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org



Click <u>here</u> to complete a Board of Supervisors Customer Service Satisfaction form.

The Legislative Research Center provides 24-hour access to Board of Supervisors legislation, and archived matters since August 1998.

Disclosures: Personal information that is provided in communications to the Board of Supervisors is subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act and the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance. Personal information provided will not be redacted. Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Board of Supervisors and its committees. All written or oral communications that members of the public submit to the Clerk's Office regarding pending legislation or hearings will be made available to all members of the public for inspection and copying. The Clerk's Office does not redact any information from these submissions. This means that personal information—including names, phone numbers, addresses and similar information that a member of the public elects to submit to the Board and its committees—may appear on the Board of Supervisors website or in other public documents that members of the public may inspect or copy.

#### **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



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# MEMORANDUM

TO: John Arntz, Director, Department of Elections

Carla Short, Interim Director, Public Works

Patrick O'Riordan, Director, Department of Building Inspection

Victor Young

Rich Hillis, Director, Planning Department

FROM: Victor Young, Assistant Clerk

DATE: February 24, 2023

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee received the following proposed legislation:

File No. 230167

Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to create a Permit Prioritization Task Force responsible for recommending permit prioritization guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, Planning Department, and Department of Public Works, requiring those departments to review and update their permit prioritization guidelines periodically, and requiring the commissions that oversee each department to approve the department's permit prioritization guidelines; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: victor.young@sfgov.org.

cc: David Steinberg, Public Works
Ian Schneider, Public Works
John Thomas, Public Works
Lena Liu, Public Works
Patty Lee, Department of Building Inspection
Carl Nicita, Department of Building Inspection
Dan Sider, Planning Department
Corey Teague, Planning Department
Tina Tam, Planning Department
Lisa Gibson, Planning Department
Devyani Jain, Planning Department

AnMarie Rodgers, Planning Department Aaron Starr, Planning Department Joy Navarrete, Planning Department Elizabeth Watty, Planning Department



# City and County of San Francisco Master Report

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

**File Number:** 230167 **File Type:** Ordinance **Status:** 30 Day Rule

Enacted: Effective:

Version: 1 In Control: Rules Committee

File Name: Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Date Introduced: 02/14/2023

Permit Prioritization

Requester: Cost: Final Action:

Comment: Title: Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental

Conduct Code to create a Permit Prioritization Task
Force responsible for recommending permit prioritization
guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, the
Planning Department, and the Department of Public
Works, requiring those departments to review and update
their permit prioritization guidelines periodically, and
requiring the commissions that oversee each department
to approve the department's permit prioritization
guidelines; and affirming the Planning Department's
determination under the California Environmental Quality

Act.

Sponsor: Safai

### History of Legislative File 230167

Ver	Acting Body	Date A	Action	Sent To	Due Date	Result
1	President	02/14/2023	ASSIGNED UNDER 30	Rules Committee	03/16/2023	
			DAY RULE			

1	[Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization]
2	
3	Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to create a
4	Permit Prioritization Task Force responsible for recommending permit prioritization
5	guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the
6	Department of Public Works, requiring those departments to review and update their
7	permit prioritization guidelines periodically, and requiring the commissions that
8	oversee each department to approve the department's permit prioritization guidelines;
9	and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California
10	Environmental Quality Act.
11	NOTE: Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font.
12	Additions to Codes are in <u>single-underline italics Times New Roman font</u> .  Deletions to Codes are in <u>strikethrough italics Times New Roman font</u> .
13	Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial font.  Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font.
14	<b>Asterisks (* * * *)</b> indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.
15	
16	Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:
17	
18	Section 1. California Environmental Quality Act.
19	The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this
20	ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources
21	Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of
22	Supervisors in File No and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms this
23	determination.
24	
25	

Section 2. Findings.

- (a) Officers and employees of the City must treat all permit applicants in an ethical, fair, expeditious, and courteous manner. If the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works determine to prioritize certain types of permits over others, they should do so in an open and transparent way with the input of departmental staff, oversight commissions, and the public.
- (b) Requiring an open and transparent process of determining permit prioritization will reduce the possibility of favoritism or the appearance of impropriety between City officials and permit applicants and increase public confidence in the fairness and equity of departmental policies and procedures.
- (c) Departmental permit review performance will improve with goal setting, data analysis, and increased coordination between permit review departments.

Section 3. Article III, Chapter 4, of the Campaign and Government Conduct Code is hereby amended by revising Section 3.400, to read as follows:

### SEC. 3.400. PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESSING.

(a) **EQUAL TREATMENT OF PERMIT APPLICANTS.** It shall be the policy of the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, the Department of Public Works and the officers and employees of such departments to treat all permit applicants the same regardless of the relationship of the applicant and/or the applicant's representatives to any officer or employee of the City and County and regardless of whether the applicant hires a permit consultant to provide permit consulting services. Intentional preferential treatment of any permit applicant and/or the applicant's representatives by any officer or employee of the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, or the Department of Public Works shall subject the officer or employee to disciplinary action for official misconduct.

(b) <b>APPLICATION PRIORITY.</b> It shall be the policy of the Department of
Building Inspection, the Planning Department, the Department of Public Works and the
officers and employees of such departments to review, consider, and process all applications,
revisions, corrections and other permit-related material in the order in which that type of
material is received unless there is a written finding of a public policy basis for not doing so,
such as the involvement of public funds in the project for which the permit is sought, or the
response to a delay caused by an earlier procedural error in processing the permit or another
permit for the same project. Absent such a finding, any officer or employee of the Department
of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, or the Department of Public Works who
intentionally fails to review, consider, and process all applications, revisions, corrections, and
other permit-related material in the order in which that type of material is received shall be
subject to disciplinary action for official misconduct. The Department of Building Inspection,
the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall each adopt written
guidelines for determining when there is a public policy basis for processing permit material
out of order and shall periodically review such guidelines as provided in subsection (c) of this Section
$3.400$ . For purposes of this $\pm \underline{S}$ ection $3.400$ , and any corresponding written guidelines,
expediting of work consisting primarily of disability access improvements for real property
shall qualify as a public policy basis for processing permit material out of order, on a priority
basis.
(c) PERIODIC REVIEW AND COORDINATION OF PERMIT
PRIORITIZATION GUIDELINES. The Department of Building Inspection, the Planning
Department, and the Department of Public Works shall review and update their respective permit
prioritization guidelines as provided in this subsection (c).
(1) Interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force Review of Permit
Prioritization Guidelines.

1	(A) Establishment of Permit Prioritization Task Force. There is hereby	
2	established an interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force ("Task Force") consisting of five	
3	members. Four members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Director of the Department of	
4	Building Inspection, the Planning Director, the Public Works Director, and the President of the Board	
5	of Supervisors, respectively. All such appointees shall be City employees and shall serve at the	
6	pleasure of their appointing authority; the appointee of the President of the Board of Supervisors shall	
7	be an employee or official of the Board of Supervisors. The appointing authorities for the Task Force	
8 shall make their initial appointments no later than 60 days after the effective date of the o		
9	Board File No, creating the Task Force. The Director of the Permit Center or the	
10	Director's designee shall also be a member of the Task Force and shall serve as chair of the Task	
11	Force. The Permit Center shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.	
12	(B) Powers and Duties of Task Force. The Task Force shall recommend	
13	permit prioritization guidelines for the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department,	
14	and the Department of Public Works to the respective department heads and oversight commissions.	
15	The Task Force shall endeavor to align the respective departments' guidelines to achieve a common	
16	Citywide list of the types of permits each department will prioritize. Each department shall have	
17	discretion to designate department-specific priority permits. The permit prioritization guidelines shall	
18	include a goal for the amount of time required for the department's review of each priority permit type	
19	(2) Commission Review and Approval of Permit Prioritization Guidelines. The	
20	Building Inspection Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Public Works Commission shall	
21	approve the permit prioritization guidelines and any changes to such guidelines for the department	
22	each commission oversees.	
23	(3) The Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the	
24	Department of Public Works shall complete the first review of their existing prioritization guidelines	
25	pursuant to this subsection (c) no later than December 31, 2023.	

1	(4) Ongoing Review of Prioritization Guidelines. Following the first review
2	process required by subsection (c)(3) of this Section 3.400, the Department of Building Inspection, the
3	Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall review their prioritization guidelines
4	prior to June 30, 2026 and no later than June 30 every other year thereafter and, with commission
5	approval, make any changes deemed necessary or appropriate. The Director of the Permit Center may
6	reconvene the Task Force by providing notice to the appointing authorities of the Task Force members,
7	upon determining that it is in the public interest to recommend modifications to one or more of the
8	departments' prioritization guidelines.
9	(5) Data Collection and Reporting. The Department of Building Inspection, the
10	Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall collect data on the processing time
11	for each permit type included in their respective permit prioritization guidelines. On an annual basis at
12	least 60 days prior to the reporting deadline to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors specified in this
13	subsection (c)(5), such departments shall each transmit to the Director of the Permit Center data
14	concerning the department's average processing time for each prioritized permit type in the previous
15	calendar year. The departments may separately report the average time the department is awaiting a
16	response from the permit applicant per prioritized permit type, where such data is available. Where
17	data is available, such departments shall also include data concerning the impact of prioritization on
18	permit types that are not prioritized. The Director of the Permit Center shall compile such data and
19	transmit an annual report to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors no later than June 30, 2024, and
20	every year thereafter no later than June 30.
21	(e <u>d</u> ) <b>PERMIT PROCESSING CODE OF CONDUCT.</b> No later than 60 days after the
22	effective date of this Article, the Ethics Commission shall adopt a code of conduct for permit
23	processing (the "Permit Processing Code of Conduct") containing ethical guidelines for permit
24	applicants, permit consultants, and officers and employees of the Department of Building

Inspection, the Planning Department, the and Department of Public Works. The Permit

1	Processing Code of Conduct shall be posted in a conspicuous place in each department, and		
2	a copy shall be distributed to each officer of the City and County who makes or participates in		
3	making decisions related to permit applications.		
4			
5	Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after		
6	enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the		
7	ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board		
8	of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.		
9			
10	Section 5. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors		
11	intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,		
12	numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal		
13	Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment		
14	additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under		
15	the official title of the ordinance.		
16	APPROVED AS TO FORM:		
17	DAVID CHIU, City Attorney		
18	By: /s/ BRADLEY A. RUSSI		
19	Deputy City Attorney		
20	n:\legana\as2022\2300165\01653392.docx		
21			
22			
23			
24			

# **LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization]

Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to create a Permit Prioritization Task Force responsible for recommending permit prioritization guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, Planning Department, and Department of Public Works, requiring those departments to review and update their permit prioritization guidelines periodically, and requiring the commissions that oversee each department to approve the department's permit prioritization guidelines; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

# **Existing Law**

City law requires the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department and the Department of Public Works to treat all permit applicants the same and to process permits in the order they are received unless such departments have made a written finding that there is a public policy basis for prioritizing the review of certain types of permits. The departments are required to adopt written permit prioritization guidelines.

### Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would create an interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force consisting of four members appointed by the Director of the Department of Building Inspection, Planning Director, Director of Public Works, and the President of the Board of Supervisors, respectively. The Director of the Permit Center or designee will also be a member of the Task Force and serve as its chair. The Task Force will review the departments' existing permit prioritization guidelines and recommend appropriate modifications to the department heads and oversight commissions. The goal of the Task Force will be to develop a list of permit types that each department includes in their prioritization guidelines to streamline review of prioritized project types. The proposed ordinance will require the departments' oversight commissions to approve the updated prioritization guidelines and any subsequent changes to the guidelines, and will require the departments to periodically review and modify the guidelines as necessary or appropriate. Finally, the proposed ordinance will require the departments to collect and annually report data on processing times for prioritized permits and to report on the impact prioritization has on non-prioritized permits.

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Page 1

# **Introduction Form**

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I hereby	submit the following item for introduction (select only one):		
<b>m</b> 1	For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)		
2	Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)		
3	Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee		
4	Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires"		
5	. City Attorney Request		
	. Call File No. from Committee.		
7	. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)		
8	. Substitute Legislation File No.		
	. Reactivate File No.		
	Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on		
The proj	posed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):		
The prop	☐ Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission ☐ Ethics Commission		
1	☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission ☐ Human Resources Department		
	Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):		
	☐ Yes ☐ No  For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)		
Sponsor			
Safai			
Subject:			
Campa	ign and Government Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization		
Long Ti	Long Title or text listed:		
prioritiz Depart	nce to create a Permit Prioritization Task Force responsible for recommending permit ration guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, Planning Department and ment of Public Works, require these departments to review and update their permit ration guidelines.		

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

Millity :

 From:
 Buckley, Jeff (BOS)

 To:
 BOS Legislation, (BOS)

Cc: PEARSON, ANNE (CAT); RUSSI, BRAD (CAT)

Subject: FW: Priority Processing Legislation

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 2:04:56 PM

Attachments: 01654446.DOCX

01653392.DOCX

Introduction Form - Prioritization Form.pdf

Hello,

Please see attached intro form and legislation that deals with priority processing for permit issuing departments. Let me know if you have any questions.

-Jeff

From: Russi, Brad (CAT)

BOS Legislation, (BOS); Buckley, Jeff (BOS); BOS Legislation, (BOS) To:

PEARSON, ANNE (CAT) Cc:

RE: Priority Processing Legislation Subject: Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 2:12:49 PM

Attachments: image002.png

01653392.DOCX

I approve as to form and I added my signature. Thanks.

#### **Bradley Russi**

Deputy City Attorney Office of City Attorney David Chiu (415) 554-4645 Direct City Hall, Room 234 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl., San Francisco, CA 94102 www.sfcityattorney.org

Attorney-Client Communication - Do Not Disclose Confidential Attorney Work Product - Do Not Disclose

This email may contain privileged or confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, please reply to this email to inform me of your receipt and then destroy all copies.

From: BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 2:10 PM

To: Buckley, Jeff (BOS) < jeff.buckley@sfgov.org>; BOS Legislation, (BOS) < bos.legislation@sfgov.org>

**Cc:** Pearson, Anne (CAT) <Anne.Pearson@sfcityatty.org>; Russi, Brad (CAT)

<Brad.Russi@sfcityatty.org>

Subject: RE: Priority Processing Legislation

Hello,

We are seeking the approval of Deputy City Attorney Brad Russi for use of his electronic signature and approval as to form. Kindly confirm that the attached ordinance is approved as to form, and the /s/ next to his name in the signature line of the ordinance has the same effect as his signature, by reply of this email.

Thank you,

#### Lisa Lew

San Francisco Board of Supervisors 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102 T 415-554-7718 | F 415-554-5163 lisa.lew@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a "virtual" meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.



The Legislative Research Center provides 24-hour access to Board of Supervisors legislation, and archived matters since August 1998.

Disclosures: Personal information that is provided in communications to the Board of Supervisors is subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act and the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance. Personal information provided will not be redacted. Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Board of Supervisors and its committees. All written or oral communications that members of the public submit to the Clerk's Office regarding pending legislation or hearings will be made available to all members of the public for inspection and copying. The Clerk's Office does not redact any information from these submissions. This means that personal information—including names, phone numbers, addresses and similar information that a member of the public elects to submit to the Board and its committees—may appear on the Board of Supervisors' website or in other public documents that members of the public may inspect or copy.

**From:** Buckley, Jeff (BOS) < <u>jeff.buckley@sfgov.org</u>>

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 2:05 PM

To: BOS Legislation, (BOS) < bos.legislation@sfgov.org>

**Cc:** PEARSON, ANNE (CAT) < <u>Anne.Pearson@sfcityatty.org</u>>; RUSSI, BRAD (CAT)

<<u>Brad.Russi@sfcityatty.org</u>>

Subject: FW: Priority Processing Legislation

Hello,

Please see attached intro form and legislation that deals with priority processing for permit issuing departments. Let me know if you have any questions.

-Jeff

FILE NO.	230167
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# ORDINANCE NO.

1	[Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Permit Prioritization]		
2			
3	Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to create a		
4	Permit Prioritization Task Force responsible for recommending permit prioritization		
5	guidelines to the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the		
6	Department of Public Works, requiring those departments to review and update their		
7	permit prioritization guidelines periodically, and requiring the commissions that		
8	oversee each department to approve the department's permit prioritization guidelines;		
9	and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California		
10	Environmental Quality Act.		
11	NOTE:	Unchanged Code text and uncodified text are in plain Arial font.  Additions to Codes are in <u>single-underline italics Times New Roman font</u> .	
12 <b>Deletions to Codes</b> are in strikethrough italies Times New Rom Board amendment additions are in double-underlined Arial		<b>Deletions to Codes</b> are in strikethrough italics Times New Roman font.	
		Board amendment deletions are in strikethrough Arial font.  Asterisks (* * * *) indicate the omission of unchanged Code	
14		subsections or parts of tables.	
15			
16	Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:		
17			
18	Section 1. California Environmental Quality Act.		
19	The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this		
20	ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources		
21	Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of		
22	Supervisors in File No and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms this		
23	determination.		
24			

- (a) Officers and employees of the City must treat all permit applicants in an ethical, fair, expeditious, and courteous manner. If the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works determine to prioritize certain types of permits over others, they should do so in an open and transparent way with the input of departmental staff, oversight commissions, and the public.
- (b) Requiring an open and transparent process of determining permit prioritization will reduce the possibility of favoritism or the appearance of impropriety between City officials and permit applicants and increase public confidence in the fairness and equity of departmental policies and procedures.
- (c) Departmental permit review performance will improve with goal setting, data analysis, and increased coordination between permit review departments.

Section 3. Article III, Chapter 4, of the Campaign and Government Conduct Code is hereby amended by revising Section 3.400, to read as follows:

#### SEC. 3.400. PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESSING.

(a) **EQUAL TREATMENT OF PERMIT APPLICANTS.** It shall be the policy of the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, the Department of Public Works and the officers and employees of such departments to treat all permit applicants the same regardless of the relationship of the applicant and/or the applicant's representatives to any officer or employee of the City and County and regardless of whether the applicant hires a permit consultant to provide permit consulting services. Intentional preferential treatment of any permit applicant and/or the applicant's representatives by any officer or employee of the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, or the Department of Public Works shall subject the officer or employee to disciplinary action for official misconduct.

(b) <b>APPLICATION PRIORITY.</b> It shall be the policy of the Department of
Building Inspection, the Planning Department, the Department of Public Works and the
officers and employees of such departments to review, consider, and process all applications,
revisions, corrections and other permit-related material in the order in which that type of
material is received unless there is a written finding of a public policy basis for not doing so,
such as the involvement of public funds in the project for which the permit is sought, or the
response to a delay caused by an earlier procedural error in processing the permit or another
permit for the same project. Absent such a finding, any officer or employee of the Department
of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, or the Department of Public Works who
intentionally fails to review, consider, and process all applications, revisions, corrections, and
other permit-related material in the order in which that type of material is received shall be
subject to disciplinary action for official misconduct. The Department of Building Inspection,
the Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall each adopt written
guidelines for determining when there is a public policy basis for processing permit material
out of order <u>and shall periodically review such guidelines as provided in subsection (c) of this Section</u>
3.400. For purposes of this \$\sigma\text{Section } 3.400, and any corresponding written guidelines,
expediting of work consisting primarily of disability access improvements for real property
shall qualify as a public policy basis for processing permit material out of order, on a priority
basis.

### (c) PERIODIC REVIEW AND COORDINATION OF PERMIT

PRIORITIZATION GUIDELINES. The Department of Building Inspection, the Planning

Department, and the Department of Public Works shall review and update their respective permit prioritization guidelines as provided in this subsection (c).

(1) Interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force Review of Permit

Prioritization Guidelines.

1	(A) Establishment of Permit Prioritization Task Force. There is hereby
2	established an interdepartmental Permit Prioritization Task Force ("Task Force") consisting of five
3	members. Four members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Director of the Department of
4	Building Inspection, the Planning Director, the Public Works Director, and the President of the Board
5	of Supervisors, respectively. All such appointees shall be City employees and shall serve at the
6	pleasure of their appointing authority; the appointee of the President of the Board of Supervisors shall
7	be an employee or official of the Board of Supervisors. The appointing authorities for the Task Force
8	shall make their initial appointments no later than 60 days after the effective date of the ordinance in
9	Board File No. , creating the Task Force. The Director of the Permit Center or the
10	Director's designee shall also be a member of the Task Force and shall serve as chair of the Task
11	Force. The Permit Center shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.
12	(B) Powers and Duties of Task Force. The Task Force shall recommend
13	permit prioritization guidelines for the Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department,
14	and the Department of Public Works to the respective department heads and oversight commissions.
15	The Task Force shall endeavor to align the respective departments' guidelines to achieve a common
16	Citywide list of the types of permits each department will prioritize. Each department shall have
17	${\it discretion\ to\ designate\ department-specific\ priority\ permits.\ The\ permit\ prioritization\ guidelines\ shall}$
18	include a goal for the amount of time required for the department's review of each priority permit type.
19	(2) Commission Review and Approval of Permit Prioritization Guidelines. The
20	Building Inspection Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Public Works Commission shall
21	approve the permit prioritization guidelines and any changes to such guidelines for the department
22	each commission oversees.
23	(3) The Department of Building Inspection, the Planning Department, and the
24	Department of Public Works shall complete the first review of their existing prioritization guidelines
25	pursuant to this subsection (c) no later than December 31, 2023.

(4) Ongoing Review of Prioritization Guidelines. Following the first review	
process required by subsection (c)(3) of this Section 3.400, the Department of Building Inspection, the	
Planning Department, and the Department of Public Works shall review their prioritization guidelines	
prior to June 30, 2026 and no later than June 30 every other year thereafter and, with commission	
approval, make any changes deemed necessary or appropriate. The Director of the Permit Center may	
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permit types that are not prioritized. The Director of the Permit Center shall compile such data and	
transmit an annual report to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors no later than June 30, 2024, and	
every year thereafter no later than June 30.	
$(e\underline{d})$ PERMIT PROCESSING CODE OF CONDUCT. No later than 60 days after the	
effective date of this Article, the Ethics Commission shall adopt a code of conduct for permit	
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applicants, permit consultants, and officers and employees of the Department of Building

Inspection, the Planning Department, the and Department of Public Works. The Permit

24

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Section 5. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors	
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the official title of the ordinance.	
APPROVED AS TO FORM: DAVID CHIU, City Attorney	
DAVID OF IIO, Oily Allomey	
By: /s/	Formatted: Underline
Deputy City Attorney	
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