



## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **Regular Meeting of the CODE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

---

**DATE:** November 12, 2025 (Wednesday)  
**TIME:** 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 49 South Van Ness Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 0271

---

Note: Public comment is welcome and will be heard during each agenda item. Reference documents relating to agenda are available for review at the 49 South Van Ness Ave, 2nd Floor, TSD Counter. For information, please email [ken.hu@sfgov.org](mailto:ken.hu@sfgov.org).

#### **Present**

Ned Fennie, A.I.A, Chair  
Stephen Harris, S.E., Vice-Chair  
Paul Staley  
Arnie Lerner, FAIA, CASp  
Zachary Nathan, AIA, CASp  
Deepak Patankar, AIA, LEED AP  
Gina Centoni  
Brian Salyers  
Marc Cunningham  
Henry Karnilowicz  
Tony Sanchez-Corea  
Rene’ Vignos, S.E.  
Don Libbey, P.E.

#### **Excused**

John Tostanoski  
Jim Reed  
Jonathan Rodriguez

#### **Absent**

#### **Others Present**

Thomas Fessler, DBI	Tate Hanna, DBI	Sok-Im Taing, DBI
David Kane, DBI	Matt Schultz, ALR	Erin Ascvedo, ALR

- 1.0 The meeting was called to order. Roll call found a quorum of committee members were present.
- 2.0 Approval of the minutes of the Code Advisory Committee (CAC) regular meeting of October 8, 2025.

- A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended by Steve Harris.
- Seconded and approved.

### 3.0 Discussion regarding the DC Low Voltage Lighting & Power presentation.

Presentation provided by Matt Schulz from ALR Lighting Distributor and Erin Acevedo from Cupertino Electric regarding DC low voltage lighting technology and its implications for building codes, inspections and electrical installations.

- Overview: Building grid is AC, but most end user devices DC- projected DC rise of use to 70% in 2030.
- Traditional LED fixtures burn out almost every five years. Newer DC systems use one central, swappable unit serving multiple fixtures- this will cut maintenance costs and extend lifespan.
- Best results come when DC is planned from the start. Retrofits can be costly upfront, though long-term maintenance savings are significant.
- DC is much safer in terms of human contact and heat loading within a building.

### 4.0 Discussion and possible action on proposed ordinance amending the Building Code to create a permit and permitting process for Hydrogen-Fueling Station Equipment installation. (File No. 251024)

Possible action would be to make a recommendation to the Building Inspection Commission for their further action.

#### **Overview:**

SB 1418, passed in 2024 requires local jurisdictions to adopt an ordinance that creates an expedited, streamlined permitting process for hydrogen fueling stations.

- Ordinance creates streamlined permitting pathway with detailed checklist of requirements for hydrogen fueling stations.
- If an applicant satisfies all checklist items, applicants are entitled to receive permit.
- Currently zero hydrogen fueling stations in San Francisco; prior stations have closed due to low demand and operational challenges.
- Process mirrors the existing EV charging station permitting framework.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Action:** A motion was to recommend approval. All in favor, none opposed. Approved.

### 5.0 Discussion: CAC Committee Review- Commission Streamlining Task Force

The City's Commission Streamlining Task Force is reviewing advisory bodies' city wide. Preliminary recommendations include reducing CAC membership and potentially merging it with other groups- though no final vote has been taken. Members expressed concern that the task force doesn't fully grasp the CAC's unique role: a volunteer, no cost, technical advisory body that provides specialized building code expertise benefiting both the public and DBI. Members encouraged to submit individual letters and attend upcoming hearings. Members are looking at how they may bring items to the BIC agenda.

### 6.0 Public Comments on items not on this agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Code Advisory Committee. Comment time is limited to 3 minutes or as determined by of the Chairperson.

- No public comment.

7.0 Committee comments on items not on this agenda.

8.0 Subcommittee Reports: (Discussion & possible action)

**Housing Code Subcommittee:**

Subcommittee Chair: Henry Karnilowicz  
Subcommittee Members: Ira Dorter  
Jim Reed  
Paul Staley

- No meeting. No report.

**Mechanical Electrical Plumbing & Fire Subcommittee:**

Subcommittee Chair: Brian Salyers, F.P.E.  
Subcommittee Members: Henry Karnilowicz  
Jim Reed

- No meeting. No report.

**Administrative & General Design and Disability Access Subcommittee:**

Subcommittee Chair: Jonathan Rodriguez  
Subcommittee Members: Arnie Lerner, F.A.I.A., CASp  
Tony Sanchez-Corea  
Zachary Nathan, A.I.A., CASp  
Henry Karnilowicz  
Deepak Patankar, AIA, LEED AP

- No meeting. No report.

**Structural Subcommittee:**

Subcommittee Chair: Stephen Harris, S.E.  
Subcommittee Members: Rene' Vignos, S.E., LEED A.P.  
Marc Cunningham  
Ned Fennie, A.I.A.  
Don Libbey, P.E.

- No meeting. No report.

**Green Building Subcommittee:**

Subcommittee Chair: Zachary Nathan, AIA, CASp  
Subcommittee Members: Gina Centoni  
Henry Karnilowicz  
Jonathan Rodriguez

- No meeting. No report.

9.0 Committee Member's and Staff's identification agenda items for the next meeting, as well as current agenda items to be continued to another CAC regular meeting or special meeting, or a subcommittee meeting.

- No new items.

10.0 Adjournment.

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.