## ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

NO. AB-001 :

**DATE** : November 18, 1998 (Updated 01/01/0811 for code references)

**SUBJECT** : General Administrative Procedures

TITLE : Preparing Administrative Bulletins

**PURPOSE** : The purpose of this Administrative Bulletin is to describe the procedures to be used in

originating, writing, editing and distributing Administrative Bulletins. Administrative Bulletins document the procedures to be followed by Department of Building Inspection (DBI) staff and other agencies which are involved with the regulatory functions of DBI. Although Administrative Bulletins are intended primarily for DBI use, the information

may be of interest to the general public.

An Administrative Bulletin differs from an Office Policy and Procedure document in that the latter defines DBI's internal operating procedures and is generally of interest

only to DBI staff.

**REFERENCE**: 200710 San Francisco Building Code, Section 104A2.1

**DISCUSSION**: The following steps are to be observed in the publishing of an Administrative Bulletin.

Refer to the flowchart in ATTACHMENT A. Each Administrative Bulletin shall be reviewed at least annually for concurrence with the current code and from time-to-time

as necessitated by changes in policies or requirements.

#### 1. IDENTIFY THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

- a. Any individual in the Department may identify the need for an Administrative Bulletin and report this need to the supervisor, who will in turn discuss it with the Manager of Permit Review Services (the Manager). The Manager then makes a recommendation to the Director who may give the authorization to proceed with the writing of the Administrative Bulletin. Similarly, any City agency may identify the need for an Administrative Bulletin directly to the Director.
- b. The Manager will notify Technical Services Division (TSD) of the subject matter and the person assigned to write the Administrative Bulletin (the Preparer). TSD will assign the proposed Administrative Bulletin a number and notify the Preparer to proceed.

# 2. REPORT THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN TO BUILDING INSPECTION COMMISSION (BIC)

Prior to the preparation of the first draft of the Administrative Bulletin, TSD will prepare a brief synopsis of the proposed Administrative Bulletin and shall forward that to the DBI Director for inclusion in the Director's Report or Communication Item to the Building Inspection Commission (BIC).

#### 3. PREPARE THE DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

Following such report to the BIC, the Preparer shall prepare the first draft. The first draft is to be returned to TSD within 21 days\* after BIC review. Extensions of time may be granted by the Director under extenuating circumstances. Such first draft shall be reviewed by the Deputy Director and TSD for form and content, and revised as necessary. See ATTACHMENT B for the document format which is to be followed.

#### 4. REVIEW THE DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

- a. If so requested by the BIC, the first draft shall be provided to the BIC for public hearing prior to general distribution of the draft for review.
- b. If no public hearing on the first draft is requested by the BIC, that first draft shall be distributed. The Preparer is to include a list of persons or committees to whom the draft is recommended to be sent for review. The Director and TSD may revise this list. (See ATTACHMENT C for a list of possible reviewers).
- c. TSD will distribute the first draft and, after a minimum 6030 day\* review period, will forward any comments received to the Manager. The Manager will review the first draft and the review comments, and if necessary, discuss them with the Preparer. The Manager may refer the draft Administrative Bulletin to any committee for review as seen advisable.

## 5. PREPARE THE FINAL DRAFT FOR REVIEW BY THE MANAGER

Based upon draft review comments a final draft bulletin will be prepared by the Preparer. TSD will prepare the final draft which will then be reviewed for form and content by the Manager.

# 6. FORWARD THE ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN TO THE BIC FOR REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING

Following review and recommendation by the Manager and Director, the draft Administrative Bulletin will be forwarded to the Building Inspection Commission for review, public hearing and approval.

### 7. PREPARE THE APPROVED COPY FOR PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION

a. Following BIC approval, the Preparer will have 7 days\* to return a final draft to TSD who will review the final draft for conformance to format and prepare a final copy for signature by the Director.

- The signed Administrative Bulletin will be duplicated and distributed as noted on a final distribution list. TSD will file the signed Administrative Bulletin and will keep a record of the completed Administrative Bulletins in separate indexes by:
  - 1). Administrative Bulletin Number
  - 2). Title
- \* The time limits given in the procedure above are guidelines, and may vary depending upon the complexity of the subject matter, review and approval process, and schedule requirements. Many Administrative Bulletins result in multiple "draft" stages.

Vivian L. Day, C.B.O.

Date

Director

Department of Building Inspection

Approved by the Building Inspection Commission on November 18, 1998

Originally signed by: Frank Y. Chiu, Director

### ATTACHMENT A

#### ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN PREPARATION, REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS Department of Building Inspection (DBI) identifies topic for proposed Administrative Bulletin and informs Building Inspection Commission (BIC) through BIC Office (Communication Item) or through DBI Director's Report (Agenda Item at BIC Meeting) Review by Code Advisory Committee BIC decides if the draft Administrative Once Twice Bulletin should be agendized once **DBI** prepares or twice **DBI** prepares **First Draft** First Draft At least 21 days At least 21 days Review by TSD and Review by TSD and Mgr., Permit Services Mgr., Permit Services First Draft forwarded to the following: BIC holds Public Hearing on First Draft **BIC - Communication Item** Access Appeals Commission - Disability access issues only Public Advisory Committee(s) Other interested Groups or Individuals DBI makes revisions directed by BIC or CAC Review attaches BIC comments to First Draft of Draft **DBI** prepares Draft forwarded to the following: **Final Draft** Code Advisory Committee - Agenda Item At least 60 days Access Appeals Commission - Disability access issues only Public Advisory Committee(s) Review by Mgr., Other interested Groups or Individuals **Permit Services** BIC holds Public Hearing on Final Draft and takes action on adoption **DBI finalizes document** for distribution and implementation

ATTACHMENT B [Example of format]

#### ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN

NO. AB-00X : The ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN NO. is assigned by TSD.

**DATE** : The **DATE** is the effective date

**SUBJECT** : The Bulletin.

The SUBJECT identifies the major topic or topics covered by the Administrative

**TITLE** : The **TITLE** should be short and to the point (e.g., Processing Demolition Applications

and Permits).

**PURPOSE** : The **PURPOSE** serves as an abstract and clearly defines the scope and intent of the

Administrative Bulletin.

**REFERENCE** : The **REFERENCE** materials used in writing the Administrative Bulletin may include

Municipal Codes, City Charter, State and Federal Laws, letters, directives, and other justifications for this Administrative Bulletin. If there are none, leave this item out.

**DISCUSSION**: The **DISCUSSION** provides background information and a description of the intended

action or procedure. It includes detailed explanations and additional examples,

attachments, or diagrams.

The **SIGNATURE BLOCK** contains the Director's signature and title. Additional signatures and titles may be included if the Administrative Bulletin is written as a joint document with other agencies.

(Current director's Name) Date (Other signature, as required) Date

Director

Department of Building Inspection

Approved by the Building Inspection Commission on (date)

**<u>IHVD</u>**:ABC The **INITIAL BLOCK** contains the Director's and the Preparer's initials for later reference.

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The **PAGE FOOTER** should also give the total page count.

## ATTACHMENT C

## **Possible Reviewers Distribution List:**

**Department of Building Inspection:** 

Director Mgr, Permit Services Mgr, Inspection Services

Assistant to the Deputy Directors Mgr, Housing Inspection/ Mgr, Support Services

Other DBI Divisions and Sections (as applicable)

 Mgr, Plan review Services
 Code Enforcement Services
 Customer Services

 Building Inspection
 Electrical Inspection
 Plumbing Inspection

 Housing Inspection
 Code Enforcement
 Special Inspection

Technical Services Lead Abatement Emergency Management

Central Permit Bureau Administrative Services Management Information Systems

Boards and Commissions (as applicable):

Building Inspection Commission Abatement Appeals Board

Access Appeals Commission Board of Examiners

Code Advisory Committee Public Advisory Committee

— Board of Appeals Unreinforced Masonry Building Appeals Board

Electrical Advisory Committee Structural Advisory Committee

Seismic Investigation and Hazard
Survey Advisory Committee

# Other City Agencies (as applicable):

Mayor's Office Department of Public Works Bureau of Building Repair
Board of Supervisors Bureau of Architecture Department of Public Health
City Attorney, Office of Bureau of Engineering Real Estate Department

City Planning Department

Bureau of Engineering

Real Estate Department

Bureau of Street Use & Mapping

Redevelopment Agency Port of San Francisco BERM

Bureau of Fire Prevention Housing Authority

## Professional Societies and Organizations (as applicable) such as:

American Institute of Architects (AIA), San Francisco Chapter

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

American Society of Fire Protection Engineers (ASFPE)

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers, Inc (ASHRAE)

Consulting Engineers Association of California (CEAC)

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)

Residential Builders Association of San Francisco, Inc. (RBA)

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI)

San Francisco Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI)

San Francisco District of the Associated General Contractors of California, Inc. (AGC)

Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning National Association, Inc. (SMACNA)

Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC)

## Public Organizations (as applicable) such as:

Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)

Center for Independent Living Resource Center

Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage

San Francisco Board of Realtors

San Francisco Building Trades Council

San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

San Francisco Planning & Urban Research Association (SPUR)

Note: Any interested individual, agency or organization may be included on this list of reviewers by sending a written request to: Director of Building Inspection, 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.