



KATY TANG
湯凱蒂

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 26, 2016

Contact: Ray Law
(415) 554-7460

**** PRESS RELEASE ****

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WILL BE VOTING ON THE FIRE SAFETY LEGISLATION
INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISOR KATY TANG**

Ordinance to provide residents in multi-unit buildings with fire safety information and annual fire safety training

Today the Board of Supervisors will be voting on the fire safety legislation authored by Supervisor Katy Tang that requires building owners to provide fire safety information to residents in buildings and annual fire safety training to residents.

“Our fire safety legislation will help residents prevent fires and to be safe and more prepared in the event of one occurring within their building,” said Supervisor Tang. “As our City’s population continues to grow, fire hazards grow as well. That is why it is important for everyone to be more aware of their surroundings and what they can do to prevent fires from occurring in the first place.”

Supervisor Tang’s legislation requires owners of buildings with 3 or more units to provide annual disclosures to building residents. The disclosure should cover the location of all fire extinguishers, emergency exits, fire escapes and fire alarm system with the relevant information demonstrating they are in good conditions. In addition to the above information, the disclosure will also include the location of all smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in each unit. The legislation also requires the same written disclosure to be posted in a common area frequented by the residents in each building. These areas could include the lobby area or laundry room, for example.

“Emergency planning and preparedness is imperative to ensure the safety of the citizens of and visitors to San Francisco,” said Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White. “Supervisor Tang’s legislative proposal seeks to enhance emergency readiness through extending access to fire safety resources, communication and education. The SFFD will continue to work collaboratively with Supervisor Tang to ensure the smooth implementation of this legislation.”

Supervisor Tang’s legislation also requires that in buildings with 16 or more dwelling units, landlords or resident managers must offer residents an annual fire safety training that covers the required disclosures, best practices for how to prevent fires and escape from building, and any other information relevant to fire safety. If tenants are not able to participate in the annual trainings, the landlord is required to provide tenants with access to the training information/materials.

“The San Francisco Apartment Association was pleased to work with both Supervisor Tang and the Fire Department on her fire safety legislation,” said Janan New, Director of SFAA. “By providing annual disclosures and fire safety trainings to building residents, we believe that apartment building residents will



KATY TANG
湯凱蒂

be better prepared in the event of an emergency. The legislation will take some work from local building owners both big and small to implement, but it represents our commitment to fire safety in San Francisco.”

The new legislation will take effect in two phrases. The tenant disclosure requirement would be implemented 6 months after adoption of this ordinance, while the tenant trainings would be implemented 12 months after adoption of this ordinance.

“Last year, after our entire office completed the Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) training and became NERT certified, we were inspired by the training to tackle fire safety issues impacting residents living in multi-unit buildings,” said Supervisor Tang. “This is an important legislation to make sure residents in multi-unit buildings have access to the critical information which might make a difference between life and death in emergency situation.”

For more information, please contact Supervisor Katy Tang’s office at (415) 554-7460 or Katy.Tang@sfgov.org.

###