

STRUCTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE INFORMATION PER SAN FRANCISCO BUILDING CODE

105A.6 Structural Advisory Committee.

105A.6.1 Establishment.

There is hereby created a three-member Structural Advisory Committee, to advise the Building Official on matters pertaining to the design and construction of buildings with special features or special design procedures. Upon request by the Building Official, the engineer of record for such a project shall demonstrate to the Structural Advisory Committee how the structural concepts, designs, details, erection methods and quality control will produce a structure that would meet the intent of Section 101A.2.

105A.6.2 Members.

For consideration of each building with such special features, the Structural Advisory Committee shall consist of members who are knowledgeable in the structural engineering and construction issues presented by those special features. Members shall be selected from a list of qualified engineers submitted by the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California and approved by the Building Official. One member shall be selected by the Building Official, one member shall be selected by the owner, and the third member shall be selected jointly. Compensation of the Structural Advisory Committee members shall be by the owner. However, when the project for which Committee review is required is located in the Edgehill Mountain Slope Protection Area, as defined by Building Code Section 106A.4.1.2 or the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area as defined by Building Code Section 106A.4.1.3 or is subject to Committee review pursuant to the Slope Protection Act, Building Code Section 106A.4.1.4.5, (a) the Committee shall consist of a structural engineer, a geologist and a geotechnical engineer; (b) the Committee shall consult with an architect, who shall be a voting member of the Committee; (c) the selection of the Committee members shall be as follows: one member shall be selected jointly by the Building Official and the Director of Public Works, one member shall be selected solely by the Building Official and one member shall be selected by the Building Official and the owner from recommendations made by interested persons, including but not limited to residents of the neighborhood surrounding the project location; and (d) to the extent feasible, the Committee members should be selected from a list submitted by the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California.

105A.6.3 Report.

The Structural Advisory Committee shall submit to the Building Official a written report which shall include professional opinions concerning, but not limited to, the following:

1. The validity and appropriateness of the structural design concepts and criteria.
2. An evaluation of the structural design of the building or structure to determine its capability to perform satisfactorily beyond the elastic stresses stipulated by the code, with sufficient redundancy to accommodate overloads or failures of specific structural components.
3. The constructability of proposed structural details and erection methods.
4. The sufficiency of the proposed inspection, testing and monitoring to be provided during prior to and during construction.

106A.4.1.3**Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area.****106A.4.1.3.1** Creation.

There is hereby created the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area, which is generally bounded on the east by Crestmont Drive and its undeveloped northern extension, on the south along Oak Park to its intersection with Christopher Boulevard, west to Warren Drive, north along Warren Drive to the 6th Avenue and Kirkham Street intersection, and Kirkham Street in an easterly direction to its end at the undeveloped extension of Crestmont Drive. The Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area is comprised of the following Assessor's Block Numbers: 1850, 1851, 2635, 2636, 2638, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, and 2686. Heightened review of certain permit applications, as provided in this section, shall be made in this area.

106A.4.1.3.2 Purpose.

Because landslides, earth movement, ground shaking and subsidence are likely to occur on or near the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area, causing severe damage and destruction to public and private improvements, the Board of Supervisors finds that the public health, safety and welfare is best protected if the Building Official of Building Inspection causes permit applications within the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area for either (1) construction of new buildings or structures or (2) alterations that involve a substantial increase in the envelope of an existing building or structure, to be peer reviewed for structural integrity and effect on hillside stability. The requirements herein for projects in the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area are in addition to all other applicable laws and regulations, including any and all requirements for environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act; compliance with the requirements contained herein does not excuse a project sponsor from compliance with any other applicable laws and regulations.

106A.4.1.3.3 Mandatory review by Structural Advisory Committee and other city officials.

All permit applications submitted to the Central Permit Bureau for construction of new buildings or structures or alterations that involve a substantial increase in the envelope of an existing building or structure (as determined by the Building Official) within the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area shall be submitted to and reviewed by the Structural Advisory Committee, as defined by Building Code Section 105A.6. No permits for such properties located within the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area shall be issued unless and until the Building Official has consulted with and received a written communication from representatives of the Department of Planning, Department of Public Works and Fire Department, each of whom has made a visit to the site for which the project is proposed, and the Building Official has received a written report from the Structural Advisory Committee concerning the safety and integrity of the proposed design and construction. As part of its review, the Structural Advisory Committee shall consider the effect that construction activity related to the proposed project will have on the safety and stability of the Northwest Mt. Sutro Slope Protection Area.

106A.4.1.3.4 Mandatory denial by Building Official.

In the event that the Structural Advisory Committee determines that there is a reasonable likelihood that the proposed design and construction would result in unsafe conditions or would increase the likelihood of hillside instability, and such unsafe conditions or instability cannot be mitigated to the satisfaction of the Structural Advisory Committee, the Building Official shall deny the permit. The Building Official's decision to deny the permit is appealable only to the Board of Appeals.