SAN FRANCISCO
PLANNING
DEPARTMENT

GENERAL PLANNING INFORMATION

Miscellaneous Permit Referrals

Planning Department
1650 Mission Street
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Date:
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Subject:
Miscellaneous Permit Referrals from State and Local Public Agencies to the San Francisco Planning Department

Introduction

The San Francisco Planning Department receives interagency permit referrals from a number of public agencies including the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, the California Department of Motor Vehicles, the San Francisco Fire Department, the San Francisco Police Department, the San Francisco Department of Public Works, the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the San Francisco Entertainment Commission. Interagency permit referrals arise when a project sponsor submits an application to one of the mentioned public agencies and that agency seeks the recommendation of the San Francisco Planning Department as to whether the proposed project is in conformity with existing land use controls. *The San Francisco Planning Department advises that you discuss your proposal at the Planning Information Center, 1660 Mission Street, 1st Floor, prior to submitting an application with another agency as that agency's fees may not be refundable should your proposal receive an unfavorable recommendation from the San Francisco Planning Department.*

The San Francisco Planning Department will review the permit referral for compliance with the underlying zoning regulations. A clear description of the business, the intended operation and contact information will facilitate a speedy review of the permit referral. Once the review is complete the San Francisco Planning Department will provide a recommendation on the permit referral, either to approve or deny, based on the information provided and on the underlying land use regulations.

Each agency sets its permit application fees independent of the San Francisco Planning Department and one must consult that agency to determine the costs for the applicable permits. As mentioned above, it is advisable that you discuss your proposal at the Planning Information Center prior to submitting an application with another agency as that agency's fees may not be refundable should your proposal receive an unfavorable recommendation. Please note that a favorable recommendation from the Planning Department does not necessarily serve as the entitlement for a use and that a building permit application and/or Conditional Use authorization is often needed to establish a new use at a specific location.

Referring Agencies

Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control

The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control administers the dispensing of licenses allowing the production, importation, distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages within San Francisco. If your business involves the production, possession/storage, importation, distribution or sale (brokering of sales, retail sales or wholesale sales) of alcoholic beverages such as, but not limited to, beer, brandy, distilled spirits and wine, then you must secure a license from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Department of Motor Vehicles

The California Department of Motor Vehicles requires the San Francisco Planning Department to review applications for Vehicle Dealers, which includes businesses seeking to sell new or used cars at either the retail or wholesale level, to confirm compliance with underlying land use regulations

San Francisco Fire Department

A Fire Department Permit constitutes permission to maintain, store, use or handle materials, or to conduct processes which produce conditions hazardous to life or property, or to install equipment used in connection with such activities. Businesses subject to Fire Department and Planning Department review include vehicle repair garages.

San Francisco Police Department

The San Francisco Police Department requires the San Francisco Planning Department to review applications to establish and operate a number of businesses including, but not limited to, an antique shop, an auto wrecker, a bingo parlor, a commercial parking lot or garage, an encounter studio, an escort service, a firearms dealer, a fortune teller, a junk dealer, a pawnbroker, a peddler, a secondhand dealer and a tow car operation.

San Francisco Department of Public Works

The San Francisco Department of Public Works reviews proposals on city streets and sidewalks including temporary and permanent street closures and the placement of café tables and chairs on city sidewalks. The San Francisco Planning Department is required to review these proposals to confirm compliance with underlying land use regulations.

San Francisco Department of Public Health

The San Francisco Department of Public Health reviews and inspects proposals to establish and operate businesses such as, but not limited to, tattoo parlors, massage parlors/services, establishments selling tobacco at the retail level, grocery stores or eating or drinking establishments such as restaurants, bakeries, cafés or wine bars.

San Francisco Entertainment Commission

San Francisco Entertainment Commission reviews proposals to establish or add to an existing operation live entertainment (e.g. musical or dramatic performances), disc jockeys, billiard parlors or mechanical amusement devices.

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FOR OTHER PLANNING INFORMATION:
Call or visit the San Francisco Planning Department

Central Reception
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco CA 94103-2479

TEL: **415.558.6378**
FAX: **415.558.6409**
WEB: **http://www.sfplanning.org**

Planning Information Center (PIC)
1660 Mission Street, First Floor
San Francisco CA 94103-2479

TEL: **415.558.6377**

Planning staff are available by phone and at the PIC counter. No appointment is necessary.