LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Street Light Policy]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to provide a Street Light Policy; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

The proposed ordinance would amend Administrative Code to provide a City wide unified Street Light Policy.

Amendments to Current Law

The Ordinance would adopt a Citywide Street Light Policy. In furtherance of the policy, lighting should be designed not only for vehicular traffic, but also for pedestrians on sidewalks and pedestrian paths. Whenever at least 50% of the lighting along an existing street is upgraded, or lighting along a new street is added, adequate pedestrian scale lighting should be evaluated and included as appropriate.

Further, the Policy urges management of street lights and coordination with San Francisco's private street light utility to more effectively provide, maintain, and repair the City's street lights; to transition to light-emitting diode (LED) technology; to further integrate the private utility's street light maintenance operations into the City 311 system; to create more detailed and timely reporting of completed repairs; to integrate up to date street light infrastructure information into the existing City GIS database by December 1, 2014; to develop pedestrian scale lighting standards by December 1, 2014; and to establish a uniform, shared standard for levels of service for the repairs of all street lights facilitating correction of outages within 48 hours of being reported. The Policy further provides that the City should strive to unify streetlight management under a municipal program.

Background Information

Pursuant to the Charter, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has exclusive jurisdiction and control over providing City-owned street lighting. Currently, ownership and maintenance responsibility of the City's streetlights is divided between the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and a private utility. The proposed Street Light Policy urges more effective coordination of street light activities and functions and the creation of a single, municipally-managed unified streetlight program.

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