

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - San Francisco AIDS Foundation]

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3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**  
4 **the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 514-520 Castro Street, Assessor's Parcel Block**  
5 **No. 2695, Lot No. 002.**

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7 WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by  
8 Resolution initiate landmark designation; and

9 WHEREAS, Planning Code, Section 1004.2(b), requires the Historic Preservation  
10 Commission to respond to historic district or individual landmark designations initiated by the  
11 Board of Supervisors within 90 days, and authorizes the Board, by Resolution, to extend the  
12 time within which the Historic Preservation Commission is to render its decision; and

13 WHEREAS, 514-520 Castro Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2695, Lot No. 002 is  
14 significant as the original location of the office of the Kaposi's Sarcoma Research and  
15 Education Foundation, later renamed the San Francisco AIDS Foundation; and

16 WHEREAS, In the early 1980s, San Francisco was amongst the first American cities to  
17 face the crisis of AIDS, a new disease which had been rapidly spreading amongst gay men;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, In 1982, Dr. Marcus Conant approached activist Cleve Jones about  
20 creating the Foundation as a community based organization to address the threat of AIDS and  
21 lobby the government for additional funds; and

22 WHEREAS, The organization gained local and national recognition for its AIDS  
23 expertise, and also informed the nation's first safe sex guidelines for gay men in 1982; and  
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25

1 WHEREAS, Community fundraising and financial assistance led the organization from  
2 being staffed by volunteers to a being a non-profit organization with paid staff which it remains  
3 today; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2016 the San Francsico Historic Preservation Commission adopted the  
5 Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco which provided  
6 frameworks for identifying and evaluating sites for historical significance and integrity  
7 associated with San Francisco's diverse and robust LGBTQ histories; and

8 WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History was prepared  
9 by qualified historians in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; and

10 WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Citywide  
11 Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History, the property can be considered as an  
12 individually eligible historic resource based on its strong association with LGBTQ History; and

13 WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History identifies the  
14 San Francisco AIDS Foundation as a property which may be eligible for City Landmark status;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The Castro LGBTQ Cultural District's 2024 Cultural History, Housing and  
17 Economic Sustainability Strategies (CHHESS) report includes the strategy, "Ensure the  
18 Historic Preservation Commission and/or the Board of Supervisors prioritize further municipal  
19 landmarking and state and national nomination of Castro LGBTQIA+ historical sites..."; and

20 WHEREAS, The building exterior remains identifiable as the location of the San  
21 Francisco AIDS Foundation, as it did in 1982; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of the  
23 San Francisco AIDS Foundation under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a  
25 landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its

1 consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of  
2 the San Francisco AIDS Foundation; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic  
4 Preservation Commission consider whether the San Francisco AIDS Foundation warrants  
5 landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of  
6 the Planning Code.