LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District – Conditional Use for New Full-Service, and Small Self-Service Restaurants; Self-Service Specialty Food Establishments Are Permitted; No Large Fast Food Restaurants Are Permitted.]

Ordinance amending the San Francisco Planning Code by amending Section 715.1 and Sections 715.42, 715.43, 715.44, and 715.69A of the Zoning Control Table to allow new full-service and small self-service restaurants with a conditional use authorization, to permit self-service specialty food establishments as of right, and to prohibit all large fast food establishments; adopting findings, including environmental findings, Section 302 findings, and findings of consistency with the General Plan and the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.

Existing Law

Planning Code Section 715.1 establishes the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District. The Section 715 Zoning Control Table sets forth the building standards and uses that are allowed in the Castro Street NCD. New full-service restaurants, small self-service restaurants, and self-service specialty food establishments are not permitted; a large fast-food establishment is authorized under limited circumstances.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed legislation would allow new full-service and small self-service restaurants with a conditional use authorization, would permit self-service specialty food establishments as of right, and would prohibit all large fast-food establishments.

Background Information

The restrictions on restaurants and specialty food establishments were put in place more than 20 years ago, before the City enacted the controls on formula retail establishments that are now in the Planning Code. Since formula retail controls are now in place to protect the neighborhood, new food options that are appropriate for the Castro Street NCD could be approved with a conditional use.