

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - Lincoln Park "City Cemetery"]

2

3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **Lincoln Park, formerly known as City Cemetery, at Assessor's Parcel Block No. 1313,**
5 **Lot No. 029.**

6

7 WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors (Board)
8 may by Resolution initiate landmark designation; and

9 WHEREAS, Lincoln Park was once a part of a 200-acre burial ground known as City
10 Cemetery that was a resting place for at least 23,000 people; and

11 WHEREAS, City Cemetery, also known as Golden Gate Cemetery, was the only
12 municipal burial place for the indigent dead in San Francisco between the 1860s and early
13 1900s; and

14 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors granted sections of the cemetery to benevolent,
15 social, and religious societies for interment of their members; and

16 WHEREAS, At least 24 different societies were granted sections, which included the
17 Knights of Pythias, Grand United Order of the Odd Fellows of America, Italian Mutual
18 Benevolent Society, the Society of Old Friends, Grand Army of the Republic, Knights of
19 Pythias, Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Schaari Zedeck, City and County of San
20 Francisco, Hop Wo Association, the German Benevolent Society, St. Andrew's Society and
21 Caledonian Club, Master Mariners' Benevolent Society, Scandinavian Society, French
22 Benevolent Society, Improved Order of Red Men, Japanese Colony of San Francisco, Ladies'
23 Seamen's Friend Society, Qui Son Tong Company, Congregation Sherith Israel, Christian
24 Chinese Society, Ning Yung Association, Grand Army of the Republic, Chuck Sen Tong
25 Company, Greek Russian Slavonian Benevolent Society, Slavonic Mutual Benevolent

1 Society, and other Chinese societies that were not granted formal claim to specific sections;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, After Assessor's Parcel Block No. 1313, Lot No. 029 was reclassified as a
4 municipal park in 1909, the benevolent, social, and religious societies with cemetery sections
5 were given six months to disinter the remains of their buried dead, which occurred in a
6 scattered and disorganized fashion throughout the time allotted, and as indicated by municipal
7 reports, removal continued as late as 1916; and

8 WHEREAS, It remains unclear which societies removed their dead and how many
9 burials were removed because no registers, records, or deeds about the cemetery have
10 survived; and

11 WHEREAS, Lincoln Park is still home to a spire monument erected by the Ladies'
12 Seamen's Friend Society, a society that cared for indigent merchant marine sailors, especially
13 those with disabilities, and took it upon themselves to give these sailors proper burials at the
14 City Cemetery; and

15 WHEREAS, After 1878, the remains of deceased Chinese persons were transported to
16 City Cemetery where they were temporarily buried until a bone collector disinterred the fully
17 decomposed remains and prepared the bones for transport to the deceased's home village,
18 which was in accordance with Chinese burial practices of the time; and

19 WHEREAS, The burial of the deceased in the Chinese section of City Cemetery was
20 an occasion for religious rites that included prayer, the burning of incense, food offerings of
21 roast pig and fowl, and the burning of symbolic paper money and clothes for the deceased's
22 journeys in the afterlife; and

23 WHEREAS, The Kong Chow funerary chapel in Lincoln Park is the last remaining
24 structure that was designated to host these ceremonies in City Cemetery; and

25

1 WHEREAS, The Kong Chow chapel is still inscribed with characters that read
2 “Temporary Resting Place for Kong Chow Coffins Before Burial,” and “Temporary Resting
3 Place for Coffins Being Sent to Kong Chow Province,” and still retains an altar area where
4 incense and offerings were burnt; and

5 WHEREAS, The Kong Chow Funerary Chapel stands as a symbol of Chinese culture
6 and history in San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Board hereby initiates a landmark designation of Lincoln Park,
8 the site formerly known as City Cemetery, Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 1313, Lot No. 029.,
9 under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Planning Department
11 prepare a Landmark Designation Report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission
12 for its consideration of the unique historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and value of
13 the property and existing house and structures; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation
15 Commission consider whether the property or existing structures warrant landmark
16 designation, and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the
17 Planning Code.

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BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Max Hollein, Director, Fine Arts Museum

FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: May 20, 2021

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Chan on April 20, 2021:

File No. 210426

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for Lincoln Park, formerly known as City Cemetery, at Assessor's Parcel Block No. 1313, Lot No. 029.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: erica.major@sfgov.org.

cc: Jenny Moore, Fine Arts Museum
Megan Bourne, Fine Arts Museum

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
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TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rich Hillis, Director, Planning Department
Jonas Ionin, Commission Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission
Phil Ginsburg, General Manager, Recreation and Parks Department

FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: April 28, 2021

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Chan on April 20, 2021:

File No. 210426

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for Lincoln Park, formerly known as City Cemetery, at Assessor's Parcel Block No. 1313, Lot No. 029.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: erica.major@sfgov.org.

cc: Corey Teague, Planning Department
Dan Sider, Planning Department
Laura Lynch, Planning Department
Scott Sanchez, Planning Department
Lisa Gibson, Planning Department
Devyani Jain, Planning Department
Adam Varat, Planning Department
AnMarie Rodgers, Planning Department
Aaron Starr, Planning Department
Andrea Ruiz-Esquide, Deputy City Attorney
Joy Navarrete, Planning Department
Sarah Madland, Recreation and Parks Department

From: [Fregosi, Ian \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: CCBA Letter in Support of Connie Chan Landmark Lincoln Park
Date: Thursday, July 22, 2021 11:35:34 AM
Attachments: [CCBA Letter of Support Connie Chan Landmark Lincoln Park.pdf](#)

Hi Erica,

This letter was sent out to all the supervisors but I don't think it went to you. Please include it in the file, thanks!

Ian Fregosi 范義仁
Legislative Aide
Office of Supervisor Connie Chan
San Francisco Board of Supervisors | District 1
P: 415-554-7412

From: Larry Yee <larryyee99@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 11:30:38 AM
To: Chan, Connie (BOS) <connie.chan@sfgov.org>
Cc: Larry Yee <larryyee99@yahoo.com>; Robert Wong <rm31@aol.com>; Fregosi, Ian (BOS) <ian.fregosi@sfgov.org>
Subject: CCBA Letter in Support of Connie Chan Landmark Lincoln Park

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Honorable Supervisor Connie Chan

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association is writing a letter in support of your motion to place Lincoln Park on the San Francisco Historical Landmark List. We have urge our Board of Supervisors to pass your legislation to honor our earlier immigrants that were laid to rest in San Francisco.

If there are any questions, feel free to call/text me at 415 794-1078.

Sincerely,
Larry Yee



CHINESE CONSOLIDATED BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

"Chinese Six Companies"

The Official Representative Association of Chinese in America

843 STOCKTON STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94108

July 21, 2021

TEL: (415) 982-6000 • FAX: (415) 982-6010

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The **Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA)**, also known as **Chinese Six Companies**, was formed in 1850 to serve the Chinese community of San Francisco. The CCBA has been front and center in supporting the arrival of Chinese immigrants in San Francisco for over 170 years. In 1852, over 25,000 Chinese immigrants had arrived in San Francisco. Many sought opportunities in the gold mines and service industries, opening small businesses and helping to build the Transcontinental Railroad. Chinese immigrants started making America their home and many chose to be interred in America, at the Yerba Buena Cemetery in the 1850s and then at Golden Gate Cemetery (a.k.a. City Cemetery) in the 1870s. During this time, the Kong Chow shrine was built to honor the deceased of the Chinese Family Associations in the City Cemetery. In 1909, Golden Gate Cemetery was turned over to the Park Commission and the land became Lincoln Park.

The Old City Cemetery, which now is known as Lincoln Park, has many historical monuments especially the Kong Chow burial shrine, which marks the burial of over 10,000 Chinese as early as **150 years ago!** The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association strongly urges the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to preserve and protect the history at the Lincoln Park by designating the area as a "**Historical Landmark**" where our many of our earlier ancestors were laid to rest in San Francisco.

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association supports Supervisor Connie Chan's motion to place the Lincoln Park, including the Kong Chow burial shrine and other similar shrines, on the San Francisco Historical Landmark list.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Larry Yee, Presiding President of the
Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association

Ju Chai Chu, President of Ning Yung Benevolent Association
Chung San Szeto, Sue Hing Benevolent Association President
Larry Yee, Hop Wo Benevolent Association President
Chuck Y Tsang, Kong Chow Benevolent Association President
Kwok Yin Leung, Yeong Wo Benevolent Association President
Gordon Kwan, Sam Yup Benevolent Association President
Alisa Lam, Yan Wo Benevolent Association President
Robert Wong, Executive Secretary

From: [Grant Ingram](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); [Richard Harris](#)
Subject: Objection of Grant Ingram to Proposal to Initiate "Landmark Designation – Lincoln Park City Cemetery", File No. 210426
Date: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 8:06:10 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisor Major, the Land Use Committee and the rest of the Board of Supervisors,

I am a District 1 resident writing to express real concerns about the Initiative for Landmark Designation of Lincoln Park.

Please do not mistake my opposition to this Initiative as an objection to celebrating the important pre-golf history at Lincoln, or celebrating the rich history of the Chinese-American community in San Francisco. These issues are well-deserving of honor and celebration. There is no reason we cannot celebrate that history while also preserving Lincoln Park as a golf course.

Lincoln Park Golf Course has a rich history as well. It may be the oldest public course in the Western United States.

I am a lifelong golfer who has played golf at Lincoln Park and other San Francisco public courses for decades. As expressed clearly by the San Francisco Public Golf Alliance letter transmitted to you on May 26, 2021, I have similar concerns that the designation of Historic or Landmark status will jeopardize the future of golf at Lincoln. The drafters or supporters of this legislation may not be aware that landmark status, if approved, may make it effectively impossible for Lincoln Park to continue to operate as a golf course. Lincoln Park already is in dire need of major upgrades that have been put off for too long. Golf courses require regular maintenance and improvements, and for safety reasons, public access must be restricted at times. All of these requirements may be negatively impacted by this Initiative.

Public golf at Lincoln is an essential part of a thriving community, not just the Richmond District community, but for all San Franciscans. Golf is a unique game played by people of all ages, genders, races, and economic backgrounds. Just last week there was a wonderful junior golf tournament there. Lincoln Park is particularly important as an affordable golf course for all San Franciscans.

Let's find a way to honor the rich history of the Chinese-American community while still allowing Lincoln Park to thrive as a golf course.

Thank you for your consideration,

Grant Ingram
grant.ingram@yahoo.com

From: [Fregosi, Jan \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fw: Landmarking of Lincoln Park Golf Course - statement of support
Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 5:26:51 PM

From: Palma You <palma@chsa.org>
Sent: Saturday, July 17, 2021 10:55:03 AM
To: ChanStaff (BOS) <chanstaff@sfgov.org>
Cc: Woody LaBounty <wlabounty@sferitage.org>; Major, Erica (BOS) <erica.major@sfgov.org>
Subject: Landmarking of Lincoln Park Golf Course - statement of support

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Members of the Board of Supervisors
San Francisco City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Supervisor Chan:

CHSA supports District 1 and Mary Anne Ahtye's (Yee Ah Tye's descendant) effort to establish landmark designation of the Lincoln Park Golf Course located in SF's outer Richmond District.

In the park stands the remnant of a gate-like monument and marker for the Chinese section of the cemetery in the 1880s, noting that the location was a temporary resting place for travelers from Kong Chow in Southern China established by Mr. Yee Ah Tye.

Business man Yee Ah Tye purchased the land from the US government for his community, knowing the area was needed for the Chinese pioneer community. According to researchers, it's likely some Chinese Americans remain buried beneath the green.

Landmarking the area will create the opportunity for access to incentive programs and other resources to maintain and rehabilitate the various historic markers on the property, one of which is the above.

We feel the Chinese American pioneers who immigrated and contributed to the building of California and San Francisco should be recognized and landmarking of the former cemetery should be encouraged and supported by government entities at all levels.

Please provide a link to the recording of the SFBOS meeting with the LUT on July 26th, at 1:30pm.

With respect,

Chinese Historical Society of America, SF."

Please provide a link to the recording of the meeting when available.

--
Palma J. You
Gallery Coordinator

Chinese Historical Society of America
415-391-1188 x109 Monday-Friday.
Public hours: Wednesday to Sunday 11:00AM to 4:00PM
We will provide an update for REOPENING the museum at chsa.org when shelter-in-place is lifted.

Chinese American history MATTERS. Become a [CHSA member](#) TODAY.
[Add a STOP AAPI HATE](#) poster of original art to your collection of social political memorabilia.

*Not everything that is faced can be changed,
but nothing can be changed until it is faced.* James Baldwin.

*"Ring the Bells that still can ring,
Forget your perfect offering,
There's a crack, a crack in everything,
That's how the light gets in."* Leonard Cohen.

From: [Nicole Meldahl](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Kerri Young](#)
Subject: Landmarking of Lincoln Park
Date: Sunday, July 18, 2021 11:45:27 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to say we are thrilled to hear that San Francisco Heritage, with support from District 1 Supervisor Connie Chan and her predecessor, Sandra Lee Fewer, is advocating for the designation of Lincoln Park as a City Landmark.

If you don't know, I run a community history nonprofit called Western Neighborhoods Project that has preserved, interpreted, and shared the history of San Francisco's west side since 1999. People have long been fascinated with the often untold history of cemeteries in San Francisco. The remnants of City Cemetery, particularly the Kong Chow Funerary Chapel but also the Ladies' Seaman's Friends Monument with Mrs. Lambert's headstone by its side, set on the grounds of a public golf course are remarkably evocative. We lead an annual evening walking tour throughout the grounds in October and it's one of our most popular. You'll find a description [HERE](#). Please let me know if you're interested in attending and I'll add you to the list, free of charge.

It's simply unbelievable that so many of our ancestors (Chinese, Jewish, Italian, and more), our poor, were buried, forgotten, and partially exhumed. Without the sites mentioned above, it would be so much harder to remember these souls. Frankly, it's a miracle they have survived this long without official protection and touchstones like these are so vital to relating the history of overlooked San Franciscans. It would be a great comfort to neighborhood historians like us to know their preservation is assured.

We'll be watching San Francisco Heritage's landmarking efforts with bated breath. Please let me know if you have any questions for me, or if we can assist with additional historical context to support this designation. We're always happy to help the Board of Supervisors and lend a helping history hand.

Best,
Nicole Meldahl

--

Nicole Meldahl

Executive Director

[Western Neighborhoods Project](#) / [OpenSFHistory](#)

1617 Balboa, San Francisco, CA 94121

nicole@outsidelands.org

(415) 661-1000

Please note that I am not in the office Sunday-Monday and my response may be delayed as a

result.

In this time of coronavirus (COVID-19), every dollar helps us keep the lights on and the content flowing. Please consider a [tax-deductible donation](#) to support your local history.

From: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#)
Cc: [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Laxamana, Junko \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Letter in support of Lincoln Park landmarking
Date: Friday, July 16, 2021 3:22:36 PM

From: Jessica Barros <barro118@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 16, 2021 12:11 PM

To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Chan, Connie (BOS) <connie.chan@sfgov.org>; Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>; Mandelman, Rafael (BOS) <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>; Mar, Gordon (BOS) <gordon.mar@sfgov.org>; Melgar, Myrna (BOS) <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>; Preston, Dean (BOS) <dean.preston@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; Ronen, Hillary <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>; Safai, Ahsha (BOS) <ahsha.safai@sfgov.org>; Stefani, Catherine (BOS) <catherine.stefani@sfgov.org>; Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>

Cc: kyoung@sfheritage.org; Major, Erica (BOS) <erica.major@sfgov.org>

Subject: Letter in support of Lincoln Park landmarking

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors -

I'm writing in support of the Lincoln Park Landmarking effort. I learned about the interesting history of City Cemetery (Lincoln Park) when I happened upon the Kong Chow and Ladies' Seaman's structures, and my curiosity was piqued. By preserving these structures, we'll inspire curiosity and discovery for future generations while also honoring the diverse group of pioneers who helped lay the groundwork for San Francisco. As a Richmond resident, I value the cultural richness that City Cemetery brings to this neighborhood, and I'd love to see its history preserved through landmarking.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jess

--

Jessica Barros

barro118@gmail.com

925.222.1205

From: [Jessica Barros](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: kyoung@sheritage.org; [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Letter in support of Lincoln Park landmarking
Date: Friday, July 16, 2021 12:11:23 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors -

I'm writing in support of the Lincoln Park Landmarking effort. I learned about the interesting history of City Cemetery (Lincoln Park) when I happened upon the Kong Chow and Ladies' Seaman's structures, and my curiosity was piqued. By preserving these structures, we'll inspire curiosity and discovery for future generations while also honoring the diverse group of pioneers who helped lay the groundwork for San Francisco. As a Richmond resident, I value the cultural richness that City Cemetery brings to this neighborhood, and I'd love to see its history preserved through landmarking.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jess

--

Jessica Barros
barro118@gmail.com
925.222.1205

From: [Matthew Silvestrini](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Letter in support of Lincoln Park landmarking
Date: Friday, July 16, 2021 12:51:53 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors -

I'm writing in support of the Lincoln Park Landmarking effort. I learned about the interesting history of City Cemetery (Lincoln Park) when I happened upon the Kong Chow and Ladies' Seaman's structures, and my curiosity was piqued. By preserving these structures, we'll inspire curiosity and discovery for future generations while also honoring the diverse group of pioneers who helped lay the groundwork for San Francisco. As a Richmond resident, I value the cultural richness that City Cemetery brings to this neighborhood, and I'd love to see its history preserved through landmarking.

Thank you for your consideration,
Matthew

From: [Richard Harris Jr.](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Fregosi, Ian \(BOS\)](#); [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); ["Mark Buell"](#); [Madland, Sarah \(REC\)](#)
Subject: Letter SF Public Golf Alliance to Bd of Supers Land Use Committee re Landmark Proposal -- Lincoln Park-- City Cemetery", File No. 210426
Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 10:32:57 AM
Attachments: [Ltr.SFBoS.Land.Use.Comm.LincolnCityCemetery.Landmark.proposal.5.25.21.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

SF Board of Supervisors Land Use & Transportation Committee
Erica Major

Attached above please find the initial comment of San Francisco Public Golf Alliance in the above-captioned matter.

Please acknowledge receipt, and distribute to Land Use Committee members and staff, and put us on the Committee's Notice list for notification of public hearings and/or other proceedings in this matter.

Thank you, and

Best Regards

- Richard Harris
- San Francisco Public Golf Alliance
- 1370 Masonic Ave.
- San Francisco, CA. 94104



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May 25, 2021

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use & Transportation Committee
Myrna Melgar, Chair
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA. 94102

**Re: San Francisco Public Golf Alliance initial reaction to proposal to initiate
“Landmark Designation -- Lincoln Park ‘City Cemetery’”, File No. 210426**

Dear Chair Melgar and Committee Members,

The non-profit, public benefit San Francisco Public Golf Alliance, with a membership of 7,000-plus mostly public golfers in San Francisco and northern San Mateo Counties, is dedicated to preserving, improving, and advocating for San Francisco’s historic and beautiful public golf courses. Here is our initial reaction to Supervisor Chan’s proposal to initiate “Landmark Designation – Lincoln Park “City Cemetery”, File No. 210426.¹

Like Laurel Heights, Lone Mountain, Dolores Park, Rossi Park and Pool, St. Ignatius Cathedral, Jordan Park, and many other present-day parks, landmarks, and neighborhoods scattered

¹ File No. 210426 [Initiating Landmark Designation – Lincoln Park “City Cemetery”]:
<https://sfgov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9334135&GUID=EB9DE34B-6ACC-4D8D-9F1F-1F77E56F5A88>

throughout San Francisco, Lincoln Park was built on the site of a one-time cemetery cleared in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries – pursuant to San Francisco laws that were upheld by the courts after years of litigation -- and put to park, residential, and other urban uses.²

Today Lincoln Park -- Assessor's Parcel No. 1313029 -- is a complex public park with two remaining large and prominent cemetery monuments surrounded by three other major public recreational and cultural facilities with their own historical uses, significances and constituencies: (1) Lincoln Park Golf Course, built in the early 20th Century and one of the oldest public golf courses west of the Mississippi; (2) the Palace of the Legion of Honor, built in the early 1920's as a memorial to the war dead of World War I by Alma Debretteville Spreckles and now one of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museums; and (3) the San Francisco Holocaust Memorial.



Supervisor Chan's proposal to initiate "Landmark Designation—Lincoln Park City Cemetery" appears on its face to focus on the property's 19th century burial ground function without regard to the subsequent – now historic in their own right – architectural, cultural, recreational, and war and holocaust memory purposes of the golf course, museum, and memorial monuments.

Golfers respect and honor Lincoln Park's two remaining cemetery monuments – the Kong Chow funerary chapel near the Hole 1 green, and a monument erected by the Ladies Seamen's

² See FoundSF: Old Cemeteries in the City: https://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=Old_Cemeteries_in_the_City;
Lone Mountain: https://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=LONE_MOUNTAIN
Richmond District: https://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=Category:Richmond_District

Friend Society near the Hole 15 green. For a century, the daily rounds of Lincoln Park's golfers and greenskeepers have protected these monuments from vandalism and disrespect. So long as the golf continues, this protection will continue for these cemetery monuments.

We do not object to some form of recognition of the two individual monuments that would not impair the golf use, maintenance, or ability to renovate the golf course. But we are concerned that a "Landmark Designation – Lincoln Park 'City Cemetery'" applied to the entire park would carry a strong potential to prejudice and limit the use, maintenance, continued improvement, renovation, and/or appropriate remodeling of the golf course, thus prejudicing and limiting the historic golf character and recreational use of the park. As a formal cultural landscape, constructed for recreational purpose, the golf course is a "structure" that must be maintainable and adaptable to meet changing times and conditions. And for that reason we are not now inclined to support a "Landmark Designation – Lincoln Park 'City Cemetery'" applied to the entire park. We do not purport to speak for the Fine Arts Museums, Legion of Honor or the Holocaust Memorial, but those entities may have similar concerns.

We wish to follow this matter closely, and so request that we be placed on the Committee's Notice List for comments, public hearings, and other opportunities for public input on this matter.

Respectfully,

San Francisco Public Golf Alliance

Richard Harris

Richard Harris, President

cc: Supervisor Connie Chan
Supervisor Catherine Stefani
Phil Ginsburg, Gen. Mgr., SF Recreation and Park Dept.
Mark Buell, President, SF Recreation and Park Commission



MYRNA MELGAR

DATE: July 21, 2021

TO: Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair, Land Use and Transportation Committee *MM*

RE: Land Use and Transportation Committee
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pursuant to Board Rule 4.20, as Chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee, I have deemed the following matters are of an urgent nature and request them be considered by the full Board on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, as Committee Reports:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| File No. 210426 | Initiating Landmark Designation - Lincoln Park "City Cemetery"
Sponsor: Chan |
| File No. 210726 | Initiating Landmark Designation - Clay Theatre
Sponsor: Stefani |
| File No. 210495 | Landmark Tree Designation - Canary Island Pine - 2251 Filbert Street
Sponsor: Stefani |

These matters will be heard in the Land Use and Transportation Committee at a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 26, 2021, at 1:30pm.

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

Subject:

The text is listed:

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

For Clerk's Use Only