

2013 Council Study Issue

CDD 13-13 Standards for Bird-safe Buildings**Lead Department** Community Development**History** 1 year ago None 2 years ago None**1. What are the key elements of the issue? What precipitated it?**

Recent studies have shown that annual bird fatalities in North America from window collisions may be as high as 1-5% of all birds. The most dangerous situation in these cases are from taller glass buildings, similar to those buildings located in Moffett Park.

The City of San Francisco has adopted standards and design criteria for bird-safe buildings. Specific remedies include window treatments, lighting design, and lighting operation. San Francisco then describes a three-prong program to address the issue:

1. Establishment of requirements for the most hazardous conditions,
2. Use of a checklist to educate applicants and future tenants on possible hazards, and
3. Creating and expanding voluntary programs to encourage more bird-safe practices.

The proposed study would research what areas and types of development in Sunnyvale are most likely to have hazards for birds, and programs and/or design criteria to address the issue.

2. How does this relate to the General Plan or existing City Policy?

City-wide Vision Goals

III. Environmental Sustainability: To promote environmental sustainability and remediation in the planning and development of the City, in the design and operation of public and private buildings, in the transportation system, in the use of potable water and in the recycling of waste.

Policy LT-6.4 Encourage sustainable industries that emphasize resource efficiency, environmental responsibility, and the prevention of pollution and waste.

GOAL CC-3 Well-designed sites and buildings — Private Development: Ensure that buildings and related site improvements for private development are well designed and compatible with surrounding properties and districts.

Policy CC-3.2 Ensure site design is compatible with the natural and surrounding built environment.

GOAL SN-1 Acceptable Levels of Risk for Natural and Human-Caused Hazards — ensure that natural and human-caused hazards are recognized and considered in decisions affecting the community, and that land uses reflect acceptable levels of risk based on identified hazards and occupancy.

3. Origin of issue**Council Member(s)** Whittum, Martin-Milius**4. Staff effort required to conduct study** Moderate**Briefly explain the level of staff effort required**

Research into issue, discussion with jurisdictions involved in applying these types of criteria, and outreach to interested groups, property owners and developers.

5. Multiple Year Project? No **Planned Completion Year** 2013

6. Expected participation involved in the study issue process?

Does Council need to approve a work plan? No
 Does this issue require review by a Board/Commission? Yes
 If so, which? Planning Commission
 Is a Council Study Session anticipated? No

7. Briefly explain if a budget modification will be required to study this issue

Amount of budget modification required 0

Explanation

8. Briefly explain potential costs of implementing study results, note estimated capital and operating costs, as well as estimated revenue/savings, include dollar amounts

Are there costs of implementation? No

Explanation

9. Staff Recommendation

Staff Recommendation Support

If 'Support', 'Drop' or 'Defer', explain

The building types found in Sunnyvale has changed in recent years, with taller buildings being built closer to the baylands, so preparing guidelines such as these could be another useful tool in reviewing new projects.

Reviewed by



Department Director

12/21/12

Date

Approved by



City Manager

12-28-12

Date