



LANDMARK RESOLUTION RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTION NO. 1211

HEARING DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2021

Record No.: 2021-005992DES
Project Address: 155 Sansome Street, Diego Rivera fresco, *Allegory of California* (The City Club of San Francisco, former Pacific Stock Exchange Luncheon Club)
Zoning: C-3-O (Downtown Office)
150-S Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 0268/001A
Project Sponsor: SF Planning Department
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103
Property Owner: Stock Exchange Tower Associates
155 Sansome Street, Suite 850
San Francisco, CA 94104
Staff Contact: Pilar LaValley (628-652-7372)
pilar.lavalley@sfgov.org

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS LANDMARK DESIGNATION OF THE FRESCO TITLED “ALLEGORY OF CALIFORNIA,” ASSESSOR’S PARCEL BLOCK NO. 0268, LOT NO. 001A, AS LANDMARK NO. XXX CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES AND STANDARDS OF ARTICLE 10

1. WHEREAS, on April 4, 2021, Supervisor Peskin introduced a proposed Resolution under Board of Supervisors (hereinafter “Board”) File No. 210352 to initiate the Landmark designation process for Diego Rivera’s fresco, titled “Allegory of California,” painted in 1931 in the grand stairwell between the 10th and 11th floors of what is now The City Club of San Francisco (formerly Pacific Stock Exchange Luncheon Club), 155 Sansome Street, Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 0268, Lot No. 001A (“the Fresco”); and
2. WHEREAS, on April 19, 2021, the Board of Supervisors at its Land Use and Transportation Committee meeting recommended unanimously to recommend to the full Board approval of the Resolution to initiate Landmark Designation (Board File No. 210352); and
3. WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution to initiate Landmark Designation, and on May 7, 2021 with the Mayor’s signature, Resolution No. 187-21 became effective (Board File No. 210352); and

4. WHEREAS, on July 23, 2021, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 344-21 (Board File No. 210778) extending the prescribed time within which the Historic Preservation Commission shall act to approve, disapprove or modify the proposed designation of landmark status of the Fresco for an additional 90 days, or until November 9, 2021; and
5. WHEREAS, Department Staff, who meet the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, prepared the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet for the Fresco, which was reviewed for accuracy and conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10; and
6. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of November 3, 2021, reviewed Department staff's analysis of the historical significance of the Fresco pursuant to Article 10 as part of the Landmark Designation Executive Summary dated October 27, 2021, and recommended Landmark designation through this Resolution; and
7. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the nomination of the Fresco as a Landmark is in the form prescribed by the Historic Preservation Commission and contains supporting historic, architectural, and/or cultural documentation; and
8. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the Fresco, which depicts classic themes and motifs found in Rivera compositions, namely harmony between nature and machine, a glorification of the past while looking toward the future, and a panorama of historical figures, is culturally and historically significant and is eligible for local designation as the first fresco painted by preeminent Mexican artist Diego Rivera in the United States; and
9. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the designation of the Fresco is also proper given its association with the Latinx and Chicanx arts communities, a significant and vibrant part of San Francisco's cultural heritage; and
10. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the Fresco meets two of the Historic Preservation Commission's four priority areas for designation: property types that are underrepresented among the City's designated landmarks and properties associated with an underrepresented racial/social/ethnic group; and
11. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that designation of the Fresco advances the objectives outlined in Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Resolution No. 1127, adopted in 2020, otherwise called *Centering Preservation Planning on Racial and Social Equity*, which states goals for how the Commission and the Planning Department can develop proactive strategies to address structural and institutional racism and center their work and resource allocation on racial and social equity, focused on preservation; and
12. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the Fresco meets the eligibility requirements of Section 1004 of the Planning Code and warrants consideration for Article 10 landmark designation; and
13. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the boundaries and the list of character-defining features, as identified in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, should be considered for preservation under the proposed landmark designation as they relate to the Fresco's historical significance and retain historical integrity; and

14. WHEREAS, the proposed designation is consistent with the General Plan priority policies pursuant to Planning Code, Section 101.1 and furthers Priority Policy No. 7, which states that landmarks and historic buildings be preserved, and will serve the public necessity, convenience and welfare pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302; and
15. WHEREAS, the Department has determined that landmark designation is exempt from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Class Eight – Categorical Exemption for Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends to the Board of Supervisors approval of landmark designation of Diego Rivera’s fresco, titled “Allegory of California,” painted in the grand stairwell between the 10th and 11th floors of what is now The City Club of San Francisco (formerly Pacific Stock Exchange Luncheon Club), 155 Sansome Street, Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 0268, Lot No. 001A, consistent with the purposes and standards of Article 10 of the Planning Code.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission at its meeting on November 3, 2021.



Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES: Wright, Black, Foley, Johns, So, Nageswaran, Matsuda
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ADOPTED: November 3, 2021