FILE NO. 251071

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST
(Amended in Committee – November 3, 2025)

[Zoning Map - Family Zoning Plan]

Ordinance amending the Zoning Map to implement the Family Zoning Plan by: amending the Zoning Use District Maps to: 1) reclassify certain properties currently zoned as various types of Residential to Residential Transit Oriented – Commercial (RTO-C), except for properties located in the Priority Equity Geographies Special Use District ("PEG SUD"); 2) reclassify properties currently zoned Residential Transit Oriented (RTO) to Residential Transit Oriented – 1 (RTO-1); 3) reclassify certain properties from Residential districts other than RTO to RTO-1, except for properties located in the PEG SUD; 4) reclassify certain properties currently zoned Neighborhood Commercial (NC) or Public (P) to Community Business (C-2) , except for properties located in the PEG SUD; and 5) reclassify certain properties from Public to Mixed-Use or Neighborhood Commercial Districts, except for properties located in the PEG SUD; amending the Height and Bulk Map to: 1) reclassify properties in the Family Zoning Plan to R-4 Height and Bulk District, except for properties located in the PEG SUD; 2) change the height limits on certain lots in the R-4 Height and Bulk District, except for properties located in the PEG SUD; and 3) designating various parcels to be included in the Non-Contiguous San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Sites Special Use District (SFMTA SUD); amending the Local Coastal Program to: 1) reclassify all properties in the Coastal Zone south of Lincoln Way to R-4 Height and Bulk District; 2) reclassify certain properties south of Lincoln Way to RTO-C and Neighborhood Commercial District; and 3) directing the Planning Director to transmit the Ordinance to the Coastal Commission upon enactment; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings of public necessity, convenience, and welfare under Planning Code, Section 302; making findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1; and making findings under the City's Local Coastal Program and the California Coastal Act of 1976.

Existing Law

The Zoning Map of the City and County of San Francisco establishes the designations, locations, and boundaries of various districts within the City. The Zoning Maps consists of a series of numbers sectional maps, which depict the use district, height and bulk district, and Special Use Districts established in the Planning Code. Type of use districts include: Residential, Residential-Mixed, Residential Transit-Oriented, Neighborhood Commercial, Commercial, and Public. Height and Bulk District maps generally depict heights ranging from 40 feet to 1000 feet. Bulk limits are generally designated by a letter, which corresponds to a chart in Planning Code section 270. Planning Code section 270 and related sections regulate the maximum lengths and diagonal dimensions of projects, thereby limiting the size and

shape of buildings on a particular parcel or lot. Special Use Districts are areas or parcels with particular zoning controls that may deviate from some or all of the otherwise applicable Planning Code requirements.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would amend the Zoning Map to implement the Family Zoning Plan by changing the use districts, and height and bulk districts for parcels in well-resourced areas, which are neighborhoods or areas with existing infrastructure, transit, businesses, well-performing public schools and lower levels of environmental pollution. Some of these changes would apply in areas outside well-resourced neighborhoods. The ordinance is being introduced in tandem with another ordinance amending the Planning Code, which can be found in Board File No. 250701 ("Planning Code ordinance").

Changes to Zoning Districts

This ordinance would establish the designations, locations, and boundaries of two new use districts: Residential Transit Oriented – Commercial (RTO-C), and Residential Transit Oriented-1 (RTO-1), which are proposed for adoption in the Planning Code ordinance. The RTO-C use district would apply to certain parcels currently zoned various other Residential districts, such as Residential or Residential-Mixed, and would allow, but not require, certain non-residential uses on the ground floor. Parcels currently zoned Residential Transit Oriented (RTO), if not otherwise reclassified in this ordinance, and some Residential Districts would be reclassified Residential Transit Oriented-1 (RTO-1). Generally, RTO-1 parcels would have the same controls as parcels currently zoned RTO. The general designation "RTO District" would encompass RTO-1, RTO-C and RTO-Mission.

The ordinance would also classify three properties zoned Neighborhood Commercial (NC) or Public (P) to Community Business (C-2).

In addition, the ordinance would establish the boundaries of a new Height and Bulk District called R-4, established in the Planning Code ordinance. The R-4 Height and Bulk District designation would allow development on those parcels the option to use the Housing Choice-San Francisco Program, proposed in the companion ordinance, which would allow form-based density, additional height, and other Planning Code modifications.

Changes to Height and Bulk

The ordinance would amend the Height and Bulk District maps to primarily increase, or in some limited instances decrease, the applicable height limit. Generally, additional height – between 65 and 85 feet – is proposed for most corridors, with wider streets adjacent to or near major transit lines and stations getting rezoned to 85 feet. Heights ranging from 140 feet to 650 feet are proposed in areas that currently allow high rise construction above 85 feet (such as the Van Ness Avenue corridor), at key intersections and locations along major corridors (such as the intersection of Geary Boulevard and 19th Avenue), on wider streets that have a number of medium and large-sized parcels (for example Market Street and Lombard

Street) and areas near major transit stops or stations (such as Market Street, Geary Boulevard, and Glen Park).

The ordinance would create the R-4 Height and Bulk District. Parcels in the R-4 Height and Bulk District would have two designated height limits separated by a double slash. The number before the double slash indicates the base height; the number after the double slash, which is often, but not always higher, indicates the height limit for projects using the Housing Choice-San Francisco Program. If numbers are separated by a single slash, the first number is the maximum height for podium buildings and the number following the single slash is the maximum height for towers. Some parcels will have numbers separated by a single slash and numbers separated by a double slash, indicating the podium and tower heights for projects not using, or using, the Housing Choice-San Francisco Program, respectively.

The Ordinance would designate parcels for the Non-contiguous San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Special Use District. The SFMTA SUD would be established in the Planning Code ordinance, and would rezone those parcels from Public (P) or Residential (R) to various Neighborhood Commercial (NC) districts.

Finally, the Ordinance would amend the City's Local Coastal Program to update the Zoning Map changes to the parcels within the Local Coastal Program.

Background Information

This ordinance (Version 3) is a substitute for the ordinance (Version 2) that was introduced on July 29, 2025. Version 1 of this ordinance was introduced on June 24, 2025.

On October 20, 2025, the Land Use and Transportation Committee duplicated Version 3 of the ordinance and amended the duplicate ordinance in the following ways. First, the committee amended the ordinance to remove the base zoning and height and bulk changes to parcels in the Priority Equity Geographies Special Use District ("PEG SUD", Planning Code Section 249.97), except that any parcels with RTO zoning in the PEG shall be reclassified to RTO-1.

Second, the committee removed the base zoning and height and bulk changes to parcels located in the Coastal Zone north of Fulton Street. The committee also removed two parcels in the Coastal Zone from the SFMTA SUD.

Third, the committee changed the base height and/or the R-4 Height and Bulk Districts for the following areas and street segments:

- Inner Clement NCD: 40//40-R-4
- Outer Clement NCD: 40//40-R-4
- Outer Balboa NCD: 40//40-R-4
- Geary Boulevard between 32nd and 43rd Avenue: 50//65-R-4

- Portions of Block 1070 on Geary Boulevard: 50//85-R-4
- Block 0446 on Marina Boulevard: 40//40-R-4
- Block 0452 on North Point Street: 40//40-R-4
- Portions of Block 0025 along Hyde, Beach, and North Point Streets: 40//40-R-4

Finally, the committee eliminated the proposed change from RH-2 to Geary Boulevard NCD for Assessor's Parcel Block No. 1070/002.

The original file is located in Board File No. 250700; the duplicate file is located in Board File No. 251071. The amendments described above are in Version 2 of the duplicate file in Board File No. 251071.

On November 3, 2025, the Land Use and Transportation Committee amended Version 2 of the ordinance in Board File No. 251071 to delete certain parcels along Ocean Avenue from the changes in the ordinance. These amendments are in Version 3 of the duplicate file in Board File No. 251071.

Under State law, every city and county must have a housing element. Among other requirements, state law requires that a housing element identify adequate sites for housing for all economic segments of the community. (Gov. Code § 65583.) The City's adopted the 2022 Housing Element update on January 31, 2023.

A jurisdiction's existing and projected housing needs is known as its Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). If a jurisdiction is not able to identify adequate sites to accommodate its RHNA, it must adopt zoning changes, generally within three years of housing element adoption. San Francisco's RHNA is approximately 82,000 units, and because the City does not have sufficient capacity to accommodate its RHNA, it must rezone sufficient sites to allow for additional units by January 31, 2026.

The number of individual parcels to be rezoned to meet the City's RHNA exceeds 92,000. Therefore, the text of the Zoning Map ordinance only includes a general description of the Zoning Map amendments. The exact parcels to be rezoned, and the new zoning categories are provided in the "Family Zoning Plan Map Ordinance Parcel Tables" document which is incorporated by reference, and can be found in Board File No. 250700. An interactive rezoning map can be found on the Planning Department's Family Zoning Plan website: https://sfplanning.org/sf-family-zoning-plan#hearing-info-resources.

This ordinance is part of a package of ordinances that will implement the Family Zoning Plan, which will allow the City to accommodate approximately 36,200 additional units as required by state housing law. Additional ordinances include the Planning Code ordinance found in Board File No. 250701, and a General Plan amendment found in Board File 250966.

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