

1 [Resolution to Initiate the Designation of a Landmark of the Colombo Building at 1-21
2 Columbus Avenue and 612-624 Washington Street, Block 195, Lot 4, as a Landmark.]

3 **Resolution initiating the ~~D~~esignation of a Landmark of the Colombo Building, 1-21**
4 **Columbus Street Avenue and 612-624 Washington Street, located at the Northwest**
5 **corner of Columbus Avenue and Washington Street at its intersection with**
6 **Montgomery Street, encompassing all of, Block 195, Lot 4 in Block 195, as a Landmark**
7 **pursuant to Section 1004.1 of the San Francisco Planning Code.**

8
9 WHEREAS, The Colombo Building, a ~~classical revival structure constructed in 1913,~~
10 ~~forms the gateway between North Beach and the financial District of the City~~ constructed in
11 1913 as part of the post-1906 rebuilding of North Beach, was designed by the Reid Brothers,
12 one of the best-know and most well-respected architectural firms in San Francisco around the
13 turn of the last century; and

14 WHEREAS, ~~Elsie A. Drexler, an owner-developer and financier, and significant figure~~
15 ~~San Francisco women's history, commissioned the Reid Brothers to design the Colombo~~
16 ~~Building~~ The design and construction of the Colombo Building was commissioned by Elise
17 Abigail Drexler, who is significant in women's history as a financier and an early Twentieth
18 Century owner-developer in the downtown area, contributing significantly to the architectural
19 character of San Francisco's post-1906-fire-downtown; and

20 WHEREAS, ~~the Colombo Building is the only building in the North Beach area of the~~
21 ~~City know to have been designed by the Reid Brothers, one of the best-known and most well~~
22 ~~respected architecture firms in San Francisco at the turn of the last century~~ The Classical
23 Revival style and columned rotunda of the Colombo Building reflect the design of the 1907
24 Fugazi Bank/Old Transamerica Building (Landmark No. 52 and a strong contributor to the
25 Jackson Square Historic District) located across the street along Columbus Avenue on the

1 opposing_gore; and

2 WHEREAS, ~~the Columbo Building has been determined eligible for listing on the~~
3 ~~National Register of Historic of Places~~ The Colombo Building and the Old Transamerica
4 Building serve as the “gateway” to North Beach from downtown, and by their scale and
5 articulation bind North Beach to the Jackson Square Historic District; and

6 WHEREAS, The Colombo Building was recommended by the Landmarks Preservation
7 Advisory Board for designation as a Landmark in 1984 and 1996, and has been determined
8 eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by a consensus determination in
9 1997; and

10 WHEREAS, ~~the Board of Supervisors desires that the Columbo Building be~~
11 ~~rehabilitated and reused in a manner that protects and preserves the property consistent with~~
12 ~~its value as a historic resource~~ The current owner of Colombo Building, the San Francisco
13 Community College District, has agreed to support the designation of the Colombo Building as
14 a Landmark, and has agreed to preserve, restore and rehabilitate the Colombo Building as a
15 part of its proposed new Chinatown/North Beach Campus in such a way that the Colombo
16 Building shall remain qualified for the National Register of Historic Places, the California
17 Register of Historic Places and for designation as a Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning
18 Code; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does hereby initiate the
20 designation of the real property at 1-21 Columbus Street and 612-624 Washington Street,
21 located at the Northwest corner of Columbus Avenue and Washington Street at its
22 intersection with Montgomery Street, encompassing all of , Block 195, Lot 4 in Block 195,
23 including the building located thereon, commonly known as the Colombo Building, as a
24 Landmark, and so ~~directs~~ refers this resolution to the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board
25 ~~to place the property in consideration as a Landmark~~ for review pursuant to Article 10 of the

1 Planning Code and other appropriate applicable provisions of law.

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