1	[Commercial Water Conservation Ordinance Amendments.]	
2		
3		
4	Ordinance amending Chapter 13A of the San Francisco Building Code to improve the	
5	water efficiency of commercial buildings by requiring water conservation devices to be	
6	installed no later than January 1, 2017, or upon major additions or improvements.	
7		
8	Note: Additions are <u>single-underline italics Times New Roman;</u> deletions are <u>strikethrough italics Times New Roman</u> .	
9	Board amendment additions are <u>double underlined</u> . Board amendment deletions are <del>strikethrough normal</del> .	
10	Do it and aired by the Doomle of the City and County of Can Francisco.	
11	Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:	
12	SEC. TION 1301A. —TITLE.	
13	This chapter shall be known as the "Commercial Water Conservation Ordinance."	
14	SEC TION 1202A INTENT	
15	SEC <u>.TION-1302A.</u> — INTENT.	
16	It is the intent of this chapter to conserve existing water supplies by <i>reducing</i> managing	
17	the overall demand for water in commercial buildings by requiring the installation of water	
18	conservation devices in commercial buildings upon the occurrence of specific events and in	
19	any event no later than November 1, 1994 January 1, 2017.	
20		
21	SEC <u>.TION</u> 1303A. —DEFINITIONS.	
22	For the purpose of this chapter, certain terms are defined as follows:	
23	ACCESSIBLE means there is sufficient space in which to install the specified water and	
24	energy conservation measure without significant alteration to the structure. For ducts,	
25	plenums or pipes, "accessible" shall mean all ductwork, plenums or pipes located in	
20		

mechanical rooms, on roofs and around all air handling units. In addition, pipes located above movable ceiling panels shall be considered accessible, but not ducts or plenums.

ACCESSIBLE ATTIC SPACE means a space between a ceiling joist and roof rafter where the vertical clear height from the top of the bottom chord of the truss or ceiling joist to the underside of the roof sheeting at the roof ridge is greater than 18 inches (957 mm).

BUILDING OCCUPANCY means OCCUPANCY as defined in Chapter 3 of this code and shall also, where practicable, include the primary business activity of the property as classified by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC).

BUILDING TYPE means the type of building construction, as defined in Chapter 6 of this code, and shall take into consideration whether the building is a high-rise building as defined by Section 403 of this code.

COMMERCIAL BUILDING means any privately owned building except those residential buildings and <u>portions of</u> mixed residential-commercial buildings <u>or portions thereof</u> that are subject to the energy <u>or water</u> conservation requirements of Chapter 12 <u>or Chapter 12A</u> of the San Francisco Housing Code (Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance <u>and</u> <u>Residential Water Conservation Ordinance</u>).

COST-EFFECTIVE means having a simple economic payback that does not exceed four years or the expected life of an energy conservation measure, whichever is shorter.

ESCROW means any transaction wherein one person, for the purpose of effecting the sale, transfer, encumbering or leasing of real property to another person, delivers any written instrument, money, evidence of title to real property or other thing of value to a third person to be held by such third person until the happening of a specified event or the performance of a prescribed condition, when it is then to be delivered by such third person to a grantee, grantor, promisee, promisor, obligee, obligor, bailee, bailor or any agent or employee of any of the latter.

1	ESTABLISHED CONTRACTOR'S COST means the contractor's fee, including labor
2	and material, plus the engineer's fee to do the required work, provided that the engineer's fees
3	do not exceed the schedule of fees provided by the Building Official.
4	PERMIT APPLICANT means the person listed on the building permit application as the
5	owner or lessee of the building.
6	QUALIFIED INSPECTOR means an <i>energy</i> inspector defined in Section 1316A 1314A,
7	who is authorized to perform a water conservation inspection.
8	QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL means a person regularly engaged in the field of making
9	repairs, adjustments and inspection of energy-using equipment contained in HVAC, lighting or
10	service hot water systems.
11	SERVICE HOT WATER means the supply of hot water for domestic or commercial
12	purposes other than comfort heating.
13	SIMPLE ECONOMIC PAYBACK means the time needed to recover a conservation
14	investment on the basis of expected energy savings at current energy costs. Simple
15	economic payback is expressed in years, and is calculated by dividing the established
16	contractor's cost of a conservation measure by the estimated dollar savings in the first year.
17	Available tax credits, incentives and future energy costs are not considered in the calculation.
18	TRANSFER OF TITLE means the conveyance of title to real property by one or more persons
19	as a result of sale or exchange, and includes the execution of a real property sales contract as defined
20	in Section 2985 of the California Civil Code and any change of ownership described in subdivisions (c)
21	and (h) of Section 61 and subdivision (c) of Section 64 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
22	WATER CONSERVATION INSPECTION means inspection of a commercial building
23	for compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

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SEC. <i>TION</i> 1304A.	-RULES ANL	GUIDELINES.

of the Public Utilities Commission and other advisors as the Building Official may deem appropriate, shall adopt reasonable rules and guidelines implementing the provisions and intent of this chapter and shall make them available to the public along with the informational brochure described in Section 1309A 1307A. The Building Official, in cooperation with the General Manager of the Public Utilities Commission, may amend these rules and guidelines from time to time after considering public input.

1304A.2 Inspection procedures. The Building Official shall include coverage of this chapter's requirements in the Water Inspection Procedures established by the Department.

SEC.*TION* 1305A. —CIVIL REMEDIES.

1305A.1 Abatement. A commercial building shall constitute a nuisance under the terms of Section 102A of this code when the installation of a water conservation measure in a commercial building is required pursuant to this chapter and the water conservation measure has not been installed *by November 1, 1994*.

The nuisance shall be abated by civil action pursuant to procedures set forth in Section 102A of this code for unsafe buildings; provided, however, that in no event shall any violation constitute a misdemeanor.

of the failure of any person to comply with any provision of this chapter. However, any person who willfully or negligently violates or fails to perform any duty prescribed by any provision of this chapter shall be liable in the amount of actual damages suffered by a plaintiff. Except as otherwise provided in Section 1308A, the buyer may institute a civil action to require compliance with the requirements of

1	this chapter whenever an inspection and installation of conservation measures required pursuant to
2	this chapter as a result of a title transfer was not done. In addition to the cost of compliance with this
3	chapter, the plaintiff shall be entitled to court fees and attorney's fees necessary to bring about
4	compliance with the chapter.
5	
6	SEC <u>.TION</u> 1306A. —REQUIREMENTS.
7	1306A.1 Transfer of Title. The seller shall obtain a valid water conservation inspection and
8	shall comply with the applicable water conservation measures required by this chapter prior to any
9	transfer of title of any commercial building, or portion thereof, subject to the provisions of this chapter.
10	The seller must furnish a copy of the completed inspection form showing compliance with this
11	chapter to the buyer prior to transfer of title.
12	1306A.1.1 Scope. This section shall apply to the entire portion of the commercial building that
13	is transferred.
14	1306A.2 1306A.1 Building Additions. For building additions where the sum of concurrent
15	building permits by the same permit applicant would increase the floor area of the space in a
16	building by more than $\underline{ten}$ $\underline{10}$ percent, the permit applicant shall obtain a valid water
17	conservation inspection and shall comply with the applicable water conservation measures
18	required by this chapter as a condition for issuance of a Certificate of Final Completion and
19	Occupancy by the Department upon completion of the addition.
20	1306A.2.1 1306A.1.1 Scope. This subsection shall apply to the entire building.
21	1306A.3 1306A.2 Building Alterations and Improvements.
22	1306A.2.1 For alterations or improvements where the total construction cost estimated
23	in the building permit is greater than \$50,000 \$150,000, as a condition for issuance of a Certificate
24	of Final Completion and Occupancy or final permit sign off by the Department upon completion of the

1	alterations or improvements, the permit applicant shall obtain a valid water conservation inspection and
2	shall install the applicable water conservation devices required by this chapter <u>that serve the specific</u>
3	area of alteration or improvement.
4	1306A.3.1 1306A.2.2 Notwithstanding Section 1306A2.1, for any alterations or improvements
5	to a room containing any of the water conservation devices identified in Section 1313A, as a condition
6	for issuance of a Certificate of Final completion and Occupancy by the Department upon completion of
7	the alterations or improvements, the permit applicant shall obtain a valid water conservation
8	inspection and shall install the applicable water conservation devices required by this chapter in that
9	<u>room.</u>
10	1306A.3 On or before January 1, 2017, all commercial buildings shall be in compliance with
11	this chapter, and the owner or the owner's authorized representative shall file a certificate of
12	compliance for the entire building, or the entire portion of the mixed residential and commercial
13	building that is subject to the required water compliance measures identified in Section 1313A,.
14	
15	SECTION 1307A TIME ALLOWED FOR COMPLIANCE
16	1307A.1 Title Transfers or Major Improvements. For title transfers or building additions,
17	alterations and improvements (Section 1306A above), compliance with this chapter shall be triggered
18	by the requirement of an water conservation inspection for compliance with the water conservation
19	measures set forth in this chapter.
20	1307A.2 Affidavits. In lieu of the inspection and certificate of compliance requirements of
21	Section 1313A, the owner or the owner's authorized agent shall file with the Public Utilities
22	Commission an affidavit signed by the owner affirming that the water conservation devices required by
23	Section 1315A either have been installed or compliance is not required. The affidavit shall be on a
24	
25	

1	form provided by the Public Utilities Commission. Copies of the affidavit are to be filed in the
2	Department.
3	
4	SECTION 1308A TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLIANCE
5	1308A.1 Transfer to Buyer. The seller may transfer to the buyer of the building responsibility
6	for compliance with the water conservation measures of this chapter in accordance with the provisions
7	of this section, if at the time of transfer of title, the requirements of either Section 1308A.2 or 1308A.3
8	have been met.
9	1308A.2 Escrow Account Procedure.
10	1308A.2.1 Water conservation inspection. A qualified inspector shall conduct a water
11	conservation inspection. The seller or the seller's authorized agent shall file the water inspection form
12	with the Department along with a written statement indicating that an escrow account has been set up
13	pursuant to this section and giving the escrow holder's name and address and the escrow number.
14	1308A.2.2 Written agreement. A written agreement signed by the buyer and seller shall be
15	deposited into the escrow containing the following:
16	1308A.2.2.1 The buyer's agreement that the required water conservation measures will be
17	installed, and the certificate of compliance filed with the Department, within the time allowed for
18	compliance under Section 1307A;
19	1308A.2.2.2 The seller's agreement that funds equal to 1 percent of the purchase price
20	indicated on the accepted purchase offer or \$150,000, whichever is less, shall be retained by the
21	escrow holder and disbursed as follows:
22	1. Upon delivery to the escrow holder of a copy of the completed certificate of compliance with
23	this chapter as filed with the Department within the time allowed for compliance under Section 1307A,
24	the escrow holder shall, upon written instructions of the buyer, disburse to the buyer as much of these
25	

funds as are required to pay the provider(s) of the materials and labor used to bring the property into
compliance with the provisions of this chapter and shall disburse the surplus thereafter remaining to
the seller;

2. If such certificate of compliance is not delivered to the escrow holder within the time allowed for compliance under Section 1307A, the escrow holder shall deposit all said funds into the Commercial Water Conservation Account of the Repair and Demolition Fund of the City and County of San Francisco established pursuant to Section 102A.13 of this code to be used exclusively to defray the cost of materials, labor and administrative fees necessary to bring the building into compliance with the provisions of this chapter, with any surplus funds to be returned to the seller once compliance is achieved. No funds shall be deposited in the Commercial Water Conservation Account under this section so long as an appeal is pending or an extension has been granted pursuant to Section 1310A with regard to that building.

1308A.3 Filing of Written Agreement. The seller or the seller's authorized agent shall file the water inspection form with the Department along with a written agreement signed by the buyer and seller whereby the buyer agrees that the required water conservation measures will be installed within 180 days of the close of escrow with a certificate of compliance filed pursuant to Section 1313A.

## SEC. TION 1309A-1307A. —INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE.

1309A.1 1307A.1 Written Notice. The seller, or the seller's authorized agent, involved in the sale or exchange of commercial property subject to the provisions of this chapter shall give written notice of the requirements of this chapter to the buyer. The Department—The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission shall make available to the public an informational brochure specifying the water conservation requirements. Delivery of this brochure by the seller or the seller's agent to the buyer shall satisfy the notice requirements of this section. Failure to give notice as required by this

1	section shall not excuse or exempt the seller or buyer of commercial property from compliance with the
2	requirements of this chapter
3	
4	SEC <u>.TION 1310A_1308A.</u> —POSTPONEMENTS OF REQUIREMENTS.
5	1310A.1 1308A.1 Postponement for Demolition. The duty of a seller, buyer an owner or
6	permit applicant to comply with inspection and water conservation requirements applicable to
7	any portion of a building subject to this chapter shall be postponed for one year from the date
8	of issuance of a demolition permit for said building. If the building is demolished and a
9	certificate of completion is issued by the Department before the end of the one-year
10	postponement, the requirements of this chapter shall not apply. If the building is not
11	demolished after the expiration of one year, the provisions of this chapter shall apply, subject
12	to appeal, even though the demolition permit is still in effect or a new demolition permit has
13	been issued.
14	
15	SEC <u>.TION 1311A 1309A.</u> — EARLY COMPLIANCE WITH WATER CONSERVATION
16	MEASURES.
17	1311A.1 1309A.1 Early Compliance. To encourage early compliance with the
18	requirements of this chapter, compliance pursuant to Section 1311A may be completed an affidavit
19	of compliance may be voluntarily filed with the Public Utilities Commission in accordance with Section
20	1307A at any time before compliance would otherwise be required. In the event of early
21	compliance, a water conservation inspection shall be completed and a certificate of compliance filed
22	with the Department in accordance with Section 1311A.
23	
24	SEC <u>.TION 1312A 1310A.</u> —WATER CONSERVATION INSPECTIONS.

1	1312A.1 1310A.1 Inspections. A water conservation inspection which satisfies the
2	requirements of this chapter shall be performed as required by this chapter.
3	
4	SEC. <u>TION 1313A 1311A.</u> —PROOF OF COMPLIANCE WITH WATER CONSERVATION
5	MEASURES.
6	1313A.1 1311A.1 Inspection Form. The Department shall provide standardized forms
7	suitable for conducting a valid water conservation inspection and certifying compliance with
8	the requirements of this chapter. The inspection form shall be completed and signed by a
9	qualified inspector, furnished to the permit applicant, building owner or the owner's authorized
10	representative, and filed with the Department in accordance with <i>this</i> Section <i>1313A.2 of this</i>
11	code.
12	1313A.2 1311A.2 Certificate of Compliance. When all of the water conservation
13	requirements have been met, a certificate of compliance shall be signed, $\underline{and}$ filed $\underline{with\ the}$
14	<u>Department</u> and recorded in accordance with Section 1313A.3.
15	1313A.3 1311A.3 Public Records. Completed water conservation inspection forms,
16	informational surveys and certificates of compliance shall be filed with the Department and are
17	public records, and any person may inspect them during regular business hours at the
18	Department.
19	Affidavits filed pursuant to this Section 1307A shall be public records, and any person may
20	inspect them during regular business hours at the Public Utilities Commission.
21	
22	SEC <u>.TION 1314A 1312A.</u> —APPEALS FROM RESULTS OF A WATER CONSERVATION
23	INSPECTION OR REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION.
24	

1314A.1 1312A.1 Notice of Appeal. Any person with an interest in the property subject
to a water conservation inspection who contests the determination of a qualified inspector
regarding required water conservation measures may appeal said decision to the Building
$\frac{Official}{Director}$ within $\frac{20}{10}$ working days from the date the completed inspection form was
filed with the Department. The notice of appeal shall state, clearly and concisely, the grounds
upon which the appeal is based. The burden of proof shall be on the applicant to demonstrate
that the water conservation measure is not required under this chapter. <u>The determination of</u>
the Director may be appealed to the Building Inspection Commission pursuant to the appeal
procedures established in the Administrative Code Chapter 77.
1314A.2 1312A.2 Appeal Procedures. The applicant may appeal the Building Official's
<u>Director's</u> decision to a hearing officer or the Abatement Appeals Board within ten 10 working days
from the date that said decision was issued. The hearing officer shall be appointed by the Building
Official. The determination of the hearing officer or Abatement Appeals Board shall be final.
The Building Official, in conjunction with the Public Utilities Commission, shall develop clear
rules and procedures for submitting and processing appeals, and the rules set forth in Section 105A.2
of this code shall not be applicable to these appeals. Any person filing an appeal pursuant to this
section shall pay a filing fee. Exemptions. Any person with an interest in the property subject to a
water conservation inspection who claims an exemption pursuant to Section 1313A.3 and 1313A.4 of
this chapter may request a determination of exemption from the Director by filing the request and
stating the basis for the claim. The burden of proof shall be on the applicant to demonstrate the
qualifications for the exemption. The determination of the Director may be appealed to the Building
Inspection Commission pursuant to the appeal procedures established in the Adminstrative Code
Chapter 77. Any appeal or request for exemption to the Director pursuant to this Section shall be
accompanied by payment of a filing fee, pursuant to Section 1216 of the San Francisco Housing Code.

1	

2	SEC <u>.TION 1315A</u> <u>1313A.</u> —REQUIRED WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES.
3	The following water conservation measures are required for commercial buildings:
4	1315A.1 1313A.1 Showerheads. Low flow devices on all accessible Replace all
5	showerheads having a maximum rated flow of not more than 2.5 gallons (9.46 liters) per
6	minute, with those models not exceeding the maximum rated flow established by the California Energy
7	Commission, as set forth in the Appliance Efficiency Regulations, California Code of Regulations, Title
8	20, Sections 1601 to 1608, as it may be amended. Showers shall have no more than one showerhead
9	per valve. For purposes of this subsection, the term "showerheads" includes rain heads, rain tiles, or
10	any other device that transmits water for purposes of bathing. Showerheads of the ball joint type that
11	cannot easily be removed from the wall without structural alteration are exempt from this requirement.
12	1315A.2 1313A.2 Faucet Aerators. Aerators attached to sink faucets which faucets are
13	designed to accept such devices. These aerators shall include a flow restrictor and shall be of a type
14	approved by the Building Official of the Department. Replace all faucets and faucet aerators having a
15	maximum rated flow exceeding 2.2 gallons per minute at a flowing water pressure of 60 pounds per
16	square inch, with models not exceeding the maximum rated flow established by the California Energy
17	Commission, as set forth in the Appliance Efficiency Regulations, California Code of Regulations, Title
18	20, Sections 1601 to 1608, as it may be amended. Health-care facilities that are subject to the
19	requirements of this chapter shall be exempt from the requirements of installing aerators on sink
20	faucets within such health-care facilities required by this chapter to install faucet aerators may satisfy
21	that requirement by installing other flow restricting devices, such as laminar flow control devices.
22	1315A.3 1313A.3 Low Flow Toilets. Low flow toilets [3.5 gallons (13.25 liters) per flush or
23	less] or approved devices in toilets designed to reduce the total volume of water in each toilet flush,
24	including but not limited to (1) flush reducers, (2) flow restrictors and (3) volume reducers.

1	Installation of a retrofit device will not be required when its installation will impede the designed
2	functioning and/or flushing of the toilet. Replace all toilets that have a rated flush volume of 1.6 gallons
3	per flush or greater with models not exceeding a rated maximum flush volume established in the San
4	Francisco Plumbing Code Chapter 4, Section 402.2, as it may be amended. An owner of a commercial
5	building may request an exemption from replacing the building's toilet(s) if the replacement would
6	impact the architectural integrity of the building. In such a case, the owner is required to install a
7	device within the toilet to reduce the flush volume, such as a flow restrictor. An impact on the
8	architectural integrity of the building occurs if the replacement of the toilet would detract from the
9	historical integrity of the building, as determined by the Director of the Department of Building
10	Inspection pursuant to Section 1315A.2.
11	1313A.4 Replace all urinals that have a flow rate exceeding one gallon per flush with models
12	not exceeding the maximum flow rate established in the San Francisco Plumbing Code, Section 402.3,
13	as it may be amended. An owner of a commercial building may request an exemption from replacing a
14	urinal in the building if the replacement would impact the architectural integrity of the building. In
15	such a case, the owner is required to install a device to reduce the flush volume, such as a flow
16	restrictor. An impact on the architectural integrity of the building occurs if the replacement of the
17	urinal would detract from the historical integrity of the building, as determined by the Director of the
18	Department of Building Inspection pursuant to Section 1315A.2.
19	1313A.5 Leak repair. Owner must locate and repair all water leaks. Water meter registration
20	may be used to confirm existence of leaks, compliance occurs if there is no meter movement for ten
21	minutes while all fixtures are shut off. Alternatively, visual inspection is required. In addition, all tank
22	type toilets shall be tested with leak detector tablets or dye to detect slow valve leaks and all
23	flushometer type fixtures shall be visually checked for proper operation with respect to timing and
24	<u>leaks.</u>

- 2 SEC. TION 1316A 1314A. —WATER CONSERVATION INSPECTIONS.
- *1316A.1 1314A.1* Inspections. Inspections to determine compliance with the water conservation requirements of this chapter may be conducted by one of the following:
  - 1. An authorized inspector of the Department;
- 2. A private inspector authorized by the Building Official pursuant to established rules and guidelines;
  - 3. A private inspector hired by the Department, or Public Utilities Commission, on a contractual basis under terms and fees to be recommended by the Departments and established by the Board of Supervisors.
  - 1316A.2 1314A.2 Qualified Inspector Duties. The duties of a qualified inspector shall be as follows:
  - 1. To inspect portions of a building that are subject to this chapter to determine whether the water conservation standards specified in Section <u>1315A 1313A</u> have been met and, if met, to sign a certificate of compliance, pursuant to Section <u>1313A 1311A</u>, and to furnish it to the permit applicant, building owner or owner's agent;
  - 2. To record on an official inspection form, pursuant to Section <u>1313A</u> <u>1311A</u>, all measures required by this chapter for which the building is in noncompliance, and to sign the inspection form and furnish it to the permit applicant, building owner or owner's agent.
  - 1316A.3 1314A.3 Private Water Inspectors. Private inspectors shall be required to demonstrate financial responsibility by being insured and/or bonded in amounts to be determined by the Building Official.
  - 1316A.4 1314A.4 Conflict of Interest. No authorized inspector may conduct a water inspection on any building in which that inspector has a financial interest. For the purposes of

1	this section, an inspector shall be deemed to have a financial interest in a building if the
2	inspector:
3	1. Is an owner of the building or the property upon which the building is located in full
4	or in part;
5	2. Is a full- or part-time employee of the building or its owners;
6	3. Is regularly placed on the building staff by a company that provides building
7	engineering, operations and maintenance, or other building services to the property.
8	1316A.5 1314A.5 Inspector as Employee. No inspector may sign a certificate of water
9	conservation compliance for a building where that inspector is an employee or officer of a
10	company that performed construction or repair work required by this chapter.
11	1316A.6 1314A.6 Limitation. Water conservation inspections are intended to enforce
12	the provisions of this chapter only, and are not intended to determine compliance or
13	noncompliance with any other portions of this code.
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15	
16	APPROVED AS TO FORM: DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney
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18	By: Noreen Ambrose
19	Deputy City Attorney
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