



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## Historic Preservation Commission Executive Summary Planning Code Text Change, Zoning Map Amendment, and General Plan Amendment HEARING DATE: JUNE 3, 2010, CONTINUED FROM: APRIL 21 AND MARCH 17, 2010

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*Project Name:* 660-680 California Street, aka Old St. Mary's Church, Landmark #2  
T Case: Amending Section 128 – Transfer of Development Rights  
Z Case: Rezoning 660-680 California Street  
M Case: Amendments to the Chinatown & Downtown Elements of  
General Plan  
*Case Number:* 2009.1180TZ  
*Initiated by:* Luce Forward Hamilton & Scripps LLP / Filed 12/22/09  
*Staff Contact:* Tara Sullivan, Legislative Affairs  
tara.sullivan@sfgov.org, 415-558-6257  
*Reviewed by:* Tim Frye, Acting Preservation Coordinator  
tim.frye@sfgov.org, 415-575-6822

*Recommendation:* **Recommend Approval**

### CASE # 2009.1180 T: PLANNING CODE AMENDMENT

The proposed Ordinance would amend the Planning Code by amending Section 128 (Transfer of Development Rights in C-3 Districts). Specifically, it would do the following:

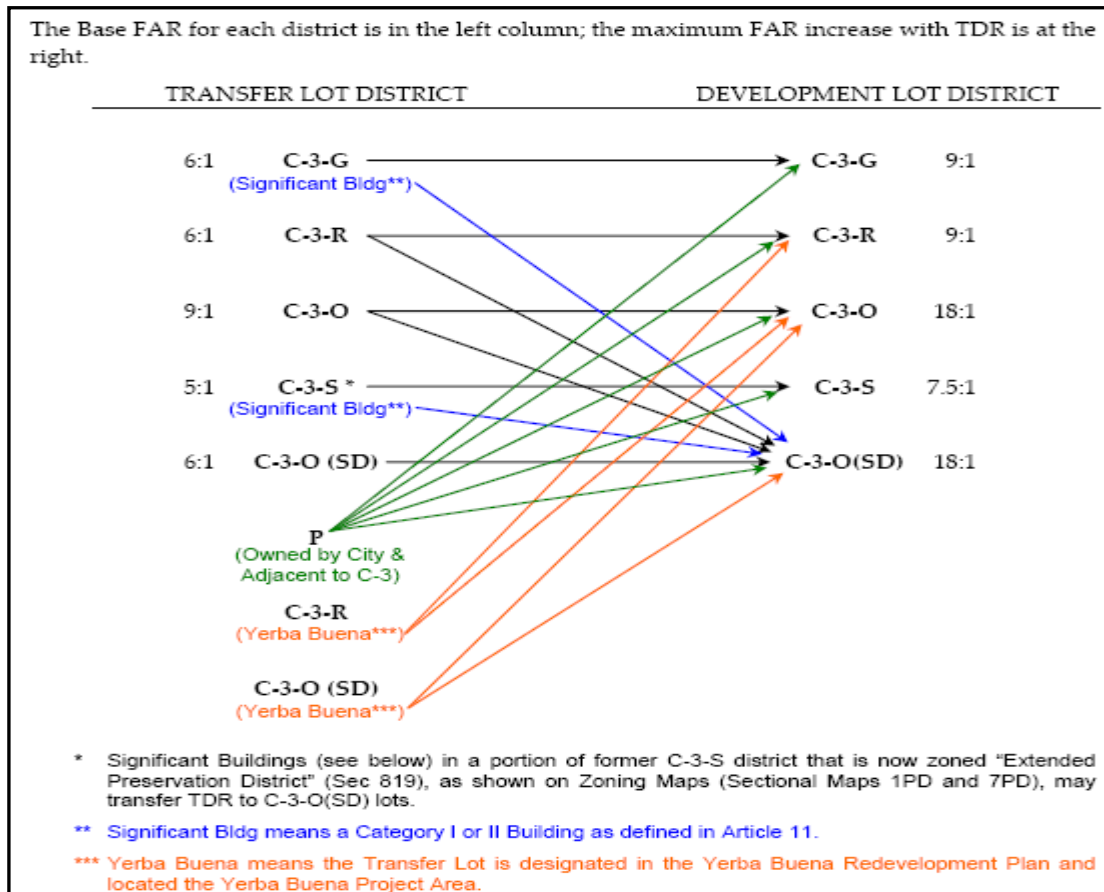
1. Require that the net proceeds from the sale of TDR after July 1, 2010 be first used to pay for or finance the preservation, rehabilitation, and/or maintenance of the building on the Transfer Lot, as well as to correct any City Notices of Violation(s); and
2. Allow the transfer of TDR from a parcel that is an individual landmark pursuant to Article 10 and located within the C-3 District to a Development Lot that is located in any C-3 District but is not located within a Redevelopment Agency Plan Area; and
3. Establish "Maintenance and Repair Requirements for Transfer Lots", which will include mandating that proceeds from the sale of TDR after July 1, 2010 be used to correct any city violations, and for property owners submit a work plan/maintenance report to the Department.

### The Way It Is Now:

Currently a lot that wishes to sell Transfer of Development Rights ("TDR") are limited in where they may transfer those development rights to (the "Transfer Lot"). Section 128(a)(4): Transfer Lot, outlines the locations where TDR may be received.



The following diagram shows the current limitations of how TDRs may be sold:



In addition to these limitations, the Code is silent on how the proceeds of the sale of TDR may be spent.

### The Way It Would Be:

The proposed Ordinance would allow the limited transfer of TDR to ANY parcel zoned C-3. This would apply only to buildings that are designated individual Landmarks pursuant to Article 10, and would not be able to be transferred to a lot that is under Redevelopment Agency control.

In addition, the proposed Ordinance would specify that the proceeds received from the sale of TDR after July 1, 2010, must first be used for the preservation, rehabilitation, and/or the ongoing maintenance of the historic property, including curing any City violations on the property. There are specific reporting controls that will be put in place to ensure this occurs.

### REQUIRED COMMISSION ACTION

The proposed Ordinance is before the Commission so that it may recommend adoption, rejection, or adoption with modifications to the Board of Supervisors.



## RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends that the Commission recommend *approval* of the proposed Ordinance and adopt the attached Draft Resolution to that effect.

## BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Section 128 was put into the Planning Code in September 1985 when the Downtown Element of the General Plan was adopted. TDRs are a preservation tool, meant to incentivize owners of historic properties to preserve and maintain them in exchange for a monetary gain from the unused development rights on the parcel.

The transfer of development rights are permitted only in the C-3 zoned districts, which are located downtown and along Market Street (See Attachment C). TDR is a program where particular lots are able to sell their undeveloped gross floor area to another lot, which is then used for a new development (lots that can sell TDR are called the “Preservation Lot”).

Individual Landmarks designated pursuant to Article 10, Category I, II, III, IV buildings designated pursuant to Article 11, and Category V buildings that has been deemed to have a ‘compatible rehabilitation’ are eligible for the transfer of TDR.<sup>1</sup>

As noted in the previous chart, the Transfer Lots are limited. This was intended so that most of the TDRs would be sold to parcels that were located south of Market Street, where the City, in its Downtown Plan, had identified as being the expansion of the Financial District. For the past 20+ years, most of the TDRs have been transferred to those parcels, which have resulted in the development of several office buildings, Yerba Buena Center, and other large-scale projects.

However, it has come to the attention of the Department that the strict limitations of where TDRs can be sold are restricting the preservation of many buildings, especially as the TDR market has matured. That is, there are buildings that would like to sell their TDR to enable the preservation and rehabilitation of the historic structure, but because of the transfer restrictions, cannot locate a buyer of them because there are no available lots within the permitted C-3 zoning areas. They are stuck in limbo – the buildings are in need of the preservation funds but cannot utilize a key preservation tool.

The Department has reviewed the TDR system and believes that permitting the 44 designated individual Landmarks to transfer their development rights to any parcel in the C-3 zoning district will enable these significant buildings to be preserved, rehabilitated, and maintained. It will help fund the mandated seismic upgrades to occur and any City violations (if applicable) to be corrected. Further, the Department believes that it will act as an incentive to designate more buildings under Article 10, which will then be able to have more flexibility in where the TDRs can be sold.

In addition to limiting the sale of TDRs to any C-3 zoning district to individual Landmarks, the Department believes that additional controls to prevent the sale of these TDRs (the 44 individual Landmarks) to parcels that are under Redevelopment Agency control will ensure that those developments in most need of TDRs will receive them.

Lastly, the Department believes that it is good practice to require that proceeds from the sale of TDR be first used to preserve, rehabilitate, and maintain the historic property. This will apply to the sale of TDR after July 1, 2010 (the beginning of the next CCSF fiscal year) and to all properties, not just the individual

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<sup>1</sup> Planning Code Section 128(a)(3).



Landmarks. This follows City policies in place for other preservation programs, such as the Mills Act Historical Property Contract Program. The system outlined in the proposed Ordinance will help the Department to ensure historic buildings are preserved.

In sum, the Department recommends approval of the proposed Ordinance.

<b>RECOMMENDATION OF NEW USE CATEGORY: Recommendation of Approval</b>
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**CASE # 2009.1180 Z: REZONING OF 660-680 CALIFORNIA STREET, AKA OLD ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

**SITE DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT USE**

Old St. Mary's Church is located on the northeast corner of California Street and Grant Avenue in the Chinatown neighborhood. There are 2 lots that are a part of the proposed rezoning: Lot 012 contains the historic church building, and Lot 011 contains the contemporary church offices. The lots are zoned Chinatown Visitor Retail with a 50-N Height and Bulk District.

The subject properties are San Francisco Landmark No. 2, designated in 1967. Lot 012 contains Old St. Mary's Church, which was constructed in 1854. It was the first church erected as a Roman Catholic Cathedral in California and is the second oldest church in San Francisco still in use. Designed in a modest Victorian Gothic style, the Old St. Mary's is constructed of red brick and stone, featuring a central tower and tripartite entrance on California Street and a secondary entrance on Grant Avenue.

Lot 011 contains the Church offices and faces California Street. It was constructed in 1966 and designed in a Contemporary style. The building is four-stories tall and features red brick with limestone detailing.

**SURROUNDING PROPERTIES AND NEIGHBORHOOD**

660-680 California Street, aka Old St. Mary's Church is located within a CVR (Chinatown Visitor Retail) Zoning District and is located one lot to the west of the C-3-O Zoning District. The surrounding properties are mixed use in nature, featuring residential and commercial structures, with Grant Avenue service as a main thoroughfare for the Chinatown District.

**HEARING NOTIFICATION (FOR PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION)**

TYPE	REQUIRED PERIOD	REQUIRED NOTICE DATE	ACTUAL NOTICE DATE	ACTUAL PERIOD
Classified News Ad	20 days	March 5, 2010	March 5, 2010	47 days
Posted Notice	10 days	March 15, 2010	March 15, 2010	38 days
Mailed Notice	10 days	March 15, 2010	April 12, 2010	10 days

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Department recommends that the Commission recommend *approval* of the proposed Rezoning Ordinance and adopt the attached Draft Resolution to that effect.



## BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- The subject property is located one lot to the west of the C-3-O Zoning District and integrating this lot into the commercial zoning will not have a negative effect on the mixed use Chinatown neighborhood, as it already contains a mix of commercial and residential uses; and
- There are no proposed changes in use for the Church property, as it will continue serving the community with religious and community services; and
- The proposed zoning will enable Old St. Mary's to participate in San Francisco's Transfer of Development Rights Program pursuant to Section 128, thus enabling the preservation of this significant individual Landmark.

## CASE # 2009.1180 M: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

660-680 California Street is currently zoned Chinatown Visitor Retail and is proposed to be rezoned C-3-O. Both the Chinatown and Downtown Elements of the General Plan contain land use and zoning maps. These two maps must be amended to reflect the proposed reclassification of Old St. Mary's Church.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends that the Commission recommend *approval* of the intent to amend the General Plan and adopt the attached Draft Resolution to that effect.

## BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- The subject property is located one lot to the west of the C-3-O Zoning District and integrating this lot into the commercial zoning will not have a negative effect on the mixed use Chinatown neighborhood, as it already contains a mix of commercial and residential uses; and
- The proposed amendment to the Chinatown Element of the General Plan is minor in scope and will not impact the remainder of this Element, as only one parcel will be rezoned; and
- The proposed amendment to the Downtown Element of the General Plan is minor in scope and will not impact the remainder of this Element. It will also provide for additional Transfer of Development Rights to be utilized by other properties in qualifying C-3 zoning districts.

<b>RECOMMENDATION OF GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS: Recommendation of Approval</b>
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## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed Ordinance is exempt from environmental review under Section 15060(c)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

As of the date of this report, the Planning Department has received 2 letters in support of the proposed rezoning.

### Attachments:

- Exhibit A: Draft Historic Preservation Commission Resolution
- Exhibit B: Draft Ordinance
- Exhibit C: Map of C-3 Zoned Areas in San Francisco



- Exhibit D: Exhibits for Rezoning of 660-680 California Street: Parcel Map, Sandborn Map, Photographs, Zoning Map
- Exhibit E: Letters in Support of Rezoning





# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Historic Preservation Commission Draft Resolution

**Planning Code Text Change,  
Zoning Map Amendment, and General Plan Amendment**  
HEARING DATE: JUNE 3, 2010, CONTINUED FROM: APRIL 21 AND MARCH 17, 2010

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*Case Number:* 2009.1180TZ

*Initiated by:* Luce Forward Hamilton & Scripps LLP / Filed 12/22/09

*Staff Contact:* Tara Sullivan, Legislative Affairs  
tara.sullivan@sfgov.org, 415-558-6257

*Reviewed by:* Tim Frye, Acting Preservation Coordinator  
tim.frye@sfgov.org, 415-575-6822

*Recommendation:* **Recommend Approval**

RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPT AN ORDINANCE THAT WOULD AMEND PLANNING CODE SECTION 128 (TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS IN C-3 DISTRICTS) TO REQUIRE THAT THE NET PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF TDR AFTER JULY 1, 2010 BE FIRST USED TO PAY FOR OR FINANCE THE PRESERVATION, REHABILITATION, AND/OR MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING ON THE TRANSFER LOT, AS WELL AS TO CORRECT ANY CITY NOTICES OF VIOLATION(S); AND ALLOW THE TRANSFER OF TDR FROM A PARCEL THAT IS AN INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10 AND LOCATED WITHIN THE C-3 DISTRICT TO A DEVELOPMENT LOT THAT IS LOCATED IN ANY C-3 DISTRICT BUT IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN A REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY PLAN AREA; AND ESTABLISH "MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER LOTS", WHICH WILL INCLUDE MANDATING THAT PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF TDR AFTER JULY 1, 2010 BE USED TO CORRECT ANY CITY VIOLATIONS, AND FOR PROPERTY OWNERS SUBMIT A WORK PLAN/MAINTENANCE REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT; TO AMEND ZONING MAP SHEET ZN01 TO RECLASSIFY BLOCK 0241, LOTS 011 & 012, FROM CVR (CHINATOWN VISITOR RETAIL ) DISTRICT TO A C-3-O (DOWNTOWN OFFICE) DISTRICT; MAKING CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO THE CHINATOWN AND DOWNTOWN AREA PLANS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL PLAN; ADOPTING FINDINGS, INCLUDING ENVIRONMENTAL



FINDINGS, PLANNING CODE SECTION 302 FINDINGS, AND FINDINGS OF CONSISTENCY  
WITH THE GENERAL PLAN AND THE PRIORITY POLICIES OF PLANNING CODE SECTION 101

PREAMBLE

Whereas, on December 30, 2009, Luce Forward, on behalf of The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, applied to the Planning Department for a Planning Code text change and a Zoning Map amendment under Case Number 2009.1180TZ; and

Whereas, the proposed Planning Code text change would amend the Planning Code by amending Section 128 (Transfer of Development Rights in C-3 Districts) to require that the net proceeds from the sale of TDR after July 1, 2010 be first used to pay for or finance the preservation, rehabilitation, and/or maintenance of the building on the Transfer Lot, as well as to correct any City Notices of Violation(s); to allow the transfer of TDR from a parcel that is an individual landmark pursuant to Article 10 and located within the C-3 District to a Development Lot that is located in any C-3 District but is not located within a Redevelopment Agency Plan Area; and to establish "Maintenance and Repair Requirements for Transfer Lots", which will include mandating that proceeds from the sale of TDR after July 1, 2010 be used to correct any city violations, and for property owners submit a work plan/maintenance report to the Department; and

Whereas, the proposed San Francisco map change would amend Zoning Map ZN01 to rezone the parcel on block 0241, lots 011 and 012 (660-680 California Street, aka Old St. Mary's Church) from CVR (Chinatown Visitor Retail) to C-3-O (Downtown Commercial, Office); and

Whereas, the proposed General Plan amendments could make conforming amendments to the Chinatown and Downtown Area Plans to reflect the proposed rezoning; and

Whereas, on June 2, 2010, the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission (hereinafter "Commission") conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider the proposed Ordinance; and

Whereas, the proposed zoning changes have been determined to be categorically exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act Section 15060(c)(2); and

Whereas, the Commission has heard and considered the testimony presented to it at the public hearing and has further considered written materials and oral testimony presented by Department staff, and other interested parties; and

Whereas, the all pertinent documents may be found in the files of the Department, as the custodian of records, at 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco; and

Whereas, the Commission has reviewed the proposed Ordinance; and

**MOVED**, that the Commission hereby recommends that the Board of Supervisors recommends approval of the proposed ordinance and adopts the attached Draft Resolution to that effect.



## FINDINGS

Having reviewed the materials identified in the preamble above, and having heard all testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

1. With regard to the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 128:
2. Section 128 was put into the Planning Code in September 1985 when the Downtown Element of the General Plan was adopted. TDRs are a preservation tool, meant to incentivize owners of historic properties to preserve and maintain them in exchange for a monetary gain from the unused development rights on the parcel.
3. The transfer of development rights are permitted only in the C-3 zoned districts, which are located downtown and along Market Street .
4. The Transfer Lots are limited. This was intended so that most of the TDRs would be sold to parcels that were located south of Market Street, where the City, in its Downtown Plan, had identified as being the expansion of the Financial District. For the past 20+ years, most of the TDRs have been transferred to those parcels, which have resulted in the development of several office buildings, Yerba Buena Center, and other large-scale projects.
5. It has come to the attention of the Commission that the strict limitations of where TDRs can be sold are restricting the preservation of many buildings, especially as the TDR market has matured. That is, there are buildings that would like to sell their TDR to enable the preservation and rehabilitation of the historic structure, but because of the transfer restrictions, cannot locate a buyer of them because there are no available lots within the permitted C-3 zoning areas. They are stuck in limbo – the buildings are in need of the preservation funds but cannot utilize a key preservation tool.
6. The Commission has reviewed the TDR system and believes that permitting the 44 designated individual Landmarks to transfer their development rights to any parcel in the C-3 zoning district will enable these significant buildings to be preserved, rehabilitated, and maintained. It will help fund the mandated seismic upgrades to occur and any City violations (if applicable) to be corrected. Further, the Department believes that it will act as an incentive to designate more buildings under Article 10, which will then be able to have more flexibility in where the TDRs can be sold.
7. In addition to limiting the sale of TDRs to any C-3 zoning district to individual Landmarks, the Department believes that additional controls to prevent the sale of these TDRs (the 44 individual Landmarks) to parcels that are under Redevelopment Agency control will ensure that those developments in most need of TDRs will receive them.
8. The Commission believes that it is good practice to require that proceeds from the sale of TDR be first used to preserve, rehabilitate, and maintain the historic property. This will apply to the sale of TDR after July 1, 2010 (the beginning of the next CCSF fiscal year) and to all properties, not just the



individual Landmarks. This follows City policies in place for other preservation programs, such as the Mills Act Historical Property Contract Program.

9. With regard to the proposed Zoning Map Amendment:
10. The Old St. Mary's Church is located one lot to the west of the C-3-O Zoning District and integrating this lot into the commercial zoning will not have a negative effect on the mixed use Chinatown neighborhood, as it already contains a mix of commercial and residential uses.
11. There are no proposed changes in use for the Church property, as it will continue serving the community with religious and community services.
12. The proposed zoning will enable Old St. Mary's to participate in San Francisco's Transfer of Development Rights Program pursuant to Section 128, thus enabling the preservation of this significant individual Landmark.
13. With regard to the proposed General Plan Amendment:
14. The proposed amendment to the Chinatown Element of the General Plan is minor in scope and will not impact the remainder of this Element, as only one parcel will be rezoned.
15. The proposed amendment to the Downtown Element of the General Plan is minor in scope and will not impact the remainder of this Element. It will also provide for additional Transfer of Development Rights to be utilized by other properties in qualifying C-3 zoning districts.
16. Therefore, the Commission recommends *approval of the proposed Ordinance*.
17. **General Plan Compliance.** The proposed Ordinance is, on balance, consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan:

I. URBAN DESIGN ELEMENT

THE URBAN DESIGN ELEMENT CONCERNS THE PHYSICAL CHARACTER AND ORDER OF THE CITY, AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT.

GOALS

*The Urban Design Element is concerned both with development and with preservation. It is a concerted effort to recognize the positive attributes of the city, to enhance and conserve those attributes, and to improve the living environment where it is less than satisfactory. The Plan is a definition of quality, a definition based upon human needs.*

**OBJECTIVE 1**

EMPHASIS OF THE CHARACTERISTIC PATTERN WHICH GIVES TO THE CITY AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS AN IMAGE, A SENSE OF PURPOSE, AND A MEANS OF ORIENTATION.



**POLICY 1.3**

Recognize that buildings, when seen together, produce a total effect that characterizes the city and its districts.

**OBJECTIVE 2**

CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES WHICH PROVIDE A SENSE OF NATURE, CONTINUITY WITH THE PAST, AND FREEDOM FROM OVERCROWDING.

**POLICY 2.4**

Preserve notable landmarks and areas of historic, architectural or aesthetic value, and promote the preservation of other buildings and features that provide continuity with past development.

**POLICY 2.5**

Use care in remodeling of older buildings, in order to enhance rather than weaken the original character of such buildings.

**POLICY 2.7**

Recognize and protect outstanding and unique areas that contribute in an extraordinary degree to San Francisco's visual form and character.

**II. CHINATOWN AREA PLAN**

THE CHINATOWN AREA PLAN SEEKS TO PROTECT THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHINATOWN, THE STANDARD OF LIVING SPACE FOR THE LARGELY ELDERLY OR IMMIGRANT POPULATION, AND THE SUSTAINABILITY OF RESOURCES INCLUDING SHOPPING AND SOCIAL AGENCIES TO CONTINUE TO SERVE THIS POPULATION.

**OBJECTIVE 1**

PRESERVE THE DISTINCTIVE URBAN CHARACTER, PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF CHINATOWN.

**POLICY 1.4**

Protect the historic and aesthetic resources of Chinatown.

**OBJECTIVE 2**

RETAIN AND ENFORCE CHINATOWN'S MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE FUNCTIONS AS NEIGHBORHOOD, CAPITAL CITY AND VISITOR ATTRACTION.

**III. DOWNTOWN ELEMENT**

THE DOWNTOWN PLAN GROWS OUT OF AN AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC CONCERN IN RECENT YEARS OVER THE DEGREE OF CHANGE OCCURRING DOWNTOWN — AND OF THE OFTEN CONFLICTING CIVIC OBJECTIVES BETWEEN FOSTERING A VITAL ECONOMY AND RETAINING THE URBAN PATTERNS AND STRUCTURES WHICH COLLECTIVELY FOR THE PHYSICAL ESSENCE OF SAN FRANCISCO.



**OBJECTIVE 1**

MANAGE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CHANGE TO ENSURE ENHANCEMENT OF THE TOTAL CITY LIVING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT.

**OBJECTIVE 12**

CONSERVE RESOURCES THAT PROVIDE CONTINUITY WITH SAN FRANCISCO'S PAST.

**Policy 12.1**

Preserve notable landmarks and areas of historic, architectural, or aesthetic value, and promote the preservation of other buildings and features that provide continuity with past development.

*The goal of the proposed Ordinance is to strengthen and streamline the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) procedures. In doing so, it will provide clarity and certainty to the public, provide additional incentive for property owners to designate buildings individual Landmarks, and ensure that monies are used to preserve, rehabilitate, and maintain historic buildings. TDRs are a preservation tool, meant to incentivize owners of historic properties to preserve and maintain them in exchange for a monetary gain from the unused development rights on the parcel, which this Ordinance will facilitate.*

*Rezoning Old St. Mary's Church to C-3-O will enable this significant individual Landmark to participate in the TDR program, with the proceeds going into the seismic upgrades to the building.*

*Amending the Chinatown and Downtown Area Plans to reflect the rezoning is consistent with the overall policies of the General Plan because it will help facilitate the protection and maintenance of a significant individual Landmark and will preserve the distinctive urban character and aesthetic environment of Chinatown. It is also consistent with the goals of the Downtown Plan in that it will enable the building to sell TDRs, which will help preserve a resource that provides continuity with San Francisco's past while providing a mechanism for development of office/mixed use space in the Downtown core.*

18. The proposed replacement project is generally consistent with the eight General Plan priority policies set forth in Section 101.1 in that:

- A) The existing neighborhood-serving retail uses will be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses will be enhanced:

*The proposed Ordinance would not significantly impact existing neighborhood-serving retail uses or opportunities for employment in or ownership of such businesses.*

- B) The existing housing and neighborhood character will be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods:

*The proposed Ordinance will not impact existing housing and neighborhood character.*



- C) The City's supply of affordable housing will be preserved and enhanced:

*The proposed Ordinance will help enhance the City's supply of affordable housing by allowing for TDRs to be transferred to a larger number of parcels in the C-3 Districts, which may enable new projects to be developed containing affordable housing.*

- D) The commuter traffic will not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking:

*The proposed Ordinance will not result in commuter traffic impeding MUNI transit service or overburdening the streets or neighborhood parking.*

- E) A diverse economic base will be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development. And future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors will be enhanced:

*The proposed Ordinance would not adversely affect the industrial or service sectors or future opportunities for resident employment or ownership in these sectors.*

- F) The City will achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

*Preparedness against injury and loss of life in an earthquake is unaffected by the proposed amendments. The rezoning of Old St. Mary's Church will enable it to sell TDRs and use the proceeds to seismically upgrade the building. Any construction or alteration associated with formula retail establishment would be executed in compliance with all applicable construction and safety measures.*

- G) That landmark and historic buildings will be preserved:

*The proposed Ordinance will help preserve individual Landmarks located in C-3 Zoning Districts by allowing these properties to sell TDRs to more properties in the C-3 area. In addition, the proposed changes in the Ordinance will incentivize designation of individual Landmarks.*

- H) Parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas will be protected from development:

*The proposed Ordinance will not impact the City's parks and open space.*



**Resolution No. XXX**  
**Hearing Date: June 2, 2010**

**CASE NO. 2009.1180TZM**  
**Text Change: Section 128 – Transfer of Development Rights**  
**General Plan Amendments & Rezoning: 660-680 California Street**

I hereby certify that the Planning Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Resolution on April 21, 2010.

Linda Avery  
Commission Secretary

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED: June 2, 2010



[Planning Code—Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Transfer Lots After Sale of Transferable Development Rights; Zoning Map and General Plan Map Amendments—680 California Street (Old St. Mary's Cathedral).]

**Ordinance amending Section 128 of the San Francisco Planning Code to require that proceeds from the sale of Transferable Development Rights (TDR) be spent on rehabilitation and maintenance of the Transfer Lot property, to establish reporting procedures regarding the rehabilitation and maintenance, and to allow the sale of TDR from an individually landmarked building to any lot in a C-3 zoned district except Redevelopment Areas; amending the San Francisco Zoning Map by amending Zoning Use District Map ZN01 to change the use classification of 680 California Street (Old St. Mary's Cathedral), Block 0241, Lots 011 and 012 (the Property), from Chinatown Visitor Retail District to C-3-0 District and making conforming amendments to the Chinatown and Downtown Area Plans of the San Francisco General Plan; adopting findings, including environmental findings and findings of consistency with the General Plan and the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.**

NOTE: Additions are single-underline italics Times New Roman;  
deletions are ~~strike-through italics Times New Roman~~.  
Board amendment additions are double-underlined;  
Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Findings.

A. On \_\_\_\_\_ at a duly noticed public hearing, the Planning Commission in Motion No. \_\_\_\_\_ found that the proposed Planning Code amendment, zoning reclassification, zoning map amendment, and General Plan map amendments were consistent with the City's General Plan and with Planning Code Section 101.1(b). In addition, the Planning Commission, in Motion No. \_\_\_\_\_, recommended that the Board of



Supervisors adopt the zoning map amendment. Copies of said Motion are on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_\_ and are incorporated herein by reference. The Board finds that the proposed Planning Code amendment, zoning reclassification, zoning map amendment, and General Plan map amendments are consistent with the City's General Plan and with Planning Code Section 101.1(b) for the reasons set forth in said Motion.

B. Pursuant to Planning Code Section 302, the Board finds that the proposed Planning Code Amendment, zoning reclassification and zoning map amendment will serve the public necessity, convenience and welfare for the reasons set forth in Planning Commission Motion No. \_\_\_\_\_, which reasons are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

C. Environmental Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this Ordinance are in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The San Francisco Planning Code is hereby amended by amending Section 128, to read as follows:

**SEC. 128. TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS IN C-3 DISTRICTS.**

(a) Definitions.

(1) "Development Lot." A lot to which TDR may be transferred to increase the allowable gross floor area of development thereon beyond that otherwise permitted by Section 124.

(2) "Owner of Record." The owner or owners of record in fee.



1 (3) "Preservation Lot." A parcel of land on which is either (i) a Significant or  
2 Contributory building (as designated pursuant to Article 11); or (ii) a Category V Building that  
3 has complied with the eligibility requirement for transfer of TDR as set forth in Section  
4 1109(c); or (iii) a structure designated an individual landmark pursuant to Article 10 of this  
5 Code. The boundaries of the Preservation Lot shall be the boundaries of the Assessor's lot on  
6 which the building is located at the time the ordinance or, as to Section 1109(c), resolution,  
7 making the designation is adopted, unless boundaries are otherwise specified in the  
8 ordinance.

9 (4) "Transfer Lot." A Preservation Lot located in a C-3 District from which TDR may  
10 be transferred. A lot zoned P (public) may in no event be a Transfer Lot. unless a building on  
11 that lot is (i) owned by the City and County of San Francisco, and (ii) located in a P District  
12 adjacent to a C-3 District, and (iii) designated as an ~~historical~~ individual landmark ~~by pursuant to~~  
13 Article 10 of this Code, ~~or~~ designated as a Category I Significant Building ~~by pursuant to~~ Article  
14 11 of this Code, ~~and or listed as a National Historical Landmark on the National Register of~~  
15 ~~Historical Register Places, and (iv) the TDR proceeds are used to finance, in whole or in part, a~~  
16 ~~project to rehabilitate and restore the building in accordance with the Secretary of Interior standards.~~  
17 For the purposes of Section 128(b), a lot zoned P which satisfies the criteria of this subsection  
18 (4) to qualify as a "Transfer Lot" shall be deemed to have an allowable gross floor area of  
19 7.5:1 under Section 124.

20 (5) "Transferable Development Rights (TDR)." § Units of gross floor area which may  
21 be transferred, pursuant to the provisions of this Section and Article 11 of this Code, from a  
22 Transfer Lot to increase the allowable gross floor area of a development on a Development  
23 Lot.

24 (6) "Unit of TDR." One unit of TDR is one square foot of gross floor area.  
25



1 (b) Amount of TDR Available for Transfer. The maximum TDR available for transfer  
2 from a Transfer Lot consists of the difference between (~~aa~~i) the allowable gross floor area  
3 permitted on the Transfer Lot by Section 124 and (~~bb~~ii) the gross floor area of the  
4 development located on the Transfer Lot.

5 (c) Eligibility of Development Lots and Limitation on Use of TDR on Development  
6 Lots. TDR may be used to increase the allowable gross floor area of a development on a  
7 Development Lot if the following requirements and restrictions are satisfied:

8 (1) Transfer of Development Rights shall be limited to the following:

9 (i) The Transfer Lot and the Development Lot are located in the same C-3 Zoning  
10 District; or

11 (ii) the Transfer Lot is located in a C-3-O, or C-3-R District and the Development Lot  
12 is located in the C-3-O(SD) Special Development District; or

13 (iii) the Transfer Lot ~~is a Preservation Lot that~~ contains a Significant building and is  
14 located in the Extended Preservation District or a C-3-G or C-3-S District and the  
15 Development Lot is located in the C-3-O(SD) Special District; or

16 (iv) the Transfer Lot is in a C-3-R District or a District designated C-3-O (SD) in the  
17 Yerba Buena Center Redevelopment Plan and is located in the Yerba Buena Center  
18 Redevelopment Project Area and the Development Lot is located in a C-3-O District; or

19 (v) the Transfer Lot is in a P District adjacent to a C-3 District and meets the  
20 requirements established in subsection (a)(4) above and the Development Lot is located in a  
21 C-3 District; or

22 (vi) the Transfer Lot is located in any C-3 District and contains an individual landmark  
23 designated pursuant to Article 10 and the Development Lot is located in any C-3 District but not within  
24 a Redevelopment Agency Plan Area.



1           (2)    TDR may not be transferred for use on any lot on which is or has been located a  
2   Significant or Contributory building; provided that this restriction shall not apply if the  
3   designation of a building is changed to Unrated; nor shall it apply if the City Planning  
4   Commission finds that the additional space resulting from the transfer of TDR is essential to  
5   make economically feasible the reinforcement of a Significant or Contributory building to meet  
6   the standards for seismic loads and forces of the ~~1975~~ Building Code, in which case TDR may  
7   be transferred for that purpose subject to the limitations of this Section and Article 11,  
8   including Section 1111.6. Any alteration shall be governed by the requirements of Sections  
9   1111 to 1111.6.

10           (3)    Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, development on a  
11   Development Lot is limited by the provisions of this Code, other than those on floor area ratio,  
12   governing the approval of projects, including the requirements relating to height, bulk,  
13   setback, sunlight access, and separation between towers, and any limitations imposed  
14   pursuant to Section 309 review applicable to the Development Lot. The total allowable gross  
15   floor area of a development on a Development Lot may not exceed the limitation imposed by  
16   Section 123(c).

17           (d)    Effect of Transfer of TDR.

18           (1)    Transfer of TDR from a Transfer Lot permanently reduces the development  
19   potential of the Transfer Lot by the amount of the TDR transferred, except as provided in  
20   Section 124(f). In addition, transfer of TDR from a Preservation Lot containing a Contributory  
21   building or an individual landmark designated pursuant to Article 10 causes such building to  
22   become subject to the same restrictions on demolition and alteration, and the same penalties  
23   and enforcement remedies, that are applicable to Significant ~~b~~Buildings Category I, as  
24   provided in Article 11.

25           (e)    Procedure for Determining TDR Eligibility.



1           (1) In order to obtain a determination of whether a lot is a Transfer Lot and, if it is, of  
2 the amount of TDR available for transfer, the owner of record of the lot may file an application  
3 with the Zoning Administrator for a Statement of Eligibility. The application for a Statement of  
4 Eligibility shall contain or be accompanied by plans and drawings and other information which  
5 the Zoning Administrator determines is necessary in order to determine whether a Statement  
6 of Eligibility can be issued. Any person who applies for a Statement of Eligibility prior to  
7 expiration of the time for request of reconsideration of designation authorized in Section 1105  
8 shall submit in writing a waiver of the right to seek such reconsideration.

9           (2) The Zoning Administrator shall, upon the filing of an application for a Statement  
10 of Eligibility and the submission of all required information, issue either a proposed Statement  
11 of Eligibility or a written determination that no TDR are available for transfer and shall mail that  
12 document to the applicant and to any other person who has filed with the Zoning Administrator  
13 a written request for a copy, and shall post the proposed Statement of Eligibility or written  
14 determination on the Planning Department website. Any appeal of the proposed Statement of  
15 Eligibility or determination of noneligibility shall be filed with the Board of Permit Appeals  
16 within 20 days of the date of issuance of the document. If not appealed, the proposed  
17 Statement of Eligibility or the determination of noneligibility shall become final on the 21st day  
18 after the date of issuance. The Statement of Eligibility shall contain at least the following  
19 information: (i) the name of the owner of record of the Transfer Lot; (ii) the address, legal  
20 description and Assessor's Block and Lot of the Transfer Lot; (iii) the C-3 use district within  
21 which the Transfer Lot is located; (iv) ~~whether the Transfer Lot is a Preservation Lot or~~  
22 ~~Development Lot; (v) if a Preservation Lot,~~ whether the Transfer Lot contains a Significant or  
23 Contributory building, a Category V building, or an Article 10 individually designated landmark;  
24 (vi) the amount of TDR available for transfer; and (vi) the date of issuance.



1           (3)     Once the proposed Statement of Eligibility becomes final, whether through lack  
2 of appeal or after appeal, the Zoning Administrator shall record the Statement of Eligibility in  
3 the Office of the County Recorder. The County Recorder shall be instructed to mail the  
4 original of the recorded document to the owner of record of the Transfer Lot and, if a copy of  
5 the document is presented at the time of the recordation, shall conform the copy and mail it to  
6 the Zoning Administrator.

7           (f)     Cancellation of Eligibility.

8           (1)     If reasonable grounds should at any time exist for determining that a building on  
9 a Preservation Lot may have been altered or demolished in violation of Articles 10 or 11,  
10 including Sections 1110 and 1112 thereof, the Zoning Administrator may issue and record  
11 with the County Recorder a Notice of Suspension of Eligibility for the affected lot and, in cases  
12 of demolition of a Significant or Contributory building, a notice that the restriction on the floor  
13 area ratio of a replacement building, pursuant to Section 1114, may be applicable and shall  
14 mail a copy of such notice to the owner of record of the lot. The notice shall provide that the  
15 property owner shall have 20 days from the date of the notice in which to request a hearing  
16 before the Zoning Administrator in order to dispute this initial determination. If no hearing is  
17 requested, the initial determination of the Zoning Administrator is deemed final on the twenty-  
18 first day after the date of the notice, unless the Zoning Administrator has determined that the  
19 initial determination was in error.

20           (2)     If a hearing is requested, the Zoning Administrator shall notify the property  
21 owner of the time and place of hearing, which shall be scheduled within 21 days of the  
22 request, shall conduct the hearing, and shall render a written determination within 15 days  
23 after the close of the hearing. If the Zoning Administrator shall determine that the initial  
24 determination was in error, that officer shall issue and record a Notice of Revocation of  
25 Suspension of Eligibility. Any appeal of the determination of the Zoning Administrator shall be



1 filed with the Board of Permit Appeals within 20 days of the date of the written determination  
2 following a hearing or, if no hearing has been requested, within 20 days after the initial  
3 determination becomes final.

4 (3) If after an appeal to the Board of Permit Appeals it is determined that an  
5 unlawful alteration or demolition has occurred, or if no appeal is taken of the determination by  
6 the Zoning Administrator of such a violation, the Zoning Administrator shall record in the  
7 Office of the County Recorder a Notice of Cancellation of Eligibility for the lot, and shall mail to  
8 the property owner a conformed copy of the recorded Notice. In the case of demolition of a  
9 Significant or Contributory Building, the Zoning Administrator shall record a Notice of Special  
10 Restriction noting the restriction on the floor area ratio of the Preservation Lot pursuant to the  
11 provisions of Section 1114, and shall mail to the owner of record a certified copy of the Notice.  
12 If after an appeal to the Board of Permit Appeals it is determined that no unlawful alteration or  
13 demolition has occurred, the Zoning Administrator shall issue and record a Notice of  
14 Revocation of Suspension of Eligibility and, if applicable, a Notice of Revocation of the Notice  
15 of Special Restriction pursuant to Section 1114, and shall mail conformed copies of the  
16 recorded notices to the owner of record.

17 (4) No notice recorded under this Section 128(f) shall affect the validity of TDR that  
18 have been transferred from the affected Transfer Lot in compliance with the provisions of this  
19 Section prior to the date of recordation of such notice, whether or not such TDR have been  
20 used.

21 (g) Procedure for Transfer of TDR.

22 (1) TDR from a single Transfer Lot may be transferred as a group to a single  
23 transferee or in separate increments to several transferees. TDR may be transferred either  
24 directly from the original owner of the TDR to the owner of a Development Lot or to persons,  
25 firms or entities who acquire the TDR from the original owner of the TDR and hold them for



1 subsequent transfer to other persons, firms, entities or to the owners of a Development Lot or  
2 Lots.

3 (2) When TDR are transferred, they shall be identified in each Certificate of Transfer  
4 by a number. A single unit of TDR transferred from a Transfer Lot shall be identified by the  
5 number "1." Multiple units of TDR transferred as a group for the first time from a Transfer Lot  
6 shall be numbered consecutively from "1" through the number of units transferred. If a fraction  
7 of a unit of TDR is transferred, it shall retain its numerical identification. (For example, if 5,000-  
8 1/2 TDR are transferred in the initial transfer from the Transfer Lot, they would be numbered  
9 "1 through 5,000 and one-half of 5,001.") TDR subsequently transferred from the Transfer Lot  
10 shall be identified by numbers taken in sequence following the last number previously  
11 transferred. (For example if the first units of gross floor area transferred from a Transfer Lot  
12 are numbered 1 through 10,000, the next unit transferred would be number 10,001.) If multiple  
13 units transferred from a Transfer Lot are subsequently transferred separately in portions, the  
14 seller shall identify the TDR sold by numbers which correspond to the numbers by which they  
15 were identified at the time of their transfer from the Transfer Lot. (For example, TDR  
16 numbered 1 through 10,000 when transferred separately from the Transfer Lot in two equal  
17 portions would be identified in the two Certificates of Transfer as numbers 1 through 5,000  
18 and 5,001 through 10,000.) Once assigned numbers, TDR retain such numbers for the  
19 purpose of identification through the process of transferring and using TDR. The phrase  
20 "numerical identification," as used in this section, shall mean the identification of TDR by  
21 numbers as described in this Subsection.

22 (3) Transfer of TDR from the Transfer Lot shall not be valid unless (i) a Statement of  
23 Eligibility has been recorded in the Office of the County Recorder prior to the date of  
24 recordation of the Certificate of Transfer evidencing such transfer and (ii) a Notice of  
25 Suspension of Eligibility or Notice of Cancellation of Eligibility has not been recorded prior to



1 such transfer or, if recorded, has thereafter been withdrawn by an appropriate recorded Notice  
2 of Revocation or a new Statement of Eligibility has been thereafter recorded.

3 (4) Transfer of TDR, whether by initial transfer from a Transfer Lot or by a  
4 subsequent transfer, shall not be valid unless a Certificate of Transfer evidencing such  
5 transfer has been prepared and recorded. The Zoning Administrator shall prepare a form of  
6 Certificate of Transfer and all transfers shall be evidenced by documents that are substantially  
7 the same as the Certificate of Transfer form prepared by the Zoning Administrator, which form  
8 shall contain at least the following:

9 (i) For transfers from the Transfer Lot only:

10 (aa) Execution and acknowledgment by the original owner of TDR as the  
11 transferor(s) of the TDR; and

12 (bb) Execution and acknowledgment by the Zoning Administrator; and

13 (cc) A notice, prominently placed and in all capital letters, preceded by the  
14 underlined heading "Notice of Restriction," stating that the transfer of TDR from the Transfer  
15 Lot permanently reduces the development potential of the Transfer Lot by the amount of TDR  
16 transferred, with reference to the provisions of this Section.

17 (ii) For all transfers:

18 (aa) The address, legal description, Assessor's Block and Lot, and C-3 use district of  
19 the Transfer Lot from which the TDR originates; and

20 (bb) The amount of TDR transferred; and

21 (cc) Numerical identification of the TDR being transferred; and

22 (dd) The names and mailing addresses of the transferors and transferees of the  
23 TDR; and

24 (ee) Execution and acknowledgment by the transferors and transferees of the TDR;  
25 and



1           (ff)    A reference to the Statement of Eligibility, including its recorded instrument  
2 number and date of recordation, and a recital of all previous transfers of the TDR, including  
3 the names of the transferors and transferees involved in each transfer and the recorded  
4 instrument number and date of recordation of each Certificate of Transfer involving the TDR,  
5 including the transfer from the Transfer Lot which generated the TDR.

6           (5)    When a Certificate of Transfer for the transfer of TDR from a Transfer Lot is  
7 presented to the Zoning Administrator for execution, that officer shall not execute the  
8 document if a transfer of the TDR would be prohibited by any provision of this Section or any  
9 other provision of this Code. The Zoning Administrator shall, within five business days from  
10 the date that the Certificate of Transfer is submitted for execution, either execute the  
11 Certificate of Transfer or issue a written determination of the grounds requiring a refusal to  
12 execute the Certificate.

13           (6)    Each duly executed and acknowledged Certificate of Transfer containing the  
14 information required herein shall be presented for recordation in the Office of the County  
15 Recorder and shall be recorded by the County Recorder. The County Recorder shall be  
16 instructed to mail the original Certificate of Transfer to the person and address designated  
17 thereon and shall be given a copy of the Certificate of Transfer and instructed to conform the  
18 copy and mail it to the Zoning Administrator.

19           (h)    Certification of Transfer of TDR for a Project on a Development Lot.

20           (1)    When the use of TDR is necessary for the approval of a building permit for a  
21 project on a Development Lot, the Superintendent of the Bureau of Building Inspection shall  
22 not approve issuance of the permit unless the Zoning Administrator has issued a written  
23 certification that the owner of the Development Lot owns the required number of TDR. When  
24 the transfer of TDR is necessary for the approval of a site permit for a project on a  
25 Development Lot, the Zoning Administrator shall impose as a condition of approval of the site



1 permit the requirement that the Superintendent of the Bureau of Building Inspection shall not  
2 issue the first addendum to the site permit unless the Zoning Administrator has issued a  
3 written certification that the owner of the Development Lot owns the required number of TDR.

4 (2) In order to obtain certification as required in Section 128(h)(1), the permit  
5 applicant shall present to the Zoning Administrator:

6 (i) Information necessary to enable the Zoning Administrator to prepare the Notice  
7 of Use of TDR, which information shall be at least the following:

8 (aa) The address, legal description, Assessor's Block and Lot, and zoning  
9 classification of the Development Lot;

10 (bb) The name and address of the owner of record of the Development Lot;

11 (cc) Amount and numerical identification of the TDR being used;

12 (dd) A certified copy of each Certificate of Transfer evidencing transfer to the owner  
13 of the Development Lot of the TDR being used; and

14 (ii) A report from a title insurance company showing the holder of record of the TDR  
15 to be used, all Certificates of Transfer of the TDR, and all other matters of record affecting  
16 such TDR. In addition to showing all such information, the report shall guarantee that the  
17 report is accurate and complete and the report shall provide that in the event that its  
18 guarantee or any information shown in the report is incorrect, the title company shall be liable  
19 to the City for the fair market value of the TDR at the time of the report. The liability amount  
20 shall be not less than \$10,000 and no more than \$1,000,000, the appropriate amount to be  
21 determined by the Zoning Administrator based on the number of TDR being used.

22 (iii) An agreement whereby the owner of the Development Lot shall indemnify the  
23 City against any and all loss, cost, harm or damage, including attorneys' fees, arising out of or  
24 related in any way to the assertion of any adverse claim to the TDR, including any loss, cost,  
25 harm or damage occasioned by the passive negligence of the City and excepting only that



1 caused by the City's sole and active negligence. The indemnity agreement shall be secured  
2 by a ~~first deed of trust on the Development Lot~~ financial balance sheet certified by an auditor or a  
3 corporate officer showing that the owner has assets equal to or greater than the value of the TDR, or  
4 other security satisfactory to ~~the Department of City~~ Planning Department and the City Attorney.

5 (3) If the Zoning Administrator determines that the project applicant has complied  
6 with the provisions of Subsection (h)(2) and all other applicable provisions of this Section, and  
7 that the applicant is the owner of the TDR, that officer shall transmit to the Superintendent of  
8 the Bureau of Building Inspection, with a copy to the project applicant, written certification that  
9 the owner of the Development Lot owns the TDR. Prior to transmitting such certification, the  
10 Zoning Administrator shall prepare a document entitled Notice of Use of TDR stating that the  
11 TDR have been used and may not be further transferred, shall obtain the execution and  
12 acknowledgment on the Notice of the owner of record of the Development Lot, shall execute  
13 and acknowledge the Notice, shall record it in the Office of the County Recorder, and shall  
14 mail to the owner of record of the Development Lot a conformed copy of the recorded Notice.  
15 If the Zoning Administrator determines that the project applicant is not the owner of the TDR,  
16 or has not complied with all applicable provisions of this Section, that determination shall be  
17 set forth in writing along with the reasons therefor. The Zoning Administrator shall either  
18 transmit certification or provide a written determination that certification is inappropriate within  
19 10 business days after the receipt of all information required pursuant to Subsection (h)(2).

20 (i) Cancellation of Notice of Use; Transfer from Development Lot.

21 (1) The owner of a Development Lot for which a Notice of Use of TDR has been  
22 recorded may apply for a Cancellation of Notice of Use if (i) the building permit or site permit  
23 for which the Notice of Use was issued expires or was revoked or cancelled prior to  
24 completion of the work for which such permit was issued and the work may not be carried out;  
25 or (ii) any administrative or court decision is issued or any ordinance or initiative or law is



1 adopted which does not allow the applicant to make use of the permit; or (iii) a portion or all of  
2 such TDR are not used.

3 (2) If the Zoning Administrator determines that the TDR have not been and will not  
4 be used on the Development Lot based on the reasons set forth in subsection (i)(1), the  
5 Zoning Administrator shall prepare the Cancellation of Notice of Use of TDR. If only a portion  
6 of the TDR which had been acquired are not being used, the applicant may identify which  
7 TDR will not be used and the Cancellation of Notice of Use of TDR shall apply only to those  
8 TDR. The Zoning Administrator shall obtain on the Cancellation of Notice of Use of TDR the  
9 signature and acknowledgment of the owner of record of the Development Lot as to which the  
10 Notice of Use of TDR was recorded, shall execute and acknowledge the document, and shall  
11 record it in the office of the County Recorder.

12 (3) Once a Cancellation of Notice of Use of TDR has been recorded, the owner of  
13 the Development Lot may apply for a Statement of Eligibility in order to transfer the TDR  
14 identified in that document. The procedures and requirements set forth in this Section  
15 governing the transfer of TDR shall apply to the transfer of TDR from the owner of a  
16 Development Lot after a Notice of Use has been filed, except for the provisions of this Section  
17 permanently restricting the development potential of a Transfer Lot upon the transfer of TDR;  
18 provided, however, that the district or districts to which the TDR may be transferred shall be  
19 the same district or districts to which TDR could have been transferred from the Transfer Lot  
20 that generated the TDR.

21 (j) Erroneous Notice of Use; Revocation of Permit. If the Zoning Administrator  
22 determines that a Notice of Use of TDR was issued or recorded in error, that officer may direct  
23 the Superintendent of the Bureau of Building Inspection to suspend any permit issued for a  
24 project using such TDR, in which case the Superintendent shall comply with that directive.  
25 The Zoning Administrator shall thereafter conduct a noticed hearing in order to determine



1 whether the Notice of Use of TDR was issued or recorded in error. If it is determined that the  
2 Notice of Use of TDR was issued or recorded in error, the Superintendent of the Bureau of  
3 Building Inspection shall revoke the permit; provided, however, that no permit authorizing  
4 such project shall be revoked if the right to proceed thereunder has vested under California  
5 law. If it is determined that the Notice of Use of TDR was not issued or recorded in error, the  
6 permit shall be reinstated.

7 (k) Effect of Repeal or Amendment. TDR shall convey the rights granted herein only  
8 so long and to the extent as authorized by the provisions of this Code. Upon repeal of such  
9 legislative authorization, TDR shall there after convey no rights or privileges. Upon  
10 amendment of such legislative authorization, TDR shall thereafter convey only such rights and  
11 privileges as are permitted under the amendment. No Statement of Eligibility shall convey any  
12 right to use, transfer or otherwise utilize TDR if the maximum floor area ratio for the Transfer  
13 Lot is reduced after the Statement of Eligibility is issued.

14 (l) Preservation, Rehabilitation, and Maintenance Requirements for Transfer Lots.

15 (1) Any net proceeds from the sale of TDR sold after July 1, 2010 shall first be used to pay  
16 for or finance the preservation, rehabilitation, and ongoing maintenance of the building on the  
17 Transfer Lot, as well as to correct any outstanding Notices of Violation. Such work may include, but is  
18 not limited to, seismic strengthening or retrofit, work required to comply with disability access or life  
19 safety requirements, and work necessary to insure the long-term maintenance of the building. All such  
20 work shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic  
21 Properties.

22 (2) Prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Transfer, the owner of the Transfer Lot shall  
23 submit a report to the Zoning Administrator containing the following information: (i) legal documents  
24 of sale of the TDR showing the sale price of the TDR; (ii) a report detailing the preservation and  
25 rehabilitation work to be done to the Transfer Property, including an itemized list of the cost of the



1 work; (iii) a construction schedule; (iv) copies of any permits obtained for the work; and (v) any such  
2 other documentation as the Zoning Administrator may require to determine compliance with the  
3 requirements of this subsection 128(l).

4 (3) Within one year of the sale of TDR, the owner of the Transfer Property shall submit a  
5 report to the Zoning Administrator showing completion of all required preservation and rehabilitation  
6 work. Such report shall include: (i) information detailing the work completed; (ii) copies of all permits  
7 obtained for the work, including any Certificates of Appropriateness or Permits to Alter; (iii) any  
8 inspection reports or other documentation from the Department of Building showing completion of the  
9 work; (iv) itemized receipts of payment for work performed; and (v) any such other documentation as  
10 the Zoning Administrator may require to determine compliance with the requirements of this subsection  
11 128(l). The deadline for completion of the work and submittal of this report may be extended at the  
12 discretion of the Zoning Administrator upon application of the owner and only upon a showing that the  
13 owner has diligently pursued all required permits and completion of the work.

14 (4) Failure to comply with the requirements of this subsection (l), including all reporting  
15 requirements, shall be grounds for enforcement under this Code, including but not limited to under  
16 Sections 176 and 176.1. Penalties for failure to comply may include, but shall not be limited to, a lien  
17 on the Transfer Property equal to the sale price of the TDR sold.

18 Section 3. In accordance with Planning Code Sections 106 and 302, the following  
19 changes are hereby adopted as amendments to Zoning Use District Map ZN01 of the Zoning  
20 Map of the City and County of San Francisco:

Description of Property	Use District to be Superseded	Use District Hereby Approved
Assessor's Block No. 0241, Lots Nos. 011 and 012	Chinatown Visitor Retail (CVR)	<u>C-3-O</u>



1           Section 4.    The Board of Supervisors hereby approves the following amendment to  
2 the Chinatown Land Use and Density Plan of the Chinatown Area Plan of the General Plan of  
3 the City and County of San Francisco:

4           Assessor's Block No. 0241, Lots Nos. 011 and 012 are hereby removed from the  
5 Chinatown Land Use and Density Plan Map and are no longer zoned Chinatown Visitor Retail  
6 District (CVRD).

7  
8           Section 5.    The Board of Supervisors hereby approves the following amendment to  
9 the Downtown Land Use and Density Plan of the Downtown Area Plan of the General Plan of  
10 the City and County of San Francisco:

11          Assessor's Block No. 0241, Lots Nos. 011 and 012 are hereby added to the Downtown  
12 Land Use and Density Plan Map as C-3-O.

13  
14 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
15 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

16  
17 By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
18 Marlena G. Byrne  
19 Deputy City Attorney  
20  
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22  
23  
24  
25



# Parcel Map



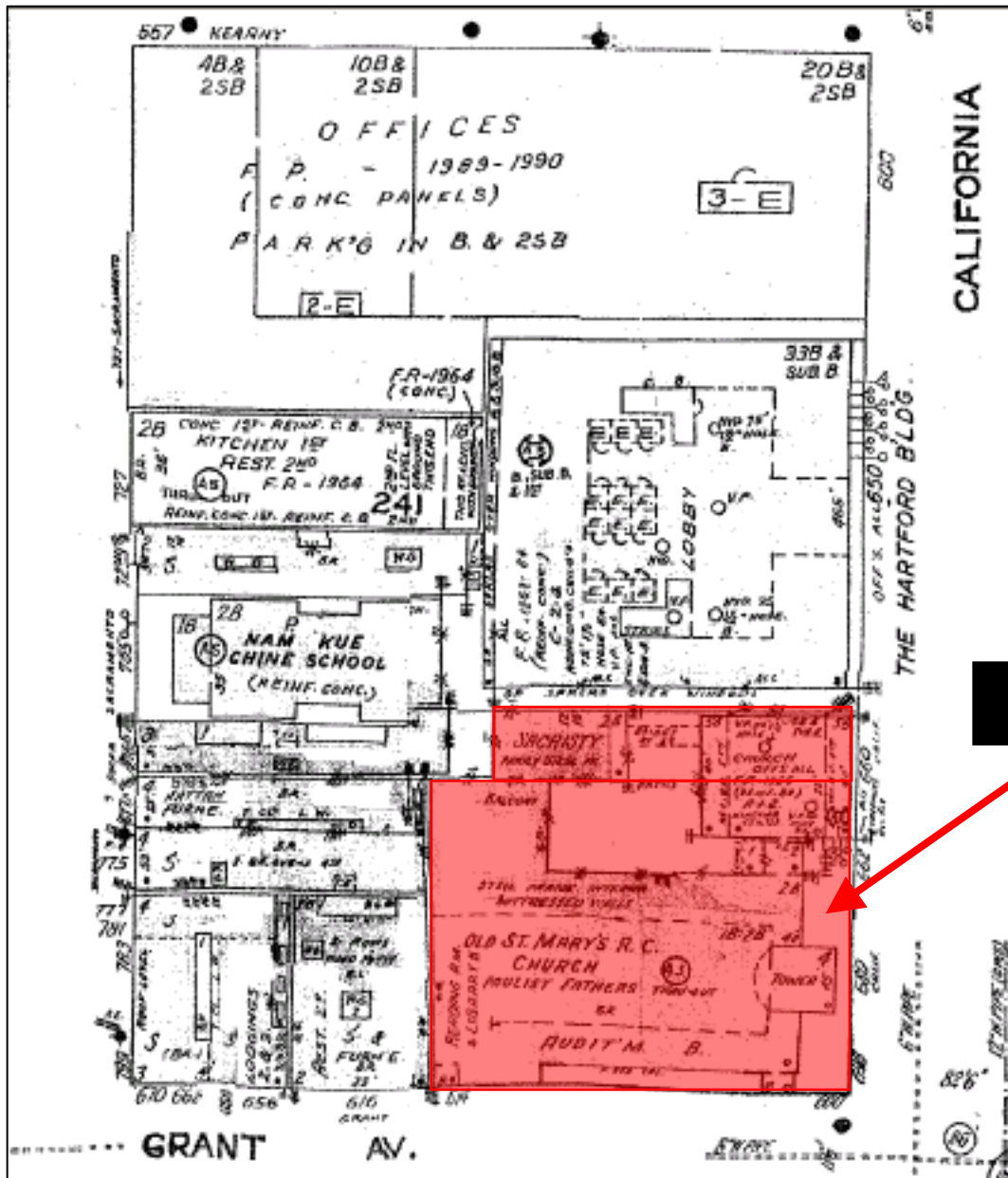
SUBJECT PROPERTIES



Case Number 2009.1180TQM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Sanborn Map\*



SUBJECT  
PROPERTIES

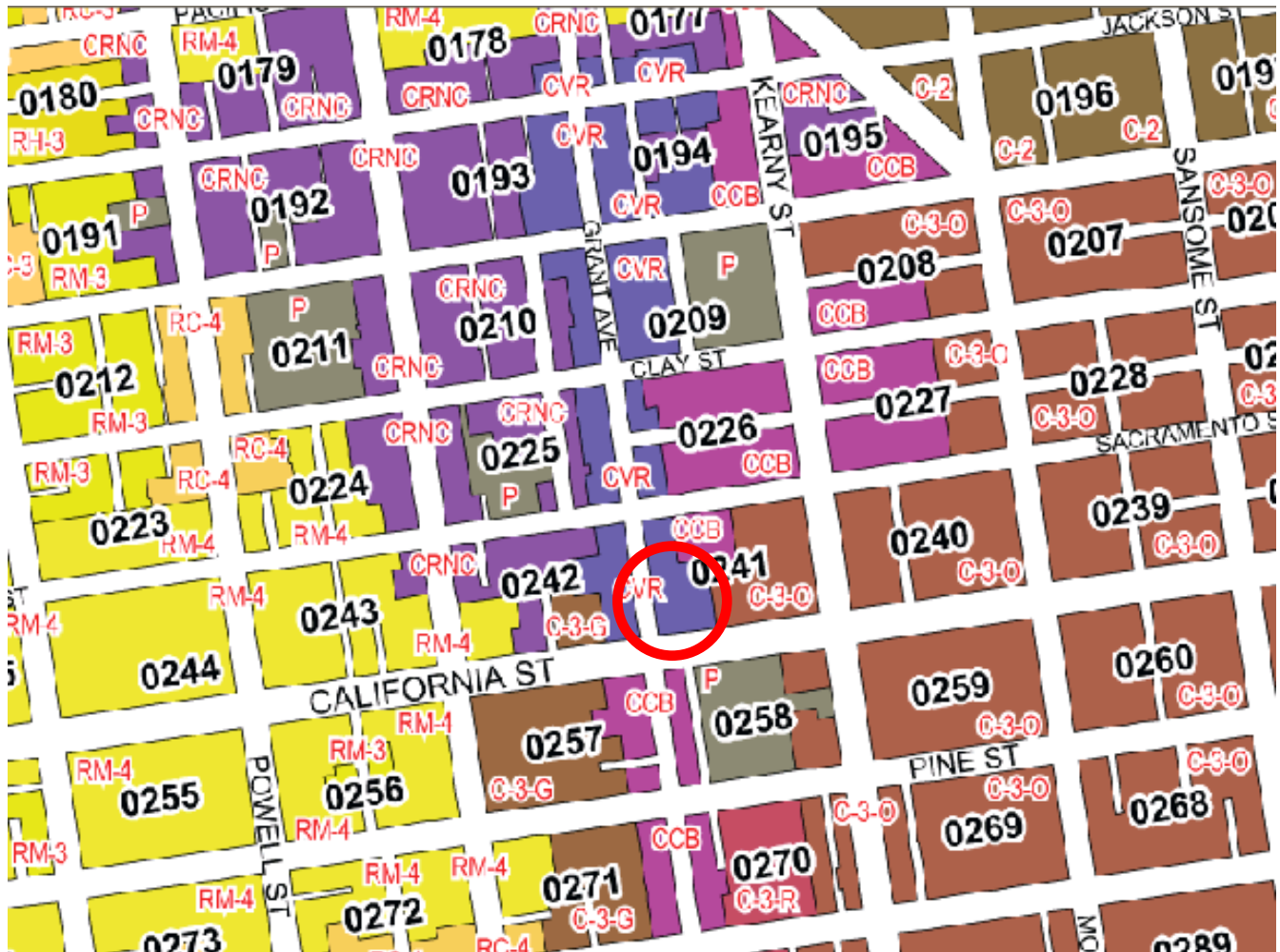
\*The Sanborn Maps in San Francisco have not been updated since 1998, and this map may not accurately reflect existing conditions.



Case Number 2009.1180TQM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Zoning Map



## ZONING USE DISTRICTS

### RESIDENTIAL, HOUSE DISTRICTS

RH-1(D) RH-1 RH-1(S) RH-2 RH-3

### RESIDENTIAL, MIXED (APARTMENTS & HOUSES) DISTRICTS

RM-1 RM-2 RM-3 RM-4

### NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS

NC-1 NC-2 NC-3 NCD NC-S

### SOUTH OF MARKET MIXED USE DISTRICTS

SPD RED RSD SLR SLI SSO

### COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS

C-2 C-3-S C-3-G C-3-R C-3-O C-3-O(SD)

### INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS

C-M M-1 M-2

### CHINATOWN MIXED USE DISTRICTS

CRNC CVR CCB

### RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS

RC-3 RC-4

### REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY DISTRICTS

MB-RA HP-RA

### DOWNTOWN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

RH DTR TB DTR

### MISSION BAY DISTRICTS

MB-OS MB-O

### PUBLIC DISTRICT

P

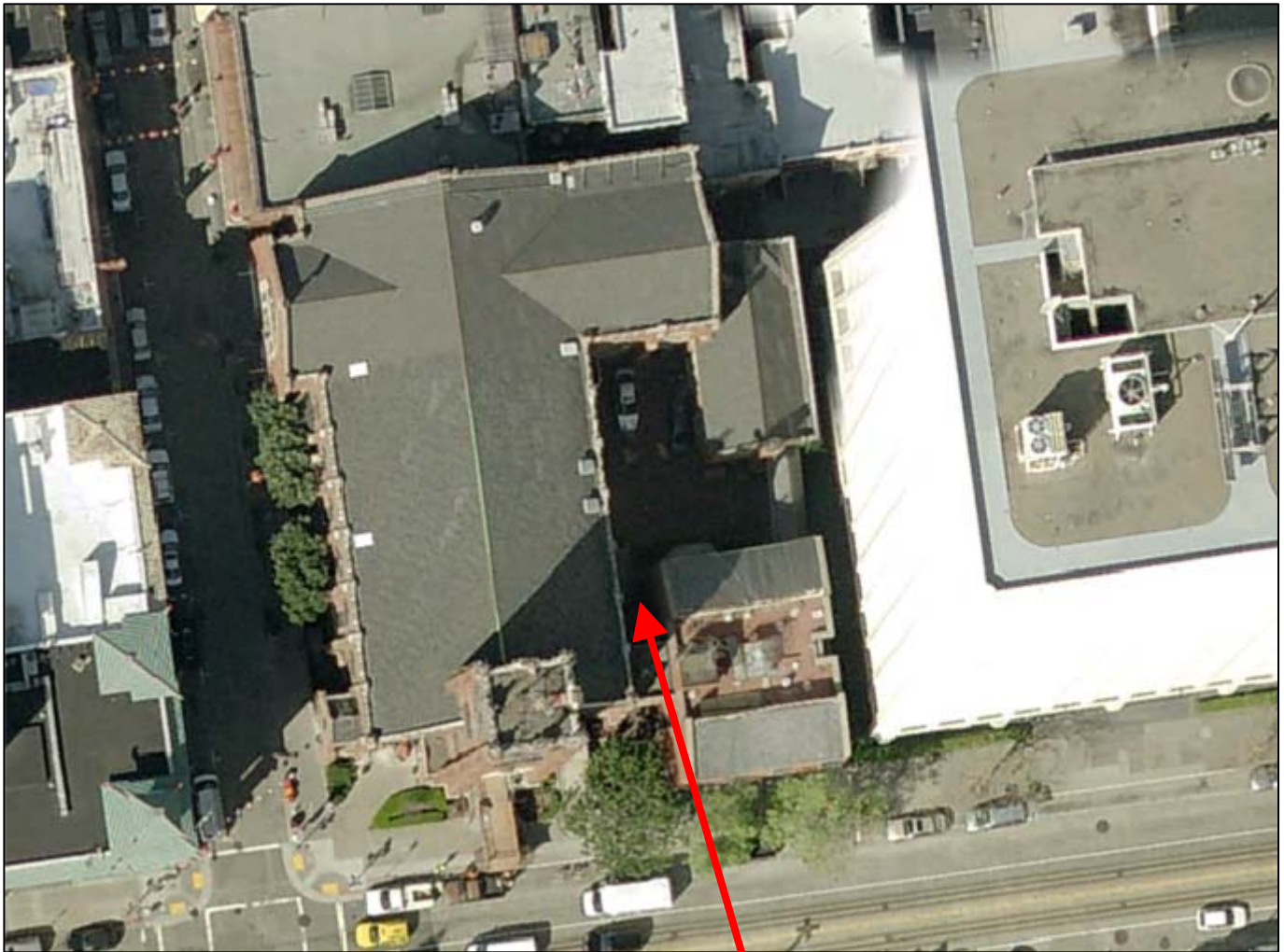


Case Number 2009.1180TQM

Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Aerial Photo



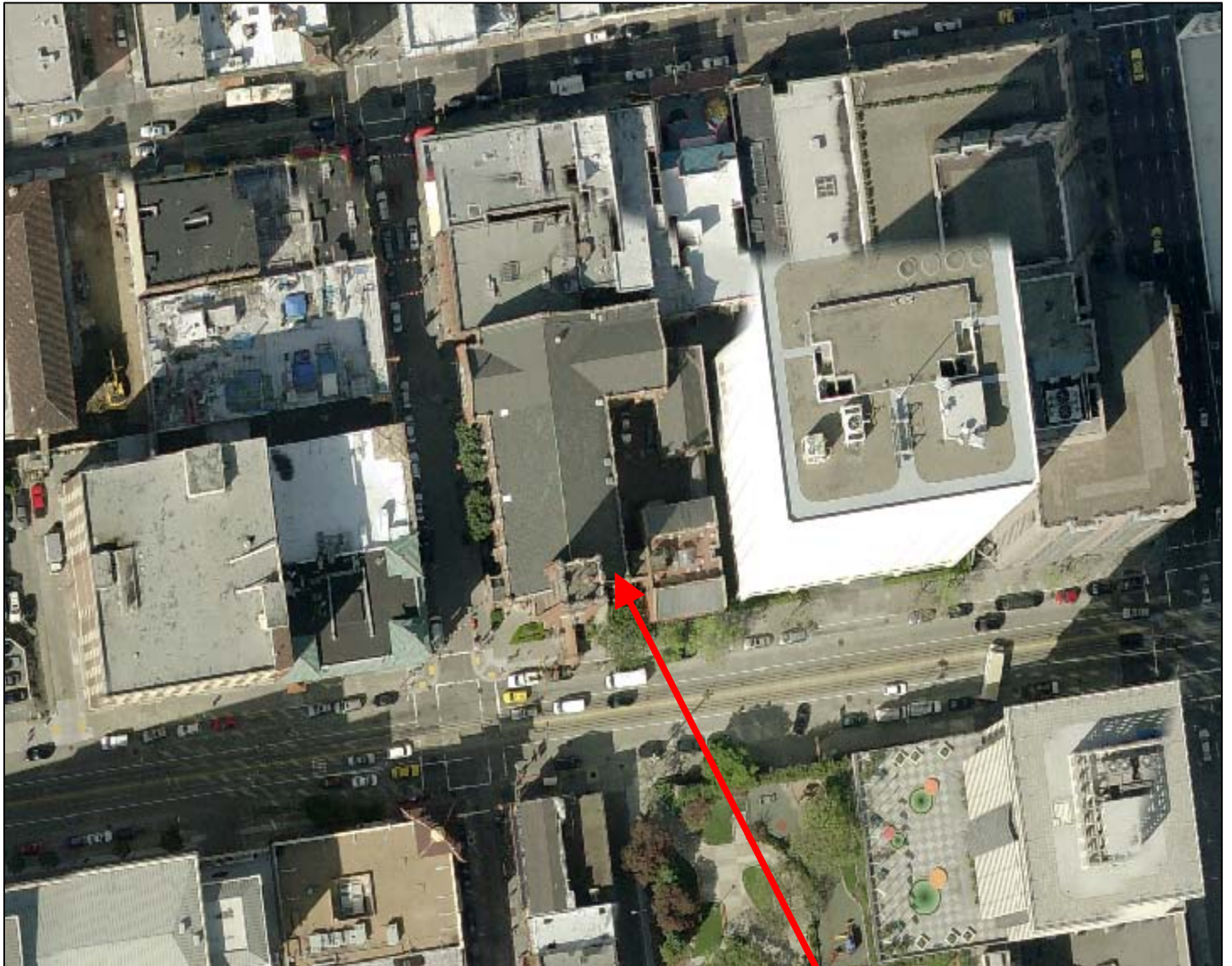
SUBJECT  
PROPERTIES



Case Number 2009.1180TZM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Aerial Photo



SUBJECT  
PROPERTIES



Case Number 2009.1180TZM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Site Photo



Case Number 2009.1180TzM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Site Photo



**Case Number 2009.1180TzM**  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Site Photo



Case Number 2009.1180TZM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



# Site Photo



**Case Number 2009.1180TZM**  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



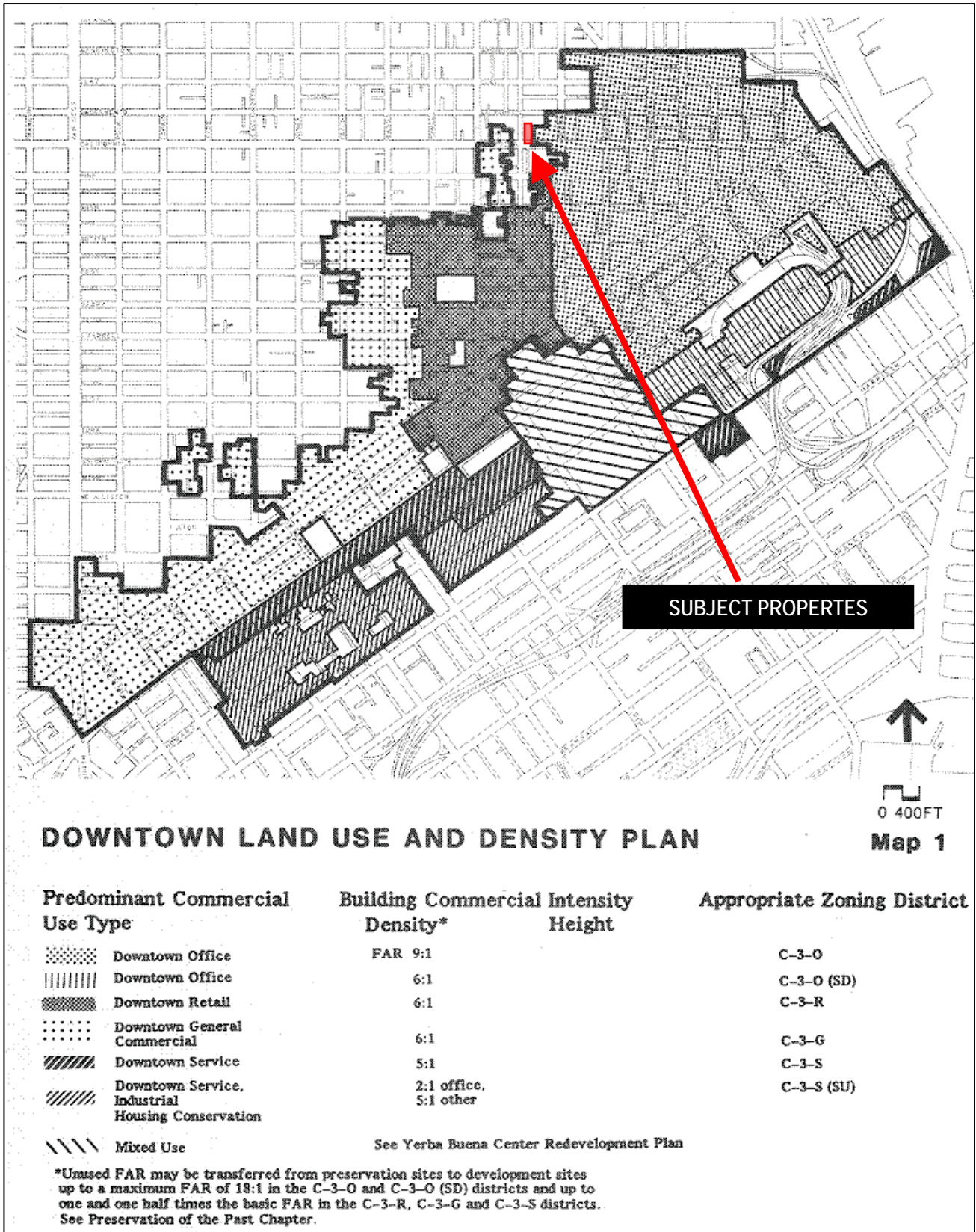
# Site Photo



Case Number 2009.1180TZM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



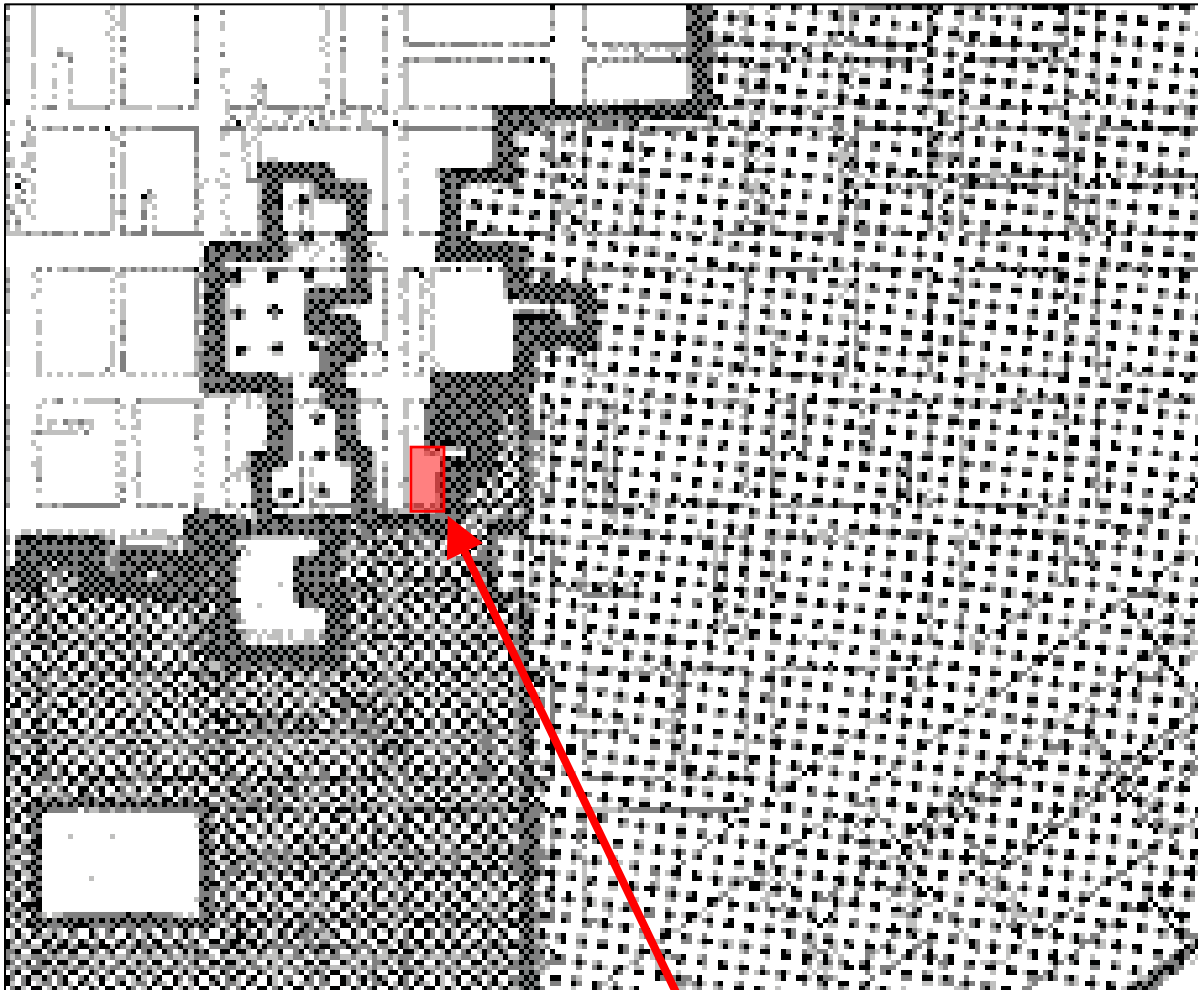
# Downtown Land Use & Density Plan Map



General Plan Amendment  
Case Number 2009.1180TzM  
Old St. Mary's Church  
660-680 California Street



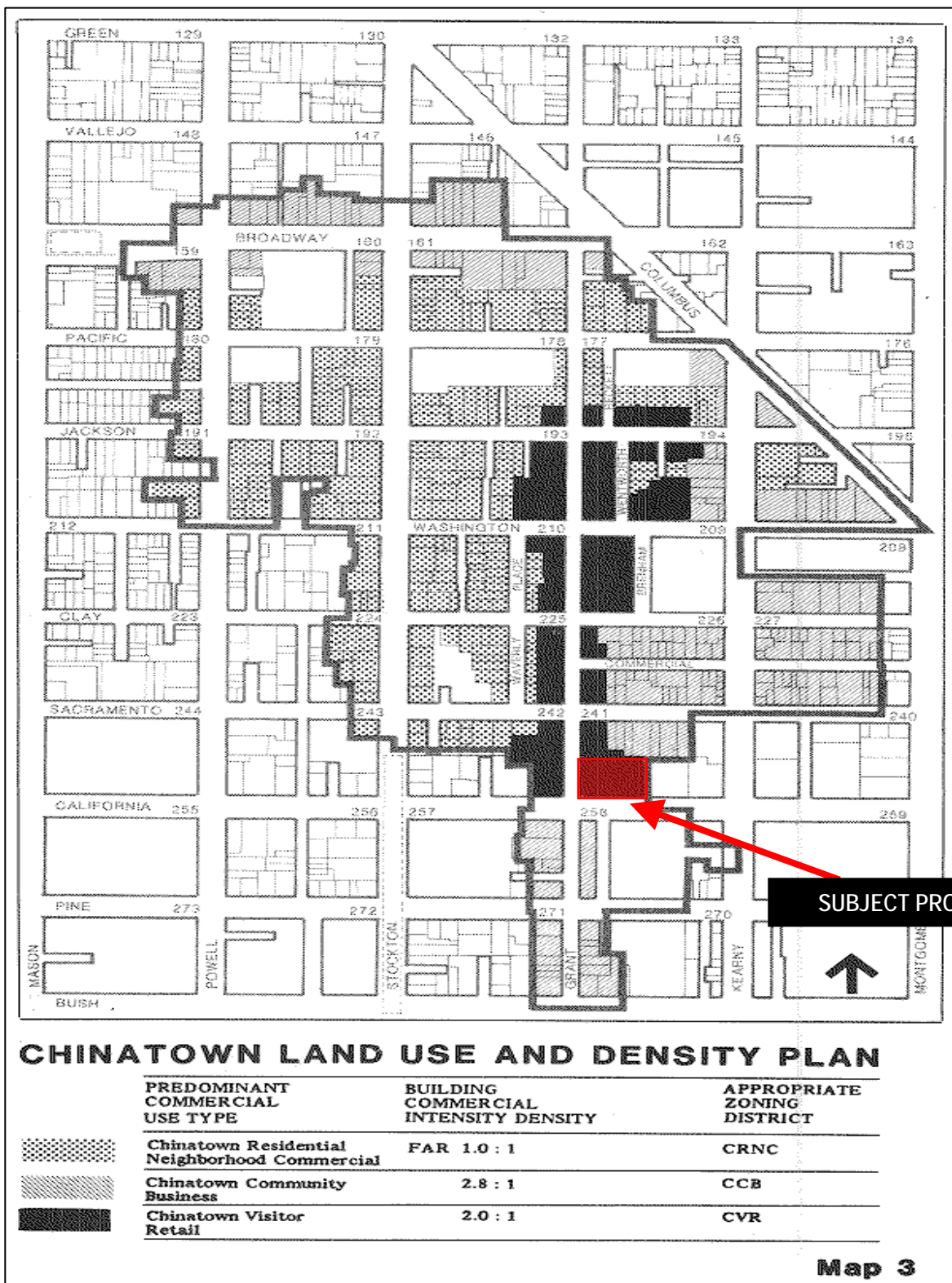
# Downtown Land Use & Density Plan Map



SUBJECT PROPERTIES







# Chinatown Land Use & Density Plan Map



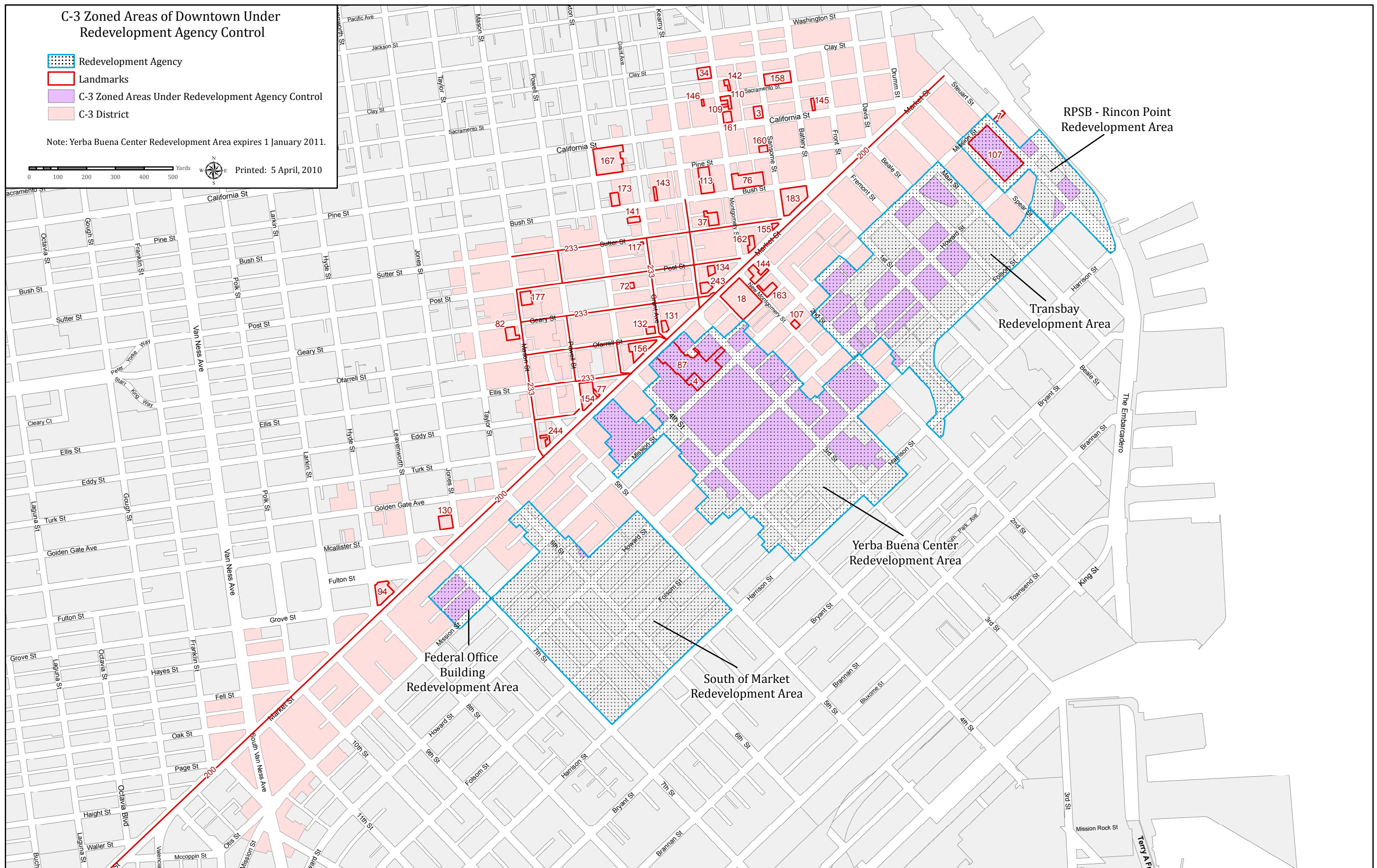
General Plan Amendment  
 Case Number 2009.1180TZM  
 Old St. Mary's Church  
 660-680 California Street



C-3 Zoned Areas of Downtown Under  
Redevelopment Agency Control

-  Redevelopment Agency
-  Landmarks
-  C-3 Zoned Areas Under Redevelopment Agency Control
-  C-3 District

Note: Yerba Buena Center Redevelopment Area expires 1 January 2011.





# LUCE FORWARD

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April 19, 2010

## **VIA E-MAIL AND MESSENGER**

Mr. Ron Miguel  
President, Planning Commission  
1650 Mission Street, Fourth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Subject: Proposed Amendments to Section 128 (Transfer of Development Rights)  
Proposed Reclassification of Old Saint Mary's Church from Chinatown Visitor  
Retail to C-3-0 Zoning District

Dear President Miguel and Honorable Commissioners:

Our office represents Old Saint Mary's Church ("Old Saint Mary's"), located at 660-680 California Street, San Francisco, California. Old Saint Mary's, a small local parish that was constructed in 1854, is the second oldest church in the City and has been an active parish since its opening. Preservation of this important landmarked building required the expenditure of approximately \$9,724,852 in construction costs for seismic retrofitting and upgrading, and ADA compliance and Building Code deficiency work, which does not include necessary deferred maintenance work that is essential to preserve this building. Old Saint Mary's has raised over 6 million dollars toward the total construction costs but has been unable to raise any additional funds. In order to raise the additional money to complete the phased project, including paying for the financing of the second phase, retrofitting the character-defining bell tower feature of the Church, Old Saint Mary's began exploring fund raising options such as selling transferable development rights ("TDRs").

### **Amendments to Planning Code Section 128**

The proposed amendments to the TDR provisions of the Planning Code have been drafted narrowly to ensure that a Planning Code Article 10 City Designated Landmark in a C-3 District can transfer its TDRs to sites located anywhere in any of the C-3 sub-districts, provided that the Development Lot where the TDRs are being transferred is not within a Redevelopment Plan Area. Additionally, proceeds from the sale must be used exclusively to pay for or finance the correction of Building Code violations and deficiencies, for compliance with current seismic standards, fire safety standards and ADA requirements, or for deferred maintenance.



Commission Ron Miguel

April 19, 2010

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To educate and inform the community of this process, Old Saint Mary's embarked on an extensive community consultation process, including meeting and consulting with the Chinatown Community Development Center ("CCDC") and the Foundation for San Francisco Architectural Heritage ("Heritage"). Initially, CCDC expressed concerns that the TDR sales proceeds could be misspent. To address their concerns, Section 128(l) was added to ensure that the TDR sales proceeds must be expended on items that would preserve the building. The adoption of the legislation will benefit all landmarked buildings in the C-3 Zoning District, especially those owned by non-profit organizations that may need to maintain and bring their buildings into compliance with current seismic, ADA and other Building Code requirements but lack the requisite financial resources.

### **Reclassification of the Old Saint Mary's Property to a C-3-0 Zoning District**

Prior to the adoption of the Chinatown Mixed-Use Districts (Planning Code Section 801 *et seq*), Old Saint Mary's was located in a C-3 Zoning District. Currently, the property is located in the Chinatown Visitor Retail district, which is immediately contiguous to a C-3-O Zoning District. This minor change of boundary between the C-3-O Zoning District and the Chinatown Mixed-Use Districts does not constitute spot zoning. The proposed zoning change will not affect the use or intensity of Old Saint Mary's. As discussed in the case report, the proposed rezoning of Old Saint Mary's from Chinatown Visitor Retail to a C-3-0 Zoning District will not adversely affect the Chinatown Mixed-Use Districts. In fact, CCDC supports this requested change.

Old Saint Mary's has served both the Chinese and San Francisco communities at large for approximately 156 years. The reclassification of the property allowing the sale of TDRs will enable Old Saint Mary's to complete all the work required to preserve this building so that it can serve the community for many years to come.

### **Conclusion**

For the reasons discussed above and in the case report, we respectfully request that this Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors the adoption and passage of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 128 governing the transfer of TDRs and the reclassification of Old Saint Mary's from Chinatown Visitor Retail to a C-3-O Zoning District.



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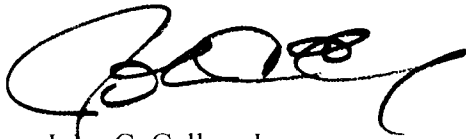
Commission Ron Miguel

April 19, 2010

Page 3

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John C. Callan, Jr.', with a stylized, flowing script.

John C. Callan, Jr.

of

LUCE, FORWARD, HAMILTON & SCRIPPS LLP

cc: Commissioner Michael Antonini  
Commissioner Gwyneth Borden  
Commissioner William Lee  
Commissioner Kathrin Moore  
Commissioner Hisashi Sugaya  
John Rahaim  
Larry Badiner  
Tina Tam  
Tara Sullivan  
Andrea Contreras  
Father Charles Kullmann, CSP



ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP, INC.  
Architects, Planners & Conservators

15 April 2010

Historic Preservation Commission  
San Francisco Planning Department  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
Attention: President Charles Chase and  
Honorable Commissioners

Re: Old St. Mary's Cathedral  
ARG project number 92018.11  
Permit Application Numbers: 9817528 (Master Permit – open)  
200310107213 (Phase 1 Permit – complete)  
200405042973 (Phase 1 revision – complete)  
200510145648 (Phase 2 – complete)

Dear President Chase and Honorable Commissioners:

As you are aware, Old St Mary's Cathedral has undertaken a seismic retrofit project to correct its UMB deficiencies. This project originally was submitted for permit in 1998 but the funding was not available for all the work to be completed at once. Consequently, the project proceeded on a phased basis in order to make the church as safe as possible as funds were raised. The Building Department has cooperated with this approach.

Phase I construction started in December 2002 and was completed in mid 2004. The Phase I work included all of the seismic work except for the strengthening of the bell tower and a small amount of foundation work in the east transept. Briefly, the scope included:

- Installation of new foundations under the Nave and East Transept.
- Wall finishes removed, concrete shear walls installed, and then finishes restored on the east and west walls of the ground floor Auditorium, and the south wall of the East Transept.
- Tube steel braces added in the ground floor Auditorium
- The altar and wall finishes were removed from the north wall of the Sanctuary for installation of steel column and beam bracing on that wall. The altar was reinstalled and all wall finishes restored.
- The north end of the Balcony floor framing was reinforced with additional steel beams. Finishes were removed for the work and then restored.
- The Nave walls were vertically drilled down to the foundation and reinforcing steel ties installed. As part of this process, the ground floor windows on the east and west facades had to be narrowed. The windows were replaced with smaller units similar to the original configuration.
- A horizontal steel truss was added on each side of the Nave roof, interlaced with the existing vertical steel trusses
- The roof valleys at the intersection of the Nave and Transept roof were reinforced with new steel truss members
- The existing roof trusses were seismically tied to the walls.

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## ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES GROUP, INC.

Architects, Planners & Conservators

- The asphalt shingle roofing was stripped, a plywood roof diaphragm added, and new asphalt shingle roofing installed.
- The roof parapets were braced back to the roof trusses
- The fire sprinkler system upgraded and a fire alarm system added.

The construction of Phase I was completed by Nibbi Brothers Construction for a total cost of \$5,997,778. Soft costs for the project design, documentation, and construction administration services were \$267,575. Total project costs came to \$6,265,353.<sup>1</sup>

Phase II completed the structural work in the bell tower and transept foundation. This work was submitted for permit in November 2005, however the permit was not issued until March 2008. Construction started that summer and was completed in December 2009. The Phase II scope included:

- New foundation buttresses were added at the tower. As part of this work, the granite entry stairs were removed and then carefully reinstalled.
- Concrete shear walls were added to the inside of the tower, from foundation to roof. The wood framed floors and roof were replaced with concrete floor diaphragms.
- As a result of the additional wall thickness added, the plaster vaulting in the Entry was removed and replicated with adaptations to the new wall dimensions.
- As all the HVAC equipment resides in the bell tower, this equipment was replaced and systems upgraded.
- The bell and clock mechanism were removed, rehabilitated, and reinstalled.
- Fire sprinklers were extended into all tower spaces
- The exterior tower louvers were replicated and replaced.
- The roof crosses were removed, rehabilitated, and reinstalled.

The construction of Phase II was also completed by Nibbi Brothers Construction for a total cost of \$2,806,363. Soft costs for the project design, documentation, and construction administration services were \$157,550, resulting in total project costs of \$2,933,913.<sup>1</sup>

Phase III is comprised of the accessibility work triggered by the structural upgrade. These items include:

- Installation of an elevator in the west entry stair to serve the ground floor auditorium, street level, and the main Nave level.
- Rebuilding of the west stair serving the Balcony to accommodate the new elevator.
- Installation of a wheelchair lift to provide access to the raised stage in the ground floor Auditorium.
- Installation of a wheelchair lift to provide access at a half level offset in the ground floor of the East Transept.
- Remodeling of the existing non-accessible restroom at the ground floor East Transept to be an accessible uni-sex facility.
- Installation of wheelchair ramps in the Nave to provide access to the altar platform.
- ADA signage for restroom and accessible routes.

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<sup>1</sup> Total project costs quoted for all phases do not include other soft costs such as loan interest and fees, and legal fees and costs, which have not been determined at this time.



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A cost estimate for Phase III has been prepared by Nibbi Brothers Construction. Total hard costs are estimated to be \$420,454. Total soft costs for the necessary design work, documentation, and construction administration services are estimated to be \$105,132. Total projects cost are estimated to be \$525,586.<sup>1</sup>

None of the Phase III work will be visible from the exterior. As such, we do not anticipate that a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission will be required.

Sincerely,

Andrew G. Blyholder, AIA, LEED AP  
Senior Associate

Cc: Vice President Courtney Damkroger  
Tina Tam (via email only)  
Tara Sullivan (via email only)  
Andrea Contreras (via email only)  
Fr. Charles Kullman, CSP (via email only)  
John C. Callan, Jr., Esp (via email only)



April 28, 2010

San Francisco Planning Dept.  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Attn: Ms. Tara Sullivan

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

As parishioners of Old St. Mary's Cathedral we would like to encourage your support for the zoning change and the planning code amendment regarding the sale of our Church's TDRs so that Old St. Mary's would be able to pay for the other safety upgrades required to complete the seismic retrofit.

In order to pay for these life safety upgrades Old St. Mary's needs to sell its "TDR" (Transferable Development Rights). Since our Church is a City designated landmark, it can sell its unused development rights to another property somewhere else in the City that needs additional development rights.

Old St. Mary's Cathedral is an important City landmark, the oldest cathedral in the City, and to preserve this landmark it is, needless to say, very important to finish the seismic retrofit and upgrading of Old St. Mary's.

We sincerely hope and pray that you and the other members of the Planning Commission would approve this very important step to permit Old St. Mary's Cathedral to become fully retrofitted, code compliant and to move forward confidently as our vibrant parish into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John and Barbara Schmidt". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with the first letters of "John" and "Barbara" being capitalized and prominent.

John and Barbara Schmidt

Parishioners of Old St. Mary's Cathedral





Ms. Josephine Leen  
1221 Greenwich St., Apt. 3  
San Francisco, CA 94109

April 8, 2010

Gara Sullivan  
S.F. Planning Dept  
1650 Mission St. #400  
SF 94103

Dear Ms. Sullivan  
I am a long-time parishioner of Old St. Mary's Cathedral. After eight or more years, retrofitting of the church has been completed, but there is still a large debt to be repaid. Old St. Mary's needs to sell its TDRs to another property elsewhere in the city.

Because the current zoning prohibits the sale of the TDRs, I urge you to amend the Planning Code to C-3-0.

We still need to complete some seismic retrofitting and structural work to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

We need to preserve this historic City Landmark.

Sincerely,

Josephine Leen