

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco 94102-4689  
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## MEMORANDUM

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Date: June 12, 2019  
To: Mohammed Nuru, Director, Public Works  
From: *ACC* Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board  
Subject: Tina Modotti Commemorative Plaque - 1952 Taylor Street  
(File No. 190439)

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On May 21, 2019, the Board of Supervisors finally passed Ordinance No. 104-19, sponsored by Supervisor Peskin and approved by Mayor Breed on May 31, 2019.

A certified copy of the Ordinance is being forwarded to you, as directed under Section 5 of this legislation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, at (415) 554-4441 or by email at: [Erica.Major@sfgov.org](mailto:Erica.Major@sfgov.org).

c: David Steinberg, Public Works  
Jeremy Spitz, Public Works  
Jennifer Blot, Public Works  
John Thomas, Public Works  
Lena Liu, Public Works



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Certified Copy

Ordinance

190439 [ Tina Modotti Commemorative Plaque - 1952 Taylor Street ]

Sponsor: Peskin

Ordinance approving the Tina Modotti commemorative plaque to be installed on the sidewalk in the vicinity of 1952 Taylor Street; waiving the Public Works hearing under the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance in the Public Works Code; accepting the plaque in honor of Tina Modotti as a gift to the City; directing official acts in furtherance of this Ordinance, as defined herein; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

5/14/2019 Board of Supervisors - PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 9 - Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Safai, Stefani and Yee

Excused: 2 - Ronen and Walton

5/21/2019 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 10 - Brown, Fewer, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

Excused: 1 - Haney

5/31/2019 Mayor - APPROVED

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance is a full, true, and correct copy of the original thereof on file in this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City and County of San Francisco.

June 11, 2019

Date

Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

1 [Tina Modotti Commemorative Plaque - 1952 Taylor Street]

2  
3 **Ordinance approving the Tina Modotti commemorative plaque to be installed on the**  
4 **sidewalk in the vicinity of 1952 Taylor Street; waiving the Public Works hearing under**  
5 **the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance in the Public Works Code; accepting the**  
6 **plaque in honor of Tina Modotti as a gift to the City; directing official acts in**  
7 **furtherance of this Ordinance, as defined herein; and affirming the Planning**  
8 **Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

9 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
10 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
11 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.  
12 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
13 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.  
14 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
15 subsections or parts of tables.

16 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

17 Section 1. Commemoration of Tina Modotti.

18 (a) Tina Modotti, born in Udine in the Friuli district of Italy, emigrated to the United  
19 States in 1913, and settled in her family home, located at 1952 Taylor Street, in what was  
20 then the Italian-American district of North Beach.

21 (b) Through various roles in popular amateur theatre clubs of San Francisco, Tina  
22 Modotti launched her stage career and became a famed actress in the Italian theatre and light  
23 opera district in North Beach, such that her performances were well-documented in the  
24 prominent Italian-language newspaper, L'Italia.

25 (c) Tina Modotti, who was profoundly influenced by her father's frequent Socialist and  
trade unionist gatherings and political conversations at their family home and in the

1 neighborhood at large, used her stage prowess to raise funds for Red Cross activities in Italy  
2 during World War I.

3 (d) Tina Modotti's work was deeply rooted in the Socialist movement, after having  
4 worked alongside mentor and creative partner Edward Weston in Mexico. Ms. Modotti  
5 ultimately became the photographer of choice for the blossoming Mexican mural movement,  
6 documenting the works of Jose Clemente Orozco and Diego Rivera.

7 (e) Driven by her political beliefs, Tina Modotti travelled across the world on missions  
8 with the International Workers' Relief organizations, managing hospital operations and tending  
9 the wounded under extreme battlefield conditions during the Spanish Civil War.

10 (f) Tina Modotti was a celebrated photographer, documentarian, model, actress, and  
11 revolutionary political activist, whose brilliant career was deeply influenced by her early  
12 experiences in the North Beach community and San Francisco from 1913 through 1918.

13 (g) Tina Modotti's works are celebrated and shown at prestigious institutions, including  
14 the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the New York Museum of Modern Art, the  
15 Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and the George Eastman House in Rochester, NY.

16 (h) Tina Modotti once said that she had "always considered San Francisco her city of  
17 adoption" as expressed in a January 23, 1926 letter to Edward Weston.

18 (i) In 2008, the City adopted Resolution No. 479-08 commending Tina Modotti as a  
19 woman of significance in the artistic and cultural history of San Francisco and characterizing  
20 her as an intendent, liberated woman of incredible talent, intelligence, and social commitment.

21 (j) The Board of Supervisors supports the placement of a commemorative street  
22 plaque in honor of Tina Modotti on the sidewalk in the vicinity of Ms. Modotti's home at 1952  
23 Taylor Street.

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25 Section 2. Findings.

1 (a) The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this  
2 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources  
3 Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
4 Supervisors in File No. 190439 and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms  
5 this determination.

6 (b) This ordinance generally conforms with the process and procedures of Public  
7 Works Code Sections 789 et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance.

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9 Section 3. Approval of Commemorative Street Plaque.

10 (a) In accordance with Public Works Code Sections 789 et seq., the Commemorative  
11 Street Plaque Ordinance, the Board of Supervisors, in recognition of the civic contributions of  
12 Tina Modotti, hereby approves the placement of a commemorative plaque in her honor on the  
13 sidewalk in the vicinity of 1952 Taylor Street, Ms. Modotti's home.

14 (b) Waiver of a Public Works Hearing.

15 Notwithstanding any contrary provision of Public Works Code Sections 789 et seq., the  
16 Board of Supervisors hereby waives the Public Works hearing on the application for the Tina  
17 Modotti commemorative plaque.

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19 Section 4. Gift Acceptance.

20 (a) The Tina Modotti Heritage Committee shall install the Tina Modotti commemorative  
21 plaque and has graciously offered the installed plaque as a gift to San Francisco.

22 (b) The Board of Supervisors accepts the commemorative plaque as a gift to the City  
23 and County of San Francisco, provided that the acceptance shall be conditioned upon the  
24 plaque's installation and approval of the plaque design by the Civic Design Review Committee  
25 of the Arts Commission.

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Section 5. Official Actions Directed.

(a) The Board of Supervisors directs Public Works to take all actions necessary to implement the intent of this ordinance, including approval of the installation of the aforementioned plaque, which shall be conditioned upon approval of the Civic Design Review Committee of the Arts Commission.

(b) The Board of Supervisors directs San Francisco Public Works to add the subject sidewalk and plaque to the Official City Map of commemorative sites.

Section 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:   
JOHN D. MALAMUT  
Deputy City Attorney

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City and County of San Francisco

Tails  
Ordinance

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 190439

Date Passed: May 21, 2019

Ordinance approving the Tina Modotti commemorative plaque to be installed on the sidewalk in the vicinity of 1952 Taylor Street; waiving the Public Works hearing under the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance in the Public Works Code; accepting the plaque in honor of Tina Modotti as a gift to the City; directing official acts in furtherance of this Ordinance, as defined herein; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

May 06, 2019 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

May 14, 2019 Board of Supervisors - PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 9 - Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Safai, Stefani and Yee  
Excused: 2 - Ronen and Walton

May 21, 2019 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 10 - Brown, Fewer, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee  
Excused: 1 - Haney

File No. 190439

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 5/21/2019 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

f Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

London N. Breed  
Mayor

5/31/19

Date Approved