

AGENDA TITLE:

Request for waiver of fees regarding ICB Artists Association Sign Permit Application (SP 10-149)

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Approve the waiver of \$1,912.00 in permit fees pursuant to Section 1.09.050 of the Municipal Code and direct the City Manager to issue a refund check for \$1,912.00 to the ICB Artists Association.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On July 20, 2010 a sign permit application was filed by the Industrial Center Building (ICB) Artists Association to add three signs to the building at 480 Gate Five Road (APN 063-140-25). A total fee of \$1,966.12 was submitted for the sign permit application (sign permit application fee: \$1,680.00; noticing fee: \$197.00; postage: \$54.12). Pursuant to Section 1.09.050 of the Municipal Code, Suzie Buchholz, on behalf of the ICB Artists Association has requested the City Council to waive all of the sign permit fees (see **Attachment**, Buchholz letter). Section 1.09.050 of the Municipal Code states:

"The city council may waive any fees required under this title for any non-profit organization, public body, district or agency of federal, state, county or municipal government or under other circumstances that the city council in its discretion justifies such a waiver."

As the total sign permit application fee consists of a fee for Staff's time working on the project and direct postage costs, Staff recommends a partial waiver of the sign permit application fees equal to the total cost of the permit less the postage fee (\$1,966.12 - \$54.12 = \$1,912.00).

FISCAL IMPACT

A partial refund of the appeal fees in the amount of \$1,912.00. This fee is intended to pay for staff time to review the application, prepare the staff report, prepare the meeting notices, presentation, staff meeting attendance, and archiving the project plans.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the waiver of \$1,912.00 in permit fees pursuant to Section 1.09.050 of the Municipal Code and direct the City Manager to issue a refund check for \$1,912.00 to the ICB Artists Association.

ATTACHMENT: Buchholz letter date-stamped July 21, 2010

PREPARED BY:	REVIEWĘD BY:
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Associate Planner	Community/Development Director
	SUBMITTED BY:
	Adam W. Politzer
	City Manager (C

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Honorable Mayor and City Council;

ICB Artists Association respectfully requests a waiver of the permit fees for exterior signage on the Industrial Center Building at 480 Gate 5 Road. For more than 40 years the ICB, as it is referred to, has been home to artists. Today there are more than 100 artists under this single roof, however there is nothing to signify this on the building. Since Sausalito is considered an artist community, it has long been invisible in our town, having largely been isolated to the Marinship District.

After discussions with Peter Sullivan (of Sullivan Associates, the building's owner) and having been granted permission and encouragement to add signage to the building, A task force of artists in the ICB Artists Association has determined that clean, simple signage, matching the building's own identifying signage, would be the most tasteful, visible and informative solution. The design, fabrication and installation of the signage will be costly. Adding to this cost, the city's fees make the project tenuous if not impossible, due to the very small cash resources of the Association.

ICB Artists Association enjoys great community support. And the association provides the community with many ways to enjoy art and interact with the artists, including film nights, open studios, lectures, artist's talks and informative discussions. Last year we hosted a fund raiser, with the proceeds going toward the design and fabrication of our signs. The community came out and we have raised over \$1000.

On the basis of all the foregoing and if you do consider the local arts community a civic asset, we would like to request a waiver of the city's fees for this project. This project is non-controversial, has the support of the building owners, the community and the artists in the building. We greatly appreciate your support and your thoughtful consideration of our request. Sincerely,

Suzie Buchholz Board member of the ICB Artists Association

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