

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Landmark designation - 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center)]

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 4968, Lot No. 032, as a Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and with the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

Existing Law

Under Article 10, Section 1004 of the Planning Code, the Board of Supervisors may, by ordinance, designate an individual structure that has special character or special historical, architectural or aesthetic interest or value as a City landmark. Once a structure has been named a landmark, any construction, alteration, removal or demolition for which a City permit is required necessitates a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission ("HPC"). (Planning Code Section 1006; Charter of the City and County of San Francisco, Section 4.135.) Thus, landmark designation affords a high degree of protection to historic and architectural structures of merit in the City. There are currently more than 270 individual landmarks in the City under Article 10, in addition to other structures and districts in the downtown area that are protected under Article 11. (See Appendix A to Article 10.)

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance amends the Planning Code to add a new historic landmark to the list of individual landmarks under Article 10: 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center).

The ordinance finds that the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center is significant for its association with Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, a nationally prominent African American lawyer-physician and influential healthcare and civil rights advocate. Dr. Coleman purchased the property at 6301 Third Street to construct a purpose-built medical facility to serve Bayview residents. Opening in 1960, the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center reflected the popular architectural styles of the period, and served as a modern symbol of community health, progress, and success. He recruited a team of African American physicians to join him in his vision of providing comprehensive health services to the area's low-income African American residents. Dr. Coleman was celebrated as a local pioneer in the nationally significant community health center movement that began in the 1960s, worked tirelessly to achieve

racial equity within the healthcare system and the medical profession, and advocated for the needs of the Bayview's African American community.

As required by Section 1004, the ordinance lists the particular exterior and interior features that shall be preserved, or replaced in-kind as determined necessary.

Background Information

The landmark designation was initiated by the HPC pursuant to its authority under the Charter to recommend approval, disapproval, or modification of landmark designations and historic district designations under the Planning Code to the Board of Supervisors. The HPC held a hearing to initiate the landmark designation of Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center on April 18, 2018. On May 16, 2018, after holding a public hearing on the proposed designation and having considered the Landmark Designation Case Report prepared by Planning Department staff Desiree Smith, the HPC voted to recommend approval of Property Name to the Board of Supervisors.

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