[Preparation of Findings to Reverse the Exemption Determination - 1151 Washington Street]

Motion directing the Clerk of the Board to prepare findings reversing the determination by the Planning Department that the proposed project at 1151 Washington Street is exempt from environmental review.

WHEREAS, On April 7, 2023, the Planning Department issued a CEQA Categorical Exemption Determination for the proposed project located at 1151 Washington Street ("Project") under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the CEQA Guidelines, and San Francisco Administrative Code, Chapter 31; and

WHEREAS, The project site is a 3,571-square-foot parcel in the Nob Hill neighborhood, occupied by an existing 30-foot-tall, three-story, single-family residence that is approximately 3,050 square feet in size with two off-street parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, The project sponsor proposes the demolition of the existing single-family residence and construction of a 40-foot-tall (50-foot-tall with penthouses), four-story over basement residential building containing 10 for-sale townhouses and one off-street van parking space; access to the proposed units would be from a 5-foot-wide pathway that would step up along the eastern edge of the property, from Washington Street; the proposed pathway would include a bicycle ramp; the proposed building would be approximately 12,300 square feet in size, and would utilize the state density bonus program; and

WHEREAS, On November 1, 2022, Dana Manea (representing the project sponsor) filed a project application with the department for the project; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article 19 of the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 19, Sections 15300-15333), on April 7, 2023, the department determined that the project was categorically exempt under CEQA

Class 32 - Infill Development ("exemption determination"), and that no environmental review was required; and

WHEREAS, On April 20, 2023, the Planning Commission ("Commission") conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled commission meeting and approved the Conditional Use Authorization for the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, On May 17, 2023, Richard Drury of Lozeau Drury, LLP, on behalf of Clayton Timbrell ("Appellant"), filed an appeal of the categorical exemption determination; and

WHEREAS, On May 19, 2023, Hanmin Liu, on behalf of the Upper Chinatown Neighborhood Association (UCNA), filed a memorandum indicating that UCNA is joining the appeal of the exemption determination filed by Richard Drury (on May 17, 2023), and noting that UCNA is not raising any new issues or enlarging the scope of the appeal; and

WHEREAS, By memorandum to the Clerk of the Board dated May 22, 2023, the department determined that the appeal was timely filed; and

WHEREAS, On June 27, 2023, this Board held a duly noticed public hearing to consider the appeal of the exemption determination filed by Appellant; and

WHEREAS, In reviewing the appeal of the exemption determination, this Board reviewed and considered the exemption determination, the appeal letter, the responses to the appeal documents that the Planning Department prepared, the other written records before the Board of Supervisors and all of the public testimony made in support of and opposed to the exemption determination appeal; and

WHEREAS, Following the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Supervisors conditionally reversed the exemption determination for the Project subject to the adoption of written findings of the Board in support of such determination based on the written record before the Board of Supervisors as well as all of the testimony at the public hearing in support of and opposed to the appeal; and

WHEREAS, The written record and oral testimony in support of and opposed to the appeal and the oral and written testimony at the public hearing before the Board of Supervisors by all parties and the public in support of and opposed to the appeal of the exemption determination, including the deliberations by the members of the Board, is in the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors File No. 230592, and is incorporated in this Motion as though set forth in its entirety; now, therefore, be it

MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to prepare the findings specifying the basis for its decision on the appeal of the determination by the Planning Department that the project is exempt from environmental review.

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City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Motion: M23-099

File Number: 230595 Date Passed: June 27, 2023

Motion directing the Clerk of the Board to prepare findings reversing the determination by the Planning Department that the proposed project at 1151 Washington Street is exempt from environmental review.

June 27, 2023 Board of Supervisors - APPROVED

Ayes: 7 - Chan, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen and Walton

Noes: 4 - Dorsey, Engardio, Safai and Stefani

File No. 230595

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was APPROVED on 6/27/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo