



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## New Planning Code Change Summary:

### Revisions to the Institutional Master Plan & Health Planner Review

**Code Change:** Amendments relating to Planning Code Section 304.5  
**Case Number:** Board File No. 07-0678  
**Initiated By:** Maxwell, March 15, 2007  
**Effective Date:** January 18, 2008

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### The Way Was:

Code Section 304.5 established the Institutional Master Plan, and set out its purpose, reporting requirements, format, substance, and review process. This language had proven vague in places and out of date in others, and was ready to be updated.

### The Way It Is Now:

Code Section 304.5 has been amended to achieve the following goals:

- To respect the original intention of the IMP around medical institutions; i.e., have a regional body review the effects of potential changes on the health of our citizens. With the demise of West Bay Health, no entity was reviewing the IMPs in such a manner. The revised Code adds Department of Public Health review and comment on changes to medical institutions, per the Code's original intention. This review would be accomplished by a health planning consultant contracted as needed by DPH.
- To provide more certainty for the public and the institutions with regard to Code compliance requirements. This includes clarifying
  - a) when a new IMP is required versus when only an update is required,
  - b) who may be permitted to submit and Abbreviated IMP, and
  - c) when an IMP is considered "accepted" and thus when permits can be issued.
- To improve the value of the IMP as a public information document. This includes requirements that enable us to post the document on our website.
- To reduce the waiting period for related CUs from six months to three months.