Committee Item	No.	
Board Item No.	25	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Board of Sup	ervisors meeting	Date.	September 9, 2023
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Prepared by: Lisa Lew Date: September 5, 2025 Prepared by: Date:			September 5, 2025

1	[Recognizing La Playa Village Neighborhood]
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3	Resolution recognizing La Playa Village neighborhood and resident community for its
4	historical, architectural, and cultural significance.
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6	WHEREAS, Once a sea of sand dunes in the Outside Lands of San Franciso's
7	westside, La Playa Village grew into a tightly-knit neighborhood rooted in history, architecture,
8	community, and culture; and
9	WHEREAS, From its 20th century origins to current open spaces, streets, homes, and
10	businesses, La Playa Village represents how grassroots action builds vibrant, beloved
11	communities; and
12	WHEREAS, La Playa Village is the geographical area unofficially centered around La
13	Playa Street, south of Golden Gate Park, including adjacent blocks closest to Ocean Beach,
14	and consists of long-term businesses, residents, the infamous N-Judah turnaround, and
15	neighborhood-led open spaces like La Playa Park; and
16	WHEREAS, The name La Playa reigns from the areas nickname as "San Francisco's
17	beach village", but few know that the area previously went by a different pseudonym; and
18	WHEREAS, The neighborhood began development from windswept sand dunes in the
19	early 1900s as Carville, a residential community where homes were made from
20	decommissioned streetcars that once traversed the city; and
21	WHEREAS, While the vast majority of Carville no longer remains, 1632 Great Highway
22	a home built in 1908 from two cable cars and a horse car, serves as a reminder of the
23	neighborhood's history and architectural legacy; and
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1	WHEREAS, The conversion of 1800s transit infrastructure into residential housing
2	exemplifies La Playa Village's creativity and ignited its development into a modern-day
3	neighborhood; and
4	WHEREAS, Another anchor of history in La Playa Village is Saint Paul's Presbyterian
5	Church, which was built in just 90 days by community members after the 1906 Earthquake
6	and served the growing, diverse spiritual interests of Outer Sunset neighborhood; and
7	WHEREAS, Beyond a religious space, Saint Paul's was a center for community life,
8	serving as a school in the early 1900s, hosting various cultural events, fostering community
9	outreach and education programs, holding language-inclusive services, which all played a
10	pivotal role in bringing together individuals from different backgrounds and fostering a sense
11	of community; and
12	WHEREAS, In the early 2000s, community spirit in La Playa Village began to rise again
13	through the grassroots efforts to transform underutilized public space for neighborhood
14	benefit; and
15	WHEREAS, Beginning in 2003, then-Supervisor Fiona Ma and the owners of Java
16	Beach Café, Pat and Buffy Maguire, converted a neglected lot at the N-Judah turnaround into
17	a green space for residents, businesses, and visitors to enjoy; and
18	WHEREAS, The space soon became known as La Playa Park and community
19	investment, championed by resident Steve Ward, later extended the space to include the
20	opposing south side of the N-Judah turnaround as well.; and
21	WHEREAS, Over the past 20 years, volunteers and patrons from the neighborhood
22	have successfully worked together to fundraise and secure private grants, helping turn this
23	formerly trash strewn, disused area into a beautiful community space complete with benches,
24	bird baths, flowers, bocce ball courts, and edible landscaping; and

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1	WHEREAS, These efforts reflect deep local, grassroots investment and laid the
2	groundwork for ongoing beautification projects, such as the Last Stop/First Stop mural by Jeff
3	Canham, Pacific Transit sculptures by Jesse Schlesinger, pedestrian safety improvements,
4	gardening groups, and community barbecues; and
5	WHEREAS, Volunteer commitments and sustained efforts to improve the immediate
6	community have created true partnerships with city departments, leveraging tens of
7	thousands of in-kind dollars for local improvements; and
8	WHEREAS, Today, La Playa Village thrives as a diverse, beachfront, family-friendly,
9	and creative neighborhood; it contains a mix of restaurants, coffee shops, green space, and
10	residents, with special recognition to Java Beach Café, established in 1993, and Celia's by the
11	Beach, which has been serving up warm plates of Mexican comfort food for over 60 years;
12	and
13	WHEREAS, From live music to fabulous sunsets over the Pacific, La Playa Plaza
14	invites visitors to slow down, take a breath, and relax all while connecting with the locals; now,
15	therefore, be it
16	RESOLVED, That no matter how one engages with La Playa Village, they are bound to
17	experience the neighborhood's unique interplay of history, culture, and community that
18	continues to define this corner of San Francisco; and, be it
19	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes La Paya Village and
20	encourages residents and visitors alike to explore this beachside neighborhood for
21	themselves.
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Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I here	ehv suhn	nit the following item for introduction (select only one):
	_	
닏	1.	For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
	2.	Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
	3.	Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
	4.	Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires"
	5.	City Attorney Request
	6.	Call File No. from Committee.
	7.	Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
	8.	Substitute Legislation File No.
	9.	Reactivate File No.
	10.	Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on
The p	roposed	legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):
	□ Sn	nall Business Commission Youth Commission Ethics Commission
	□ Pla	anning Commission Building Inspection Commission Human Resources Department
Gene	ral Plan	Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53)
	□ Y€	
(Note		aperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)
Spons	sor(s):	
Sup	ervisor	Joel P. Engardio
Subje	ect:	
La P	Playa Vil	llage neighborhood
Long	Title or	text listed:
		recognizing La Playa Village neighborhood and resident community for its historical, I, and cultural significance
		Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: