



April 16, 2026

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk
Honorable Supervisor Walton
Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: **Transmittal of Planning Department Case Number 2026-002555CRV:**
Establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District
Board File No. 260179

Planning Commission Action: Adopted a Recommendation for Approval

Dear Clerk Calvillo,

On April 15, 2026, the Historic Preservation Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider the proposed Ordinance, introduced by Supervisor Walton that would amend Administrative Code Section 107.3. At the hearing the Historic Preservation Commission adopted a recommendation for approval without modifications.

Please find attached documents relating to the actions of the Commission. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rachael Tanner

Rachael Tanner
Director of Community Planning

cc: Andrea Ruiz-Esquide, Deputy City Attorney
Bradley A. Russi, Deputy City Attorney
Percy Burch, Aide to Supervisor Walton
Tracy Gallardo, Aide to Supervisor Walton
Lindsey Lopez-Weaver, Aide to Supervisor Walton
Victor Young, Office of the Clerk of the Board

ATTACHMENTS :

Historic Preservation Commission Resolution
Planning Department Executive Summary



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 1552

HEARING DATE: April 15, 2026

Project Name: Pacific Islander Cultural District
Case Number: 2026-002555CRV [Board File No. 260179]
Initiated by: Supervisor Shamann Walton / Introduced March 4, 2026
Staff Contact: Sydney Cespedes, Senior Community Development Specialist
Sydney.Cespedes@sfgov.org,
Reviewed by: Claudia Flores, Equity Officer
Claudia.Flores@sfgov.org, 628-652-7439

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVE AN ORDINANCE THAT ESTABLISHES THE PACIFIC ISLANDER CULTURAL DISTRICT IN AND AROUND THE VISITACION VALLEY AND SUNNYDALE NEIGHBORHOODS; REQUIRES THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (MOHCD) TO SUBMIT WRITTEN REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE MAYOR DESCRIBING THE CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES OF THE DISTRICT AND PROPOSING STRATEGIES TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND PRESERVE THE CULTURAL LEGACY OF THE DISTRICT; AND, AFFIRMS THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT’S DETERMINATION UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT.

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2026, Supervisor Shamann introduced an Ordinance under Board of Supervisors (hereinafter “Board”) File Number 260179, which would establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District (hereinafter “District”) in the Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods and require the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development to report to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor regarding the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board referred the proposed ordinance to the Historic Preservation Commission (hereinafter “Commission”) on March 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider the Ordinance on April 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance has been determined to be Categorically Exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act Section 15060(c)(2) and 15378; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has heard and considered the testimony presented to it at the public hearing and has further considered written materials and oral testimony presented on behalf of Department staff and other interested parties; and

WHEREAS, all pertinent documents may be found in the files of the Department, as the custodian of records, at 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400, San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has reviewed the proposed Ordinance; and

MOVED, that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends that the Board of Supervisors **approve** the Ordinance.

Findings

Having reviewed the materials identified in the preamble above, and having heard all testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

1. San Francisco's cultural diversity is integral to the City fabric and is what helps make San Francisco a desirable location for living, working and recreating.
2. Cultural heritage is the expression of a way of living. It is developed by a community through objects, beliefs, traditions, practices, artistic interpretation, and significant places. It manifests itself in tangible and intangible elements passed through generations. Examples of these elements include buildings, plazas, crafts, art, festivals, processions, protests, businesses, and other institutions. Losing any of these elements diminishes a community's cultural integrity. Preserving these unique cultural elements requires distinct strategies according to each community's needs in partnership with local government.
3. During periods of rapid change in the City, cultural districts can help preserve and enhance indispensable elements of the City's fabric.
4. The Ordinance recommends a feasible timeframe for development of the required CHHESS report. The City should plan for adequate City resources to support the CHHESS report development for the District.
5. The Ordinance proactively recommends a process for identifying an appropriate community partner. The City and community-based organization selected by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development should support an inclusive community engagement process during the development of the Cultural, History, Housing and Economic Sustainability Strategy for the Pacific Islander Cultural District.
6. The Ordinance, while having an incremental impact to Department staff time dedicated to supporting the cultural district program, would not impact our current permit review procedures or costs.

General Plan Compliance

The proposed Ordinance is consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan:

ART ELEMENT

OBJECTIVE II-2

SUPPORT ARTS AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS WHICH ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF DIVERSE POPULATIONS.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ELEMENT

OBJECTIVE 2

MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE A SOUND AND DIVERSE ECONOMIC BASE AND FISCAL STRUCTURE FOR THE CITY.

Policy 2.3

Maintain a Favorable Social and Cultural Climate in the City in order to Enhance its Attractiveness as a Firm Location

The proposed Ordinance will support arts and cultural programs which address the needs of the Pacific Islander and Pacific Islander American communities in the Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods. In doing so, the Ordinance will also support a favorable social and cultural climate in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods as well as across the entire city.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission hereby recommends that the Board APPROVE the proposed Ordinance as described in this Resolution.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Commission at its meeting on April 15, 2026.



Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES: Cox, Tsern Strang, Baroni, Baldauf, Vergara, Foley, Matsuda

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ADOPTED: April 15, 2026



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AMENDMENT

HEARING DATE: April 15, 2026

Project Name: Establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District
Case Number: 2026-002555CRV [Board File No. 260179]
Initiated by: Supervisor Shamann Walton / Introduced March 4, 2026
Staff Contact: Sydney Céspedes, Senior Community Development Specialist
Sydney.Cespedes@sfgov.org, 628-652-7487
Reviewed by: Claudia Flores, Equity Officer
Claudia.Flores@sfgov.org, 628-652-7439

Recommendation: Approval

Administrative Code Amendment

The proposed Ordinance amends the Administrative Code to establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District (the “District”) in the Visitacion Valley and Sunnysdale neighborhoods and to require the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) to submit written reports and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor describing the cultural attributes of the District and proposing strategies to acknowledge and preserve the cultural legacy of the District.

The Way It Is Now:

The Pacific Islander Cultural District (the “District”), located in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnysdale neighborhoods, is not currently codified in the Administrative Code in the same manner as other Cultural Districts. However, in November 2022, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution of intent to establish the District. Since that time, community-based organizations involved in that effort have organized cultural and community events to celebrate Pacific Islander cultures and to support planning for thriving communities. This ordinance completes and formalizes the process initiated in 2022.

The Way It Would Be:

The Ordinance establishes the Pacific Islander Cultural District in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods in the area bounded by bounded by the southern boundary of the City and County of San Francisco between Bayshore Boulevard and Geneva Avenue, Geneva Avenue to the south between the southern boundary of the City and County of San Francisco and Moscow Street, Moscow Street to the west between Geneva Avenue and France Avenue, France Avenue to the north between Moscow Street and La Grande Avenue following the northern boundary of Crocker Amazon Park, the western boundary of McLaren Park partially on La Grande Avenue and Sunnydale Avenue to Persia Avenue, Persia Avenue continuing on to Mansell Street to the north between Sunnydale Avenue and Visitacion Avenue, Visitacion Avenue to the east between Mansell Street and Campbell Avenue, Campbell Avenue to the north between Visitacion Avenue and San Bruno Avenue, following greenspace at the end of Campbell Avenue to Hester Avenue, following Hester Avenue to the east between the northern intersection with Bayshore Boulevard and the southern intersection with Bayshore Boulevard, and Bayshore Boulevard to the east between Hester Avenue and the southern boundary of the City and County of San Francisco.

Background

This Ordinance relies on the Cultural District designation process outlined in Section 107.3 of the Administrative Code, which was adopted on May 22, 2018. Prior to adoption of this process the Board of Supervisors (BoS) adopted each cultural district and its process separately; however, there was no codified process directing City departments to provide an assessment of a Cultural District's assets and needs. There was also no way to provide recommendations on programs, policies and funding sources benefiting the Cultural District, as well as other recommendations to advance Cultural District goals.

Per the Cultural District designation process, the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, with assistance from a community-based organization and City Departments, will prepare a Cultural, History, Housing, and Economic Sustainability Strategy (CHHESS) Report within one year of the effective date of the ordinance, unless the BoS extends the deadline by resolution, for submittal to the BoS for approval, modification, rejection, or request for further information or analysis. MOHCD will provide progress reports on the strategies outlined in the CHHESS report every three (3) years.

Issues and Considerations

The Pacific Islander Demographics Report

The Pacific Islander Demographics Report, prepared by the Regional Pacific Islander Taskforce, provides a disaggregated analysis of Pacific Islander communities across San Francisco, Alameda, and San Mateo Counties, addressing longstanding gaps in data that have historically obscured the needs of these populations. Pacific Islanders represent a small but rapidly growing population and are among the fastest growing racial groups in California, with nearly 20% of the state's Pacific Islander population residing in the Bay Area, including nearly 7,000 individuals in San Francisco. The report underscores that Pacific Islanders encompass more than 19 distinct ethnic communities across Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia, each with unique cultural, linguistic, and historical contexts. The historic aggregation of Pacific Islanders within broader Asian American data categories has masked significant disparities and limited the City's ability to develop targeted and effective policy responses.

The report identifies substantial and persistent disparities affecting Pacific Islander communities in San Francisco. Pacific Islanders experience disproportionately high rates of poverty (28.9%), unemployment (13.1%), and reliance on food assistance (20.7%), ranking among the highest across racial groups in these categories. Educational attainment is also significantly lower, with only 27.9% of Pacific Islanders in San Francisco holding a Bachelor's degree or higher, the lowest among racial groups. Housing challenges are pronounced, including elevated rates of overcrowding (4.1%), alongside broader indicators of economic instability. At the same time, Pacific Islanders are a relatively young population, with approximately 23.4% under the age of 18, underscoring the need for targeted investments in youth, education, and workforce development. These findings reinforce the need for place-based, community-informed strategies that address both cultural preservation and community stability.

Preserving Our Cultural Heritage

San Francisco's cultural diversity is integral to the city fabric and is what helps make San Francisco a desirable location for living, working and recreating. Cultural heritage expresses a way of living. It is developed by a community through objects, beliefs, traditions, practices, art, and places. It manifests itself in tangible and intangible elements passed through generations. Examples of these elements include buildings, plazas, crafts, art, festivals, processions, protests, businesses, and other institutions. Losing any of these elements diminishes a community's cultural integrity. Preserving these unique cultural elements requires distinct strategies according to each community's needs in partnership with local government. During periods of rapid change cultural districts can help preserve and enhance indispensable elements of the City's fabric.

Racial and Social Equity Analysis

The proposed amendments aim to advance Racial and Social Equity by recognizing the legacy and supporting the long-term sustainability of the Pacific Islander and Pacific Islander-American communities in the Visitacion Valley and Sunnysdale neighborhoods. According to the San Francisco Heritage Foundation, Visitacion Valley has been a primary home for Pacific Islander communities since the early 1900s, with migration shaped by colonization of home islands, military and religious recruitment, and job-seeking opportunities that brought residents from Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, and other Pacific Islands to San Francisco. Today, these communities include diverse Pacific Islander populations with deep cultural ties to place, many of whom are working-class families and multigenerational households that have historically faced systemic barriers to economic stability, housing security, and access to culturally responsive services. Pacific Islanders in San Francisco experience disproportionately high rates of housing instability, health disparities, and economic inequity. In 2020, 29% of Pacific Islanders lived below the federal poverty line. The CHHESS Report called for in the proposed Ordinance will analyze and document both the tangible and intangible elements of Pacific Islander cultural heritage, including cultural practices, institutions, and community networks, while identifying key threats to the preservation and continuity of this community. The proposed Ordinance will also support the development of legislative, economic, and community-based strategies to promote cultural preservation, improve economic outcomes, and ensure the long-term stability, visibility, and vitality of Pacific Islander communities in San Francisco.

Mandated Timeline

Given the breadth of required information, it is the Department's experience that the identification and assessment of cultural heritage resources through a community-led inventory typically takes between nine (9) and eighteen (18) months to complete. Therefore, the proposed CHHESS report deadline of September 1, 2027 is practical and feasible.

Community-Based Organization

The Cultural District program relies on the integral participation of a community group to ensure a responsive and grassroots plan that can be implemented in partnership with the City. The ordinance recommends a process by which MOHCD will select a community-based organization to act as spokesperson, advisor, facilitator, and navigator of the CHHESS development and implementation. The Department supports this approach to partnering with the community.

General Plan Compliance

The proposed ordinance would comply with the General Plan, specifically with the Commerce and Industry Element, which calls for the City to “maintain and enhance a sound and diverse economic base and fiscal structure for the City.” It is also consistent with the Arts Element, which calls for the City to “support arts and cultural programs which address the needs of diverse populations. The ordinance would also comply with General Plan Priority Policy #2, which states that “That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods.” Creating the new cultural district will help efforts to preserve and enhance the City’s remaining ethnic and cultural enclaves. Preservation and enhancement of these districts serves the City’s interest as an abundance of cultural and recreational activities lends San Francisco a comparative advantage over other municipalities.

Implementation

The Department has determined that this Ordinance will not impact our current implementation procedures for permit review or their costs as it does not amend the Planning Code. The Department has determined that the Ordinance will require staff time for collaboration and assistance with the CHHESS report.

Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Commission recommend *approval* of the proposed Ordinance and adopt the attached Draft Resolution to that effect.

Basis for Recommendation

The Department is supportive of the proposed Ordinance and anticipates working collaboratively with the designated community-based organization and MOHCD to support the community stabilization and cultural heritage conservation goals of the community.

- The Ordinance recommends a feasible timeframe for the development of the required CHHESS report.
- The Ordinance proactively recommends a process for identifying an appropriate community partner to act as spokesperson, advisor, facilitator, and navigator of the CHHESS development and implementation. This should ensure that the work of MOHCD is responsive to community concerns and existing neighborhood conditions.
- The Ordinance complies with the City’s General Plan.
- The Ordinance, while having an incremental impact to Department staff time dedicated to supporting the cultural district program, would not impact our current permit review procedures or costs.

Required Commission Action

The proposed Ordinance is before the Commission so that it may recommend the Board of Supervisors approve it, reject it, or approve it with modifications.

Environmental Review

The proposed amendments are not defined as a project under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378 and 15060(c)(2) because they would not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

Public Comment

The Commission received an email from one individual on March 9, 2026, urging opposition to the Cultural District. Their concerns were about the proposed boundaries and questions about the level of community engagement.

Attachments:

- Exhibit A: Draft Historic Preservation Commission Resolution
- Exhibit B: Board of Supervisors File No. 260179
- Exhibit C: Board Resolution No. 484-22 Intent to Establish a Pacific Islander Cultural District (November 2022)

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jonas Ionin, Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Victor Young, Assistant Clerk, Rules Committee *Victor Young*

DATE: March 4, 2026

SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Rules Committee

The Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee has received the following legislation, which is being referred to the Historic Preservation Commission, pursuant to Charter, Section 4.135, for comment and recommendation.

File No. 260179

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods; to require the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development to submit written reports and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor describing the cultural attributes of the District and proposing strategies to acknowledge and preserve the cultural legacy of the District; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

c: Sarah Dennis Phillips, Director, Planning Department
Tina Tam, Zoning Administrator, Planning Department
Lisa Gibson, Environmental Review Officer, Planning Department
Audrey Merlone, Manager of Legislative Affairs, Planning Department
Josh Switzky, Acting Director of Citywide Planning, Planning Department
Andrea Ruiz-Esqvide, Deputy City Attorney
Joy Navarrete, Major Environmental Analysis, Planning Department



City and County of San Francisco

Master Report

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

File Number: 260179 **File Type:** Ordinance **Status:** Pending Committee Action

Enacted: _____ **Effective:** _____

Version: 1 **In Control:** Rules Committee

File Name: Administrative Code - Establishing the Pacific Islander Cultural District **Date Introduced:** 02/24/2026

Requester: _____ **Cost:** _____ **Final Action:** _____

Comment: _____ **Title:** Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods; to require the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development to submit written reports and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor describing the cultural attributes of the District and proposing strategies to acknowledge and preserve the cultural legacy of the District; and affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Sponsor: Walton

History of Legislative File 260179

Ver	Acting Body	Date	Action	Sent To	Due Date	Result
1	President	02/24/2026	ASSIGNED	Rules Committee		
<i>2/26/2026 - President Mandelman waived the 30-day rule pursuant to Board Rule No. 3.22.</i>						

1 [Administrative Code - Establishing the Pacific Islander Cultural District]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the Pacific Islander Cultural**
4 **District in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods; to require**
5 **the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development to submit written reports**
6 **and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor describing the**
7 **cultural attributes of the District and proposing strategies to acknowledge and**
8 **preserve the cultural legacy of the District; and affirming the Planning Department’s**
9 **determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

10

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

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

20

21 Section 1. Environmental and Historic Findings.

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

(b) On _____, the Historic Preservation Commission held a duly
noticed hearing regarding the effects of this ordinance upon historic or cultural resources, and

1 submitted a written report to the Board of Supervisors as required under Charter Section
2 4.135. The report is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. ____.

3
4 Section 2. Chapter 107 of the Administrative Code is hereby amended by revising
5 Section 107.3, to read as follows:

6
7 **SEC. 107.3. LIST OF ESTABLISHED CULTURAL DISTRICTS.**

8 The Cultural Districts of the City and County of San Francisco are:

9 * * * *

10 (j) **Pacific Islander Cultural District.** The Cultural District shall include the area bounded
11 by the southern boundary of the City and County of San Francisco between Bayshore Boulevard and
12 Geneva Avenue, Geneva Avenue to the south between the southern boundary of the City and County of
13 San Francisco and Moscow Street, Moscow Street to the west between Geneva Avenue and France
14 Avenue, France Avenue to the north between Moscow Street and La Grande Avenue following the
15 northern boundary of Crocker Amazon Park, the western boundary of McLaren Park partially on La
16 Grande Avenue and Sunnydale Avenue to Persia Avenue, Persia Avenue continuing on to Mansell
17 Street to the north between Sunnydale Avenue and Visitacion Avenue, Visitacion Avenue to the east
18 between Mansell Street and Campbell Avenue, Campbell Avenue to the north between Visitacion
19 Avenue and San Bruno Avenue, following greenspace at the end of Campbell Avenue to Hester Avenue,
20 following Hester Avenue to the east between the northern intersection with Bayshore Boulevard and the
21 southern intersection with Bayshore Boulevard, and Bayshore Boulevard to the east between Hester
22 Avenue and the southern boundary of the City and County of San Francisco.

23
24 Section 3. The Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Chapter 107E,
25 consisting of Sections 107E.1 and 107E.2, to read as follows:

1 CHAPTER 107E:

2 PACIFIC ISLANDER CULTURAL DISTRICT

3 SEC. 107E.1. FINDINGS.

4 The Pacific Islander Cultural District (the “District”) within the City and County of San
5 Francisco is a vital and deeply rooted community that enriches the City’s multicultural landscape. In
6 establishing the District, the City acknowledges the importance of recognizing the Pacific Islander
7 community’s longstanding history in San Francisco and preserving the cultural, artistic, and civic
8 traditions that sustain Pacific Islander identity and pride.

9 Pacific Islanders have been an integral part of San Francisco for over 100 years, with
10 Visitacion Valley and Sunnyside neighborhoods serving as the primary centers of settlement.
11 Migration to the City increased after World War II due to economic conditions in American Samoa,
12 Tonga, Samoa, and other Pacific Islands, as well as the United States’ colonial policies and military
13 recruitment. Many early migrants arrived as military personnel or were connected to service members
14 stationed in the Bay Area, including working at the now-decommissioned Hunters Point Naval
15 Shipyard. From 1951 to 1980, large groups of families relocated to San Francisco seeking
16 employment, education, and better living conditions due to economic instability, the relocation of U.S.
17 Naval facilities, the end of the G.I. Bill, and challenges in their home islands such as drought,
18 population growth, and limited resources.

19 Religious institutions played a central role in migration and community cohesion. The Mormon
20 Church recruited Pacific Islanders for labor to build the Temple in Hawai‘i, after which many workers
21 stayed on the island, returned home, or moved to San Francisco. Pacific Islanders also established
22 congregations across denominations, including Mormon, Catholic, Pentecostal, Seventh-day Adventist,
23 Methodist, and Assembly of God congregations, creating churches from living rooms or garages to
24 serve small congregations in Visitacion Valley and Sunnyside.

25 To address language barriers, discrimination, and limited governmental support, Pacific

1 Islanders developed aiga (family) networks to provide housing, jobs, education, counseling, and
2 cultural activities.

3 In 1972, Samoa-Mo-Samoa, the first Pacific Islander nonprofit organization in San Francisco,
4 was established in Visitacion Valley by Leali'ie'eiao Nofaaluma Fulu Asi Tuiaososopo and other
5 community leaders. The organization provided youth education, adult schooling, and workforce
6 training. Today, this work continues under the Samoan Community Development Center, which
7 remains a central hub for education, cultural preservation, and community support.

8 In 2020, the S.A.L.L.T. Association was established to coordinate services across multiple
9 Pacific Islander groups during the COVID-19 pandemic. S.A.L.L.T. focuses on addressing systemic
10 disparities and service gaps in areas including housing, workforce support, health, and social services,
11 primarily serving the Visitacion Valley, Sunnydale, and Bayview neighborhoods.

12 Pacific Islander-owned businesses have historically been concentrated in Visitacion Valley and
13 surrounding neighborhoods, serving as centers for commerce, social gathering, and cultural
14 preservation. Notable examples include: South Pacific Restaurant (Geneva Avenue), Samoa/Tonga
15 Seamstress Shop (Geneva Avenue, bordering Daly City), Leland Avenue commercial corridor (from
16 1975) – t-shirt shop, video shop, Hugo Store, furniture store, two Samoan restaurants, and a Tongan
17 restaurant (Leland Avenue).

18 Other important community gathering sites include the Bravo Cocktail Lounge/Bayside Café
19 (Bayshore Boulevard and Hester Avenue) and the Motor Inn Lodge (Geneva Avenue), which hosted
20 visiting leaders and community meetings. Residents of Sunnydale public housing are over 70% low-
21 income Pacific Islander families, and it is a cultural legacy site.

22 According to the 2015 U.S. Census Bureau, California is home to over 350,000 Pacific
23 Islanders, with nearly one in five Native Hawaiians living in the Bay Area. In San Francisco, nearly
24 7,000 Pacific Islanders reside predominantly in Visitacion Valley and southern neighborhoods. Native
25 Hawaiians constitute 22.8% of the local Pacific Islander population, followed by Samoans at 19.4%

1 and Tongans at 18%. Many are of multiracial descent. Between 2000 and 2017, the Pacific Islander
2 population in California grew by 27%, highlighting the continued relevance of these communities to the
3 City.

4 The boundaries of the Pacific Islander Cultural District were selected to reflect the areas of
5 highest concentration of Pacific Islander residents, historical sites, businesses, churches, and cultural
6 institutions. These neighborhoods have served as the social, economic, and cultural heart of the
7 Pacific Islander community for generations, preserving traditions, networks, and community resilience.

8
9 **SEC. 107E.2. MAYOR’S OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
10 **RESPONSIBILITIES; CULTURAL, HISTORY, HOUSING, AND ECONOMIC**
11 **SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY REPORT.**

12 **(a) Cultural, History, Housing, and Economic Sustainability Strategy Report.**

13 **(1) Preparation of Report.** By no later than September 1, 2027, the Mayor’s Office
14 of Housing and Community Development (“MOHCD”) shall prepare and submit to the Board of
15 Supervisors and the Mayor a Cultural, History, Housing, and Economic Sustainability Strategy Report
16 (“CHHESS Report”) for the District. The CHHESS Report shall include a demographic and economic
17 profile of the District, including past, current, and future trends; analyze and record the tangible and
18 intangible elements of the District’s cultural heritage; identify areas of concern that could inhibit the
19 preservation of the District’s unique culture; and propose as appropriate legislative, economic, and
20 other solutions and strategies to support the District.

21 **(2) Assistance from City Departments.** In preparing the CHHESS Report, MOHCD
22 may request assistance from the Historic Preservation Commission and any other City department,
23 office, or other agency of City government. Those agencies shall upon request provide to MOHCD an
24 assessment of relevant assets and needs in the District, recommendations on programs, policies, and
25 funding sources that could benefit the District, and other recommendations that could serve the District

1 to advance its goals.

2 (3) **Community Outreach and Engagement.** In preparing the CHHESS Report,
3 MOHCD shall facilitate a community outreach and engagement process with the District's residents,
4 businesses, workers, and other individuals who regularly spend time in the District, in order to develop
5 the strategies and plans that will preserve and enhance the culture of the District.

6 (b) **Board of Supervisors Consideration.** Following receipt of the CHHESS Report from
7 MOHCD, the Board of Supervisors may take any action by resolution that the Board deems
8 appropriate regarding the report, including approving the report, modifying the report, rejecting the
9 report, or requesting additional information or analysis from MOHCD or any other City department or
10 agency.

11 (c) **Progress Reports.** MOHCD shall provide a progress report on the strategies outlined in
12 the CHHESS Report at least once every three years following enactment of a resolution approving or
13 modifying the CHHESS Report.

14 (d) **Assistance from Community-Based Organization.** Subject to the budgetary, fiscal, and
15 civil service provisions of the Charter, MOHCD shall issue a competitive solicitation for a community-
16 based organization to (1) assist MOHCD with planning, organizing, and facilitating the community
17 outreach and engagement process under subsection (a)(3); (2) provide input and advice to MOHCD
18 regarding the contents of the CHHESS Report and regarding strategies to support and preserve the
19 unique culture and heritage of the District; (3) provide additional advice and assistance to MOHCD
20 after the issuance of the CHHESS Report to implement the City's strategies to support and preserve the
21 culture of the District; (4) assist MOHCD with progress reports required under subsection (c); and (5)
22 fulfill any other responsibilities that MOHCD determines would help the City to support the District.

23
24 Section 4. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors
25 intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,

1 numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal
2 Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment
3 additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the “Note” that appears under
4 the official title of the ordinance.

5
6 Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective at 12:00 am on the
7 31st day after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor
8 returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within 10 days of receiving it,
9 or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.

10
11
12 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
13 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

14 By: /s/ Bradley A. Russi
15 BRADLEY A. RUSSI
16 Deputy City Attorney

17 4897-4727-0800, v. 1
18
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20
21
22
23
24
25

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Establishing the Pacific Islander Cultural District]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnysdale neighborhoods; to require the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development to submit written reports and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor describing the cultural attributes of the District and proposing strategies to acknowledge and preserve the cultural legacy of the District; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

The City established the cultural district program to recognize the contributions of communities to the fabric of San Francisco. The cultural district program seeks to formalize a collaborative partnership between the City and communities and bring resources in order to stabilize vulnerable communities facing or at risk of displacement or gentrification, and to preserve, strengthen and promote our cultural assets and diverse communities, so that individuals, families, businesses that serve and employ them, nonprofit organizations, community arts, and educational institutions are able to live, work and prosper within the City. Currently, the program consists of the following districts: Japantown, Calle 24 Latino Cultural District, SoMa Pilipinas – Filipino Cultural Heritage District, Transgender Cultural District, Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Cultural District, African American Arts and Cultural District, Castro Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Cultural District, American Indian Cultural District, and Sunset Chinese Cultural District.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would establish the Pacific Islander Cultural District in and around the Visitacion Valley and Sunnysdale neighborhoods.