

# TEXT OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

## PROPOSITION H

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

### CENTRAL FREEWAY REPLACEMENT PROJECT ACT OF 1997

#### SECTION 1. Title

This Ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the San Francisco Central Freeway Replacement Project Act of 1997.

#### SECTION 2. Findings and Declarations

The people of the City of the City and County of San Francisco hereby find and declare all of the following:

(a) Since the closure of the Central Freeway in 1989 as a result of the devastating Loma Prieta Earthquake, there has been a dramatic negative effect upon neighborhood residents and businesses in San Francisco.

(b) Closure of the Central Freeway has caused South of Market and Civic Center neighborhoods to choke in traffic and pollution created by alternative surface road routes.

(c) Many merchants and businesses have suffered a tremendous loss of business or had to close because of the shut down of the Central Freeway.

(d) California state law provides that the California Department of Transportation may proceed with the repair or replacement of the Central Freeway once an alternative is approved by the City and County of San Francisco.

(e) The Central Freeway Replacement Project alternative provided for by this Ordinance is the best way to relieve the traffic and pollution caused by the closure of the Central Freeway and to permit merchants and

businesses in the City to serve the needs of the citizens of San Francisco.

(f) The Central Freeway Replacement Project alternative provided for by this Ordinance is the most reasonable and practical alternative for repairing the Central Freeway.

#### SECTION 3. Purpose and Intent

The people of the City and County of San Francisco hereby declare their purpose and intent in enacting the measure to be as follows:

(a) To reopen the Central Freeway to eliminate the traffic congestion and pollution caused by its closure.

(b) To allow neighborhood residents the ability to enjoy the quality of life they experienced prior to the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989.

(c) To allow businesses and merchants the opportunity to serve the public without disruption.

(d) To give direction to the California Department of Transportation as to the alternative that has been approved by the City and County of San Francisco so that the Department of Transportation may proceed with the repair of the Central Freeway.

(e) To place into law an ordinance which approves the most reasonable and practical alternative for the Central Freeway Replacement Project.

#### SECTION 4. Repeal of Resolution No. 541-92

Resolution No. 541-92, approved by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, is hereby repealed.

#### SECTION 5. Central Freeway Replacement

Project

(a) The people of the City and County of San Francisco hereby approve the Central Freeway Replacement Project alternative as described in this section.

(b) The existing lower deck of the Central Freeway shall be retrofitted and widened, providing a four lane single deck structure from Mission Street to Oak and Fell Streets.

(c) The portion of the Central Freeway structure from the intersection of Page and Octavia Streets to the Fell Street ramp shall be replaced rather than retrofitted. A new on-ramp from Oak Street to Market Street shall be built to replace the demolished Oak Street on-ramp.

(d) The City and County of San Francisco shall work together with the California Department of Transportation to develop a plan to resolve the lack of northern accessibility to the Central Freeway that was previously provided by the Franklin/Gough Street ramps. The plan shall be completed by July 1, 1998.

(e) The existing Central Freeway shall remain open and shall only be closed temporarily for the shortest duration possible for construction purposes only.

#### SECTION 6. Severability

If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect other provisions or applications of this initiative which can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this initiative are severable.