Letter of Legitimization

February 21, 2012

David Silverman
Reuben & Junius
1 Bush Street, Suite 600
San Francisco CA 94104

Site Address:
Assessor's Block/Lot: 100 Potrero Avenue
Zoning District: 3920/001
PDR-1-G (Production Distribution and Repair - General)
Staff Contact: Diego Sánchez, (415) 575-9082 diego.sanchez@sfgov.org

Dear Mr. Silverman:

This letter is in response to your request for a Letter of Legitimization per Planning Code Section 179.1 regarding the property at 100 Potrero Avenue. This parcel is located in the PDR-1-G (Production, Distribution and Repair - General) Zoning District and a 58-X Height and Bulk District. The request is to legitimize 70,070 gross square feet of existing office use.

Procedural Background

The Department received the request for legitimization of office space at 100 Potrero Avenue on October 18, 2011. Staff reviewed the request and associated materials and the Zoning Administrator issued a 30-day public notice of the intent to issue the Letter of Legitimization on January 12, 2012. The public notice also included a draft letter for review, and was sent to 1) all owners of property within 300 feet of the subject property, 2) all current tenants of the subject property, and 3) all individuals and neighborhood associations that had requested to receive such notice. Additionally, notice was posted on the site during the notification period. The notification period expired on February 10, 2012.

Eligibility

The land use proposed for legitimization is deemed eligible if it meets the following criteria:

i. The land uses existed as of the date of the application;

The following documentation indicates the office use existed as of October 18, 2011:

- Lease Agreement executed on January 1, 2006 and First Amendment to Lease Agreement executed on March 31, 2006 by Dolby Laboratories, Inc., as Tenant, indicate office uses at the subject property.
ii. The land use would have been principally permitted or permitted with Conditional Use authorization under provisions of the Planning Code that were effective on April 17, 2008;

Prior to the Eastern Neighborhoods rezoning, the subject property was located in the M-1 (Light Industrial) Zoning District which principally permitted the office use.

iii. The land use would not be permitted under current provisions of the Planning Code;

The subject property is located in the PDR-1-G Zoning District, which does not permit office uses.

iv. The land use either has been (1) regularly operating or functioning on a continuous basis for no less than 2 years prior to the effective date of Planning Code Section 179.1, or (2) functioning in the space since at least April 17, 2008, and is associated with an organization, entity or enterprise which has been located in this space on a continuous basis for no less than 2 years prior to the effective date of Planning Code Section 179.1;

The following documentation indicates the office use has been regularly operating for no less than 2 years prior to January 19, 2009:

- Lease Agreement executed on January 1, 2006 and First Amendment to Lease Agreement executed on March 31, 2006 indicate office uses at the subject property.

v. The land use is not accessory to any other use;

The office use is occupies the entire building and as such is the principal use of the building and not accessory to any other use.

vi. The land use is not discontinued and abandoned pursuant to the provisions of Planning Code Section 183 that would otherwise apply to nonconforming uses.

The subject property is presently occupied and has been in continual use by the office tenant identified in the aforementioned Lease Agreement and First Amendment to Lease Agreement. There has been no discontinuance or abandonment of any office use.

**Determination**

It is my determination that the request for legitimization of the existing 70,070 gross square feet of office space, per the attached plans (Exhibit A), meets all the required criteria of Planning Code Section 179.1, and is therefore deemed to be a legal office use as defined in Planning Code Section 870.90. A Notice of Special Restrictions shall be filed on the subject property documenting the specific building areas legitimizad as office use as listed in this letter and documented on the attached plans prior to the approval of a site or building permit establishing such office use. This determination is not a project approval, nor does it in any way a substitute for a Building Permit Application for the legitimization of the office space.
Please note that before a Building Permit Application may be approved to legally establish the office space in question, this project must pay a $2 per gross square foot Transit Impact Development Fee and an $8.50 per gross square foot Jobs-Housing Linkage Fee per Planning Code Section 179.1. In addition an application for an Office Allocation must be filed, pursuant to Planning Code Section 320 and 321, and the requested Office Allocation granted.

**APPEAL:** If you believe this determination represents an error in interpretation of the Planning Code or abuse in discretion by the Zoning Administrator, an appeal may be filed with the Board of Appeals within 15 days of the date of the Letter of Legitimization. For information regarding the appeals process, please contact the Board of Appeals located at 1650 Mission Street, Room 304, San Francisco, or call (415) 575-6880.

Sincerely,

Scott F. Sanchez  
Zoning Administrator

cc: Diego R Sánchez, Planner  
Steve Wertheim, Planner  
Planning Commissioners  
All Parties on the Notification Request List