

at CPC Hearing

Memo to the Planning Commission

ANNING DEPARTME

August 30, 2018

2803/028C

John Kevlin

2017-014841CUA

655 Alvarado Street

HEARING DATE: AUGUST 30, 2018

Continued from the February 22, 2018, April 19, 2018 May 24, 2018 and July 26, 2018 Hearings

RH-2 (Residential-House, Two-Family)

40-X Height and Bulk District

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Date:

Case No .:

Zoning:

Block/Lot:

Project Address:

Project Sponsor:

SAN FRANCISCO

BACKGROUND

The attached materials were submitted by the owner of 661-663 Alvarado Street, the property adjacent to the west of the subject property.







Proposed Fourth Floor/ Top Floor: Please remove the top floor to protect our privacy - it has a door thru the bathroom that access to outdoor path that overlook our roof into our house thru our skylight



Request #4 from 661/663 Alvarado St neighbors





Cracks from unauthorized excavation beneath our house foundation

> Request #6: Please do not issue site permit to start work for 655 Alvarado street until completion of repair of 661/ 663 Alvarado St's foundation





Received at CPC Hearing

8/30/2018 Planning Commission hearing on

Item 11b - 807 FRANKLIN STREET, 2013.1224CUA

Proposing a new condition to be added to "Exhibit A - Conditions of Approval" to address concerns expressed regarding the relocation process and who will be overseeing and assisting with the production of a relocation plan for the building.

"Relocation Plan Coordination: The Project Sponsor shall engage a qualified preservation professional in the production of a Relocation Plan that will ensure appropriate measures be taken to protect the Victorian building at 807 Franklin Street during the relocation process. This plan shall be reviewed and approved by the Planning Department in coordination with preservation professionals and preservation organizations including or led by San Francisco Heritage prior to the issuance of a Site Permit."

Received at CPC Hearing 8/30/8

August 30, 2018

Regular Calendar item 10 – 2018-005411CRV

Request that the Commission incorporate three areas into the policy:

A. Re incorporate the following paragraphs from the Draft:

- 1. Greening
- 2. Appliances
- 3. Lighting
- 4. Screening

B. Re incorporate the 5 feet setback to the rear wall of the building.

C. **The emphasis on reducing Penthouse staircases needs to be more drastic.** This single design element is the one that has the most disruptive effect on the overall roofline of a particular street. Remember that this element is big, not transparent and usually sticks up 10 to 12 foot above the roofline.

External staircases or hatches should be the ONLY allowed sources of access. This may require revising the Building code, which is not keeping up with the changing San Francisco urban landscape.

Sincerely,

Maurice Franco, MCA Board, D2 resident

Received at GPC Hearing 8/35/8

August 30, 2018

Commissioners,

I am Maurice Franco, 40-year resident of the Marina and member of the MCA Board. I would like to thank the Planning Commission for requesting a new policy for Residential Rood Decks.

These decks have existed throughout the City but have traditionally been small, and unobtrusive. Since San Francisco is cold and foggy, they only get used maybe 4 to 6 weeks per year. In the last seven years, we have noticed a proliferation of roof decks, increasing not only in numbers, but also in size and impact. Some decks are so large that they are visible from the streets and neighboring windows; interfering with open spaces, light, air and privacy.

The Planning Department has been ineffective in controlling this cancerous growth.

The EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2018-0411CRV is a response to the Commission's recognition of this problem.

Careful review of Planning's Draft dated July 17, 2018 is more comprehensive than the actual Executive Summary presented August 30, 2018.

We implore that the commission consider three areas that need to be incorporated into the Policy:

A. Re incorporate the following paragraphs into the Policy

- 1. Greening
- 2. Appliances
- 3. Lighting
- 4. Screening

B. Re incorporate the setback of 5 feet to the rear wall of the building.

C. *The emphasis on reducing Penthouse staircases needs to be more drastic.* This single design element is the one that has the most disruptive effect on the overall roofline of a particular street. Remember that this element is big, not transparent and usually sticks up 10 to 12 foot above the roofline.

External staircases or hatches should be the ONLY allowed sources of access. This may require revising the Building code, which is not keeping up with the changing San Francisco urban landscape.

Thank you for your attention.

Decks be open-to-the-sky vs. having appurtenances / features that prevent emphasizing nature of open space.

Design features as primary means to mitigate sightline, noise, light intrusions. Use living materials as ancillary to architectural / design materials.

Implement state law requirements to support alternative power sources for existing & new buildings.

Prioritize with less obtrusive means – roof hatches, internal stairwells. Last resort = stair or elevator penthouse (max 1) minimally-sized, notvisible-from-street or adjacent properties.

Penthouses – minimal impacts on neighbors' light access, air & visual clutter.

Occupants farther away than only "adjacent" residents are affected because the roof decks are located up high & affect those *beyond* next door neighbors.

CSFN requests checklist/matrix for review to determine compliance re issues in our letter.

Notifications to occupants having a line of sight to the deck that could intrude upon the occupants' privacy.

10-day notice insufficient with OTC roofdeck permits.

CSFN-LUC

TO: JONAS JONIN Commissions Secretary

Hearing 👌

(You will get this electronically so you won't have to type it all.)

COALITION FOR SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOODS 8/35/18

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<u>Comments re 7/17/18 "Residential Roof Decks" DRAFT Planning Commission Policy Document</u> (in order as presented in Planning's Document) & on Associated Planning Website Info

1. Page 1, "Introduction," 1st Paragraph, "Roof decks are...to augment open space...":

Decks should emphasize the nature of open space and be open to the sky rather than have appurtenances or features that prevent that.

2. Page 1, "Planning Commission, "Quality of life impacts" bulleted items:

Design features should be the primary means to mitigate sight line, noise, and light intrusions. Living materials should be used as an ancillary to architectural / design materials.

In re "adjacent windows" for sight lines, roof decks may impact those *beyond* just the "adjacent neighbors" (Adjacent meaning only parcels with shared lot lines.) See also #6 below.

3. Page 3: "Greening of Rooftops"

San Francisco should implement state law requirements for existing buildings as well as new ones to support alternative power sources.

4. Page 4: "Access"

Delete the 1st paragraph (starts with "Recommendation...").

Reword the 2nd paragraph as follows:

The Department recommends creating a hierarchy of preferred means of access; prioritizing less obtrusive means such as roof hatches and internalized stairwells, while as a last resort allowing for minimally-sized, not-visible-from-the-street-or-adjacent-properties stair or elevator penthouse (maximum of one) in circumstances where said stair or elevator penthouse would have minimal impacts on access to neighbors' light and air, as well as visual clutter.

5. Page 5: "Implementation"

CSFN requests the checklist/matrix for review to determine compliance with issues addressed in this comment letter.

- 6. Planning website link information, http://sf-planning.org/roof-decks:
 - A. Roof deck notifications shall be given to occupants having a line of sight to the deck project that could intrude upon the occupants' privacy.
 - B. Concern with "adjacent" -- Website states, "...However, because of their elevated location, they also represent a potential increase of uses that can negatively impact adjacent <emphasis added> residents....": Occupants farther away than only "adjacent" residents are affected because the roof decks are located up high.
 - C. Concern with Notification -- Website states, "Neighborhood Notification requirement The Neighborhood Notification requirement is dependent upon whether the roof deck, and the access to it, is within the buildable area of your lot (see below). If your deck requires "notification," a mailing notifying the nearby neighbors of your proposed project is sent to adjacent neighbors only and they are given a period of 10 days to respond with concerns (as compared to a 30-day notice to owners and occupants within 150 feet of the site, as is done with the standard Neighborhood Notification process).":

This proposed 10-day notification is not sufficient for roof decks allowed with OTC permits.

Submitted by, /s Rose Hillson (Chair), CSFN-LUC

Received at GPC Hearing 0/30/0

Dear David,

Thank you for sending the draft. I saw on the advance calendar there will be a hearing in June. Here are a couple of thoughts.

Stair penthouses should not be allowed on single family homes (like this one at 437 Duncan Street) or in two unit buildings where the access is just for one unit (like the one proposed at 653 28th Street). They are too bulky and detract from the natural roofline of the block face, especially on hilly streets, and even if they are set back they are *seen*. I think the standard should be strictly like the one illustrated on page 39 of the RDG where

a stair penthouse is adjacent to a neighboring wall.

Roof decks that are not on the actual tippy-top of a structure, should not be labeled roof decks, even if they are on the roof of a floor below...I think it is confusing and clouds the issue of decks....a lot of architects label these type of decks as "roof decks".

I think the lighting of the deck and appliance

issue and the square footage are good items for a the "real" roof decks.

The glass railing issue actually does add mass as Director Rahaim mentioned a few weeks ago during some Commission discussion of a project, but I cannot remember which one....so glass railings are a problem.

I think fundamentally though, that roof decks should be discouraged on projects in the RH Districts.

Perhaps this is too tangential, but since the draft mentions green roofs, even beyond just space for solar panels, it would really be nice to somehow link the need to keep our rear yards as green as possible and not turn them into extensions of the interior space, particularly if a roof deck is to be allowed. I understand their allure in multi unit buildings, but again they are problematic for those homes in the RH. Plus on speculative remodels or new buildings they add to the lack of relative affordability when the project is sold...I have heard that they add anywhere from \$50k to \$150k to the asking price of a project from various real estate agents...and

that was four years ago.

If you look at some of the older apartment buildings, many of the stair penthouse actually are very minimal....almost like a leanto or a teepee....my assumption is that these are no longer code compliant? But they are certainly minimal.

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VLO NIT I

Thanks again and take care. Georgia **Schuttish**



