

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - Presidio Theatre]

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3 **Resolution initiating landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**  
4 **the Presidio Theatre, located at 2336-2346 Chestnut Street, Assessor's Parcel Block**  
5 **No. 0929, Lot No. 014.**

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7 WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by  
8 Resolution initiate landmark designations; 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, The Presidio Theatre, located at 2336-2346 Chestnut Street, Assessor's  
14 Parcel Block No. 0929, Lot No. 014, was constructed in 1937 in the Marina neighborhood; and

15 WHEREAS, The property was designed by Architect John H. Ahnden and Architect of  
16 Merit W.D. Peugh; and

17 WHEREAS, Originally known as El Presidio Theatre, the name was changed to  
18 Presidio Theatre in 1951; and

19 WHEREAS, The building was designed in the Streamline Moderne style of  
20 architecture; and

21 WHEREAS, The building opened as a third-run neighborhood house and remained a  
22 single screen theater until 2003; and

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1           WHEREAS, District theaters such as the Presidio Theatre became more common in  
2 neighborhood shopping areas following World War I, providing more convenient and  
3 affordable alternatives to movie palaces; and

4           WHEREAS, This theater was an important fixture of commercial development along  
5 Chestnut Street that followed the closure of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in  
6 1915 and the subsequent building out of the Marina District; and

7           WHEREAS, The property includes intact features, including the neon marquee; fluted  
8 piers; speed lines; stepped parapet; curved glazing; and rounded window opening; and

9           WHEREAS, The theater is a contributing property to the eligible San Francisco  
10 Neighborhood Movie Theater Non-Contiguous Multiple Property Historic District, which was  
11 identified in 2006; and

12           WHEREAS, In 2022, the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission adopted the  
13 San Francisco Modern Architecture and Landscape Design (1935-1970) Historic Context  
14 Statement, which provided frameworks for identifying and evaluating Streamline Moderne  
15 buildings for historical significance and integrity; and

16           WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework outlined in the San Francisco  
17 Modern Architecture and Landscape Design (1935-1970) Historic Context Statement, the  
18 property can be considered as an individually eligible historic resource based on year built,  
19 extant character-defining features, and sufficient integrity; now, therefore be it

20           RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of the  
21 Presidio Theatre under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

22           FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a  
23 landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its  
24 consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of  
25 the Presidio Theatre; and, be it

1           FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic  
2 Preservation Commission consider whether the Presidio Theatre warrants landmark  
3 designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the  
4 Planning Code.

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