

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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July 3, 2017

**File No. 170781**

Lisa Gibson  
Interim Environmental Review Officer  
Planning Department  
1650 Mission Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Ms. Gibson:

On June 28, 2017, Supervisor Farrell introduced the following legislation:

**File No. 170781**

**Ordinance directing the Arts Commission to erect a statue of Maya Angelou at the Main Library; setting a City policy that at least 30% of nonfictional figures depicted or commemorated in statues and other works of art on City-owned property, public building names, and street names, be women; amending the Administrative Code to create a fund to accept gifts to pay for the design, construction, repair, maintenance, and improvement of public art depicting historically significant women on City property; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

This legislation is being transmitted to you for environmental review.

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

By: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk  
Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee

Attachment

c: Joy Navarrete, Environmental Planner  
Laura Lynch, Environmental Planner

1 [Administrative Code - Maya Angelou Statue at Main Library - City Policy Regarding Depiction  
2 of Women on City Property - Women's Recognition Public Art Fund]

3 **Ordinance directing the Arts Commission to erect a statue of Maya Angelou at the Main**  
4 **Library; setting a City policy that at least 30% of nonfictional figures depicted or**  
5 **commemorated in statues and other works of art on City-owned property, public**  
6 **building names, and street names, be women; amending the Administrative Code to**  
7 **create a fund to accept gifts to pay for the design, construction, repair, maintenance,**  
8 **and improvement of public art depicting historically significant women on City**  
9 **property; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California**  
10 **Environmental Quality Act.**

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

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

19 Section 1. Environmental Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the  
20 actions contemplated in this ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act  
21 (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with  
22 the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference.  
23 The Board affirms this determination.  
24  
25

1 Section 2. Findings.

2 (a) Studies conducted at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University  
3 of Washington indicate that visible representation of women in leadership positions encourage  
4 and support young women's careers and educational aspirations via the role model effect.

5 (b) Women's historical contributions are inadequately recognized in public statues,  
6 memorials, and other works of art, as demonstrated by the dearth of statues depicting  
7 historical women in American cities. In San Francisco, for example, of the 585 permanently  
8 sited works in the Arts Commission's Civic Art Collection, 87 are sculptural monuments and  
9 memorials—and only two of the 87 depict nonfictional women. The San Francisco Arts  
10 Commission has made great strides towards supporting cultural equality in the arts, including  
11 gender equality, by awarding 50% of its public art commissions to female artists. But  
12 throughout society, the failure to honor accomplished women through statues, monuments,  
13 memorials, and plaques on public display, in San Francisco and elsewhere, leaves a harmful  
14 void in our public spaces. Instead of there being on display plentiful historical role models for  
15 everyone to see, celebrate, honor, and emulate, there is a different, disturbing message  
16 conveyed by this void. It silently communicates a message of women's insignificance in  
17 government and politics, commerce, labor, arts, sciences, and the professions, among other  
18 human endeavors, and thus reinforces the antiquated stereotype of women not serving in  
19 positions of leadership or otherwise making notable historical accomplishments—a stereotype  
20 at odds with reality and with the City's commitment to equal opportunity for all.

21 (c) There is a national movement to increase female representation in public statues  
22 and works of art to 30% by the year 2020, the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th  
23 Amendment to the United States Constitution, granting women the right to vote. The City  
24 should at least meet, and hopefully exceed, that minimum threshold of female representation  
25 to recognize women's contributions to San Francisco, California, the United States, and the

1 world. When women represent just 30 percent of the senior leadership team or board,  
2 organizations start to experience a positive shift, not only in performance, but also in market  
3 share that creates competitive advantages. Research further suggests that 30 percent is the  
4 proportion when critical mass is reached and in a group setting, the voices of the minority  
5 group become heard in their own right, rather than simply representing the minority.

6 (d) Dr. Maya Angelou's many accomplishments include breaking the color and gender  
7 barrier by becoming San Francisco's first African American female streetcar conductor, an  
8 award winning author and poet, a Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient and civil rights  
9 leader.

10  
11 Section 3. Maya Angelou Statue at the Main Library.

12 (a) By no later than December 31, 2020, the Arts Commission shall erect a statue of  
13 Dr. Maya Angelou at the Main Library. The Arts Commission shall determine the design of  
14 the statue and the specific location at the Main Library. The statue shall be appropriately  
15 scaled for its location, shall not create an adverse impact on the use of the Library, and shall  
16 be physically accessible to members of the public with mobility-related disabilities. The Arts  
17 Commission shall also select an artist to build the statue. The Library Commission shall  
18 appoint an individual, who may be a member of the Library Commission, to serve on the Arts  
19 Commission's selection committee for the artist. Additionally, in selecting the design and  
20 location, and in overseeing the construction and placement of the statue, the Commission  
21 shall solicit input from the Library Commission and the City Librarian, or his or her designee.  
22 By no later than December 31, 2020, the statue shall be completed and placed at the  
23 approved location.

24 (b) The Arts Commission shall be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the  
25 statue. The Arts Commission may use funds in the Women's Recognition Public Art Fund in

1 Administrative Code Section 10.100-363 or funds otherwise appropriated by ordinance for this  
2 purpose.

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4 Section 4. The Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Section 10.100-363,  
5 to read as follows:

6 **SEC. 10.100-363. WOMEN'S RECOGNITION PUBLIC ART FUND.**

7 **(a) Establishment of Fund.** *The Women's Recognition Public Art Fund is established as a*  
8 *category eight fund into which shall be deposited all gifts, donations, and contributions which may be*  
9 *offered to the City and County, and all monies appropriated by ordinance, for the purpose of designing,*  
10 *constructing, repairing, maintaining, and improving statues and other works of public art depicting*  
11 *historically significant women, including the statue of Maya Angelou required by the ordinance in*  
12 *Board of Supervisors File No. \_\_\_\_\_ . The Arts Commission shall have the authority to accept and*  
13 *expend any donation of funds, goods, or services in accordance with this Section 10.100-363 without*  
14 *further action by the Board of Supervisors.*

15 **(b) Uses of Fund.** *All monies in the Fund shall be expended solely for the purposes of*  
16 *designing, constructing, repairing, maintaining, or improving statues and other works of public art*  
17 *depicting historically significant women physically accessible to the public on City property.*

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19 Section 5. Policy of Promoting Representations of Women in the Public Realm. It shall  
20 be the policy of the City and County of San Francisco that the City shall endeavor to ensure  
21 that at least 30% of nonfictional persons in each of the following categories on property owned  
22 by the City shall be women: (a) depictions of historical figures in statues, monuments,  
23 memorials, plaques, and similar objects for publicly recognizing historical figures; (b) names of  
24 City streets; (c) names of City-owned buildings or designated rooms or spaces in those  
25 buildings; and (d) depictions of historical figures in other works of public art. This policy shall

1 apply to City-owned streets and right-of-ways, parks, and other City-owned public open  
2 spaces, and areas of City buildings open to the public without an admission fee, but shall not  
3 apply to permanent or temporary collections of artwork displayed in City museums listed in  
4 Charter Section 5.102. By no later than December 31 each year, the Department on the  
5 Status of Women shall report to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor regarding the  
6 proportion of women in each of the categories described above.

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8 Section 6. Undertaking for the General Welfare. In enacting and implementing this  
9 ordinance, the City is assuming an undertaking only to promote the general welfare. It is not  
10 assuming, nor is it imposing on its officers and employees, an obligation for breach of which it  
11 is liable in money damages to any person who claims that such breach proximately caused  
12 injury. Nor does this ordinance create a right which may be enforced through declaratory or  
13 injunctive relief, or any other form of judicial remedy.

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24 Section 7. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after  
25 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the

1 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board  
2 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

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

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
JON GIVNER  
Deputy City Attorney

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**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Administrative Code - Maya Angelou Statue at Main Library - City Policy Regarding Depiction of Women on City Property - Women's Recognition Public Art Fund]

**Ordinance directing the Arts Commission to erect a statue of Maya Angelou at the Main Library; setting a City policy that at least 30% of nonfictional figures depicted or commemorated in statues and other works of art on City-owned property, public building names, and street names, be women; amending the Administrative Code to create a fund to accept gifts to pay for the design, construction, repair, maintenance, and improvement of public art depicting historically significant women on City property; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

Existing Law

The Library may erect statues or other works of art on Library property. The Arts Commission is responsible for approving the design and location of all works of art before they are acquired, transferred or sold by the City, or are placed upon or removed from City property. The Arts Commission also is responsible for maintaining works of art owned by the City.

The City does not have a policy regarding the proportion of statues, works of public art, building names, or street names that should depict or recognize women.

Amendments to Current Law

The ordinance would require the Arts Commission to erect a statue of Maya Angelou at the Main Library by December 31, 2020. The ordinance would require the Arts Commission to determine the design of the statue, the specific location, and the artist, and to oversee the construction and placement of the statue. The Arts Commission would consult with the Library Commission and the City Librarian at all stages in the process, and the Library Commission would appoint a person to serve on the Arts Commission's selection committee for the artist. The Arts Commission would be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the statue.

The ordinance would also create a fund to accept gifts, donations, contributions, and budget appropriations to support the design, construction, repair, maintenance, and improvement of statues and other works of public art depicting historically significant women, including the statue of Maya Angelou. The Arts Commission could accept and expend any gifts or donations to the fund without further Board of Supervisors approval.

Finally, the ordinance would adopt a City policy that the City will endeavor to make women 30% of nonfictional people represented in statues, monuments, memorials, plaques, other works of public art, street names, and names of City-owned buildings or designated rooms or



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spaces in those buildings. Each year, the Department on the Status of Women would report to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor regarding the proportion of women represented in these categories.

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