



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

July 26, 2012

Mr. Bill Wycko
Environmental Review Officer
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Dear Mr. Wycko,

On July 18, 2012, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) held a public hearing and took public comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed Western SOMA Community Plan, Rezoning of Adjacent Parcels, and 350 Eight Street Project (2007.1035E and 2008.0877E). After discussion, the HPC arrived at the comments below:

- The HPC agreed the proposed 350 Eight Street Project is inappropriate. The project, taking up the entire full block, is too large and will have an impact on the existing diverse and urban environment.
- The HPC agreed there should be limitations on how much a singular project can occupy a street frontage (no more than ½ of a city block).
- The HPC agreed the proposed 350 Eight Street Project lacks ownership and use diversity, and as such will be a threat or danger to existing historic resources.
- The HPC agreed the proposed cultural resource mitigations regarding documentation/oral history do not save impacted historic buildings and thus are not really mitigations.
- The HPC agreed there should be more incentives for preservation and economic viability of identified historic resources such as the following:
 - Nomination and designation of eligible properties for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;
 - Flexible zoning provisions to allow for adaptive reuse of historic resources, i.e. office use on the ground floor; and
 - Encouragement of more mixture of different land uses, i.e. residential units in industrial buildings.
- The HPC agreed there should be more efforts and exploration of how to save and preserve social heritage sites. In other words, they shouldn't just be honorary.

The HPC appreciates the opportunity to participate in review of this environmental document.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Edwin Chase".

Charles Edwin Chase, President
Historic Preservation Commission