

1 [Planning, Building Codes - Fee Waiver Program - Small Business Month, May 2014]

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3 **Ordinance recognizing Small Business Month in May 2014; amending the Planning and**  
4 **Building Codes to retroactively waive fees for the month of May for certain façade**  
5 **improvements; affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California**  
6 **Environmental Quality Act; and making findings, including environmental findings and**  
7 **findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of**  
8 **Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

9 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
10 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
11 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.  
12 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
13 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.  
14 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
15 subsections or parts of tables.

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

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18 Section 1. Findings and Purpose.

19 (a) May is Small Business Month, and the Board of Supervisors desires to recognize  
20 the importance of small businesses in San Francisco. As part of this recognition, the Board  
21 elects to waive various local permit fees for the month of May 2014 for the replacement of  
22 awnings and signs on awnings and installation of pedestrian level lighting as these fees have  
23 acted as a bar for many small businesses to improve their building facades and store fronts.

24 (b) On March 27, 2014, the Planning Commission adopted Resolution No. 19106  
25 recommending adoption of this ordinance, and adopted findings that the Ordinance is  
consistent, on balance, with the City’s General Plan, and eight priority policies of Planning  
Code, Section 101.1(b). The Board of Supervisors adopts these findings as it own. A copy of

1 this Commission Resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 140122, and is  
2 incorporated herein by reference.

3 (c) Pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302, the Board of Supervisors finds that this  
4 ordinance will promote the public necessity, convenience, safety and welfare for the reasons  
5 set forth in Planning Commission Resolution No. 19106, which is incorporated herein by  
6 reference.

7 (d) The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this  
8 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, California Public  
9 Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.). The Board of Supervisors affirms the Department's  
10 CEQA determination. Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
11 in File No. 140122 and is incorporated herein by reference.

12 (e) On March 19, 2014, the Building Inspection Commission conducted a public  
13 hearing on this ordinance and recommended approval of this ordinance. On March 24, 2014,  
14 the Building Inspection Commission Secretary submitted a letter to the Board of Supervisors  
15 describing the Commission's action. Said letter is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
16 Supervisors in File No. 140122 and is incorporated herein by reference.

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18 Section 2. Fee Waivers.

19 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the Planning Code, including the fee schedule  
20 associated with Sections 355(a) and 355(e), the permit fee for awning replacement and for  
21 signs on awnings, respectively, is hereby waived for any permit issued for such activities  
22 during the month of May 2014.

23 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the Building Code, including the fee schedules of  
24 Tables 1A-A and 1A-E, the permit fees related to reviewing the structural integrity of awning  
25 replacements for those permits submitted "over the counter" at the Central Permit Bureau and

1 installation of pedestrian level lighting, respectively, are hereby waived for any permit issued  
2 for such activities during the month of May 2014.

3 c) The fee waivers set forth in Section 2 shall apply only to small business enterprises.  
4 For purposes of this Section 2 a small business enterprise shall be one that has 100 or fewer  
5 employees. The Board of Supervisors hereby delegates to the Department of Building  
6 Inspection and the Planning Department the establishment of a process by which the  
7 respective departments will certify that an applicant is a small business enterprise.

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9 Section 3. Effective and Operative Dates. This ordinance shall become effective 30  
10 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor  
11 returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it,  
12 or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance. However, in order to  
13 effectuate the intent of this ordinance, the operative provisions of this ordinance shall be  
14 retroactive to May 1, 2014, should the effective date of the ordinance occur after May 1, 2014.

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16 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
17 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

18 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
19 John D. Malamut  
20 Deputy City Attorney