BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall

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MEMORANDUM

Date:

November 7, 2025

To:

Jonas Ionin, Commission Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission

From:

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors

Subject:

Sixteen Resolutions Initiating Landmark Designations

(File Nos. 250835-250850)

On October 21, 2025, the Board of Supervisors finally passed sixteen resolutions initiating landmark designations, sponsored by President Rafael Mandelman (File Nos. 250835, 250836, 250837, 250838, 250839, 250840, 250841, 250842, 250843, 250844, 250845, 250846, 250847, 250848, 250849, and 250850), which were enacted on October 24, 2025.

Please find the attached courtesy copies of Resolution Nos. 484-25, 485-25, 486-25, 487-25, 488-25, 489-25, 490-25, 491-25, 492-25, 493-25, 495-25, 496-25, 497-25, 498-25, and 499-25 for your office's information and consideration of next steps.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184.

c: President Rafael Mandelman, Board of Supervisors Sarah Dennis Phillips, Director, Planning Department Aaron Starr, Manager of Legislative Affairs Josh Switzky, Planning Department Pilar LaValley, Planning Department

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[Initiating Landmark Designation - Bank of Italy Branch Building]

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for Bank of Italy Branch Building, located at 400-410 Castro Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2647 Lot No. 035.

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

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

WHEREAS, Amadeo Peter Giannini founded the Bank of Italy in San Francisco in 1904 to serve immigrants other banks would not; and

WHEREAS, Bank of Italy Branch Building was constructed in 1922 at 400-410 Castro Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2647 Lot No. 035, in the Eureka Valley neighborhood, now commonly known as the Castro; and

WHEREAS, The Bank of Italy Branch Building is significant for its association with commercial development of the Eureka Valley neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, In the early part of the twentieth century, Eureka Valley was developing as a suburban district of the city, though through the 1906 earthquake and fires, World War 1, and the economic boom of the 1920s and the Great Depression, the neighborhood transitioned to a self-sustaining urban district; and

WHEREAS, The Bank of Italy Branch Building construction, along with the development of the Castro Theatre, Hibernia Bank, and a few automotive related business contemporary to this time period, reflect the establishment of Eureka Valley as an identifiable district within San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Bank of Italy Branch Building helped link commercial growth on Market Street with the major commercial intersection of Castro and 18th Streets given its prominent corner location in the commercial district; and

WHEREAS, The Bank of Italy founder changed the name to Bank of America circa 1930, and the bank remained at the property until the mid-1990s; and

WHEREAS, The Bank of Italy Branch Building embodies characteristics typical of neighborhood branch banks from the 1920s and is a good example of Beaux Arts architecture, with large exterior windows and a larger interior volume; and

WHEREAS, The property retains intact architecturally distinctive features including a cornice with brackets and decorative molding, large windows with decorative keystones and the central entry with pediment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates a landmark designation of the Bank of Italy Branch Building under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of the Bank of Italy Branch Building; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic Preservation Commission consider whether the Bank of Italy Branch Building warrants landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the Planning Code.



City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

Resolution

File Number:

250841

Date Passed: October 21, 2025

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for Bank of Italy Branch Building, located at 400-410 Castro Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2647 Lot No. 035.

October 06, 2025 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

October 21, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

File No. 250841

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/21/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Daniel Lurie Mayor

24, 2025

Date Approved