



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MEMO

INFORMATIONAL HEARING ONLY

HEARING DATE: 20 OCTOBER 2011

Date: 13 October 2011
To: Members, City Planning Commission
From: John Rahaim, Director of Planning
RE: 25 Years: *Downtown Plan
Monitoring Report, 1985-2009*
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The Planning Department is pleased to announce the publication of the - *25 Years Downtown Plan Monitoring Report 1985-2009*. This report analyzes development and economic trends since the adoption of the Downtown Plan in 1985, and includes an assessment of the *Plan's* implementing actions.

The first section of the report, "*Downtown Plan: 25 Years*," evaluates to what extent the *Plan's* primary objectives were achieved. The second section, "*Economic Change and Regional Growth Since 1985*," explores the impact of larger economic forces on Downtown San Francisco and how these affected the ability of the *Plan* to achieve its objectives.

Key findings discussed in the report include:

- **Most new development occurred in the Downtown Commercial (C-3) zoned districts and in areas called for in the *Plan*.** Since 1985, over 26 million commercial square feet was built in the downtown area.
- **Downtown San Francisco remains a prime center for office based professional activities, but employment growth did not occur as expected.** A substantial amount of new job growth took place outside the downtown area in sectors – Medical, Cultural, Institutional, and Educational – not foreseen by the *Plan*.
- **The *Plan's* overall housing production goals were met, with the majority of new housing constructed in the downtown and neighboring areas.** Since 1985, over 21,000 new units have been constructed in the downtown area.
- **The *Plan's* efforts to protect existing housing are among its greatest achievements.** Through various rezonings supported by the *Plan*, up to 29,000 units of housing were retained including the preservation of over 19,000 rooms in SRO hotels.
- **The preservation of individual buildings and historic districts was another significant achievement of the *Downtown Plan*.** Its historic preservation requirements have contributed to the retention of hundreds of individual buildings, as well as the character of historic districts.

Copies of the report are available to the public for \$10 at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103. It is also available for review at the San Francisco Main Public Library, Science and Government Documents Department. The report can also be downloaded from: http://www.sf-planning.org/ftp/files/Citywide/25-Years_Downtown-Plan-Monitoring-Report-1985-2009.pdf.

The report was released in late June 2011 and copies of this report were submitted to the Planning Commission on 21 July 2001.

Please contact Johnny Jaramillo at 415.558.6259, or e-mail johnny.jaramillo@sfgov.org, if you have any questions.