



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

*Subject to: (Select only if applicable)*

- ☐ Affordable Housing (Sec. 415)  
☐ Jobs Housing Linkage Program (Sec. 413)  
☒ Other: Development Agreement

- ☐ First Source Hiring  
☐ Child Care Requirement (Sec. 414)  
☐ Other: Permit to Convert, Street Tree In-Lieu Fee

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## Planning Commission Motion No. 18600 General Plan Referral

HEARING DATE: APRIL 26, 2012

*Date:* April 12, 2012  
*Case No.:* 2005.0555E; 2009.0885MTZCBRSK; 2012.0403W  
*Project Address:* 1100, 1101 Van Ness Avenue; 1255 Post Street; 1020, 1028-1030, 1034-1036, 1040—1052, 1054-1060, 1062 Geary Street  
*Zoning/Ht. & Blk.* RC-4/Van Ness Special Use District/130-V  
*Proposed Zoning/* Van Ness Special Use District, Van Ness Avenue Medical Use Subdistrict  
*Height & Bulk:* 265-V (Hospital site), 130-V (MOB site)  
*Assessor's Block/Lot:* 0695/005, 006; 0694/005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 009A, 010  
*Project Sponsor:* Geoffrey Nelson, CPMC  
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ADOPTING FINDINGS RELATING TO THE DETERMINATION THAT: (1) GRANTING REVOCABLE PERMISSION TO THE CALIFORNIA PACIFIC MEDICAL CENTER (A) TO OCCUPY A PORTION OF THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ON VAN NESS AVENUE IN ORDER TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN A PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL UNDER VAN NESS AVENUE (STATE HIGHWAY 101) TO CONNECT THE NEW MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING AND THE NEW HOSPITAL LOCATED AT 1100 AND 1101 VAN NESS AVENUE RESPECTIVELY; (B) TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN OFF-SITE IMPROVEMENTS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CEDAR STREET BETWEEN VAN NESS AVENUE AND POLK STREET, ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING AND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF CEDAR STREET CONTIGUOUS TO THE PROPERTY AT 1001 POLK STREET (BLOCK 0694, LOT 004), INCLUDING RECONSTRUCTING AND WIDENING THE EXISTING SIDEWALK, INSTALLING NEW LANDSCAPING AND RECONSTRUCTING THE EXISTING ROADWAY WITH PAVERS; AND (C) TO INSTALL AND MAINTAIN TWO 30,000 GALLON DIESEL FUEL TANKS WITHIN THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY UNDER GEARY BOULEVARD BETWEEN FRANKLIN STREET AND VAN NESS AVENUE, IN ORDER TO SERVE THE HOSPITAL AT 1101 VAN NESS AVENUE; AND (2) CHANGING THE OFFICIAL SIDEWALK WIDTH OF: (A) THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF POST STREET BETWEEN

FRANKLIN STREET AND VAN NESS AVENUE; (B) THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF GEARY BOULEVARD BETWEEN FRANKLIN STREET AND VAN NESS AVENUE; (C) THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF GEARY STREET STARTING AT VAN NESS AVENUE CONTINUING EAST 325 FEET; (D) BOTH SIDES OF CEDAR STREET STARTING AT THE INTERSECTION WITH VAN NESS AVENUE CONTINUING EAST TO POLK STREET; (E) THE WESTERLY SIDE OF VAN NESS AVENUE STARTING FROM GEARY BOULEVARD TO POST STREET; AND (F) THE EASTERLY SIDE OF VAN NESS AVENUE BETWEEN GEARY STREET AND CEDAR STREET; IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW CATHEDRAL HILL MEDICAL CENTER CAMPUS, WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES OF THE GENERAL PLAN AND THE PRIORITY POLICIES OF PLANNING CODE SECTION 101.1; AND MAKING AND ADOPTING ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS.

## PREAMBLE

On June 10, 2005, Ralph F. Marchese of The Marchese Company, Inc., on behalf of the California Pacific Medical Center (hereinafter referred to variously as "CPMC" and "Project Sponsor"), submitted an Environmental Evaluation Application ("EEA") with the Planning Department ("Department"), Case No. 2005.0555E<sup>1</sup>. The Department issued a Notice of Preparation of Environmental Review on July 1, 2006, to owners of properties within 300 feet, adjacent tenants, and other potentially interested parties. However, as planning for the CPMC Long Range Development Plan ("LRDP") continued, additional components were added to the LRDP that resulted in a reissuance of a revised NOP for a 30-day public review period on May 27, 2009.

On July 21, 2010, the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") for CPMC's LRDP Project, including the new Cathedral Hill Hospital and Cathedral Hill Medical Office Building ("Cathedral Hill MOB"), was prepared and published for public review, and was available for public comment until October 19, 2010.

On September 23, 2010, the Planning Commission ("Commission") conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to solicit comments regarding the DEIR. On March 29, 2012, the Department published a Comments and Responses ("C&R") document, responding to comments made regarding the DEIR prepared for the LRDP. Together, the Comments and Responses document, the DEIR, and any Errata Sheets, (the Appendices to the DEIR and C&R document), Department staff testimony and responses to questions and comments at the Commission's April 26, 2012, public hearing regarding certification of the Final EIR, and all of the supporting information that has been reviewed and considered by the Department comprise the Final EIR for the LRDP ("FEIR").

On April 26, 2012, the Commission reviewed and considered the FEIR and found that the contents of said report and the procedures through which the FEIR was prepared, publicized, and reviewed complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 *et seq.*) ("CEQA"), 14 California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 *et seq.* (the "CEQA Guidelines"), and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code ("Chapter 31").

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<sup>1</sup> At the time of this application, the Cathedral Hill Hospital site was within the boundaries, and was governed by the land use controls, of the Western Addition A-2 Plan. Those controls expired on January 1, 2009.

The Commission found the FEIR was adequate, accurate and objective, reflected the independent analysis and judgment of the Department and the Commission, and that the summary of comments and responses contained no significant revisions to the DEIR, and certified the FEIR for the LRDP Project in compliance with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31.

The Planning Department, Linda Avery, is the custodian of records, located in the File for Case No. 2005.0555E, at 1650 Mission Street, Fourth Floor, San Francisco, California.

Department staff prepared a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program ("MMRP") for the LRDP Project, which material was made available to the public and this Commission for this Commission's review, consideration and action.

On April 26, 2012, the Commission (1) adopted Motion No. 18588 certifying the FEIR as accurate, adequate and complete, (2) adopted Motion No. 18589, adopting CEQA findings, including a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and adopting the MMRP, and (3) adopted other Motions and Resolutions with respect to the LRDP Project.

On June 10, 2010, the Project Sponsor submitted a request, as modified by subsequent submittals, to amend the following sections of the General Plan: (1) the text of the Van Ness Area Plan to support a high density medical center at the intersection of Van Ness Avenue and Geary Boulevard that is consistent with the City's Better Streets Plan; (2) "Map 1 – Generalized Land Use and Density Plan" of the Van Ness Area Plan to designate the sites proposed for the new Cathedral Hill Hospital and Cathedral Hill MOB as "The Van Ness Medical Use Subdistrict", and to increase the allowable floor area ratio ("FAR") for the Cathedral Hill Hospital site from 7:1 to 9:1, and to increase the allowable FAR for the Cathedral Hill MOB site from 7:1 to 7.5:1; (3) "Map 2 – Height and Bulk Districts" of the Van Ness Area Plan to create a 265-V Height and Bulk District coterminous with the Cathedral Hill Hospital site, in order to amend the height limit for the Cathedral Hill Hospital site from 130'-0" to 265'-0"; (4) "Map 4 – Height Map" of the Urban Design Element, to reflect a maximum height applicable to the Cathedral Hill Hospital site of 265'-0"; and (5) "Map 5 – Bulk Map" of the Urban Design Element, to reflect the proposed maximum plan and maximum diagonal plan dimensions allowed for the Cathedral Hill Hospital and MOB sites, of 385'-0" maximum plan and 466'-0" maximum diagonal plan dimensions for the Cathedral Hill Hospital site, and 265'-0" maximum plan and 290'-0" maximum diagonal plan dimensions for the Cathedral Hill MOB site (2009.0885M).

On June 10, 2010, the Project Sponsor submitted a request, as modified by subsequent submittals, to amend the following sections of the San Francisco Planning Code: (1) Section 243, the Van Ness Special Use District, to create a new Van Ness Medical Use Subdistrict, that would allow an FAR up to 9:1 for the Cathedral Hill Hospital site and 7.5:1 for the Cathedral Hill MOB site; allow modification of otherwise applicable standards for building projections to allow for coverage of drop-off and entry areas required by medical facilities; allow modification of otherwise applicable standards for obstructions over streets or alleys for vertical dimension and horizontal projections to allow architectural features that achieve appropriate articulation of building facades and that reduce pedestrian level wind currents; allow modification through Conditional Use authorization of otherwise applicable standards for street frontage

requirements as necessary for large-plate medical facilities on sloping sites with multiple frontages; allow modification through Conditional Use authorization of otherwise applicable parking standards for medical centers, provided that the amount of parking shall not exceed 150% of the number of spaces otherwise allowed by the Planning Code; allow modification of otherwise applicable loading standards for medical centers; and to allow modification through Conditional Use authorization of otherwise applicable bulk standards to allow for the unique massing requirements of medical facilities. (Case No. 2009.0885T).

On June 10, 2010, the Project Sponsor submitted a request, as modified by subsequent submittals, to amend the following Zoning Maps of the San Francisco Planning Code: (1) Map HT02 to reclassify the Cathedral Hill Hospital site from 130-V to 265-V Height and Bulk District; and (2) Map SU02 to show the boundaries of the Van Ness Medical Use Subdistrict (Case No. 2009.0885Z).

On June 10, 2010, the Project Sponsor filed an application, as modified by subsequent submittals, with the Department for Conditional Use Authorization to allow (1) the Cathedral Hill Hospital and MOB as a medical center use in the RC-4 District and pursuant to the provisions for the Van Ness Special Use District ("VNSUD"); (2) allow construction of buildings over 50'-0" in an RC-4 District; (3) authorize demolition of five residential dwelling-units at the Cathedral Hill MOB site; (4) modify standards for active ground floor uses and width of curb cuts; (5) provide an exception to allow wind speeds greater than 11 mph at certain sidewalk locations around the perimeter of the Cathedral Hill Campus; (6) modify the bulk limits applicable to the Cathedral Hill Hospital and MOB sites; and (7) modify the 3:1 residential to net new non-residential ratio requirement in the VNSUD, pursuant to Planning Code Sections ("Sections") 145.1, 209.3, 243, 253, 270, 271, 303, and 317.

On June 10, 2010, the Project Sponsor submitted an application to the Department, as modified by subsequent submittals, for the allocation of Office Space for approximately 194,000 sf of medical office space along with ancillary hospital and medical support service space on the upper floors of the proposed Cathedral Hill MOB (Case No. 2009.0885B).

On March 30, 2012, the Project Sponsor submitted an Application for a Development Agreement relating to the construction and reconstruction of health care facilities in furtherance of CPMC's LRDP by and between the City and County of San Francisco and CPMC, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 56.4. This Application was endorsed and accepted as complete by the Planning Director on April 4, 2012.

On April 28, 2011, the Project Sponsor submitted a request, as modified by subsequent submittals, for a General Plan Referral, Case No. 2009.0885R, regarding construction of the pedestrian tunnel that would connect the Cathedral Hill Hospital and MOB sites below grade under Van Ness Avenue, installation of two diesel fuel tanks under the Geary Boulevard sidewalk at the Cathedral Hill Hospital site; and sidewalk widening along various streets adjacent to the Cathedral Hill Campus (2009.0885R).

On April 5, 2012, the Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting and adopted Resolution No. 18571, initiating the requested General Plan Amendments.

On April 10, 2012, the Mayor, at the Board of Supervisors hearing, introduced the (1) Planning Code Text Amendments in Board File No. 120357; (2) the Zoning Map Amendments in Board File No. 120359, (3) the street encroachment ordinance in Board File No. 120362, (4) the Development Agreement in Board File No. 120366, and (5) sidewalk width legislation in Board File No. 120364.

On April 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Motion No. 18589, adopting CEQA findings, including a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and adopting the MMRP, which findings and adoption of the MMRP are hereby incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

On April 26, 2012, the Planning Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting and adopted: (1) Resolution No. 18591, recommending that the Board of Supervisors approved the requested General Plan Amendments; (2) Motion No. 18592, approving the General Plan and Planning Code Section 101.1 Findings; (3) Resolution No. 18597, recommending that the Board of Supervisors approve the requested Planning Code Text and Map Amendments; (4) Motion No. 18598, approving the Conditional Use authorization; (5) Motion No. 18599, approving the Office Allocation; and (6) Resolution No. 18602, recommending that the Board of Supervisors approve the Development Agreement.

On April 26, 2012, the Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting for the General Plan Referral Application No. 2009.0885EMTZCBRSK.

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 on behalf of the applicant, Department staff, and other interested parties.

**MOVED**, that the Commission hereby adopts the General Plan Referral described in Application No. 2009.0885MTZCBRSK, based on the following findings:

## **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. The above recitals are accurate and constitute findings of this Commission.
2. **Site Description and Present Use.** The site of the proposed Cathedral Hill Hospital currently contains the Cathedral Hill Hotel and 1255 Post Street office building. The site occupies a full city block – bounded by Van Ness Avenue, Geary Boulevard, Franklin Street, and Post Street – and contains approximately 106,000 square feet of lot area. The site slopes downward to the east along Post Street and Geary Boulevard, and slopes downward to the south along Franklin Street and Van Ness Avenue. The hotel is 10 stories above grade and 176 feet tall, and the adjacent office building is 11 stories above grade and 180'-tall; these buildings are both vacant, and together they contain approximately 381,791gsf of floor area.

The site of the proposed Cathedral Hill MOB is located on the east side of Van Ness Avenue, between Geary and Cedar Streets (Geary Boulevard becomes Geary Street east of Van Ness Avenue). The site contains approximately 36,200 sf of lot area, and slopes downward to the east along Cedar and Geary Streets, and slopes downward to the south along Van Ness Avenue and the eastern edge of the project site near Polk Street. The site currently contains seven parcels with a variety of ground floor commercial uses, five residential dwelling units, and 20 residential hotel units on upper floors. All of these spaces are vacant.

The sites of the future Cathedral Hill Hospital and MOB are located within the RC-4 Zoning District (Residential-Commercial, High Density), Van Ness Special Use District, Van Ness Automobile Special Use District, and 265-V Height and Bulk District.

The RC-4 Zoning District is intended to provide a mixture of high-density dwellings with supporting commercial uses. Hospitals are permitted in this District with Conditional Use authorization.

The Van Ness Avenue Special Use District controls help to implement the objectives and policies of the Van Ness Avenue Plan, which is a part of the General Plan. The key goals of the Van Ness Avenue Plan are to (i) create of a mix of residential and commercial uses along Van Ness Avenue, (ii) preserve and enhance of the pedestrian environment, (iii) encourage the retention and appropriate alteration of architecturally and historically significant and contributory buildings, (iv) conserve the existing housing stock, and (v) enhance the visual and urban design quality of the street. The controls of the special use district include a requirement that new residential uses be provided at a 3:1 ratio to net new nonresidential uses. With a Conditional Use Authorization, this requirement can be modified or waived for institutional uses that serve an important public need that cannot reasonably be met elsewhere in the area.

3. **Surrounding Properties and Neighborhood.** The neighborhoods surrounding the Cathedral Hill Project site include Cathedral Hill, the Tenderloin, the Polk Street NCD, the Western Addition, Civic Center, Little Saigon, Japantown and Lower Pacific Heights. Although the surrounding neighborhoods contain predominately low- and mid-rise structures, there are a number of large-scale high-rise apartment buildings and several large commercial buildings in the Van Ness Avenue corridor. The Cathedral Hill neighborhood is also known for its prominent houses of worship, including St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Francisco, and Hamilton Square Baptist Church.

The Cathedral Hill Project site is at a major transit hub. It is directly accessible to nine Muni Bus lines. The following weekday routes serve the area: 2-Clement, 3-Jackson, 4-Sutter, 19-Polk, 31-Balboa, 38-Geary, 38L-Geary Limited, 47-Van Ness, 49-Van Ness Mission and 76-Union. The Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District provides regional transit services between San Francisco and Marin and Sonoma Counties, with seven Golden Gate Transit bus routes serving the Medical Center area, including two basic routes and five commute routes. The Cathedral Hill Project site is approximately three quarters of a mile from the Civic Center Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)/Muni station.

The site is also bounded by or in the vicinity of major thoroughfares including Geary Boulevard, Franklin Street and Van Ness Avenue. Van Ness Avenue is the continuation of U.S. 101 Highway through the City, joining, via Lombard Street, the Golden Gate Bridge to the north with the elevated U.S. 101 approximately one mile to the south.

4. **Project Description.** This approval relates to the items in the General Plan Referral application, but the broader Near-Term Projects are described here for context. The Near-Term Projects outlined in CPMC's LRDP will result in a five campus system with three acute care hospitals – Davies, St. Luke's, and Cathedral Hill – providing approximately 903 licensed beds and three full-service emergency departments (one at each of the acute care hospitals). The Davies Hospital North Tower was retrofitted in 2008 to remain operational to 2030. The St. Luke's Hospital will be replaced by a new hospital built on campus, adjacent to the existing hospital. The California and Pacific Campuses will remain operational as acute care hospitals until the proposed Cathedral Hill Hospital is constructed and operational. Once the proposed Cathedral Hill Hospital is built, as part of the Near-Term Project implementation activities, the acute care services at California and Pacific Campuses will be transferred to the Cathedral Hill Hospital, and the Pacific Campus's existing 2333 Buchanan Street Hospital would undergo renovation and reuse as an ambulatory care center.<sup>2</sup> In the long-term, the Pacific Campus will become an outpatient facility, and CPMC proposes an additional medical office building on the Davies Campus.<sup>3</sup>

The Cathedral Hill Project will include a new acute care hospital, a new MOB, and a pedestrian tunnel under Van Ness Avenue to connect the two facilities.

The proposed Cathedral Hill Hospital will be a 555-bed, 265'-0" tall, 15-story, approximately 875,378 g.s.f acute care hospital. The Cathedral Hill Hospital may include, but is not limited to inpatient medical care, labor and delivery, and post-partum care; specialized programs such as organ transplantation, interventional cardiology and newborn intensive care; and an approximately 12,000 sf emergency department. It will also include retail space, a cafeteria, education and conference space; a private, outdoor courtyard for patients, visitors, and staff, and a central utility plant and a three-level underground parking garage with 513 parking spaces. All vehicular access to the main drop-off and parking levels will be from Geary Boulevard and Post Street, with emergency vehicle (ambulance) access from Post Street. Large vehicle loading and private vehicle access to the emergency department will be from Franklin Street.

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<sup>2</sup> 2333 Buchanan Street is an Existing Use under the proposed Development Agreement and is distinguished from the new construction proposed for the Long-Term Project at the Pacific Campus. The renovation and reuse may include, but is not limited to, the following uses: outpatient care, diagnostic and treatment services, Alzheimer's residential care, medical support services such as pre- and post-ambulatory surgery, outpatient laboratory services, physical and occupational therapy, hospital administration, and cafeteria uses.

<sup>3</sup> Long-Term Projects at the Davies and Pacific Campuses are being evaluated at a program-level as part of CPMC's LRDP EIR. There are no pending Near-Term Projects under review for the Pacific Campus, and CPMC has not proposed any Near-Term or Long-Term Projects at the California Campus, which CPMC plans to sell after the majority of the services at that campus have been relocated to the Cathedral Hill and Pacific Campuses.

The building configuration of the Cathedral Hill Hospital has been designed based on the need to accommodate the specialized operational and functional requirements of a major hospital building located on a single City block. The building has two distinct elements: a lower broad supporting podium and a narrow tower with an east-west orientation. These elements accommodate two distinct building functions: diagnostic and treatment and support services within the podium, and inpatient care in the upper bed tower. The building silhouette, created by the tower and podium design, relates to both the immediate neighborhood context and the broader urban core. The building also has been designed to minimize the proportion of the façade along Van Ness Avenue and Post and Franklin Streets and allow for an appropriate pedestrian scale along those streets.

The new Cathedral Hill Hospital's building massing, height and square footage would be concentrated most intensely on the southern half of the site, along Geary Boulevard, where the 15-story rectangular tower would be constructed. The lowest concentration of building mass, height and square footage would be located on the northern half of the site, along Post Street, where the six-story podium component would be constructed. Levels 1 through 4 of the 15-story and six-story portions of the Cathedral Hill Hospital would be connected as one contiguous building (the podium). There is an open-air courtyard area on the fifth floor of the six-story portion of the Cathedral Hill Hospital.

The most efficient placement of the inter-related services in the podium requires the broad floor plates of the podium (approximately 100,000 g.s.f). This design locates all the operating and procedure rooms and required recovery spaces on one floor, which increases the building and operational efficiencies, and reduces the overall size of the building. These floor plates replace, by comparison, existing spaces currently occupying multiple floors, buildings, and campuses (Pacific and California).

The location of the main pedestrian entrance on Van Ness Avenue orients related public space, such as the second floor cafeteria, along the east side of the podium. Since the site slopes downhill from Franklin Street to Van Ness Avenue, the lobbies and public realm capitalize on daylight at the east side of the site. Spaces not requiring daylight, such as parking and support services, are stacked below the uphill grade along Franklin Street, lowering the perceived height of the podium from the west side of the site.

Access to the podium for vehicles, including ambulances and delivery vehicles, was also designed taking into account the buildings around the site, existing circulation issues, the slope of the site, and necessary adjacencies within the building. For example, the loading dock is located directly adjacent to the service elevators and away from the Daniel Burnham towers.

The closest part of the Cathedral Hill Hospital to the Daniel Burnham towers will be the podium, the height of which is actually lower than the existing office building and height limit for new construction at that location. Kiosk Markets would be located in niches in the bays along the Van



Ness Avenue façade of the Cathedral Hill Hospital. These niches could provide space for commercial uses such as a café, news stand or flower shop.

The bed tower and elevators are offset to the south of the site. This location for the bed tower was chosen so that the tower would not be in the center of the podium. If it were in the podium center, this would not allow the necessary contiguous floor areas in the podium (e.g., unbroken by a large elevator core). In determining whether the tower should be on the north or south side of the property, it was clear that the south side location was preferable. Although the location chosen for the tower has certain disadvantages, including shadowing the major green roof areas and courtyard on the podium, it was determined that these disadvantages were outweighed by the advantages to the Daniel Burnham towers and properties generally to the north.

The Central Utility Plant is on the top two floors of the building. This location has overall benefits for air quality and noise. Roof screens will conceal the Central Utility Plant. The roof screens are also a design element on the roof, creating an interesting building silhouette. Variation in materials at the screens articulates and integrates the tower façade.

The Cathedral Hill MOB would provide office space for physicians affiliated with the Cathedral Hill Hospital and for other ancillary uses. The Cathedral Hill MOB would be about nine stories at the highest portion of the building along Van Ness Avenue. It is approximately 130 feet tall to the top of the roof, varying in height from approximately 122 to 169 feet due partly to the slope of the site.

The Cathedral Hill MOB would replace seven smaller buildings along Geary Street between Van Ness Avenue and Polk Street. An important goal of the design of the Cathedral Hill MOB is to complement, to the extent feasible, the scale of nearby buildings so that the new building will fit within the urban pattern of this neighborhood.

The Cathedral Hill MOB is designed to be compatible with the architecture, scale, and massing of the surrounding building, relating to the historical vernacular of the buildings found along Van Ness Avenue. The design draws cues from – but is distinctly different than – the historical vernacular of many buildings found along the Van Ness Avenue corridor (i.e. Concordia Club, Regency Theater, Opal, 1000 Van Ness). The building's architectural organization includes a symmetrical design with a clearly articulated "entrance" at the center of the building's Van Ness Avenue façade, and with a solid base holds the corners more appropriately. The exterior treatment of the building includes a concrete cladding (GFRC), and the scale of the building includes window openings punched in the GFRC, similar to the two-story window bays found along many of the buildings along Van Ness Avenue. The height of the building at the street aligns with similar buildings along the Van Ness Avenue corridor, particularly the adjacent building, the Concordia Club; the podium at the street is capped by a contemporary cornice, in a form similar to other buildings on Van Ness Avenue. The upper portion of the building is set back from the Van Ness Avenue podium façade to reinforce this scale at the street.

The streetscape plan in development by CPMC for the Cathedral Hill Project is a critical part of its design. CPMC proposes to enhance the pedestrian environment by improving the street frontages in the Cathedral Hill Project area. The Cathedral Hill Project would enhance the pedestrian environment and improve the street frontages in the area, by expanding sidewalk widths and the landscaped areas, offering visual relief to pedestrians, and providing a buffer between pedestrians and traffic lanes. Rainwater gardens would be incorporated around the Cathedral Hill Hospital on Geary Boulevard and Post Street. These rain gardens would filter and absorb storm water from the sidewalks and building faces, and potentially from the building roofs and street surfaces. Landscaping along Van Ness Avenue for both the Cathedral Hill Hospital and Cathedral Hill MOB frontages would include tightly spaced matching street trees, and a "seasonal garden" planting strip separating the sidewalk from the curb lane. The entrances to both facilities would have entry plazas and matching flowering trees on either side of Van Ness. The public Emergency Department entrance on Franklin would have an inviting entry plaza, with vertical plantings near the entrance.

The western end of Cedar Street would be transformed into an Entry Plaza for the Cathedral Hill MOB, with a curbside drop-off area defined by tactile warning tiles and lighted bollards. Cedar Street would be planned so that it could be used for special events such as street fairs or markets in the evenings or on weekends, when the Cathedral Hill MOB and Cedar Street businesses would be closed. Cedar Street would be planted with street trees and shrubs, and would include pedestrian-level street lights along its length.

CPMC's streetscape plan has been designed to complement the City-sponsored improvements anticipated as part of the BRT project. The plan for Geary Boulevard west of Van Ness includes a stop for the proposed Geary BRT with a transit plaza. The Van Ness BRT stops are planned for the Van Ness median south of Geary. The final locations of the BRT stops have not been determined; however CPMC will update its Streetscape Plan accordingly to be consistent with adjustments to the BRT plan. The streetscape plan includes designs for BRT stop shelters. CPMC's Cathedral Hill Project includes benches along Geary Street and Post Street to accommodate transit riders. A stop for the CPMC shuttle is planned near the corner of Post Street and Van Ness Avenue, which will provide wind and rain protection and will also include shade trees and seating.

Although the proposed hospital is not subject to the San Francisco Building Code and the Green Building Ordinance, CPMC has committed to "building green", and is seeking LEED Certified status for the Cathedral Hill Hospital; the Cathedral Hill MOB is subject to San Francisco's Green Building Ordinance, and will achieve a minimum of LEED Silver certification.

Additional medical office space will be provided within the existing building at 1375 Sutter Street, which is currently a mixture of retail, office, and medical office space. That building will be renovated, retaining the existing retail and parking spaces; an additional 60 parking spaces required as the result of increased medical office use within the building will be provided off-site within the Cathedral Hill Hospital's underground parking garage. This conversion from general

office to medical office space does not require any office allocation under Planning Code Section 321.

5. **Public Comment.** The Department has received substantial comments expressing support for and opposition to CPMC's LRDP, over the past 7 years since the initial EEA was submitted. Support for and opposition to CPMC's LRDP can be found in the project files at the Planning Department.
6. **CEQA Findings.** On April 26, 2012, by Motion No. 18588, the Commission certified as adequate, accurate and complete the FEIR for the LRDP Project, which includes the Cathedral Hill Project. A copy of Commission Motion No.18588 is in the file for Case No. 2005.0555E. Also on April 26, 2012, by Motion No. 18589, the Commission adopted findings, including a statement of overriding considerations and an MMRP, pursuant to CEQA. In accordance with the actions contemplated herein, the Commission has reviewed the FEIR and adopts and incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein the findings, including the statement of overriding considerations, pursuant to CEQA, adopted by the Commission on April 26, 2012, in Motion No. 18589.
7. **General Plan Referral.** San Francisco Charter Section 4.105 and Sections 2A.52 and 2A.53 of the San Francisco Administrative Code require that, for projects that include certain actions, the Department or the Commission must review these actions and determine whether the project is in conformity with the objectives and policies of the General Plan, as well as the Priority Policies of Section 101.1. The following aspects of the Cathedral Hill Project trigger the requirement for a General Plan referral:
  - a. **Sidewalk and Street Encroachments.** The Cathedral Hill Project requires several encroachment permits, associated with the construction of the new Cathedral Hill Hospital and MOB, in order to: (1) occupy of a portion of the public right-of-way on Van Ness Avenue in order to construct and maintain a pedestrian tunnel under Van Ness Avenue to connect the new Cathedral Hill MOB and the new Cathedral Hill Hospital located at 1100 and 1101 Van Ness Avenue respectively; (2) construct and maintain off-site improvements on the north side of Cedar Street between Van Ness Avenue and Polk Street, across the street from the Cathedral Hill MOB and on the south side of Cedar Street contiguous to the property at 1001 Polk street (block 0694, lot 004), including reconstructing and widening the existing sidewalk, installing new landscaping and reconstructing the existing roadway with pavers; and (3) install and maintain two 30,000 gallon diesel fuel tanks within the public right of way under Geary Boulevard between Franklin Street and Van Ness Avenue, in order to serve the Cathedral Hill Hospital at 1101 Van Ness Avenue.
  - b. **Sidewalk Width Changes.** The Cathedral Hill Project includes changes to sidewalk widths along various streets surrounding the Cathedral Hill Campus. Specifically, it includes changes to the official sidewalk width of: (a) the southerly side of Post Street between Franklin Street and Van Ness Avenue; (b) the northerly side of Geary Boulevard

between Franklin Street and Van Ness Avenue; (c) the northerly side of Geary Street starting at Van Ness Avenue continuing east 325 feet; (d) both sides of Cedar Street starting at the intersection with Van Ness Avenue continuing east to Polk street; (e) the westerly side of Van Ness Avenue starting from Geary Boulevard to Post Street; and (f) the easterly side of Van Ness Avenue between Geary Street and Cedar Street.

8. **General Plan Compliance.** The General Plan Consistency Findings set forth in Motion No. 18592 apply to this Motion, and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
9. **Planning Code Section 101.1(b).** The General Plan Priority Policy Findings of Planning Code Section 101.1 as set forth in Motion No. 18592 apply to this Motion, and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
10. The sidewalk and street encroachments and sidewalk width changes included as part of the Cathedral Hill Project are consistent with and would promote the general and specific purposes of the Code provided under Section 101.1(b) as outlined in **Motion No. 18592** and also in that the Cathedral Hill Project would contribute to the healthcare delivery and emergency services in San Francisco, include substantial economic benefits to the City during both the construction and operational phases, provide substantial other public benefits as outlined in the proposed Development Agreement, and be compatible with the character and stability of the neighborhood, thereby constituting a beneficial development.
11. The Commission hereby finds that, for the reasons described above, approval of the General Plan Referral would promote the health, safety and welfare of the City.

**DECISION**

That based upon the Record, the submissions by the Applicant, the staff of the Department and other interested parties, the oral testimony presented to this Commission at the public hearings, and all other written materials submitted by all parties, the Commission hereby **ADOPTS FINDINGS** that 1) street and sidewalk encroachments, and 2) sidewalk width changes around the Cathedral Hill Campus; are consistent with the Objectives and Policies of the General Plan, and the Priority Policies of Section 101.1.

I hereby certify that the Planning Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Motion on April 26, 2012.



Linda D. Avery  
Commission Secretary

AYES: Fong, Antonini, Borden, and Miguel

NAYS: Moore and Sugaya

ABSENT: Wu

ADOPTED: April 26, 2012