

March 29, 2013

Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl. Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Mayor Edwin Lee  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl. Room 200  
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Oppose Ordinance 12-1019, California Environmental Quality Act Procedures (Wiener)

Dear Supervisors, and Mayor Lee,

Because San Francisco Board Supervisor Scott Wiener's Ordinance 12-1019, *Administrative Code - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Procedures*;

Would force appeals of environmental exemptions to be filed within 30 days after the first discretionary approval of a project, when under current San Francisco procedures such appeals may be filed following the *final* discretionary approval of a project after which much more can be known about any given project's environmental impacts,

Would empower the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to avoid hearing any CEQA appeals, including appeals of Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), under its State mandated responsibility as a full 11 member judicial body to consider such appeals in formal appeal proceedings, and to instead relegate consideration of objections to CEQA determinations to a three member committee of the Board which would not be required to hold full formal appeal hearings to consider such objections,

Would eliminate in local San Francisco code the important State standard that an EIR must be prepared for any project for which there is "substantial evidence to support a fair argument" that the project could have significant environmental impacts, and would replace that standard language with the shorter and more restrictive phrase "substantial evidence" alone, thereby requiring a far higher burden of proof to establish the necessity of EIRs, and,

Would impose the highly onerous requirement that any person or group filing a detailed letter of appeal to an environmental determination, must also file all documentation supporting the substance of the appeal with that letter, when currently only the letter of appeal itself is necessary to request an appeal hearing,

Therefore we the undersigned strongly urge you to oppose Supervisor Scott Wiener's Ordinance 12-1019, *Administrative Code - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Procedures*.

Sincerely,

(initial signatories)

Sierra Club      Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods      Community CEQA Improvement Team

San Francisco Green Party      Our City San Francisco