

## SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

# Memo to the Planning Commission

HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

Continued from the January 24th, 2013 Hearing

Date:	January 31st, 2013
Case No.:	2012.0109 <u>C</u> V
Project Address:	4058-4060 18 <sup>th</sup> STREET
Zoning:	Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District and
	40-X Height and Bulk District.
Block/Lot:	3582/052
Project Sponsor:	Ahmad Mohazab, TECTA Associates
	2747 Nineteenth Street
	San Francisco CA 94110
Staff Contact:	Tom Wang- (415) 558-6335
	thomas.wang@sfgov.org
Recommendation:	Approval with Conditions

1650 Mission St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

Reception: 415.558.6378

Fax: 415.558.6409

Planning Information: 415.558.6377

#### BACKGROUND

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the Commission heard the Conditional Use Application Case No. 2012.0109<u>CV</u>, including the proposed work as follows:

- The establishment of a restaurant, including on-site beer and wine sales, (d.b.a. "Castro Sausage Grill") on the ground floor with a new commercial storefront to replace the existing garage and garage door, pursuant to Planning Code Section 715.24;
- (2) The legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use (d.b.a. "the Castro Country Club") on the second floor, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 317, 715.38 and 715.81;
- (3) The use of the second floor rear roof deck as the Castro Country Club's proposed outdoor activity area, pursuant to Planning Code Section 145.2.

The ground floor to be occupied by the proposed restaurant will be expanded toward the rear of the lot, involving excavation. The original design of the restaurant includes sliding doors on the rear wall facing a 5 feet deep by 25 feet wide light well abutting the rear property line. Although the light well is designed to allow light and air into the restaurant and will not be used by the restaurant patrons, ambient noise from the restaurant may be transmitted through the light well to the adjacent dwelling units.

The Commission requested that the Project Sponsor develop alternate plans that would address the light well noise issue.

#### CURRENT PROPOSAL

The Project Sponsor submitted two different designs of the proposed ground floor restaurant as alternatives to the original design.

www.sfplanning.org

(1) The first alternative:

Set the rear wall of the restaurant back 11 feet from the rear property line, and leave the last 11 feet of the lot unexcavated without providing a light well. Identify the location of the HVAC equipment in the rear yard.

As the original design, the rear yard above the restaurant will be divided into two areas, which will be designated for use by the Castro Country Club and the residential unit on the third-story, respectively.

(2) The second alternative:

Set the rear wall of the restaurant back 5 feet from the rear property line and leave the last 5 feet of the lot unexcavated without providing a light well. Identify the location of the HVAC equipment in the rear yard.

As the original design, the rear yard above the restaurant will be divided into two areas, which will be designated for use by the Castro Country Club and the residential unit on the third-story, respectively.

#### **REQUIRED COMMISSION ACTION**

- (1) A restaurant on the ground floor, pursuant to Planning Code Section 715.44.
- (2) The legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use, the Castro Country Club, defined as Other Institutions, Large, under Planning Code Section 790.50(a), on the second floor with an outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 145.2, 317, 715.24, 715.38, and 715.81.

#### BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

#### The proposed restaurant on the ground floor:

- (1) It is not a Formula Retail use but rather an independent, locally owned business;
- (2) It is a designed to mainly serve residents from the surrounding neighborhood and patrons of other businesses on Castro or 18th Street and is not a destination restaurant;
- (3) It will contribute to the economic vitality of the neighborhood by developing an under-utilized ground floor garage into an active commercial storefront while not removing any existing neighborhood-serving retail use;
- (4) It is well served by public transit and it should have a negligible impact upon the current traffic pattern on the surrounding streets;
- (5) It will create between eight to ten job openings.

# The proposed legalization of the Castro Country Club on the second floor with an outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck:

(1) It is a clean and safe place for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol and has established a historical recognition for almost 30 years at the Project Site among the community;

- (2) Although the legalization of the Castro Country Club is the result of the conversion of a residential unit, the previous residential unit, containing two bedrooms, was not a family-sized unit and is not presently part of the City's housing stock;
- (3) Its outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck, as shown on plans, has been designed to minimize noise and privacy impacts to the adjacent residential units;
- (4) It is well served by public transit and it should have a negligible impact upon the current traffic pattern on the surrounding streets.

#### RECOMMENDATION: Approve with Conditions

#### Attachments:

The original design of the ground floor restaurant Two alternate designs of the ground floor restaurant



Planning Commission Attn: Rodney Fong, Commission President San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street Suite 400 San Francisco CA 94103

January 12, 2010

RE; 4058 18<sup>th</sup> St. Ground Floor Restaurant Addition and Castro Country Club

Dear Commissioners;

This letter is to accompany the alternate designs requested by the planning commission. As part of our process to redesign the space we met with the adjacent neighbors to hear and address their concerns. In both of our designs neighbor privacy and separation from the activities of the restaurant and the Castro Country Club are emphasized.

Alternates A and B are largely similar. In our discussions with the neighbors it was determined that we should avoid an alternate showing excavation to the property line, though this is permitted in the Castro NCD. Both alternates show the light well removed, as requested. In place of the light well we created a landscaped buffer with trees along the rear property line. The mechanical equipment for interior cooling is located between the Castro Country Club and the landscaped area. This equipment will be quiet rated, water cooled type equipment. The kitchen exhaust is shown located at the 4<sup>th</sup> floor and towards the middle of our building, which locates it above and as remote from neighboring properties as is feasible.

The landscaping area and mechanical area are located together at the rear yard to create an 11 foot deep buffer for the rear neighbor from the Castro County Club's outdoor area. Currently the Castro Country Club is only separated from the rear property by a 3 foot area, where refrigerators and storage are located along the property line. We feel that the addition of trees and the total of 11 feet of separation is a substantial improvement for the neighboring property.

Thank you for reviewing our application. We look forward to presenting our case to you on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely;



Ahmad Mohazab RA, NCARB

2747 19th Street, San Francisco: CA 94110 — tel: 415 362 5857 — fax: 415 362 5044 — www.tecta.com



PROJECT DATA		
DESCRIPTION:	SECOND FLOOR RENOVATION GROUND FLOOR FOUNDATION REPAIR AND ADDITION	
ZONE: HEIGHT/BULK DISTRICT: BLOCK/LOT:	CASTRO NCD 40-X 3582/052	
OCCUPANCY: EXISTING: PROPOSED ADDITION:	R-3 B	
LOT AREA: BUILDING AREA: EXISTING 2nd 3rd AND 4th FLOORS: EXISTING GARAGE: EXISTING BLDG. AREA	2,495 SF 3,388 SF <u>1,330 SF</u> 4,718 SF	s
PROPOSED 1st FLOOR A EXISTING GARAGE: PROPOSED ADDITION: TOTAL 1st FLOOR	1,330 SF 695 SF	
RESTAURANT A SHARED STORA		
TOTAL BUILDING AREA:	5,368 SF	

#### SHEET INDEX

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- A-0 SITE PLAN AND PROJECT DATA.
- A-1.0 EXISTING GROUND FLOOR/DEMOLITION PLAN AND PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR PLAN. A-1.1 EXISTING SECOND FLOOR/ DEMOLITION PLAN
- AND PROPOSED SECOND FLOOR PLAN. AND EXISTING THIRD FLOOR AND EXISTING
- A-1.2 EXISTING THIRD FLOOR AND EXISTING FOURTH FLOOR.
- A-1.3 EXISTING ROOF/ DEMOLITION PLAN AND PROPOSED ROOF PLAN.
- A-2.0 EXISTING SOUTH/FRONT ELEVATION AND PROPOSED SOUTH ELEVATION.
- A-2.1 EXISTING NORTH/REAR ELEVATION AND PROPOSED NORTH ELEVATION.
- A-2.2 EXISTING EAST ELEVATION AND PROPOSED EAST ELEVATION. A-2.3 EXISTING WEST ELEVATION AND PROPOSED
- A-2.3 EXISTING WEST ELEVATION AND PROPOSED WEST ELEVATION.
- A-3.0 EXISTING AND PROPOSED BUILDING SECTIONS

#### LEGEND



AREA OF FOUNDATION REPAIR



AREA OF ADDITION TO GROUND FLOOR



































PROJECT DATA		
DESCRIPTION:	SECOND FLOOR RENOVATION GROUND FLOOR FOUNDATION REPAIR AND ADDITION	J
ZONE: HEIGHT/BULK DISTRICT: BLOCK/LOT;	CASTRO NCD 40-X 3582/052	•
OCCUPANCY: EXISTING: PROPOSED ADDITION:	R-3 B	
LOT AREA: BUILDING AREA: EXISTING 2nd 3rd AND	2,495 SF	SAN
4th FLOORS: EXISTING GARAGE: EXISTING BLDG. AREA		
PROPOSED 1st FLOOR A EXISTING GARAGE: PROPOSED ADDITION: TOTAL 1st FLOOR	1,330 SF	
	AREA: 1,835 SF. AGE: 40 SF	
TOTAL BUILDING AREA:	5,218 SF	
		II



ISSUE DATE:

SPACE PLAN DATE

DRAWING TITLE:

SITE PLAN AND PROJECT DATA

DRAWING NUMBER:

A-0

1/31/13

SHEET INDEX

- A-0 SITE PLAN AND PROJECT DATA.
- A-1.0 EXISTING GROUND FLOOR/DEMOLITION PLAN AND PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR PLAN.
- A-1.1 EXISTING SECOND FLOOR/ DEMOLITION PLAN AND PROPOSED SECOND FLOOR PLAN.
- A-1.2 EXISTING THIRD FLOOR AND EXISTING FOURTH FLOOR.
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- SECTIONS

#### LEGEND



AREA OF FOUNDATION REPAIR

AREA OF ADDITION TO GROUND FLOOR















SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"













PROJECT DATA	
DESCRIPTION:	SECOND FLOOR RENOVATION GROUND FLOOR FOUNDATION REPAIR AND ADDITION
Zone: Height/Bulk district: Block/Lot:	CASTRO NCD 40-X 3582/052
OCCUPANCY: EXISTING: PROPOSED ADDITION:	R-3 B
LOT AREA: BUILDING AREA: EXISTING 2nd 3rd AND 4th FLOORS: EXISTING GARAGE: EXISTING BLDG. AREA	2.495 SF 3.388 SF 1.330 SF 4.718 SF
PROPOSED 1st FLOOR A EXISTING GARAGE: PROPOSED ADDITION: TOTAL 1st FLOOR	1,330 SF
RESTAURANT A SHARED STOR	AREA: 1,985 SF. AGE: 40 SF
TOTAL BUILDING AREA:	5,368 SF

# associates ARCHITECTURE INTERIORS PLANNING 2747 19TH STREET AN FRANCISCO, CA 94110 tel. 415-362-5857 fax. 415-362-5044 www.tecta.com C-17636 ARCHITECTURAL PROJECT NO. CLUB CASTRO COUNTRY CLUI AND GROUND FLOOR RENOVATIONS 4058 18th STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94114 A-1.1 EXISTING SECOND FLOOR/ DEMOLITION PLAN AND PROPOSED SECOND FLOOR PLAN. CASTRO POC DESCRIPTION OF PROVIDED AND AN AN AND THE ASSOCIATION OF A DESCRIPTION A DESCRIPTION OF A DESCRIPTION A DESCRIPTI HASE FUNCE ARE COMPOSITED AND SUBJECT TO COMPARENT PROTECTION AS A "ARCHITCTURAL BURK" LABOR SEX, THE OF THE COMPARENT ACT, IT U.S.A. A LABORD DECEMBER WHA AND ADONE AS ANOLEVILAW, MORE COMPARENT PROTECT ACT OF 1980. THE PROFERENT INCLUES BIT IS NOT LABOR TO BE DECAM. FORM WHAT AS THE AREMENTATION AND COMPARENT OF DECEMBER TO THE DECAM. ISSUE DATE: 1/31/13 SPACE PLAN DATE

DRAWING TITLE:

SITE PLAN AND PROJECT DATA DRAWING NUMBER

A-0

ALT. B

SHEET INDEX

A-0 SITE PLAN AND PROJECT DATA.

PROPOSED ROOF PLAN.

FOURTH FLOOR.

SECTIONS

LEGEND

A-1.0 EXISTING GROUND FLOOR/DEMOLITION PLAN AND PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

A-1.2 EXISTING THIRD FLOOR AND EXISTING

A-1.3 EXISTING ROOF/ DEMOLITION PLAN AND

A-2.0 EXISTING SOUTH/FRONT ELEVATION AND

A-2.2 EXISTING EAST ELEVATION AND PROPOSED EAST ELEVATION.

A-2.3 EXISTING WEST ELEVATION AND PROPOSED WEST ELEVATION.

AREA OF FOUNDATION REPAIR

AREA OF ADDITION TO GROUND FLOOR

PROPOSED SOUTH ELEVATION. A-2.1 EXISTING NORTH/REAR ELEVATION AND PROPOSED NORTH ELEVATION.

A-3.0 EXISTING AND PROPOSED BUILDING













SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"















## SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## **Executive Summary**

### **Conditional Use**

HEARING DATE: JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

Date:	January 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
Case No.:	2012.0109 <u>C</u> V
Project Address:	4058-4060 18 <sup>th</sup> STREET
Zoning:	Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District and
	40-X Height and Bulk District.
Block/Lot:	3582/052
Project Sponsor:	Ahmad Mohazab, TECTA Associates
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#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed work, which is subject to conditional use authorization, includes the following:

- (1) The removal of the existing garage and off-street parking on the ground floor and an expansion of the ground floor toward the rear of the lot with a roof deck above, increasing the existing ground floor gross floor area of 1,330 square feet to 2,025 square feet;
- (2) The establishment of a restaurant (d.b.a. "Castro Sausage Grill") on the ground floor with a new commercial storefront to replace the existing garage door, pursuant to Planning Code Section 715.24;
- (3) The legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use (d.b.a. "the Castro Country Club") on the second floor, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 317, 715.38 and 715.81;
- (4) The use of the second floor rear roof deck as the Castro Country Club's proposed outdoor activity area, pursuant to Planning Code Section 145.2.

The Project Sponsor proposes to establish a restaurant, including on-site beer and wine sales, on the expanded ground floor with a gross floor area of approximately 1,985 square feet. It would also provide outdoor dining service in the front setback area on the Subject Property for the convenience of patrons. The proposed restaurant is not a Formula Retail use but rather an independent, locally owned business. It is designed to mainly serve residents from the local neighborhood and may create between eight to ten job openings. The proposed hours of operation are: from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; from 11 a.m. to 12 o'clock midnight Fridays and Saturdays; and form 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays. Approximately 10% of the restaurant operation will be devoted to take-out dining.

The Project Sponsor proposes to legalize the Castro Country Club, defined as Other Institutions Large, pursuant to Planning Code Section 790.50(a), as a result of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use on the second floor.

The project Sponsor provided the Excerpt from the Castro Country Club website:

"The Castro Country Club is a clean & sober gathering place for all people and a home for the queer recovery community. We endeavor to be a space where all can seek wisdom, serenity, courage and joy. Since April 1983, the Castro Country Club has been a safe haven for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol."

#### The proposed work, which is not subject to conditional use authorization but a rear yard variance:

(1) The replacement of an existing third floor rear stairway with a spiral stairway, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 134 and 188.

The Project Sponsor has submitted a Variance Application No.  $2010.0109C\underline{V}$  for the replacement of an existing third floor rear stairway with a spiral stairway, which would provide a connection between the current residential unit on the third floor and its Planning Code required usable open space on the second floor rear roof deck.

Based upon the Project Sponsor's statement, the proposed rear spiral stairway would <u>not</u> be a required second means of egress for the residential unit on the third floor, pursuant to the Building Code, because a fire sprinkler system would be installed throughout the subject building.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT USE

The Subject Property, at 4058-4060 18th Street, is on the north side of 18th Streets between Castro and Hartford streets, Lot 053 in Assessor's Block 3582 within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District and a 40-X height and Bulk District. The Project Site measures 25 feet wide and 100 feet deep and was originally developed with a three-story over garage, two-family dwelling circa 1901.

Currently, the subject building contains a garage on the ground floor with one off-street parking space and storage areas; an institutional use, the Castro Country Club, on the second floor; and a residential unit occupying the third and fourth floors. The Project Site is within a neighborhood commercial area and is well served by public transportation within up to 300 feet of walking distance, including Muni Bus Lines 24 and 35 operating on Castro Street and Muni Bus Line 33 operating on 18th Street.

#### SURROUNDING PROPERTIES & NEIGHBORHOOD

The Project Site is located in the Castro Street NCD, the heart of which is approximately one half of a block west of the Subject Property. The Castro Street NCD extends east of the Subject Property and ends on Noe Street. Seven surrounding properties along the subject block-face contain either three- or four-story buildings. Three of these buildings are developed with a garage on the ground floor and residential uses on the upper floors and the remaining four buildings are developed with commercial uses on the ground and second floors and residential uses on the remaining floors above. The surrounding residential district is the RH-3 Zoning District.

The adjacent three-story building east of the Subject Property contains commercial uses on the ground and second floors and one dwelling unit on the third floor. The adjacent four-story building west of the
Subject Property contains a commercial use on the ground floor and two dwelling units occupying the second through fourth floors.

The Castro Street NCD provides convenience goods to its immediate neighborhood and comparison shopping goods and services on a specialized basis to a wider trade area. Commercial businesses, including a number of bars, restaurants and specialty clothing and gift stores, are active both in the daytime and late into the evening. The Castro Street NCD also supports several conversions from residential uses to nonresidential uses on the second floors in residential buildings.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STATUS

On August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 under Case No. 2010.0109E, the Project was determined by the Department to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption under CEQA as described in the determination contained in the Department files for the Project.

#### HEARING NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

ТҮРЕ	REQUIRED PERIOD	REQUIRED NOTICE DATE	ACTUAL NOTICE DATE	ACTUAL PERIOD
Classified News Ad	20 days	January 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	January 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2013	22 days
Posted Notice	20 days	January 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	January 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	20 days
Mailed Notice	20 days	January 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	January 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	20 days

The Project requires a Notice of Building Permit Application under Planning Code Section 312, which was conducted in conjunction with the notice of conditional use authorization.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

- The Department is not aware of any opposition to the Project.
- The Department has received numerous letters and e-mails from neighborhood residents, who all expressed support specifically for the proposed legalization of the Castro Country Club.

#### ISSUES AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Currently, there is a slight over-concentration of food-service establishments in the Castro Street NCD. The Commerce and Industry Element of the General Plan contains Guidelines for Specific Uses. For eating and drinking establishments, the Guidelines state, "the balance of commercial uses may be threatened when eating and drinking establishments occupy more than 20% of the total occupied commercial frontage." Planning staff has performed a survey on the existing eating and drinking establishments within 300 feet of the Project Site. Approximately 23% of the total Neighborhood Commercial District frontage is currently devoted to eating and drinking establishments, which would be increased to approximately 25% if the proposed restaurant is approved.

Although the proposed restaurant will result in a further excess of the 20% of the total occupied commercial frontage guideline, it should be noted that the Project would only replace an existing

ground floor garage, which has the potential to be developed into a ground floor commercial storefront. The proposed restaurant would not replace any existing neighborhood-serving retail storefront and based upon the current storefront vacancies in the area, the Project does not appear that it would preclude a neighborhood-serving retail use to be established at the Project Site. Furthermore, the proposed restaurant, which is not duplicated in the Castro Street NCD, will offer a unique type of food in this district and contribute to the vitality of the neighborhood.

- Based upon the Project Sponsor's statement, the Castro Country Club on the second floor is aware that the use on the ground floor would be a restaurant with on-site beer and wine sales and the Castro Country Club has no objection to the restaurant and has taken no formal position on the on-site beer and wine sales.
- The legalization of the Castro Country Club will be compatible with many other existing second floor non-residential uses in the Castro Street NCD. It will also be desirable and necessary because the Castro Country Club provides a clean and safe place for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol, has established a historical recognition for almost 30 years at the Project Site among the community. Although the Project is the result of the conversion of a residential unit, the previous residential unit, containing two bedrooms, was not a family-sized unit and is not presently part of the City's housing stock.
- As an institution in the Castro Street NCD, the use of the second floor rear roof deck as the Castro Country Club's proposed outdoor activity area for meeting and reading purposes is compatible with the majority of the current mixed uses on the subject block. The Project Sponsor has designed the second floor rear roof deck as the proposed outdoor activity area in a way to minimize its potential noise and privacy impact to the adjacent residential units, located immediately north and west of the Subject Property. Additionally, no entertainment or loud music will be allowed at the proposed outdoor activity area.
- The replacement of an existing third-floor rear stairway with a new spiral stairway would be subject to a rear yard variance, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 134 and 188. <u>The Zoning</u> <u>Administrator will hold a joint hearing on the Variance Application with the conditional use</u> <u>hearing</u>.

#### **REQUIRED COMMISSION ACTION**

In order for the Project to proceed, the Commission must grant conditional use authorization to allow the following work to be performed at the Subject Property within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District:

- (1) A restaurant on the ground floor, pursuant to Planning Code Section 715.44.
- (2) The legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use, the Castro Country Club, defined as Other Institutions, Large, under Planning Code Section 790.50(a), on the second floor with an outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 145.2, 317, 715.24, 715.38, and 715.81.

#### BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department believes this Project is necessary and/or desirable, and compatible with the neighborhood under Section 303 of the Planning Code for the following reasons:

#### The proposed restaurant on the ground floor:

- (1) It is not a Formula Retail use but rather an independent, locally owned business;
- (2) It is a designed to mainly serve residents from the surrounding neighborhood and patrons of other businesses on Castro or 18th Street and is not a destination restaurant;
- (3) It will contribute to the economic vitality of the neighborhood by developing an under-utilized ground floor garage into an active commercial storefront while not removing any existing neighborhood-serving retail use;
- (4) It is well served by public transit and it should have a negligible impact upon the current traffic pattern on the surrounding streets;
- (5) It will create between eight to ten job openings.

# The proposed legalization of the Castro Country Club on the second floor with an outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck:

- (1) It is a clean and safe place for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol and has established a historical recognition for almost 30 years at the Project Site among the community;
- (2) Although the legalization of the Castro Country Club is the result of the conversion of a residential unit, the previous residential unit, containing two bedrooms, was not a family-sized unit and is not presently part of the City's housing stock;
- (3) Its outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck has been designed to minimize noise and privacy impacts to the adjacent residential units;
- (4) It is well served by public transit and it should have a negligible impact upon the current traffic pattern on the surrounding streets.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:** Approve with Conditions

### **Exhibit Checklist**

$\boxtimes$	Executive Summary	$\boxtimes$	Project sponsor submittal
$\boxtimes$	Draft Motion		Drawings: Existing Conditions
$\square$	Environmental Determination		Check for legibility
$\boxtimes$	Zoning District Map		Drawings: Proposed Project
	Height & Bulk Map		Check for legibility
$\boxtimes$	Parcel Map	$\boxtimes$	Letters of Project Support / Opposition
$\boxtimes$	Sanborn Map		Community Meeting Notice
$\boxtimes$	Aerial Photo		
$\boxtimes$	Context Photos		
$\square$	Site Photos		

Exhibits above marked with an "X" are included in this packet

tew

Planner's Initials

TCW: U:\TWANG\WP51\MOTIONS\4058 - 4060 18th Street Executive Summary.doc



### SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Subject to: (Select only if applicable)

- □ Inclusionary Housing (Sec. 315)
- □ Jobs Housing Linkage Program (Sec. 313)
- Downtown Park Fee (Sec. 139)
- First Source Hiring (Admin. Code)
- □ Child Care Requirement (Sec. 314)
- Other

1650 Mission St. Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

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### Planning Commission Motion No. XXXXX

HEARING DATE: JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

Date:	January 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
Case No.:	2012.0109 <u>C</u> V
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ADOPTING FINDINGS RELATING TO CONDITIONAL USE AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 145.2, 303, 317, 715.24, 715.38, 715.44, AND 715.81 OF THE PLANNING CODE TO ALLOW A RESTAURANT (D.B.A. "CASTRO SAUSAGE GRILL") IN PLACE OF THE CURRENT GARAGE ON THE GROUND FLOOR AND THE LEGALIZATION OF A CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY OF A RESIDENTIAL USE TO A NONRESIDENTIAL USE (D.B.A "THE CASTRO COUNTRY CLUB") ON THE SECOND FLOOR WITH AN OUTDOOR ACTIVITY AREA ON THE SECOND FLOOR REAR ROOF DECK WITHIN THE CASTRO STREET NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT AND A 40-X HEIGHT AND BULK DISTRICT AND ADOPTING FINDINGS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT.

#### PREAMBLE

On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012, Ahmad Mohazab, TECTA Associates (hereinafter "Project Sponsor") filed an application with the San Francisco Planning Department (hereinafter "Department") for Conditional Use Authorization under Sections 145.2, 303, 317, 715.24, 715.38, 715.44 and 715.81 of the Planning Code to allow a restaurant (d.b.a. "Castro Sausage Grill") to replace an existing garage on the ground floor and the legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use on the second floor (d.b.a. "The Castro Country Club"), defined as Other Institutions, Large, pursuant to Planning Code Section 790.50(a), with an outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck, at 4058-4060 18<sup>th</sup> Street

(hereinafter "Subject Property"), within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District and a 40-X Height and Bulk District.

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the San Francisco Planning Commission (hereinafter "Commission") conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting on Conditional Use Application No. 2012.0109<u>C</u>V (hereinafter "Application").

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the Zoning Administrator jointly conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting on Variance Application No. 2012.0109CV.

On August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 under Case No. 2010.0109E, the Project was determined by the Department to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption under CEQA as described in the determination contained in the Department files for the Project. The Commission has reviewed and concurs with said determination.

The Commission has heard and considered the testimony presented to it at the public hearing and has further considered written materials and oral testimony presented on behalf of the applicant, Department staff, and other interested parties.

**MOVED**, that the Commission hereby authorizes the Conditional Use requested in Application No. 2012.0109<u>C</u>V, subject to the conditions contained in "EXHIBIT A" of this motion, based on the following findings:

#### FINDINGS

Having reviewed the materials identified in the preamble above, and having heard all testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

- 1. The above recitals are accurate and constitute findings of this Commission.
- 2. Site Description and Present Use. The Subject Property, at 4058-4060 18<sup>th</sup> Street, is on the north side of 18th Streets between Castro and Hartford streets, Lot 053 in Assessor's Block 3582 within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District and a 40-X height and Bulk District. The Project Site measures 25 feet wide and 100 feet deep and was originally developed with a three-story over garage, two-family dwelling circa 1901.

Currently, the subject building contains a garage on the ground floor with one off-street parking space and storage areas; an institutional use, the Castro Country Club, on the second floor; and a residential unit occupying the third and fourth floors. The Project Site is within a neighborhood commercial area and is well served by public transportation within up to 300 feet of walking distance, including Muni Bus Lines 24 and 35 operating on Castro Street and Muni Bus Line 33 operating on 18<sup>th</sup> Street.

3. **Surrounding Properties and Neighborhood.** The Project Site is located in the Castro Street NCD, the heart of which is approximately one half of a block west of the Subject Property.

The Castro Street NCD extends east of the Subject Property and ends on Noe Street. Seven surrounding properties along the subject block-face contain either three- or four-story buildings. Three of these buildings are developed with a garage on the ground floor and residential uses on the upper floors and the remaining four buildings are developed with commercial uses on the ground and second floors and residential uses on the remaining floors above. The surrounding residential district is the RH-3 Zoning District.

The adjacent three-story building east of the Subject Property contains commercial uses on the ground and second floors and one dwelling unit on the third floor. The adjacent fourstory building west of the Subject Property contains a commercial use on the ground floor and two dwelling units occupying the second through fourth floors.

The Castro Street NCD provides convenience goods to its immediate neighborhood and comparison shopping goods and services on a specialized basis to a wider trade area. Commercial businesses, including a number of bars, restaurants and specialty clothing and gift stores, are active both in the daytime and late into the evening. The Castro Street NCD also supports several conversions from residential uses to nonresidential uses on the second floors in residential buildings.

- 4. **Project Description.** Within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District, the Project proposes:
  - (A) The removal of the existing garage and off-street parking on the ground floor and an expansion of the ground floor toward the rear of the lot with a roof deck above, increasing the existing ground floor gross floor area of 1,330 square feet to 2,025 square feet;
  - (B) The establishment of a restaurant (d.b.a. "Castro Sausage Grill") on the expanded ground floor with a new commercial storefront to replace the existing garage door.

The Project Sponsor seeks conditional use authorization, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 303 and 715.44, to establish a restaurant, including on-site beer and wine sales, on the expanded ground floor with a gross floor area of approximately 1,985 square feet. It would also provide outdoor dining service in the front setback area on the Subject Property for the convenience of patrons. The proposed restaurant is not a Formula Retail use but rather an independent, locally owned business. It is designed to mainly serve residents from the local neighborhood and will create between eight to ten job openings for local residents. The proposed hours of operation are: from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; from 11 a.m. to 12 o'clock midnight Fridays and Saturdays; and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays. Approximately 10% of the restaurant operation will be devoted to take-out dining.

The Project Sponsor presented the following introduction to the proposed restaurant: "The Castro Sausage Grill will provide a simple menu of delectable organic sausages on artisan bread. The restaurant operator will select organic meats from local producers wherever possible. The sausage casings and seasonings will all be organic and natural. Since the closing of the World Sausage Grille on Market and 14<sup>th</sup> streets, there is no place for people in the Castro to enjoy this type of food."

- (C) The legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use (d.b.a. "the Castro Country Club"), defined as Other Institutions, Large, pursuant to Planning Code Section 790.50(a), on the second floor.
- (D) The use of the second floor rear roof deck as the Castro Country Club's proposed outdoor activity area.

The Project Sponsor seeks conditional use authorization, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 145.2, 317, 715.24, 715.38 and 715 81, to allow the legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to the Castro Country Club on the second floor with an outdoor activity area on the second floor rear roof deck.

#### Excerpt from the Castro Country Club website:

"The Castro Country Club is a clean & sober gathering place for all people and a home for the queer recovery community. We endeavor to be a space where all can seek wisdom, serenity, courage and joy. Since April 1983, the Castro Country Club has been a safe haven for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol."

Based upon the Project Sponsor's statement, the Castro Country Club offers the following programs:

#### Unstructured Peer Counseling

"Providing a venue for the unstructured peer counseling that is at the heart of AA and other 12-step programs is one of the primary functions of the Castro Country Club. The front steps of the 1901 Victorian that houses the Club has become a central gathering place for the sober community. People come to the Club simply to hang out with other sober people, to work the 12 steps with a sponsor or sponsors, or to talk with the on-duty volunteer about the challenges of sober living."

#### Job Training and Skills-Building

"Over 45 people in recovery volunteer at the Club each week, running the espresso bar and supervising Club operations with support from the Club manager. Volunteer baristas staff the coffee bar and are required to have at least six months of continuous sobriety. Barbacks, many of whom are early in sobriety, assist with cleaning and stocking. All contribute to the culture of support and fellowship for fellow addicts and alcoholics in recovery. By providing a supportive work environment, the Club helps volunteers to develop marketable job skills and the self-esteem to pursue their dreams. Frequently, the Club manager provides employment references for volunteers."

#### Social Support and Fellowship

"One of the biggest challenges for people in early sobriety is simply learning how to live, work and socialize without drugs or alcohol. Meeting this challenge is one of the most important cultural contributions of the Castro Country Club, which has always been managed and operated by people in recovery. The Club fosters fellowship and community by regularly hosting variety shows, movie nights and game nights. On holidays, the Club throws potluck dinners and during the warmer months, barbeques on the back patio. Club patrons frequently organize social events and celebrations of milestones in recovery. All of these activities support and contribute to healthy interpersonal development for those in recovery."

(E) The proposed replacement of an existing third floor rear stairway with a spiral stairway, which is <u>not</u> subject to conditional use authorization but a rear yard variance.

The Project Sponsor has submitted a Variance Application No. 2010.0109CV for the replacement of an existing third floor rear stairway with a new spiral stairway, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 134 and 188. The purpose of the proposed spiral stairway would be to provide a connection between the existing residential unit on the third floor and its Planning Code required usable open space on the second floor rear roof deck. The Zoning Administrator will hold a joint hearing on the Variance Application with the conditional use hearing.

Based upon the Project Sponsor's statement, the proposed rear spiral stairway would <u>not</u> be a required second means of egress for the residential unit on the third floor, pursuant to the Building Code, because a fire sprinkler system would be installed throughout the subject building.

- 5. **Public Comment.** The Department is not aware of any opposition to the Project. The Department has received numerous letters and e-mails from neighborhood residents, who all expressed support specifically for the proposed legalization of the Castro Country Club.
- 6. **Planning Code Compliance:** The Commission finds that the Project is consistent with the relevant provisions of the Planning Code in the following manner:
  - A. **Restaurant Use**. Planning Code Section 715.44 provides that a restaurant is permitted as a conditional use on the first story. A restaurant is defined in Planning Code Section 790.91 as: A retail eating or eating and drinking use which serves prepared, ready-to-eat cooked foods to customers for consumption on or off the premises and which has seating. It may provide on-site beer, wine, and/or liquor sales for drinking on the premises (with ABC license types 41, 47, 49, 59, or 75); however, if it does so it shall be required to operate as a Bona Fide Eating Place as defined in Planning Code Section 790.142. It is distinct and separate from a Limited-Restaurant as defined in Planning Code Section 790.90.

The Project Sponsor seeks conditional use authorization for a change of use from garage to restaurant on the first floor, which would also provide on-site beer and wine sales for drinking on the premises with an ABC type 41 license.

Based upon the Project Sponsor's statement, the Castro Country Club on the second floor is aware that the use on the ground floor would be a restaurant with on-site beer and wine sales and the Castro Country Club has no objection to the restaurant and has taken no formal position on the onsite beer and wine sales.

B. **Outdoor Activity Areas.** Planning Code Section 790.70 defines outdoor activity area as an area, not including primary circulation space or any public street, located outside of a building or in a courtyard which is provided for the use or convenience of patrons of a commercial establishment including, but not limited to, sitting, eating, drinking, dancing, and food-service.

(i) Planning Code Sections 715.24 provides that an outdoor activity area operated by a commercial use is permitted if it complies with provisions governing outdoor activity areas in NC Districts under Planning Code Section 145.2(a)(1) in that an outdoor activity area operated by a commercial use is permitted as a principal use if located outside a building and contiguous to the front property line of the lot on which the commercial use is located.

The project Sponsor seeks to include a dining area, for the use or convenience of patrons, outside of the proposed restaurant and contiguous to the front property line of the lot, would therefore, be permitted without requiring a conditional use authorization.

(ii) Planning Code Sections 715.24 provides that an outdoor activity area operated by a commercial use, which does not comply with provisions governing outdoor activity areas in NC Districts under Planning Code Section 145.2(a)(1) is permitted as a conditional use. In addition to the criteria of Planning Section 303(c), the Planning Commission shall find the following under Planning Code Section 145.2(a)(2):

(A) The nature of the activity operated in the outdoor activity area is compatible with surrounding uses;

(B) The operation and design of the outdoor activity area does not significantly disturb the privacy or affect the livability of adjoining or surrounding residences;

(C) The hours of operation of the activity operated in the outdoor activity area are limited so that the activity does not disrupt the viability of surrounding uses.

The Project Sponsor Seeks to legalize the Castro Country Club on the second floor, including the use of the second floor rear roof deck as an outdoor activity area, which would be permitted as a conditional use. "Additional Findings pursuant to Planning Code Section 145.2(a)(2)" below have been incorporated as part of this Motion.

C. Institutional Use. Planning Code Section 715.81 provides that Other Institutions, Large, defined by Planning Code 790.50(a), require conditional use authorization on the second story and above.

The Project Sponsor seeks conditional use authorization for the legalization of the Castro Country Club on the second floor, defined as Other Institutions, Large, pursuant to Planning Code Section 790.50(a). The Castro Country Club has been in existence since April 1983.

D. Use Size [Non-Residential]. Planning Code Section 715.21 provides that Use Size [Non-Residential] is permitted up to 1,999 square feet; conditional use authorization is required from 2,000 square feet up to 3,999 square feet; and 4,000 square feet and above is not permitted within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District.

The Proposed restaurant, occupying most of the expanded ground floor, would contain a gross floor area of approximately 1,985 square feet, which is a permitted use size within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District.

The proposed Castro Country Club on the second floor would contain a total gross floor area of approximately 1,308 square feet, which is a permitted use size within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District.

E. Hours of Operation. Planning Code Section 715.27 permits hours of operation, as defined by Planning Code Section 790.48, from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. and from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. by conditional use authorization.

The proposed restaurant's hours of operation are: from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; from 11 a.m. to 12 o'clock midnight Fridays and Saturdays; and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays, which are within those hours principally permitted by Planning Code Section 715.27.

The Castro Country Club's hours of operation are: from 7 a.m. to 12 o'clock midnight seven days a week, which are within those hours principally permitted by Planning Code Section 715.27.

F. Street Frontage in Neighborhood Commercial Districts. Section 145.1 of the Planning Code provides that no more than 1/3 of the width of new or altered structures, parallel to and facing a street, shall be devoted to ingress/egress to parking.

The Project would include the removal of the existing garage and garage door on the ground floor and the construction of a new ground floor commercial storefront in association with the proposed restaurant, which would not devote any width to ingress/egress to off-street parking.

Section 145.1 of the Planning Code also provides that NC Districts containing specific uses, including Restaurants, have at least ½ (50 percent)the total width of the new or altered structure at the commercial street frontage devoted to entrances to commercially used space, windows or display space at the pedestrian eye-level. Such windows shall use

clear, un-tinted glass, except for decorative or architectural accent. Any decorative railings or decorated grille work, other than wire mesh, which is placed in front or behind such windows, shall be at least 75 percent open to perpendicular view and no more than six feet in height above grade.

The Project Site has approximately 25 feet of lineal street frontage along 18<sup>th</sup> Street of which approximately 17 feet (68 percent) of street frontage would be devoted to either the restaurant entrance or window space. The proposed restaurant's windows will not be tinted.

G. **Parking**. Planning Code Section 151 provides that for restaurant or bar use, one off street parking space is required for each 200 square feet of occupied floor area, where the occupied floor area exceed 5,000 square feet.

The proposed restaurant would occupy a floor area of approximately 1,985 square feet; therefore, no off-street parking is required.

Planning Code Section 715.22 provides that generally, no off-street parking will be required for commercial/institutional uses if occupied floor area is less than 5,000 square feet.

The Castro Country Club, as an institutional use, currently occupies a total gross floor area of approximately 1,308 square feet. Therefore, no off-street parking will be required for the legalization of the Castro Country Club.

H. Rear Yard Requirement. Within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District, Planning Code Section 134 provides that minimum rear yard depth shall be equal to 25 percent of the total depth of a lot in which it is situated, but in no case less than 15 feet. Planning Code Section 134(a)(1)(B) further provides that the required rear yards shall be provided at the second story and at each succeeding story of the building, and at the first story if it contains a dwelling unit.

The Project would include an expansion of the existing ground floor toward the rear of the lot, leaving a rear yard depth of 5 feet and no change to the existing rear yard depth at the second through fourth floors. The expanded ground floor would be mostly occupied by the proposed restaurant and contain no residential use. Therefore, the proposed expansion of the existing ground floor would comply with the rear yard requirement under Planning Code Section 134(a)(1)(B).

The Project would also include the replacement of an existing third floor rear stairway with a new spiral stairway. Since the existing third floor rear stairway is already within the required rear yard on the subject lot, to replace it with a new stairway would be subject to a rear yard variance, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 134 and 188. The Project Sponsor has submitted a Variance Application No. 2012.0109CV. The Zoning Administrator will hold a joint hearing on the Variance Application with the conditional use hearing.

I. Usable Open Space for Residential Unit. Within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District, Planning Code Section 135 provides that 80 square feet of private usable open space shall be required for each dwelling unit.

The Project would provide the existing residential unit on the third floor with approximately 220 square feet of private usable open space on the second floor rear roof deck accessible via the proposed new third floor rear stairway, which would be subject to a rear yard variance.

J. **Parking Reduction.** Planning Code Section 161provides that a Project Sponsor may request a reduction in parking requirements provided certain findings are met, pursuant to Planning Code Section 307.

The Project Sponsor submitted an Application for Parking Reduction to remove the garage and offstreet parking on the ground floor. The said Application, not subject to conditional use authorization, requires the review and approval of the Zoning Administrator. The Zoning Administrator reviewed and approved the Application because the Project met all six criteria for the reduction of parking requirements, pursuant to Planning Code Section 307(i) and was consistent with Planning Priority Policies of the General Plan. (Please read the attached Application for Parking Reduction).

K. Residential Conversion. Pursuant to Planning Code Section 317, conditional use authorization is required for applications proposing to the change of occupancy, or the change of use of any residential unit to a non-residential use within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District. This Code Section establishes a checklist of criteria that delineate the relevant General Plan Policies and Objectives.

Pursuant to Planning Code Section 317, the Project includes the change of occupancy of a residential unit to a nonresidential use on the second floor, which is permitted as a conditional use. "Additional Findings, relating to a checklist of criteria, pursuant to Planning Code Section 317" below have been incorporated as part of this Motion.

L. Signage. Any proposed signage will be subject to the review and approval of the Planning Department.

Any application for proposed signage at the Subject Property shall be subject to the review of the Planning Department and required to meet all provisions set forth in Article 6 of the Planning Code.

M. Neighborhood Commercial Building Permit Review. Planning Code Section 312 requires neighborhood notification for any Building Permit, proposing a change in use for lots within Neighborhood Commercial Districts.

The Project includes a change in use from a garage to a restaurant on the expanded ground floor and the legalization of converting a residential unit to an institution on the second floor within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District. Section 312 Building Permit notification was conducted in conjunction with the conditional use authorization notification.

7. **Planning Code Section 303** establishes criteria for the Planning Commission to consider when reviewing applications for Conditional Use approval. On balance, the project does comply with said criteria in that:

A. The proposed new uses, at the size and intensity contemplated and at the proposed location, will provide a development that is necessary or desirable, and compatible with, the neighborhood or the community.

The Project will provide a development that is necessary and desirable, and compatible with the neighborhood for the following reasons:

(i) The proposed restaurant in place of an existing garage and off-street parking on the ground floor.

The size and intensity of the proposed restaurant will be compatible with many other storefronts on the subject and opposite block-faces. The Project will not cause an impact on traffic or street parking in this neighborhood because it is designed to mainly serve residents from the surrounding neighborhood and patrons of other businesses on Castro or 18<sup>th</sup> Street within walking distance and is not intended to be a destination restaurant. The Project Site and the surrounding area are also well served by public transit. By offering a type of food not available elsewhere in the neighborhood, the proposed restaurant will be desirable and necessary and will complement the mix of goods and services currently available in the Castro Street NCD. It will further contribute to the economic strength and vitality of the neighborhood by developing an underutilized ground floor, currently a garage, to an active commercial storefront.

(ii) The proposed legalization of the conversion of a residential use to the Castro Country Club (Other Institutions, Large) on the second floor.

The Project at the size and intensity contemplated will be compatible with that of many other existing second floor non-residential uses, including retail sales and financial, medical, personal, business and professional services, within the Castro Street NCD. The legalization of the Castro Country Club will be desirable and necessary because it provides a clean and safe place for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol and has established a historical recognition for almost 30 years at the Project Site among the community. Although the Project is the result of the conversion of a residential unit, the previous residential unit, containing two bedrooms, was not a family-sized unit and is not presently part of the City's housing stock.

B. The proposed project will not be detrimental to the health, safety, convenience or general welfare of persons residing or working in the vicinity. There are no features of the project that could be detrimental to the health, safety or convenience of those residing or working the area, in that:

(i) Nature of proposed site, including its size and shape, and the proposed size, shape and arrangement of structures;

The proposed restaurant with a new front façade to replace the current garage door on the ground floor will not only be compatible with the current scale and context of the surrounding neighborhood but will also enliven 18<sup>th</sup> Street further by introducing a pedestrian-friendly use on 18<sup>th</sup> Street. The proposed ground floor expansion will comply with the rear yard requirements in the Castro Street NCD and be compatible with the development pattern on the subject block. The proposed legalization of the Castro Country Club on the second floor would not involve any alteration to the exterior of the existing building at the Project Site.

(ii) The accessibility and traffic patterns for persons and vehicles, the type and volume of such traffic, and the adequacy of proposed off-street parking and loading;

The Planning Code does not require off-street parking or loading for the proposed restaurant or the legalization of the Castro Country Club. The Project is designed to mainly meet the needs of the residents in the immediate neighborhood and the Project Site is well served by public transit within up to 300 feet of walking distance, including Muni Bus Lines 24 and 35 operating on Castro Street and Muni Bus Line 33 operating on 18<sup>th</sup> Street, minimizing the amount of vehicular traffic from the immediate neighborhood or citywide.

(iii) The safeguards afforded to prevent noxious or offensive emissions such as noise, glare, dust and odor.

Due diligence standard construction practices in reducing noise, glare, dust and odor will be maintained during the construction process. Utmost care will be taken during the operations to ensure that no noxious or offensive emissions are produced, from either the proposed restaurant or the Castro Country Club.

(iv) Treatment given, as appropriate, to such aspects as landscaping, screening, open spaces, parking and loading areas, service areas, lighting and signs.

Parking and loading areas are not required for the Project. The design of the proposed restaurant will include a landscaped entry area and exterior lighting to enhance security. The Department shall review all proposed signs for the Project.

(v) That the use as proposed will comply with the applicable provisions of the Planning Code and will not adversely affect the General Plan.

The Project complies with all relevant requirements and standards of the Planning Code and is consistent with objectives and policies of the General Plan as detailed below.

(vi) That the use as proposed would provide development that is in conformity with the purpose of the applicable Neighborhood Commercial District.

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The Project is consistent with the stated purpose of the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District in that it is compatible with the current building scale, enhances a mixed-use development in character and increases continuous ground floor retail frontage along 18<sup>th</sup> street.

- 8. **Pursuant to Planning Code Section 145.2(a)(2)**, an outdoor activity area is permitted as a conditional use if it does not comply with Planning Code Section 145.2(a)(1), and in additional to the criteria of Planning Code Section 303, the Planning Commission shall find:
  - A. The nature of the activity operated in the outdoor activity area is compatible with surrounding uses.

The majority of the properties on the subject block, along 18<sup>th</sup> and Castro streets, are within the Castro Street NCD, a district that permits residential uses on all floors and a number of nonresidential uses also on all floors as either principal uses or conditional uses. The remaining number of properties, along Hartford Street and immediately north of the Subject Property, contain mainly residential uses within the RH-3 Zoning District. As an institution in the Castro Street NCD, the use of the second floor rear roof deck as the Castro Country Club's proposed outdoor activity area for meeting and reading purposes is compatible with the majority of the current mixed uses on the subject block. Additionally, the Project Sponsor indicates that the current rear yard on the subject lot has been used as an outdoor activity area by the Castro Country Club for many years without the benefit of a permit, and no apparent adverse effect on adjacent residential buildings exists.

B. The operation and design of the outdoor activity area does not significantly disturb the privacy or affect the livability of adjoining or surrounding residences.

Noise and privacy are typical and expected characteristics of an urban environment, especially in districts zoned for a mix of uses. The Project Sponsor has designed the second floor rear roof deck as the proposed outdoor activity area in a way to minimize its potential noise and privacy impact to the adjacent residential units, located immediately north and west in that the outdoor activity area would include the establishment of a rear boundary, marked with approximately 5 feet tall, fixed planter boxes, which would be 12 feet from the north (rear) lot line, and similar planter boxes installed entirely along the west side lot line. The proposed fixed planter boxes would function as a noise and privacy buffer to the adjacent residential units. Additionally, no entertainment or loud music will be allowed at the proposed outdoor activity area.

C. The hours of operation of the activity in the outdoor activity area are limited so that the activity does not disturb the viability of surrounding uses.

While the Castro Street NCD provides that any commercial establishment may be open for business from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m., the Project Sponsors has indicated that the proposed hours of operation of the Castro Country Club's outdoor activity area will be from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week.

- 9. **Pursuant to Planning Code Section 317,** the Planning Commission shall consider the following criteria when reviewing applications for Conversion of Residential Units:
  - (i) Whether conversion of the unit(s) would eliminate only owner occupied housing, and if so, for how long the unit(s) proposed to be removed were owner occupied;

Based upon the Project Sponsor's statement, the Subject Property has been in the possession of the previous owner since at least 1983. The current owner purchased the Subject Property in January 2012, shortly after the previous owner's death. Whether the residential unit on the second floor was owner occupied or not when converted to the Castro Country Club in April 1983 cannot be positively concluded by the Project Sponsor, absent from the existence of the previous property owner.

(ii) Whether conversation of the unit(s) would provide desirable new non-residential use(s) appropriate for the neighborhood and adjoining district(s);

The legalization of the Castro Country Club will be desirable and transcend the necessity to retain the pervious unit on the second floor. The Castro Country Club is a clean and safe place for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol and has established a historical recognition for almost 30 years at the Project Site among the community.

(iii) Whether conversation of the unit(s) will bring the building closer into conformance with the prevailing character of its immediate area and in the same zoning district;

A number of mixed-use buildings along the subject and the opposite block-faces currently contain non-residential uses occupying both ground and second floors. Therefore, the Project, proposing a restaurant on the ground floor and the legalization of the Castro Country Club on the second floor will bring the Subject Building closer into conformance with the prevailing character of its immediate area and in the same zoning district.

(iv) Whether conversion of the unit(s) will be detrimental to the City's housing stock;

The conversion of the residential unit to the Castro Country Club on the second floor almost 30 years ago will not be detrimental to the City's housing stock because the previous unit, containing two bedrooms, was not considered as family housing and is not part of the City's current housing stock.

(v) Whether conversion of the unit(s) is necessary to eliminate design, functional, or habitability deficiencies that cannot otherwise be corrected.

The proposed legalization of the conversion of the residential unit to the Castro Country Club on the second floor is not necessarily related to correct design or functional deficiencies in the Subject Building due to the Building or Housing Code requirements.

10. **General Plan Compliance.** The Project is, on balance, consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan:

#### NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCE

#### **Objectives and Policies**

#### **OBJECTIVE 1:**

MANAGE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CHANGE TO ENSURE ENHANCEMENT OF THE TOTAL CITY LIVING AND WORKINIG ENVIRONMENT.

#### Policy 1.1:

Encourage development which provides substantial net benefits and minimizes undesirable consequences. Discourage development which has substantial undesirable consequences that cannot be mitigated.

#### Policy 1.2:

Assure that all commercial and industrial uses meet minimum, reasonable performance standards.

#### Policy 1.3:

Locate commercial and industrial activities according to a generalized commercial and industrial land use plan.

The Project, which will develop an under-utilized ground floor space into a commercial storefront to allow the creation of a restaurant, will provide the neighborhood with enhanced goods and service and contribute to the vitality of this mixed-use neighborhood. The Project is consistent with the activities within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District and the commercial land use plan.

#### **OBJECTIVE 3**:

PROVIDE EXPANDED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CITY RESIDENTS, PARTICULARLY THE UNEMPLOYED AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED.

#### Policy 3.1:

Promote the attraction, retention and expansion of commercial and industrial firms which provide employment improvement opportunities for unskilled and semi-skilled workers.

#### Policy 3.2:

Promote measures designed to increase the number of San Francisco jobs held by San Francisco residents.

The proposed restaurant would provide the neighborhood with approximately eight to ten employment opportunities for unskilled and semi-skilled workers.

#### **OBJECTIVE 6:**

MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN VIABLE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL AREAS EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO CITY RESIDENTS.

#### Policy 6.1:

Ensure and encourage the retention and provision of neighborhood-serving goods and services in the city's neighborhood commercial districts, while recognizing and encouraging diversity among the districts.

The proposed restaurant would be in place of an existing ground floor garage; therefore, no current commercial tenant would be displaced. The Project would not prevent the district from achieving optimal diversity in the types of goods and services available in the neighborhood.

#### Policy 6.2:

Promote economically vital neighborhood commercial districts which foster small business enterprises and entrepreneurship and which are responsive to the economic and technological innovation in the marketplace and society.

An independent entrepreneur is sponsoring the Project. The proposed restaurant is a neighborhoodserving use and is not considered a Formula Retail Use.

The following guidelines, in addition to others in this objective for neighborhood commercial districts, should be employed in the development of overall district zoning controls as well as in the review of individual permit applications, which require case-by-case review and City Planning Commission approval. Pertinent guidelines may be applied as conditions of approval of individual permit applications. In general, uses should be encouraged which meet the guidelines; conversely, uses should be discouraged which do not.

#### **Eating and Drinking Establishments**

Eating and drinking establishments include bars, sit-down restaurants, fast food restaurants, self-service restaurants, and take-out food. Associated uses, which can serve similar functions and create similar land use impacts, include ice cream stores, bakeries and cookie stores. Guidelines for eating and drinking establishments are needed to achieve the following purposes:

- Regulate the distribution and proliferation of eating and drinking establishments, especially in districts experiencing increased commercial activity;
- Control nuisances associated with their proliferation;
- Preserve storefronts for other types of local-serving businesses; and
- Maintain a balanced mix of commercial goods and services.

The regulation of eating and drinking establishments should consider the following:

- Balance of retail sales and services;
- Current inventory and composition of eating and drinking establishments;
- Total occupied commercial linear frontage, relative to the total district frontage;
- Uses on surrounding properties;
- Available parking facilities, both existing and proposed;
- Existing traffic and parking congestion; and
- Potential impacts on the surrounding community.

In districts where the proliferation of eating and drinking establishments could generate problems, the following guidelines should be employed in the consideration of new establishments, relocations, changes from one kind of eating and drinking establishment to another (e.g. from self-service restaurant to full-service restaurant), expansion or intensification of existing establishments:

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- The establishment should not add to an over-concentration of eating and drinking establishments in a single district. The balance of commercial uses may be threatened when eating and drinking establishments occupy more than 20% of the total occupied commercial frontage. Proposals for eating and drinking establishments which would increase the proportion of total occupied commercial frontage above 20% should be reviewed to ensure that they would not reduce the variety of neighborhood-serving uses; nor create substantial noise, traffic, parking problems, or other nuisances in the district or surrounding neighborhood. Those establishments that would do the above should not be permitted. Except in districts with an established pattern of service to a broad market, such as North Beach, such establishments should not occupy more than 25% of the total commercially occupied frontage in a district. To minimize the problems they can create, eating and drinking uses should generally be at least 100 feet apart from each other, unless there are factors making clustering of uses appropriate. For example, a configuration of clustered eating and drinking uses where off-street parking is shared might be more appropriate than an even distribution of such establishments.
- New, expanding or relocating eating and drinking uses should not impose significant adverse impacts on traffic and transit volumes and circulation and parking congestion. If such impacts are anticipated, especially on transit-preferential streets, the proposed use, expansion or relocation should be redesigned to mitigate such impacts, or it should be prohibited.
- Eating and drinking uses should be adequately soundproofed or insulated for noise and operated so as to reasonably protect adjoining and surrounding upper-story residences from disturbances. Fixed source equipment noise should not exceed the decibel levels specified in the Noise Control Ordinance.

Currently, there is a slight over-concentration of food-service establishments in the Castro Street NCD. The Commerce and Industry Element of the General Plan contains Guidelines for Specific Uses. For eating and drinking establishments, the Guidelines state, "the balance of commercial uses may be threatened when eating and drinking establishments occupy more than 20% of the total occupied commercial frontage." Planning staff has performed a survey on the existing eating and drinking establishments within 300 feet of the Project Site. Approximately 23% of the total Neighborhood Commercial District frontage is currently devoted to eating and drinking establishments, which would be increased to approximately 25% if the proposed restaurant is approved.

Although the proposed restaurant will result in a further excess of the 20% of the total occupied commercial frontage guideline, it should be noted that the Project would only replace an existing ground floor garage, which has the potential to be developed into a ground floor commercial storefront. The proposed restaurant would not replace any existing neighborhood-serving retail use and based upon the current storefront vacancies in the area, the Project does not appear that it would preclude a neighborhood-serving retail use to be established at the Project Site. Furthermore, the proposed restaurant, which is not duplicated in the Castro Street NCD, will offer a unique type of food in this district and contribute to the vitality of the neighborhood.

#### **URBAN DESIGN**

#### **Objectives and Policies**

#### **OBJECTIVE 1:**

EMPHASIS OF THE CHARACTERISTIC PATTERN WHICH GIVES TO THE CITY AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS AN IMAGE, A SENSE OF PURPOSE, AND A MEANS OF ORIENTATION.

#### Policy 1.2:

Recognize, protect and reinforce the existing street pattern, especially as it is related to topography.

#### Policy 1.3:

Recognize that buildings, when seen together, produce a total effect that characterizes the city and its districts.

The design of the proposed restaurant's front facade would be compatible with many other commercial storefronts in the Castro Street NCD.

#### COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

#### **Objectives and Policies**

#### **OBJECTIVE 2**

MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE A SOUND AND DIVERSE ECONOMIC BASE AND FISCAL STRUCTURE FOR THE CITY.

#### Policy 2.1:

Seek to retain existing commercial and industrial activity and to attract new such activity to the city.

To replace the existing garage on the ground floor with a new commercial storefront would result in an opportunity to attract new activity to the city such as the proposed restaurant.

The proposed legalization of the Castro Country Club, which has been in existence since April 1983, would retain a clean and safe place for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol in the neighborhood with no apparent undesirable effects.

#### **OBJECTIVE 6**

MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN VIABLE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL AREAS EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO CITY RESIDENTS

Policy 6.3:

Preserve and promote the mixed commercial-residential character in neighborhood commercial districts. Strike a balance between the preservation of existing affordable housing and needed expansion of commercial activity.

Within the Castro Street NCD, a significant number of properties currently contain commercial uses on the ground and second floors and residential units above the second floors. The Project would include a restaurant on the ground floor and the Castro Country Club on the second floor and maintain the existing residential unit, occupying the third and fourth floors. Therefore, the Project would preserve and be consistent with the mixed commercial-residential character in the Castro Street NCD.

- 11. **Planning Code Section 101.1(b)** establishes eight priority-planning policies and requires review of permits for consistency with said policies. On balance, the Project does comply with said policies in that:
  - A. That existing neighborhood-serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses be enhanced.

Neither the proposed restaurant in place of an existing ground floor garage nor the legalization of the Castro Country Club on the second floor will remove or otherwise negatively impact any existing neighborhood-serving retail uses. The Project will support Policy No.1, which calls for the preservation and enhancement of the current businesses and future opportunities for resident employment.

B. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods.

The scale and use proposed by the Project is within the existing character of the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District. The proposed restaurant will increase the number of dinning choices in the district. The proposed legalization of the Castro Country Club will preserve an existing institutional use that has gained a historical recognition by serving the residents of the community for almost 30 years. The existing residential unit, occupying the third and fourth floors, will remain without change.

C. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced.

Although the Project involves the legalization of the conversion of a residential unit to the Castro Country Club in 1983, the previous residential unit is not part of the City's current supply of affordable housing.

D. That commuter traffic not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking.

The Project Site is well served by public transit within up to 300 feet of walking distance, including Muni Bus Lines 24 and 35 operating on Castro Street and Muni Bus Line 33 operating on 18th Street, minimizing the amount of vehicular traffic from the immediate neighborhood or citywide.

E. That a diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced.

The Project will not displace any service or industrial or service sectors as no such uses exist on the Subject Property.

F. That the City achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

The Project is designed and will be constructed to conform to the structural and seismic safety requirements of the City's Building Code.

G. That landmarks and historic buildings be preserved.

The Project was determined by the Department to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") as a Class 1 Categorical Exemption under CEQA as described in the determination contained in the Department files for the Project.

H. That our parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development.

The Project will have no negative impact on existing parks and their access to sunlight and vistas.

- 12. The Project is consistent with and would promote the general and specific purposes of the Code provided under Section 101.1(b) in that, as designed, the Project would contribute to the character and stability of the neighborhood and would constitute a beneficial development.
- 13. The Commission hereby finds that approval of the Conditional Use authorization would promote the health, safety and welfare of the City.

#### DECISION

That based upon the Record, the submissions by the Applicant, the staff of the Department and other interested parties, the oral testimony presented to this Commission at the public hearings, and all other written materials submitted by all parties, the Commission hereby **APPROVES Conditional Use Application No. 2012.0109**CV subject to the following conditions attached hereto as "EXHIBIT A" which is incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

APPEAL AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF MOTION: Any aggrieved person may appeal this Conditional Use Authorization to the Board of Supervisors within thirty (30) days after the date of this Motion No. **XXXXX**. The effective date of this Motion shall be the date of this Motion if not appealed (After the 30-day period has expired) OR the date of the decision of the Board of Supervisors if appealed to the Board of Supervisors. For further information, please contact the Board of Supervisors at (415) 554-5184, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

I hereby certify that the Planning Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Motion on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Jonas Ionin Acting Commission Secretary

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED: January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013

### Exhibit A Conditions of Approval

#### AUTHORIZATION

This authorization is for a Conditional Use Authorization to allow a restaurant (d.b.a. Castro Sausage Grill) to replace an existing garage on the ground floor and the legalization of a change of occupancy of a residential use to a nonresidential use on the second floor, (d.b.a. the Castro Country Club), defined as Other Institutions, Large, under Planning Code Section 790.50(a), located at 4058 - 4060 Castro Street, Assessor's Block 3582, Lot 052, pursuant to Planning Code Sections 145.2, 303, 317, 715.24, 715.38, 715.44, and 715.81, within the Castro Street Neighborhood Commercial District and a 40-X Height and Bulk District; in general conformance with plans dated January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 and labeled "EXHIBIT B" included in the docket for **Case No. 2012.0109**CV and subject to conditions of approval reviewed and approved by the Commission on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 under Motion No. **XXXXX**. This authorization and the conditions contained herein run with the Property and not with a particular Project Sponsor, business, or operator.

#### **RECORDATION OF CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

Prior to the issuance of the Building Permit Application or commencement of use for the project, the Zoning Administrator shall approve and order the recordation of a Notice in the Official Records of the Recorder of the City and County of San Francisco for the Property. This Notice shall state that the Project is subject to the conditions of approval contained herein and reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 under Motion No. **XXXXX**.

#### PRINTING OF CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL ON PLANS

The conditions of approval under the "Exhibit A" of this Planning Commission Motion No. XXXXX shall be reproduced on the Index Sheet of construction plans submitted with the Site or Building Permit Application for the Project. The Index Sheet of the construction plans shall reference to the Conditional Use authorization and any subsequent amendments or modifications.

#### SEVERABILITY

The Project shall comply with all applicable City codes and requirements. If any clause, sentence, section, or any part of these conditions of approval is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect or impair other remaining clauses, sentences, or sections of these conditions. This decision conveys no right to construct, or to receive a Building Permit. The Project Sponsor shall include any subsequent responsible party.

#### CHANGES AND MODIFICATIONS

Changes to the approved plans may be approved administratively by the Zoning Administrator. Significant changes and modifications of conditions shall require Planning Commission approval of a new Conditional Use authorization.

### Conditions of Approval, Compliance, Monitoring, and Reporting PERFORMANCE

1. Validity and Expiration. The authorization and right vested by virtue of this action is valid for three (3) years from the effective date of the Motion. A Building Permit Application from the Department of Building Inspection to construct the project and/or commence the approved use must be issued as this Conditional Use authorization is only an approval of the proposed project and conveys no independent right to construct the project or to commence the approved use. The Planning Commission may, in a public hearing, consider the revocation of the approvals granted if a Site or Building Permit has not been obtained within three (3) years of the date of the Motion approving the Project. Once a Site or Building Permit has been issued, construction must commence within the timeframe required by the Department of Building Inspection and be continued diligently to completion. The Commission may also consider revoking the approvals if a permit for the project has been issued but is allowed to expire and more than three (3) years have passed since the Motion was approved.

For information about compliance, contact Code Enforcement, Planning Department at 415-575-6863, www.sf-planning.org

2. Extension. This authorization may be extended at the discretion of the Zoning Administrator only where failure to issue a permit by the Department of Building Inspection to perform said tenant improvements is caused by a delay by a local, State or Federal agency or by any appeal of the issuance of such permit(s).

For information about compliance, contact Code Enforcement, Planning Department at 415-575-6863, <u>www.sf-planning.org</u>

#### DESIGN

3. **Rooftop Mechanical Equipment.** Pursuant to Planning Code 141, the Project Sponsor shall submit a roof plan to the Planning Department prior to Planning approval of the Building Permit application. Rooftop mechanical equipment, if any is proposed as part of the Project, is required to be screened so as not to be visible from any point at or below the roof level of the subject building. *For information about compliance, contact the Case Planner, Planning Department at* 415-558-6378, <u>www.sf-planning.org</u>

#### **MONITORING - AFTER ENTITLEMENT**

4. Enforcement. Violation of any of the Planning Department conditions of approval contained in this Motion or of any other provisions of Planning Code applicable to this Project shall be subject to the enforcement procedures and administrative penalties set forth under Planning Code Section 176 or Section 176.1. The Planning Department may also refer the violation complaints to other city departments and agencies for appropriate enforcement action under their jurisdiction.

For information about compliance, contact Code Enforcement, Planning Department at 415-575-6863, <u>www.sf-planning.org</u>

5. **Revocation due to Violation of Conditions.** Should implementation of this Project result in complaints from interested property owners, residents, or commercial lessees which are not resolved by the Project Sponsor and found to be in violation of the Planning Code and/or the

specific conditions of approval for the Project as set forth in Exhibit A of this Motion, the Zoning Administrator shall refer such complaints to the Commission, after which it may hold a public hearing on the matter to consider revocation of this authorization.

For information about compliance, contact Code Enforcement, Planning Department at 415-575-6863, <u>www.sf-planning.org</u>

#### OPERATION

- 6. Garbage, Recycling, and Composting Receptacles. Garbage, recycling, and compost containers shall be kept within the premises and hidden from public view, and placed outside only when being serviced by the disposal company. Trash shall be contained and disposed of pursuant to garbage and recycling receptacles guidelines set forth by the Department of Public Works. *For information about compliance, contact Bureau of Street Use and Mapping, Department of Public Works at 415-554-.5810, www.sfdpw.org*
- 7. Sidewalk Maintenance. The Project Sponsor shall maintain the main entrance to the building and all sidewalks abutting the subject property in a clean and sanitary condition in compliance with the Department of Public Works' Streets and Sidewalk Maintenance Standards.

For information about compliance, contact Bureau of Street Use and Mapping, Department of Public Works, 415-695-2017, <u>www.sfdpw.org</u>

8. Noise Control. The premises shall be adequately soundproofed or insulated for noise and operated so that incidental noise shall not be audible beyond the premises or in other sections of the building and fixed-source equipment noise shall not exceed the decibel levels specified in the San Francisco Noise Control Ordinance.

For information about compliance with the fixed mechanical objects such as rooftop air conditioning, restaurant ventilation systems, and motors and compressors with acceptable noise levels, contact the Environmental Health Section, Department of Public Health at 415 252-3800, <u>www.sfdph.org</u>

For information about compliance with the construction noise, contact the Department of Building Inspection, 415-558-6570, <u>www.sfdbi.org</u>

For information about compliance with the amplified sound including music and television contact the Police Department at 415-553-1012 or 415-5530123, <u>www.sf-police.org</u>

9. Odor Control. While it is inevitable that some low level of odor may be detectible to nearby residents and passersby, appropriate odor control equipment shall be installed and maintained to prevent any significant noxious or offensive odors from escaping the premises. The building permit application to implement the Project shall include air cleaning or odor control equipment details and manufacturer specifications on the plans.

For information about compliance with odor or other chemical air pollutants emission standards and air quality regulations contact the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), 1-800-334-ODOR (6367), <u>www.baaqmd.gov</u> and Code Enforcement, Planning Department at 415-575-6863, <u>www.sf-planning.org</u>

10. **Community Liaison.** Prior to issuance of a building permit to construct the project and implement the approved use, the Project Sponsor shall appoint a community liaison officer to deal with the issues of concern to owners and occupants of nearby properties. The Project Sponsor shall provide the Zoning Administrator with written notice of the name, business address, and telephone number

of the community liaison. Should the contact information change, the Zoning Administrator shall be made aware of such change. The community liaison shall report to the Zoning Administrator what issues, if any, are of concern to the community and what issues have not been resolved by the Project Sponsor.

For information about compliance, contact Code Enforcement, Planning Department at 415-575-6863, <u>www.sf-planning.org</u>

	The second se	Categorical E	xemption
N FRANCISCO ANNING	Property Informa	ation/Project Description	
PARTMENT	PROJECT ADDRESS	a de la companya de l	BLOCK/LOT(S)
	4058	19th STREET	3582/052
CASE NO.		PERMIT NO.	PLANS DATED
2012.0	109 E		8/27/201
Addition/ Alteration	n (detailed below)	Demolition (requires HRER if over 5 years old)	0 New Construction
permitted or with Class 3: New C Up to three (3) s	rior alterations; additions un n a CU. <b>onstruction</b> ingle family residences; siz	under 10,000 sq.ft.; change of use if princip x (6) dwelling units in one building; sq.ft.; accessory structures; utility extensio	<b>NOTE:</b> If neither class applies, an <i>Environmental</i> <i>Evaluation Application</i> is
spaces or affect tran nearby tra <b>Air Quali</b> t schools, c	r residential units? Does th nsit, pedestrian and/or bicy ansit, pedestrian and/or bic ty: Would the project add i colleges, universities, day [subject to Article 38 of th	eate six (6) or more net new parking e project have the potential to adversely vcle safety (hazards) or the adequacy of cycle facilities? new sensitive receptors (specifically, care facilities, hospitals, residential e Health Code], and senior-care	
Hazardou (including former ga on a site v Phase I Envi Soil Distu disturban archeolog	us Materials: Would the po g tenant improvements) an as station, auto repair, dry o with underground storage ronmental Site Assessment requir urbance/Modification: Wo ce/modification greater tha	roject involve 1) change of use d/or 2) soil disturbance; on a site with a cleaners, or heavy manufacturing use, or tanks? ed for CEQA clearance ( <i>E.P. initials required</i> ) build the project result in the soil an two (2) feet below grade in an t (8) feet in non-archeological sensitive	NOTE: Project Planner must initial box below before proceeding to Step 3. Project Can Proceed
areas? Refer to: EP	ArcMap > CEQA CatEx Determina	ation Layers > Archeological Sensitive Areas	With Categorical
Noise: Do colleges, senior-cal	Des the project include nev universities, day care facili re facilities) fronting roadw	N noise-sensitive receptors (schools, ities, hospitals, residential dwellings, and ays located in the noise mitigation area? ition Layers > Noise Mitigation Area	Exemption Review. The project does not trigger any of the CEQA Impacts and can proceed with categorical exemption
Subdivisi	ion/Lot-Line Adjustment:	Does the project site involve a a lot with a slope of 20% or more?	review.

STEP 3 PROPERTY STATUS - HISTORICAL RESOURCE

Property is one of the following: (Refer to: San Francisco Property Information Map)

- Category A: Known Historical Resource GO TO STEP 5
- Category B: Potential Historical Resource (over 50 years of age) COTOSTEP 4
  - Category C: Not a Historical Resource or Not Age Eligible (under 50 years of age) GO TO STEP 6

STEP4 PROPOSED WORK CHECKLIST (To be completed by Project Planner)

If condition applies, please initial.



- 1. Change of Use and New Construction (tenant improvements not included).
- Interior alterations/interior tenant improvements. Note: Publicly-accessible spaces (i.e. lobby, auditorium, or sanctuary) require preservation planner review.
- 3. Regular maintenance and repair to correct or repair deterioration, decay, or damage to the building.
- Window replacement that meets the Department's Window Replacement Standards (does not includ storefront window alterations).
- 5. Garage work, specifically, a new opening that meets the *Guidelines for* Adding Garages and Curb Cuts, and/or replacement of garage door in an existing opening.
- 6. Deck, terrace construction, or fences that are not visible from any immediately adjacent public right-of-way.
- 7. Mechanical equipment installation not visible from any immediately adjacent public right-of-way.
- 8. **Dormer installation** that meets the requirements for exemption from public notification under *Zoning Administrator Bulletin: Dormer Windows*.
- 9. Additions that are not visible from any immediately adjacent public right-ofway for 150' in each direction; does not extend vertically beyond the floor level of the top story of the structure or is only a single story in height; does not have a footprint that is more than 50% larger than that of the original building; and does not cause the removal of architectural significant roofing features.

	NOTE: Project Planner must check box below before proceeding.
and the second	Project is not listed: GO TO STEP 5
[1] T. F. L. K.	Project does not conform to the scopes of work:
and the second	GO TO STEP 5
	Project involves 4 or more work descriptions:
	GO TO STEP 5
	Project involves less than 4 work descriptions:
	GO TO STEP 6

STEP 5 CEQA IMPACTS - ADVANCED HISTORICAL REVIEW (To be completed by Preservation Planner)

If condition applies, please initial.

2

- 1. Project involves a Known Historical Resource (CEQA Category A) as determined by Step 3 and conforms entirely to Scope of Work Descriptions listed in Step 4. (Please initial scopes of work in STEP 4 that apply.)
- 2. Interior alterations to publicly-accessible spaces.

"in-kind" but are is consistent with existing historic character.

8.

4. Façade/storefront alterations that do not remove, alter, or obscure character-defining features.

3. Window replacement of original/historic windows that are not

- 5. Raising the building in a manner that does not remove, alter, or obscure character-defining features.
- 6. Restoration based upon documented evidence of a building's historic condition, such as historic photographs, plans, physical evidence, or similar buildings.
- 7. Addition(s), including mechanical equipment that are minimally visible from a public right of way and meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Other work consistent with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties

Specify GTAREFIZANT KEEPS BAT CONFIGURATION -TO LETAIN SPATIAL RELATIONSHIP THAT CHARACTERIZES BUDG. NEW WINDOWS/DOORS COMPATIBLE WI HISTORIC MATERIALS & 9. Reclassification of property status to Category C PROTECTS

a. Per Environmental Evaluation Evaluation, dated: \* Attach Historic Resource Evaluation Report

b. Other, please specify:

\* Requires initial by Senior Preservation Planner / Preservation Coordinator

STEP 6 CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION DETERMINATION (To be completed by Project Planner)

#### Further Environmental Review Required.

Proposed Project does not meet scopes of work in either:

(check all that apply)

- Step 2 (CEQA Impacts) or
  - Step 5 (Advanced Historical Review)



Must file Environmental Evaluation Application.

No Further Environmental Review Required. Project is categorically exempt under CEQA.

Planner's Sin

8/30/12

Print Name

Once signed and dated, this document constitutes a categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31 of the Administrative Code.

#### NOTE:

If ANY box is initialed in STEP 5, Preservation Planner MUST review & initial below.

#### Further Environmental Review Required.

Based on the information provided, the project requires an Environmental Evaluation Application to be submitted.



Preservation Planner Initials

#### **Project Can Proceed With Categorical Exemption Review.**

The project has been reviewed by the Preservation Planner and can proceed with categorical exemption review.

GO TO STEP 6

INTEGRITY

BLDG.

Preservation Planner Initials

3

**Parcel Map** 



 $\mathbf{\mathbf{b}}$ 

## Sanborn Map\*



\*The Sanborn Maps in San Francisco have not been updated since 1998, and this map may not accurately reflect existing conditions.

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# **Zoning Map**





## **Aerial Photo**



### SUBJECT PROPERTY



# **Aerial Photo**



SUBJECT PROPERTY


# **Site Photo**





Planning Commission Hearing Case Number 2012.0109CV 4058-4060 18<sup>th</sup> Street



# 



Planning Commission Attn: Rodney Fong, Commission President San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street Suite 400 San Francisco CA 94103

January 12, 2010

RE; 4058 18<sup>th</sup> St. Ground Floor Restaurant Addition and Castro Country Club

Dear Commissioners;

This letter is to accompany the application you will be considering on January 24th for the Conditional Use Permit for both a new restaurant on the ground floor and for the existing second floor commercial tenant, the Castro Country Club.

As part of our outreach to the community for this project we have met with;

- the adjacent neighbors
- the Eureka Valley Neighbors Association (EVNA)
- the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro (MUMC)
- the District Supervisor

At these meetings we have received only positive response for the construction of a new restaurant and the continuing work of the Castro Country Club.

Our original application was for the ground floor restaurant, the Castro Sausage Grille. This - restaurant will remove the existing garage which is being used for storage and the driveway. The removal of the driveway will give a much needed parking space back to the street.

As part of this process we were notified that the existing tenant, the Castro Country Club, a long standing non-profit occupies a residential unit. This commercial use of a residential space requires a conditional use permit which we have included in this application along with the Application for Dwelling Unit Removal.

Improvements to the Castro Country Club include the replacement of their rear patio and stair. The Patio is an existing and integral part of the Club. The new patio will be set back from the adjacent rear neighbors and the new spiral stair will be smaller and more attractive than the current wood stair.

2747 19th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 tel: 415.362.5857 fax: 415.362.5044 www.tecta.com

We feel that both the Castro Country Club and the new restaurant are uses that enhance the vibrant and diverse fabric of this neighborhood.

Thank you for reviewing our application. We look forward to presenting our case to you on January 24.

Sincerely;

Ahmad Mohazab RA, NCARB



November 5, 2012

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Wang:

In April 2013, the Castro Country Club will have occupied the former residential unit at 4058 18<sup>th</sup> Street in San Francisco for 30 years. Prior to 1983, we believe the unit was vacant for a time before being rented by the late Steve Harris who founded the Castro Country Club as a coffee bar and social alternative for gay men and lesbians in recovery.

The Castro Country Club served as a rock of support for a generation of gay men during the worst of the AIDS crisis in the very epicenter of the epidemic. The Club's existence gave comfort to the ill and their caregivers and doubtless saved countless lives from infection and death. Researchers have long identified alcohol, crystal methamphetamine and other drugs as being the fuel that drives new HIV infections in San Francisco, and without recovery programs in the Castro, the face of today's epidemic might look very different indeed.

The Club's actual space is very small and our furnishings are modest, but we get maximum use out of it. Today, thirty-five 12-step groups meet at the Club each week and there are over 16,000 entries through the door each month. Volunteers run the coffee bar and the meetings, and sober visitors to San Francisco from around the world know that they come to the Club for support and information.

We are a nonprofit service organization that is operated by the community we serve. We are committed to continuing in our current location, where we are regarded as an oasis of recovery in the midst of a community disproportionately affected by alcoholism and addiction. I have attached letters gathered over the weekend from a few of our constituents, a small fraction of our supporters.

For more information, please visit our website at <u>www.castrocountryclub.org</u> or contact me at (415) 756-4920.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Terry Beswick, manager

4058 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 552-6102



Planning Commission Attn: Rodney Fong, Commission President San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street Suite 400 San Francisco CA 94103

January 12, 2010

RE: 4058 18<sup>th</sup> St. Ground Floor Restaurant Addition and Castro Country Club

Dear Commissioners:

Planning staff has asked us to address the sale of beer and wine at the restaurant below the Castro Country Club. We have in fact encountered and addressed this question in our neighborhood outreach with the cooperation of members of the CCC.

When this building was still for sale Jorge Maumer met with the Country Club and those that support the club to discuss how he could afford to keep the CCC in their unit and still afford to buy the building. The result of that was the concept of developing the underutilized ground floor storage space to a use that maximized income potential. The intent is to create an additional source of income for this building so that property price inflation and thus lease rates do not drive the Castro Country Club from this space. The income from the restaurant is the best way to offset the purchase price for the building and the considerable and cost to replace the masonry foundation.

At first pass this strikes some an anathema to the perceived mission of the CCC. Alcohol is currently sold within 15 feet of steps to the CCC. Those who abuse alcohol will find a place to do so. Most likely that place will not be in this restaurant, Brandy Ho's next door, or around the corner at the Fork Café or Osaka Sushi. Rather, that abuse will be at one of the local bars, or in private. And for those who abuse alcohol in the Castro, it will continue to be important that the Castro Country Club is there, open and available.

Please join us in helping keep the CCC in the Castro, and making the building a viable property. Sincerely;

Ahmad Mohazab RA, NCARB



February 2, 2012

City of San Francisco, Planning Department 1650 Mission Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST** 4058 18th Street (block 3582/ lot 52) The Castro Sausage Grill and the Castro Country Club

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen;

This letter is to accompany the application package for Conditional Use for "*Castro Sausage Grill*" and continuation of the Castro Country Club which is an existing tenant.

The original application was for the occupancy of the ground floor by a proposed full serve restaurant space requiring Conditional Use approval per Castro Street NCD 715.42 and SF PC Section 790.92.

Our application includes Conditional Use approval for the conversion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor residential unit for the use of the current tenants, the Castro Country Club, a non-profit clean and sober gathering space which requires Conditional Use approval for its occupancy on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor per Castro Street NCD 715.81 and SF PC Section 790.50 (a) Assembly and Social Service.

#### In summary;

The existing building consists of 2 units over a garage. The  $2^{nd}$  floor houses a commercial tenant in what is currently a residential space at 4058  $18^{th}$  St. This tenant, the Castro Country Club, has provided a social service to the community at this space for 29 years. The  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$  floors house a single residential tenant space at 4060  $18^{th}$  St.

The driving force for this project is the preservation of the Castro Country Club and their ability to remain at this location. The required conditional use approval for their occupancy as a neighborhood social service is critical to their ability to fundraise and demonstrate their legitimacy to non-profit supporters. The cost of the building and its refurbishment are linked to the non-profit Club's long term financial viability as those costs drive the need for additional income from the building. The solution to this the reason we have submitted the ground floor conversion of the garage to commercial space.

2747 19th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 . tel. 415.362.5857 . fax. 415.362.5044 . www.tecta.com

#### About the Castro County Club:

Excerpt from the Castro Country Club website:

"The Castro Country Club is a clean & sober gathering place for all people and a home for the queer recovery community. We endeavor to be a space where all can seek wisdom, serenity, courage and joy. Since April 1983, the Castro Country Club has been a safe haven for LGBT people in recovery from drugs and alcohol."

The Castro Country Club operates 365 days a year and is open as a social space to members of the recovery community during the following hours:

Monday:9am -11pm Tuesday:7am -11pm Wednesday:9am -11pm Thursday:7am -11pm Friday: 9am - Midnight Saturday: 9am - Midnight Sunday: 9am-10pm

#### Programs:

Unstructured peer counseling

Providing a venue for the unstructured peer counseling that is at the heart of AA and other 12-step programs is one of the primary functions of the Castro Country Club. The front steps of the 1901 Victorian that houses the Club has become a central gathering place for the sober community. People come to the Club simply to hang out with other sober people, to work the 12 steps with a sponsor or sponsee, or to talk with the on-duty volunteer about the challenges of sober living.

Job training and skills-building

Over 45 people in recovery volunteer at the Club each week, running the espresso bar and supervising Club operations with support from the Club manager. Volunteer baristas staff the coffee bar and are required to have at least six months of continuous sobriety. Barbacks, many of whom are early in sobriety, assist with cleaning and stocking. All contribute to the culture of support and fellowship for fellow addicts and alcoholics in recovery. By providing a supportive work environment, the Club helps volunteers to develop marketable job skills and the self-esteem to pursue their dreams. Frequently, the Club manager provides employment references for volunteers.

Social support and fellowship

One of the biggest challenges for people in early sobriety is simply learning how to live, work and socialize without drugs or alcohol. Meeting this challenge is one of the most important cultural contributions of the Castro Country Club, which has always been managed and operated by people in recovery. The Club fosters fellowship and community by regularly hosting variety shows, movie nights and game nights. On holidays, the Club throws potluck dinners and during the warmer months, barbeques on the back patio. Club patrons frequently organize social events and celebrations of milestones in recovery. All of these activities support and contribute to healthy interpersonal development for those in recovery.

#### Background reason for this submittal:

The building in question went on the market July 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 after the landlord and longtime friend of the Club passed away. Supporters launched the "*Keep the Steps in the Castro*" fund raising campaign, a reference to the 12 step programs they offer and a nickname given to the club tying its programs to the rise of stairs that lead members to the recovery programs inside. Though this campaign raised a lot of capital it was not enough to purchase the building. In addition to the purchase price of the building the Castro Country Club has had an engineer investigate the building and found that there is considerable work that needs to be performed on the foundations to make the building safe. Without the means to purchase and repair the property that has housed the County Club for 29 years there was considerable concern in the community that this unique and necessary use would be driven out of the neighbor hood, and away from the *'steps'* critical to its being.

#### The Mission of this CUP submittal:

After extensive consultation with the Castro Country Club local businessman George Maumer purchased the building in January 2012. Maumer knows the Club offers a community service that is unique in the nation and critical to the residents of the Castro. His plans are to help the Club attain legitimacy and viability at this location. He is sponsoring their inclusion in this conditional use application for conversion of their residential suite to commercial. The Castro County Club is a non-profit that operates at a significant fiscal loss in order to provide services to the community. Even with a new owner that is committed to the club, realistic long term viability at this location is tied to the building being made more economically sufficient. Developing the underutilized garage space into a leasable space will help offset the considerable purchase price of the building and the additional costs associated with improving the foundations. The project will contribute to the fiscal viability of the Castro Country Club by adding another revenue source at the property.

The ground floor will become a restaurant. George Maumer has a history of creating and operating successful and popular local restaurants. His plan for the space is the "*Castro Sausage Grill*". The Sausage Grill will provide a simple menu of delectable organic sausages on artisan breads. They will source their organic meats from local producers where possible and the sausage casings and seasonings will be organic and all natural. Since the closing of the World Sausage Grille on Market and 14th there is no place to for the people of the Castro to enjoy this type of food. This location and the layout submitted for your approval will provide a variety of seating options for patrons. Outdoor seating will add to the already vibrant pedestrian streetscape, increase the actual and perceived amount of open space and allow customers to enjoy the sunny north side of 18th street. The indoor seating will be designed to provide an upscale environment for quick, healthy food. Service will consist of order at the counter, and receive a number. Food items will be delivered to the table. Table bussing will be provided by staff to facilitate proper sorting of recycling, food wastes and compost from landfill items and garbage, as required by the city.

Hours of operation will be:

Monday:11am -11pm Tuesday:11am -11pm Wednesday:11am -11pm Thursday:11am -11pm Friday: 11am - Midnight Saturday: 11am - Midnight Sunday: 11am-8pm

The data for this project is attached, as are plans for the project.

We thank you for your positive response.

Best;

Ahmad Mohazab, RA, NCARB



# APPLICATION FOR Conditional Use Authorization

#### 1. Owner/Applicant Information

PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: George Maumer			
PROPERTY OWNER'S ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:		
2201 Sacramento Street #603	(415) 370-3727		
San Francisco, CA 94115	EMAIL:		
APPLICANT'S NAME:			

Ahmad Mohazab / Tecta Associates	Same as Above
APPLICANT'S ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:
2747 19th St.	( 415 ) 362-5857
San Francisco, CA 94110	EMAIL:
	ahmadm@tecta.com

CONTACT FOR PROJECT INFORMATION:	
Nate Dison / Tecta Associates	Same as Above 🗌
ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:
2747 19th St.	(415 ) 362-5857
San Francisco, CA 94110	EMAIL:
	nathand@tecta.com

COMMUNITY LIAISON FOR PROJECT (PLEASE REPORT CHANGES TO THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	): Same as Above 🔀
ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:
	( )
	EMAIL:

#### 2. Location and Classification

STREET ADDRESS OF PROJECT:	ZIP CODE:
4058 18th Street, San Francisco CA	94114
CROSS STREETS:	
Castro and Hartford Streets	

ASSESSORS BLOC	K/LOT		LOT DIMENSIONS:	LOT AREA (SQ FT):	ZONING DISTRICT:	HEIGHT/BULK DISTRICT:	
3582	/	052	25x100	2,495	Castro NC	40-x	

#### 3. Project Description

( Please check all that apply )	ADDITIONS TO BUILDING:	PRESENT OR PREVIOUS USE: Residential, and Commercial uses to remain
🔀 Change of Use	🗌 Rear	
Change of Hours	Front	PROPOSED USE:
New Construction	Height	Addition of Restaurant Use
X Alterations	Side Yard	
Demolition		BUILDING APPLICATION PERMIT NO.: DATE FILED:
Other Please clarify:		Pending Submittal

#### 4. Project Summary Table

If you are not sure of the eventual size of the project, provide the maximum estimates.

	EXISTING USES:	EXISTING USES TO BE RETAINED:	NET NEW CONSTRUCTION AND/OR ADDITION:	PROJECT TOTALS:
		PROJECT FEATURES		
Dwelling Units	1	1		
Hotel Rooms				
Parking Spaces	1			
Loading Spaces				
Number of Buildings	1	1		
Height of Building(s)	43'-0"	43'-0"		
Number of Stories	4	4		
Bicycle Spaces				
	GRO	SS SQUARE FOOTAGE (GS	SF)	
Residential	2,088	2,088		2,088
Retail				
Office	1,300 Castro CC	1,300 Castro CC		1,300 Castro CC
Industrial/PDR Production, Distribution, & Repair				
Parking				
Other (Specify Use)	1,330 Storage	40 Storage	695	2,025
TOTAL GSF	4,718	3,428	695	5,413

Please describe any additional project features that are not included in this table: (Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed )

The 2,088 sf existing residential unit occupies the 3rd and 4th Floor - to remain.

The 1,300 sf existing 2nd floor space is used by the Castro Country Club. The partial subject of this CU application the Castro Country Club's use of the 2nd floor space as other institution large.

The 1,330 sf ground floor, space is currently used as storage. This project adds 695 sf at the rear of the ground floor for the restaurant. Total restaurant square footage: 1,985 sf.

40 sf of the ground floor space is dedicated to shared tenant waste bin storage. Total ground floor square footage: 2,025 sf.

#### 5. Action(s) Requested (Include Planning Code Section which authorizes action)

Approval of Conditional Use for full serve restaurant, SFPC 790.92, Castro NC - 715.42 Alteration of existing garage doors to create storefront for commercial space. Approval of Conditional Use for Castro Country Club as Institution, other large per SFPC 790.50, Castro NC 715.81.

Application for Conditional Use

CASE NUMBER: For Staff Use only

### Conditional Use Findings

Pursuant to Planning Code Section 303(c), before approving a conditional use authorization, the Planning Commission needs to find that the facts presented are such to establish the findings stated below. In the space below and on separate paper, if necessary, please present facts sufficient to establish each finding.

- 1. That the proposed use or feature, at the size and intensity contemplated and at the proposed location, will provide a development that is necessary or desirable for, and compatible with, the neighborhood or the community; and
- 2. That such use or feature as proposed will not be detrimental to the health, safety, convenience or general welfare of persons residing or working in the vicinity, or injurious to property, improvements or potential development in the vicinity, with respect to aspects including but not limited to the following:
  - (a) The nature of the proposed site, including its size and shape, and the proposed size, shape and arrangement of structures;
  - (b) The accessibility and traffic patterns for persons and vehicles, the type and volume of such traffic, and the adequacy of proposed off-street parking and loading;
  - (c) The safeguards afforded to prevent noxious or offensive emissions such as noise, glare, dust and odor;
  - (d) Treatment given, as appropriate, to such aspects as landscaping, screening, open spaces, parking and loading areas, service areas, lighting and signs; and
- 3. That such use or feature as proposed will comply with the applicable provisions of this Code and will not adversely affect the Master Plan.

See attached.

### Priority General Plan Policies Findings

Proposition M was adopted by the voters on November 4, 1986. It requires that the City shall find that proposed projects and demolitions are consistent with eight priority policies set forth in Section 101.1 of the City Planning Code. These eight policies are listed below. Please state how the project is consistent or inconsistent with each policy. Each statement should refer to specific circumstances or conditions applicable to the property. Each policy must have a response. IF A GIVEN POLICY DOES NOT APPLY TO YOUR PROJECT, EXPLAIN WHY IT DOES NOT.

1. That existing neighborhood-serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses enhanced;

See attached.

2. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods;

See attached.

3. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced;

See attached.

4. That commuter traffic not impede Muni transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking;

See attached.



5. That a diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced;

ee attached.	

6. That the City achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake;

7. That landmarks and historic buildings be preserved; and

See attached.

See attached.

8. That our parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development.

See attached.

### **Estimated Construction Costs**

TYPE OF APPLICATION: Conditional Use	an a
OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION: A-2 / B	
BUILDING TYPE: A State of the s	
TOTAL GROSS SQUARE FEET OF CONSTRUCTION: 1,030	BY PROPOSED USES;
	restaurant
ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COST: \$50,000.00	n da interación de la destruction de la
estimate prepared by: Ahmad Mohazab	te na presa strant de statement de la succesione
FEE ESTABLISHED: \$1,662.00	e in the second second to the second seco

### Applicant's Affidavit

Under penalty of perjury the following declarations are made:

- a: The undersigned is the owner or authorized agent of the owner of this property.
- b: The information presented is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- c: The other information or applications may be required.



Date: 1.16.13

Print name, and indicate whether owner, or authorized agent: Ahmad Mohazab / Agent

Owner / Authorized Agent (circle one)

Signature:

#### **CONDITIONAL USE FINDINGS**

Pursuant to Planning Code Section 303(c), before approving a conditional use authorization, the Planning Commission needs to find that the facts presented are such to establish the findings stated below. In the space below and on separate paper, if necessary, please present facts sufficient to establish each finding.

(1) That the proposed use or feature, at the size and intensity contemplated and at the proposed location, will provide a development that is necessary or desirable for, and compatible with, the neighborhood or the community; and

This project is in a Neighborhood Commercial Zone and is referenced in the Commerce and Industry Element of the General Plan. In conformance with the recommendations of the Commerce and Industry Element this project will maintain the existing residential and commercial tenant spaces while providing additional commercial tenant space. The renovation of the street level garage space to a restaurant will expand economic opportunities for local residents from entry level to managerial jobs. The added jobs will expand the revenue base to for the city to provide local residents with services. The existing Castro Country Club tenant provides job training services in order to reintegrate members of the community into the workforce. The Castro Country Club is a non-profit a clean & sober gathering place for all people and a home for the queer recovery community. It is a source of pride for the community as is probably the only queer recovery centered community center of its kind in the nation.

(2) That such use or feature as proposed will not be detrimental to the health, safety, convenience or general welfare of persons residing or working in the vicinity, or injurious to property, improvements or potential development in the vicinity, with respect to aspects including but not limited to the following:

(a) The nature of the proposed site, including its size and shape, and the proposed size, shape and arrangement of structures;

# The proposal makes limited alterations to the existing structure, which is consistent in its size and shape with the mixed character of the neighborhood. The proposal will not impact properties or potential development in the vicinity.

(b) The accessibility and traffic patterns for persons and vehicles, the type and volume of such traffic, and the adequacy of proposed off-street parking and loading;

The project will not have significant impact on current traffic patterns and accessibility for persons or vehicles due to the fact that customers and employees are meant to be drawn from the immediate neighborhood. No parking is planned. By elimination of the residential garage space one street parking space will be added.

(c) The safeguards afforded to prevent noxious or offensive emissions such as noise, glare, dust and odor;

# The proposal will not cause glare, dust or the emission of offensive fumes, odor or noise. Services will continue to be professionally maintained to prevent offensive smells and pests.

(d) Treatment given, as appropriate, to such aspects as landscaping, screening, open spaces, parking and loading areas, service areas, lighting and signs; and

#### The exterior features of the site will be maintained and improved by increasing the street level open space. No changes in landscaping or screening are planned. The proposal will continue to comply with all signage, lighting, and other relevant requirements and conditions of the Planning Code.

(3) That such use or feature as proposed will comply with the applicable provisions of this Code and will not adversely affect the Master Plan.

The project complies with all applicable provisions of the Planning Code and will not adversely affect the General Plan.

#### **PRIORITY GENERAL PLAN POLICIES FINDINGS**

Proposition M was adopted by the voters on November 4, 1986. It requires that the City shall find that proposed projects and demolitions are consistent with eight priority policies set forth in Section 101.1 of the City Planning Code. These eight policies are listed below.

Please state how the project is consistent or inconsistent with each policy. Each statement should refer to specific circumstances or conditions applicable to the property. Each policy must have a response. IF A GIVEN POLICY DOES NOT APPLY TO YOUR PROJECT, EXPLAIN WHY IT DOES NOT.

1. That existing neighborhood-serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses enhanced;

#### Approval of the subject request will result in the enhancement of neighborhood serving retail by providing the for the increase in opportunities for employment and ownership by expanding the availability of tenant space in a location targeted by the Commerce and Industry Element of the General Plan and will provide long term jobs therein.

2. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods;

# Neighborhood character will be conserved and protected as limited exterior physical modifications are proposed and the existing housing is not being modified by the project.

3. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced;

#### The existing residential space is not being modified by the project.

4. That commuter traffic not impede Muni transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking;

Public transit service, automobile traffic, and parking congestion will not be impeded or overburdened by the project. The neighborhood is served by several Muni bus lines, Muni Rail lines, and dedicated bike lanes. The restaurant is intended to be frequented primarily by patrons and customers who are resident's in the neighborhood and will therefore cause little if any additional demand for parking. The Castro Country Club is an existing neighborhood

# service and approval of their use will not create an additional burden on the transportation and parking in the neighborhood.

5.That a diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced;

The restaurant will be created from a garage/storage space and will not be displacing an industrial or service use. The restaurant will draw from the local population for employment as well as customers. The Castro Country Club is operated by volunteers and provides job training and experience to helps increase resident employment and enhances the prospects of members of the community.

6. That the City achieves the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake;

#### All physical changes in the structure will be done in accordance with all applicable seismic codes. Both the Castro Country Club and the proposed restaurant establishment plan to maintain an Emergency Preparedness Plan consistent with City standards.

7. That landmarks and historic buildings be preserved; and

#### The alterations are planned with sensitivity to the historicity of the building.

8. That our parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development.

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# The project has no impact on parks and will maintain the existing open space at the street.

### Loss of Dwelling Units Through Conversion

(FORM C – COMPLETE IF APPLICABLE)

Pursuant to Planning Code Section 317(f), the Conversion of residential dwelling-units not otherwise subject to a Conditional Use Authorization shall be subject to a Mandatory Discretionary Review. In reviewing proposals for the Conversion of residential dwelling-units to other forms of occupancy, the Planning Commission will review criteria 1-5 listed below.

#### Please state how the project meets or does not meet the following criteria:

1. Will the conversion of the unit(s) eliminate only owner occupied housing, and if so, for how long has the unit(s) proposed to be removed been owner occupied?

No. The subject unit is occupied by non-profit.

2. Will the conversion of the unit(s) provide desirable new non-residential use(s) appropriate for the neighborhood and adjoining district(s)?

Yes. The conversion of the unit will provide for the continued occupancy of the space by a non-profit founded in this unit 30 years ago. The Castro Country Club provides a sober gathering and recovery support. The CCC is both valued by the community and appropriate to this location.

3. Will the conversion of the unit(s) bring the building closer into conformance with the prevailing character of its immediate area and in the same zoning district?

Yes. Many second floor spaces in the area house commercial uses.

4. Will the conversion of the unit(s) be detrimental to the City's housing stock?

4. No. There is no reduction to existing housing stock. This unit has been occupied by the Castro County Club for the past 30 years.

5. Is the conversion of the unit(s) necessary to eliminate design, functional, or habitability deficiencies that cannot otherwise be corrected?

No.

CASE NUMBER: For Staff Use only

# APPLICATION FOR Variance from the Planning Code

1. Owner/Applicant Information	
PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME:	
GEORGE MAUMER	
PROPERTY OWNER'S ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:
2201 SACRAMENTO STREET # 603	(415) 370-3727
SAN FRANCISCO, GA 94115	EMAIL:
APPLICANT'S NAME:	
AHMAD MOHAZAB/TECTA ASSOC	Same as Above
APPLICANT'S ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:
2747 19th STREET	415) 362-5857
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110	EMAIL:
SAN FRANCISCO I CAL PHILE	ahmad@tecta.com
CONTACT FOR PROJECT INFORMATION:	
NATE DISON/TECTA ASSOCIATE	
ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE:
2747 19TH STREET	(415) 362-5857
CALL EDALLELER LA RAUD	EMAIL
SAH FRANCISCO, GA 94110	I nathand estecta.com

2. Location and Classification

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:

STREET ADDRESS OF PROJECT:					ZIP CODE:		
4058 18TH STI	ZEET,	SAH FRA	INCISCO, GA	-	94114		
CROSS STREETS:							
CASTRO AND HARTFORD STREETS							
ASSESSORS BLOCK/LOT:	OT DIMENSIONS:	LOT AREA (SQ FT):	ZONING DISTRICT:	REIGHT/BULK	DISTRICT		
3582 1052	25×100	21495	CASTRONIC	- 40	<u>-x</u>		

#### 3. Project Description

	ADDITIONS TO BUILDING:	PRESENT OR PREVIOUS USE:
(Please check all that apply)	Rear	RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
Change of Hours	E Front	PROPOSED USE:
New Construction	Height	ADDITION OF RESTAURANTUSE
Alterations	🗋 Side Yard	
Demolition		BUILDING APPLICATION PERMIT NO.: DATE FILED:
Other Please clarify:		PENDING SUBMITTAL

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#### 4. Project Summary Table

If you are not sure of the eventual size of the project, provide the maximum estimates.

	EXISTING USES:	EXISTING USES TO BE RETAINED:	NET NEW CONSTRUCTION AND/OR ADDITION:	PROJECT TOTALS:
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	PROJECT FEATURES		
Dwelling Units	1	1		
Hotel Rooms				
Parking Spaces	1			
Loading Spaces			:	
Number of Buildings	1	1		
Height of Building(s)	43'-0"	43'-0"		
Number of Stories	4	4		
Bicycle Spaces				
	GRO	SS SQUARE FOOTAGE (G	SF)	
Residential	2,088	2,088		2,088
Retail	3			
Office	1,300 Castro CC	1,300 Castro CC		1,300 Castro CC
Industrial/PDR Production, Distribution, & Repair				
Parking				
Other (Specify Use)	1,330 Storage	40 Storage	695	2,025
TOTAL GSF	4,718	3,428	695	5,413

Please describe what the variance is for and include any additional project features that are not included in this table. Please state which section(s) of the Planning Code from which you are requesting a variance. (Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed)

See attached.

Please describe what the variance is for and include any additional project features that are not included in this table. Please state which section(s) of the Planning Code from which you are requesting a variance.

# This variance application is submitted for the replacement of an existing large wood framed stair that is within the required rear yard.

#### Planning Code Section: 134, Rear Yards:

(a) **Basic Requirements.** The basic rear yard requirements shall be as follows for the districts indicated:

(B) NC-2, NCT-2, Ocean Avenue, Castro Street, Inner Clement Street, Upper Fillmore Street, North Beach, Union Street, Valencia Street, 24th Street-Mission and Glen Park Districts. Rear yards shall be provided at the second story, and at each succeeding story of the building, and at the first story if it contains a dwelling unit."

### Variance Findings

Pursuant to Planning Code Section 305(c), before approving a variance application, the Zoning Administrator needs to find that the facts presented are such to establish the findings stated below. In the space below and on separate paper, if necessary, please present facts sufficient to establish each finding.

1. That there are exceptional or extraordinary circumstances applying to the property involved or to the intended use of the property that do not apply generally to other property or uses in the same class of district;

This variance application is submitted for the replacement of an existing stair large wood framed stair that is within the required rear yard. The proposed steel spiral stair will reduce the size of the stair in the rear yard. The stair is used by the residential unit for access to the required residential outdoor open space. That open space is located at the bottom of this stair. In order to provide access to the outdoor open space this stair must be replaced in its current location.

2. That owing to such exceptional or extraordinary circumstances the literal enforcement of specified provisions of this Code would result in practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship not created by or attributable to the applicant or the owner of the property;

Relocating the stair in order to conform to the literal provision of the code would create multiple hardships for the current resident and non-profit tenant at the floor below:

- a. The residential space would need to be remodeled to accommodate the new stair location - possibly requiring that tenant to temporarily relocate.
- b. The non-profit Castro Country Club which is paying for the new stair would incur the additional cost of that construction and the additional cost of that tenant relocation.
- c. If the stair is relocated the access to the required outdoor space would be provided by a walkway through the Castro Country Club's space resulting in a loss of value and use. The function of such a walkway would decrease the usability by the residential tenant.

3. That such variance is necessary for the preservation and enjoyment of a substantial property right of the subject property, possessed by other property in the same class of district;

The use and value of the current outdoor space, that this stair accesses, would be diminished by the relocation of this stair. The preservation of the existing use of this outdoor area by the tenant constitutes a substantial property right which should be maintained for that residence.

4. That the granting of such variance will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or materially injurious to the property or improvements in the vicinity; and

Upon granting this variance the existing stair will be replaced with a smaller, attractive spiral staircase that will be an improvement visually on the existing condition and is therefore not detrimental to the properties in the vicinity.

5. That the granting of such variance will be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of this Code and will not adversely affect the Master Plan.

The reduction in size of this existing stair within the rear yard will bring this property closer to compliance with the Code and Master Plan.

CASE NUMBER For Staff Use only

# APPLICATION FOR Parking Reduction

### Parking Reduction Findings

Please state how the project is consistent or inconsistent with each policy. Each statement should refer to specific circumstances or conditions applicable to the property. Each policy must have a response. If a given policy does not apply to your project, explain why it does not.

1. The reduction in the parking requirement is justified by the reasonably anticipated automobile usage by residents of and visitors to the project;

This request for reduction in the parking requirement is consistent with the current use of the garage space for heating equipment, storage for waste bins and tables and chairs associated with the existing commercial tenant. The current residential tenants do not own a car but use a car share (like City Car Share or Zip car) and it is reasonable to anticipate that use as the continued automobile usage by residents. The entry to the garage as constructed is low in height and narrow in width and, without alteration, is not conducive to use for parking.

2. The reduction in the parking requirement will not be detrimental to the health, safety, convenience, or general welfare of persons residing in or working in the vicinity;

The reduction in parking will not be detrimental to the health, safety, convenience or general welfare as it is not used as such. Removing the associated curb cut would provide room for more street parking increasing convenience and adding to the general welfare of neighbors and local businesses.



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3. The minimization of conflict of vehicular and pedestrian movements;

The reduction in parking will minimize the potential for conflict when vehicles cross the busy pedestrian sidewalk along 18th or park in the driveway as a loading zone.

4. The availability of transportation modes other than the automobile;

The site is served by multiple muni bus lines and rail lines as well as being in close proximity to new dedicated bike routes.

5. The pattern of land use and character of development in the vicinity;

The reduction of the parking requirement would be in line with the pattern of use at 18th and Castro which is a largely a continuous line of retail and commercial street frontages with few garages.



6. Such other criteria as the Zoning Administrator deems appropriate in the circumstances of the particular case;

The reduction of the parking requirement would allow the ground floor space to be submitted for permit as a commercial space creating an increase in employment opportunities for local residents and an increase in the tax base for the city, thus providing for city services to the neighbors.

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## SUBJECT Property and Adjacent Properties



## 18th st. East to Hartford



1 N

## 1JLI JL Nest & Cast



## REAR of 4058 18th Street and ADJACENT EAST Property



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148

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### REAR of 4058 18th Street and ADJACENT WEST Property



## Property to the NORTH/REAR of 4058 18th Street



1.08





4.60




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1.11





1 1 1





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# LETTERS OF SUPPORT

420 Berry Street # 421 San Francisco, CA 94158 Stusmith97@aol.com (415) 923-1452

November 5, 2012

Tomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Wang,

I write you in support of The Castro Country Club and want you to know what an important and necessary community center this non profit agency is to the many men, women and young people living with substance abuse problems. I've been a regular presence at this club for more than 15 years and I attend many 12 step meetings which help me function in society with dignity and integrity, two components absent from my life when I was an out of control alcoholic addict. I've attended countless anniversaries celebrating milestones in the recovery of men, women and young people from various forms of addiction, and the services provided for the last 30 years by this dynamic, successful community resource center have made the Castro and San Francisco a better place for all.

Please support the plans to upgrade and continue operating The Castro Country Club, it has helped thousands of people in need, and they also offer a social space where people in recovery can come together and share their trials and tribulations as well as their miracles of recovery.

Respectfully,

Stuart M. Smith

# Monday November 5, 2012

Mr. Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

# Dear Mr. Wang

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for the Castro Country Club. I have been a member of the Castro Country Club for a little over a year and have more recently become a volunteer at the coffee bar. In that short time that I have been involved with the Castro Country Club it has become clear that it is a vital resource for the clean and sober LGBT community of San Francisco. The Castro Country Club provides a plethora of resources: meeting rooms, event space, literature and coffee bar. Most importantly the Castro Country Club has been a cornerstone for the LGBT sober community for twenty nine years.

The location of the Castro Country Club in the heart of San Francisco's historic Castro district is crucial to the well-being of its hundreds of LGBT members. The members of the Castro Country Club not only maintain the entire organization, but also volunteer for the various events that are held in the Castro, thereby contributing to the entire community.

I fully support the efforts of the Manager, Terry Beswick, and the Advisory Board of the Castro Country and hope that this indispensable establishment will be able to continue to support the LGBT sober community of San Francisco.

Sincerely, Raymond E. Beltran

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Thomas,

I am so grateful to have the Castro Country Club (CCC) in the neighborhood I live in and I hope it continues to be there as a community resource in the future. I am writing to offer my testimony and support for maintaining the CCC where it is. It's one of the first places I go when life unfolds and I don't know where else to go that doesn't involve drugs or alcohol.

When the Court suggested I seek help, I went to one of my first 12-step meetings at the CCC and began my journey in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. Part of my decision was based on the fact that I could walk there and walk home again and the meeting name mentioned my drug of choice and living with HIV.

It's where I went after I got the phone call that my Mother had passed away and found support, condolences and community. Also, it's the first place I went at 7:00 a.m. after getting off the plane from Idaho after the trip for my Mother's funeral and didn't know where else to go and didn't want to be alone.

It's where we have the wall space to exhibit art. It's also where I learned the answer to my question of "How do you have an art opening without serving wine?" when I was invited to have a fundraising art exhibit there in 2010. These days, it's where I get to pay that experience forward as a volunteer helping to coordinate, negotiate and promote exhibits for artists in the recovery community.

It's where I get to share in my recovery and share in the life-changing work and self esteem building activities with my fellows. I'm learning how to live life and celebrate birthdays, milestones and holidays and practice my craft of photography without being drunk or high at the Castro Country Club.

Many of the memorable moments of my life have happened at 4058 18<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco, CA, 94114. I hope the examples I've chosen to share help you and others understand how much the space means to me and the communities I am a member of and how it improves the quality of my life and countless others.

Please help us to continue to be able to have the Castro Country Club as a clean and sober space here in the Castro, thank you. Thank you for all you are doing!

Sincerely,

michael Kerner

michael kerner 407 Sanchez Street, #3210 San Francisco, CA 94114 415-565-0901

# Letter to Thomas Wang

From: Leon Ariel ELisha Rosen (spaceae@gmail.com) Sent: Sun 11/04/12 12:34 PM To: Terry Beswick (tmbeswick@hotmail.com)

# **Dear Mr Thomas Wang**

I am writing you as a born and raised resident of San Francisco, to speak to the importance of the Castro Country Club, a clean and sober place to hang out for adults in the Castro. Over the course of a given week I'd say I spend many hours there, at the various 12-step meetings, but also sitting in the courtyard or in the social space, or upstairs with my friends who rent spaces in the building. Castro Country Club, or CCC, is the only place like it. Its a rare space which is entirely dedicated to 12-step meetings, primarily serving the gay lesbian bisexual queer transgender communities. In the Castro there are many places to socialize in ways which for addicts are dangerous environments, bars and the like. Additionally, being completely absorbed and involved in a sober community, and helping build that community through volunteering, is key to the success of the process of becoming sober. This space is a safe hang out place, meeting place, and all around amazing place, a unique resource completely dedicated to this. I just wanted to write a letter saying that, I think that my feelings are reflected in the hundreds of people that use the space each week, that its a rare amazing place and every effort should be given to help it manifest its directives, and maintain the facilities.

Thank you, Regards,

Leon A. Rosen

For Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Regarding the Castro Country Club of San Francisco

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

# Mr. Wang,

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**Kind Regards** (signature) WETIS (print name) 14th ST (address) AND CA (city/zip)

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Kind Regards, (signature) >-(print name) Olle \_Abraham (address) 789 Corbett Ave #5 (city/zip) San Francisco, CA 94131

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Kind Regards, (signature) (print name) (address) 4 AN FERNILSED, CA 94/14 (city/zip)

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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Kind Regards, (signature) (print name) (address) (city/zip)

Brett Thomas 857 Fillmore Street San Francisco, CA 94117 415-238-9098

November 5, 2012

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Wang:

The Castro Country Club (CCC) provides a valuable service to the sober community and the San Francisco community-at-large. The Club has been at its current location for the past 30 years giving refuge to those recovering from addiction. It would be a great service to do all that is within your power and authority to ensure the continued success of the CCC.

In a city full of active addiction, it is very important that there be a space that is open to anyone wishing to avoid the trappings of active addiction. The temptation to use is offset by the presence and inclusiveness of the CCC which is open on weekend evenings and holidays when the loneliness of alcoholism is most harshly felt.

The Castro Country Club is valued member of the Castro neighborhood. The front steps have been used for almost 3 generations for the enjoyment of socializing and people watching. Ask anyone familiar with the neighborhood and they will mention "the steps". Local celebrity author Randy Shilts in his famed book *And The band Played On* called the CCC one of the most dramatic changes to behavior. (p377). The CCC offers human communication. In the current climate of electronic communication the CCC is a refuge from the alienation of the internet. The CCC is a unique community that would be destroyed if forced to vacate its home for the past 30 years.

Please afford all the CCC all the courtesy an irreplaceable treasure ought to have.

Sincerely,

**Brett Thomas**
Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Mr. Wang,

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Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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**Kind Regards** (signature) (print name) (address) 150, CA 94117 (city/zip)

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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1 1
Kind Regards,
(signature)
(print name) Monica Garney
(address) 10 Bartlettst #11 SF(A94110
(city/zip)

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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**Kind Regards** (signature) BRIAN (print name) (address) (city/zip) OAEIAN

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Thank you for your consideration. SARA HUTCHINSON Kind Regards, (signature) (print name) (address) (city/zip)

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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Kind Regards, Mla. (signature) (print name) Holloway Ave, Apt A (address) 836 Francisco, CA 94112 (city/zip) SAM

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Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Thomas,

I am so grateful to have the Castro Country Club (CCC) in the neighbor hood I live in and I hope it continues to be there as a community resource in the future. I am writing to offer my testimony and support for maintaining the CCC where it is. It's one of the first places I go when life unfolds and I don't know where else to go that doesn't involve drugs or alcohol.

When the Court suggested I seek help, I went to one of my first 12-step meetings at the CCC and began my journey in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. Part of my decision was based on the fact that I could walk there and walk home again and the meeting name mentioned my drug of choice and living with HIV.

It's where I went after I got the phone call that my Mother had passed away and found support, condolences and community. Also, it's the first place I went at 7:00 a.m. after getting off the plane from Idaho after the trip for my Mother's funeral and didn't know where else to go and didn't want to be alone.

It's where we have the wall space to exhibit art. It's also where i learned the answer to my question of "How do you have an art opening without serving wine?" when I was invited to have a fundraising art exhibit there in 2010. These days, it's where I get to pay that experience forward as a volunteer helping to coordinate, negotiate and promote exhibits for artists in the recovery community.

It's where I get to share in my recovery and share in the life-changing work and self esteem building activities with my fellows. I'm learning how to live life and celebrate birthdays, milestones and holidays and practice my craft of photography without being drunk or high at the Castro Country Club.

Many of the memorable moments of my life have happened at 4058 18<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco, CA, 94114. I hope the examples I've chosen to share help you and others understand how much the space means to me and the communities I am a member of and how it improves the quality of my life and countless others.

Please help us to continue to be able to have the Castro Country Club as a clean and sober space here in the Castro, thank you. Thank you for all you are doing!

<u>\_</u>

Sincerely,

michael Kerner

michael kerner 407 Sanchez Street, #3210 San Francisco, CA 94114 415-565-0901

Thomas Wang Southwest Team, Current Planning Division San Francisco Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103

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