

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code, Zoning Map - Transit Center Special Sign District]

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to create the Transit Center Special Sign District (bounded by Market Street on the north, Folsom Street on the south, Steuart Street on the east, and between New Montgomery and Third Streets on the west, and in the area bounded by Folsom, Harrison, Essex, and Second Streets, but excluding the planned City Park between Mission, Howard, Second, and Beale Streets and those portions of the Transit Center District Plan Area included in Zone 1 of the Transbay Redevelopment Plan Area, which include portions of land bounded by Spear, Mission, Folsom, and Second Streets), to restrict the size and height of new signs within 200 feet of and visible from an existing or planned public park or open space, and to restrict illumination of certain new signs in those areas; amending the Zoning Map to show the Transit Center Special Sign District; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings of consistency with the General Plan and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1; and making a finding of public necessity, convenience, and welfare pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302.

Existing Law

The parcels that would be subject to the proposed Transit Center Special Sign District are currently subject to the applicable provisions of Article 6 of the Planning Code.

Interim Controls

On November 3, 2015, the Board adopted Resolution No. 418-15, instituting interim controls for the area within the proposed Transit Center Special Sign District.

The interim controls required that (1) all illuminated signs that are over 35 feet in height are dimmable and are turned off between 11:00 p.m. in the evening and 6:00 a.m. the following morning; (2) new signs within 200 feet of parks or privately owned public open space areas ("POPOS") must be less than 50 square feet and lower than 35 feet high; and (3) instituting size, illumination, and height requirements for new business signs within 200 feet of City Park (the park above the Transbay Center). On July 11, 2017, the Board adopted Resolution No. 273-17 extending the interim controls for an additional six months.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed legislation amends the Planning Code to add section 608.4, titled the Transit Center Special Sign District, and amends Sectional Map SSD to create the Transit Center

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Special Sign District in the City's Zoning Map. The Transit Center Special Sign District would permanently institute the interim control requirements.

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