



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

New Planning Code

Vintage Sign Controls

Case Number: Board File No. 11-0277 / Ord. no 160-11

Initiated by: Supervisor Campos

Effective Date: August 31, 2011

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

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

The Way It Was:

Planning Code Section 608.14 provides that the Planning Commission may authorize the restoration, reconstruction, maintenance, and technological improvement of a historic sign through the Conditional Use procedure. A historic sign is defined as one which depicts, in text or graphic form, a particular residential, business, cultural, economic, recreational, or other valued resource that the Commission finds to be of historic value and contributes to the visual identity and historic character of the City. The sign must (1) depict a use, person, place, thing, cultural icon, or other valued character or characteristic of the City, (2) be located within a historic sign district, (2) be at least 40 years old, (3) not visually obstruct or significantly detract from a City landmark or public vista, (4) not be larger than or appear to be more visually prominent than the sign that previously existed, and (5) is maintained in good condition, repair and working order.

The Way It Is Now:

- The name "historic sign" has been changed to "vintage sign" to distinguish between a sign designated as "historic" under CEQA and a sign designated under this Code Section.
- Vintage Signs can be located anywhere in the City, not just historic sign districts.
- Signs that contribute to the visual identity and historic character of a City neighborhood can be designated as vintage signs, not just signs that contribute to the visual identity and historic character to the City as a whole.
- Three-dimensional vintage signs can be relocated to new locations with Conditional Use authorization.
- Conditional use authorization is required to remove a sign designated under this ordinance.

- Unless the application for the sign is required to be referred to the Historic Preservation Commission by the Charter or the Planning Code, it need not be referred.

The link to signed legislation:

Board File No.	Ord. No.	Planning Code - Vintage Signs
101464	0160-11	http://www.sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/ordinances11/o0160-11.pdf