

File No. 210352 Committee Item No. 1  
Board Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Transportation Committee Date April 19, 2021

Board of Supervisors Meeting Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Cmte Board**

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Motion                                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Resolution                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ordinance                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative Digest                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Budget and Legislative Analyst Report        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Youth Commission Report                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Introduction Form                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | MOU  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Information Form                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Budget                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Subcontract Budget                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Contract/Agreement                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Form 126 – Ethics Commission                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Award Letter                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Application                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Correspondence                        |

**OTHER (Use back side if additional space is needed)**

- |                                     |                          |                            |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Referral FYI 041421</u> |
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Completed by: Erica Major Date April 15, 2021  
Completed by: Erica Major Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - Diego Rivera Mural “The Allegory of California”]

2

3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**  
4 **Diego Rivera’s fresco, titled “The Allegory of California,” painted in 1931 and located at**  
5 **155 Sansome Street.**

6

7 WHEREAS, Diego Rivera remains one of the most important and famous Mexican  
8 artists of all time, whose fresco work helped to establish the thriving Mexican Mural Art  
9 Movement in the 1920s, and who painted his first murals in the United States in San  
10 Francisco; and

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to three of Rivera’s masterpieces, including the  
12 first fresco Diego Rivera completed in the United States entitled “The Allegory of California,”  
13 which was painted in 1931 and is located within the grand stairwell inside of the former Pacific  
14 Stock Exchange building at 155 Sansome Street in downtown San Francisco, now home of  
15 The City Club; and

16 WHEREAS, The fresco depicts classic themes and motifs found in Rivera  
17 compositions, namely harmony between nature and machine, a glorification of the past while  
18 looking toward the future, and a panorama of historical figures; and

19 WHEREAS, According to Rivera’s autobiography, the large, looming female figure  
20 represents Calafia, the Spirit of California, with her right hand mining the earth for hidden  
21 treasures of the State of California, and her left hand holding the treasures that grow on its  
22 surface; and

23 WHEREAS, The background of the fresco mural shows industries of the Bay Area: the  
24 oil refineries of Richmond, the shipping yards facing the Pacific Ocean, and dredging  
25 equipment then used in search of gold; and

1           WHEREAS, The forefront of the fresco depicts specific historical figures important to  
2 the development of California as a state: James Marshall, who discovered gold at Sutter's  
3 Creek in 1948, famous horticulturist Luther Burbank, sculptor Peter Stackpole, and fellow  
4 muralist Victor Arnautoff; and

5           WHEREAS, The Allegory of California fresco attracted immediate criticism and harsh  
6 reactions, principally to Rivera's nationality and Marxist political leanings, and quickly became  
7 one Rivera's most significant and well-known works; and

8           WHEREAS, The Allegory of California fresco is of particular significance to the Latinx  
9 and Chicax communities, and, along with Rivera's other murals in San Francisco, is part of  
10 the direct lineage of the Mission Mural movement which remains a significant and vibrant part  
11 of San Francisco's cultural heritage, and it is the responsibility of civic and academic  
12 institutions to include these communities in studies and decisions pertaining to the fresco;  
13 now, therefore be it

14           RESOLVED, That the Board hereby initiates a separate landmark designation of Diego  
15 Rivera's masterpiece fresco "The Allegory of California," created in 1931 at its sole and  
16 current location at 155 Sansome Street; and, be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Planning Department  
18 prepare a Landmark Designation Report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission  
19 for its consideration of the special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and value of  
20 the fresco; and, be it

21           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation  
22 Commission consider whether the Mural warrants landmark designation and submit its  
23 recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the Planning Code.

24  
25

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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Fax No. 554-5163  
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Rich Hillis, Director, Planning Department  
Jonas Ionin, Commission Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission

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

DATE: April 14, 2021

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

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The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Peskin on April 6, 2021:

**File No. 210352**

**Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for Diego Rivera's fresco, titled "The Allegory of California," painted in 1931 and located at 155 Sansome Street.**

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](mailto: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

# 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