



City and County of San Francisco  
**Tails  
Ordinance**

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

**File Number:** 101128

**Date Passed:** November 02, 2010

Ordinance repealing Chapter 13C of the San Francisco Building Code in its entirety and enacting a new Chapter 13C that consists of the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code with local amendments; adopting findings of local conditions pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 17958.7 and Public Resources Code Section 25402.1(h)(2), and directing the Clerk of the Board to forward San Francisco's amendments and findings to the State Building Standards Commission; making environmental findings; and providing for an operative date of January 1, 2011.

October 18, 2010 Land Use and Economic Development Committee - RECOMMENDED

October 26, 2010 Board of Supervisors - PASSED, ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 10 - Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell and Mirkarimi

Excused: 1 - Alioto-Pier

November 02, 2010 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell and Mirkarimi

File No. 101128

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 11/2/2010 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

  
November 5, 2010

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Date Approved

1 [San Francisco Building Code – Green Building Requirements – Repealing and Replacing]

2  
3 **Ordinance repealing Chapter 13C of the San Francisco Building Code in its entirety and**  
4 **enacting a new Chapter 13C that consists of the 2010 California Green Building**  
5 **Standards Code with local amendments; adopting findings of local conditions pursuant**  
6 **to California Health and Safety Code Section 17958.7 and Public Resources Code**  
7 **Section 25402.1(h)(2), and directing the Clerk of the Board to forward San Francisco's**  
8 **amendments and findings to the State Building Standards Commission; making**  
9 **environmental findings; and providing for an operative date of January 1, 2011.**

10 Note: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;  
11 deletions are *strikethrough italics Times New Roman*.  
12 Board amendment additions are double underlined.  
Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

13 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

14 Section 1. Environmental Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the  
15 actions contemplated in this Ordinance are in compliance with the California Environmental  
16 Quality Act (California Public Resources Code sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is  
17 on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 101128 and is incorporated herein  
18 by reference.

19 Section 2. General Findings.

20 A. The State of California adopts a new California Building Standards Code every  
21 three years that goes into effect throughout the State 180 days after publication. The  
22 California Building Standards Code is contained in Title 24 of the California Code of  
23 Regulations, and consists of several parts that are based upon model codes with  
24 amendments made by various State agencies with jurisdiction. This year the State has  
25

1 adopted the California Green Building Standards Code, which goes into effect throughout the  
2 State on January 1, 2011.

3 B. Local jurisdictions are required to enforce the California Green Building  
4 Standards Code. Local jurisdictions may also enact more stringent standards than those  
5 contained in the California Green Building Standards Code where more stringent standards  
6 are reasonably necessary because of local conditions caused by climate, geology or  
7 topography.

8 C. San Francisco enacted Chapter 13C of the San Francisco Building Code in  
9 2008, before the State of California had adopted green building requirements. In this  
10 Ordinance San Francisco repeals its existing Chapter 13C in its entirety and enacts a new  
11 Chapter 13C that consists of the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code together  
12 with local amendments thereto.

13 D. On August 18, 2010, at a duly noticed public hearing, the Building Inspection  
14 Commission considered this legislation.

15 Section 3. Findings regarding Local Conditions.

16 A. California Health & Safety Code Section 17958.7 provides that before making  
17 any changes or modifications to the California Green Building Standards Code and any other  
18 applicable provisions published by the State Building Standards Commission, the governing  
19 body must make an express finding that each such change or modification is reasonably  
20 necessary because of specified local conditions, and the findings must be filed with the State  
21 Building Standards Commission before the local changes or modifications can go into effect.

22 B. Public Resources Code Section 25402.1(h)(2), as well as Section 10-106 of the  
23 California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 1, Locally Adopted Energy Standards,  
24 authorizes the adoption and enforcement of more stringent local energy standards, provided  
25 that the local jurisdiction makes a determination that the local standards are more cost

1 effective and will save more energy than the current Statewide standards and the local  
2 jurisdiction files an application for approval with the California Energy Commission together  
3 with supporting documentation. A proposed ordinance may take effect only after the California  
4 Energy Commission has reviewed and formally approved the proposed local standards.

5 C. The City and County of San Francisco is unique among California communities  
6 with respect to local climatic, geological, topographical, and other conditions. A specific list of  
7 findings that support San Francisco's modifications to the 2010 California Green Building  
8 Standards Code and a section-by-section correlation of each modification with a specific  
9 numbered finding are contained in Exhibit A entitled "Standard Findings for San Francisco  
10 Amendments." In addition to the Standard Findings, the Board makes the following specific  
11 findings in support of San Francisco's local amendments to the California Green Building  
12 Standards Code:

13 (1) San Francisco is located at the tip of a peninsula and is served by the electricity  
14 grid at a single point, the Martin Substation. This single point of service makes San Francisco  
15 uniquely vulnerable to supply disruptions. Making San Francisco's building stock more energy  
16 efficient will reduce San Francisco's energy consumption and decrease its vulnerability to  
17 supply disruptions.

18 (2) As a coastal city surrounded on three sides by water, San Francisco is  
19 extremely vulnerable to climate change caused by global warming and the associated rise in  
20 sea levels. Construction of more energy efficient buildings can help San Francisco reduce its  
21 share of greenhouse gas emissions that are a significant contributor to global warming.

22 (3) San Francisco's 2004 Climate Action Plan identifies a number of specific serious  
23 impacts that global warming and the associated rise in sea levels would have on San  
24 Francisco's weather, water resources, physical landscape, ecosystem, human health,  
25 economy, and infrastructure.

1 (4) The City's Climate Action Plan found that energy use in buildings and facilities is  
2 responsible for approximately 50 percent of San Francisco's greenhouse gas emissions. The  
3 Plan further found that the potential for carbon dioxide reductions through electricity and gas  
4 savings in San Francisco's buildings is tremendous and that reducing electricity demand  
5 means that in-city power plants run less, creating fewer emissions.

6 D. Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code Section 17958.7, the Board of  
7 Supervisors finds and determines that the local conditions described in Exhibit A constitute a  
8 general summary of the most significant local conditions giving rise to the need for  
9 modification of the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code published by the State  
10 Building Standards Commission. The Board of Supervisors further finds and determines that  
11 the proposed modifications are reasonably necessary based on the local conditions set forth  
12 in Exhibit A and on the findings set forth in paragraph (C) above.

13 E. Based upon the findings of a study of the proposed revised Chapter 13C  
14 performed by Gabel Associates LLC, the Board of Supervisors hereby determines that the  
15 revised Chapter 13C standards are cost effective and will save more energy than the 2010  
16 California Green Building Standards Code requirements.

17 Section 4. 2010 San Francisco Building Code. The San Francisco Building Code  
18 provides minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare by  
19 regulating and controlling the design, construction, quality of materials, use and occupancy,  
20 location, maintenance and demolition of all buildings and structures, and quarrying, grading,  
21 excavation and filling of land in the City and County of San Francisco. Chapter 13C of the San  
22 Francisco Building Code establishes green building requirements. Chapter 13C is hereby  
23 repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Chapter 13C that consists of the 2010  
24 California Green Building Standards Code and the San Francisco amendments thereto. A  
25 copy of the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code as modified by San Francisco is

1 on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 101128 and is hereby declared to  
2 be part of this Ordinance as if set forth fully therein. Additions to the 2010 California Green  
3 Building Standards Code are shown in underlined type; deletions are shown with  
4 strikethrough.

5 Section 5. Continuance of Actions Under Prior Code. Nothing contained in this  
6 Ordinance shall be construed as abating any action now pending under or by virtue of any  
7 ordinance of the City and County of San Francisco hereby repealed, nor shall this Ordinance  
8 be construed as discontinuing, abating, modifying or altering any penalties accruing, or to  
9 accrue, or as waiving any right of the City under any ordinance in force at the time of passage  
10 of this Ordinance that establishes minimum green building requirements in the City and  
11 County of San Francisco.

12 Section 6. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this  
13 Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the  
14 validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares  
15 that it would have passed this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or  
16 phrase of this Ordinance, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections,  
17 sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared unconstitutional.

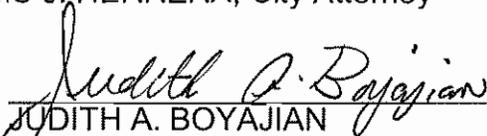
18 Section 7. Operative Date. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force on and  
19 after January 1, 2011 or the Ordinance's effective date, whichever is later. If, however, the  
20 California Energy Commission has not approved San Francisco's amendments to the  
21 California Green Building Standards Code by that time, this Ordinance shall not become  
22 effective until the Energy Commission has approved the local amendments.

23 Section 8. Upon final passage of this Ordinance, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
24 is hereby directed to transmit this Ordinance, the San Francisco modifications to the 2010  
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1 California Green Building Standards Code, and Exhibit A to the State Building Standards  
2 Commission pursuant to the applicable provisions of State law.

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4 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
5 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

6 By:

  
7 JUDITH A. BOYAJIAN  
8 Deputy City Attorney  
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