

CHAPTER 5

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING FOOD GRINDERS IN COMMERCIAL FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE. The Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District (“the District”) is adopting an Ordinance (FOG Ordinance) to control the discharge of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) to the sanitary sewers from food service establishments; and

The FOG Ordinance requires restaurants and other food service establishments in the District service area to have a grease removal device (grease trap or grease interceptor) in use. The purpose of this device is to remove FOG from kitchen drainage before it is discharged to the sanitary sewer; and

“Food grinders,” also known as “garbage disposals,” are devices installed in kitchen plumbing for the purpose of grinding food waste or food preparation by-products for the purpose of disposing into the sanitary sewer system; and

The installation of a food grinder, such that it discharges to a grease removal device, will, in most cases, render the device less effective or unable to perform its function; and

The ground food discharged by food grinders is a significant source of FOG which could harden in the sanitary sewer; and

Food grinders are not essential to kitchen operation. Their function can be readily replaced by having kitchen personnel scrape food wastes into solid waste receptacles.

ARTICLE II. PROHIBITION AGAINST INSTALLATION OF FOOD GRINDERS. Installation of food grinders in new or remodeled commercial food service establishments is prohibited. Food grinders shall be removed from existing commercial food service establishments within one hundred eighty (180) days of the adoption of this Ordinance.