

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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## MEMORANDUM

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Date: November 27, 2023

To: Carla Short, Director, Public Works  
Ralph Remington, Arts Commission

From:  Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors

Subject: Commemorative Street Plaques - Compton's Transgender Cultural District Historical Markers (File No. 230943)

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On October 24, 2023, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 510-23, sponsored by Supervisor Matt Dorsey (File No. 230943, Commemorative Street Plaques - Compton's Transgender Cultural District Historical Markers); enacted on November 3, 2023.

Please find the attached courtesy copy of Resolution No. 510-23 for your office's information and consideration.

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

c: Member of the Board of Supervisors; Supervisor Matt Dorsey  
David Steinberg, Public Works  
Ian Schneider, Public Works  
John Thomas, Public Works  
Lena Liu, Public Works  
Alyssa Ventre, Arts Commission  
Mary Chou, Arts Commission  
Lex Leifheit, Arts Commission

1 [Commemorative Street Plaques - Compton's Transgender Cultural District Historical  
2 Markers]

3 **Resolution authorizing the placement of the Compton's Transgender Cultural District**  
4 **of San Francisco's Cultural Heritage District plaques, to be installed on the sidewalks**  
5 **at various historic location markers along the 6th Street corridor between Market Street**  
6 **and Howard Street, and initiating the process set forth in Public Works Code, Sections**  
7 **789 et seq., to provide for the creation of a program for and installation of**  
8 **commemorative plaques in Compton's Transgender Cultural District.**

9  
10 WHEREAS, The 6th Street Pedestrian Safety Project, a streetscape project located  
11 on 6th Street between Market Street and Howard Street and within Compton's Transgender  
12 Cultural District, aims to create a safe and inviting place for people to walk by transforming  
13 6th Street with wider sidewalks, new traffic signals, and other streetscape improvements;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Compton's Transgender Cultural District seeks to create an atmosphere  
16 that celebrates the presence, history, culture and resilience of transgender people in the  
17 Tenderloin/SoMa neighborhoods, and espouses the belief that intentional placemaking  
18 allows the broader public to engage in transgender history and learn more about the  
19 gender-nonconforming and transgender people who trailblazed the small victories  
20 transgender people have today; and

21 WHEREAS, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, San Francisco Public  
22 Works and Compton's Transgender Cultural District have worked collaboratively to promote  
23 the cultural heritage, history, and resilience of transgender people in the neighborhood by  
24 promoting the incredibly rich history of transgender people of color in the United States by  
25 working with community stakeholders to develop a design and identify suitable locations for

1 the 6th Street Community Identity Plaques project, which consists of the installation of  
2 commemorative plaques within the Compton's Transgender Cultural District area that honor  
3 and commemorate historical persons and events significant to the transgender community;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Each plaque highlights transgender people who made history by  
6 fighting for equality and liberation and by pushing the envelope at a time when histories of  
7 transgender and gender-nonconforming people were not documented or celebrated, and at  
8 a time when it was illegal to be transgender; and

9 WHEREAS, The plaques focus on transgender people of color because, in the  
10 present day, many transgender community members, including many transgender  
11 residents in the 6th Street corridor, are people of color facing marginalization and  
12 disenfranchisement; and

13 WHEREAS, The plaques will support the City and County of San Francisco's aim to  
14 be a more inclusive metropolitan city, add to and promote the rich cultural heritage of the  
15 6th Street corridor, and provide a snapshot of stories that so often go unnoticed; and

16 WHEREAS, The following site markers that comprise the 6th Street Community  
17 Identity Plaques project represent significant historical periods and movements that have  
18 helped shape the cultural identity of Compton's Transgender Cultural District:

- 19 • 6th Street between Market Street and Stevenson Street - Honoring  
20 Marsha P. Johnson, a founding member of the Gay Liberation Front and  
21 significant figure in the Stonewall uprising;
- 22 • 6th Street between Stevenson Street and Jessie Street – Honoring Lady  
23 Chablis, a transgender actress, author, and performer. She was featured on  
24 film and television and was the first drag performer to be introduced to a  
25 large audience at Club One's grand opening, as their very first entertainer;

- 1 • 6th Street between Jessie Street and Mission Street - Honoring Wilmer  
2 “Little Axe” Broadnax, a transgender man and prominent gospel singer;
- 3 • 6th Street between Mission Street and Minna Street - Honoring Sir Lady  
4 Java, a transgender rights activist and performer who involved the ACLU  
5 in overturning a Los Angeles city ordinance prohibiting a person from  
6 dressing as someone of the “opposite sex”;
- 7 • 6th Street between Minna Street and Natoma Street - Honoring Lucy  
8 Hicks Anderson, a transgender socialite and trans activist who  
9 challenged traditional views of marriage;
- 10 • 6th Street between Natoma Street and Howard Street - Honoring Mary  
11 Jones, who challenged Victorian society’s rigid moral gender and racial  
12 binaries in the 1830s; and

13 WHEREAS, The individuals, businesses, and organizations identified and recognized  
14 by these plaques represent a slice of the extensive history of Compton’s Transgender Cultural  
15 District in the South of Market area; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Public Works Code,  
17 Section 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance, authorizes the placement  
18 of the aforementioned historical marker commemorative street plaques on the sidewalk at the  
19 named locations; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby urges the Arts  
21 Commission to approve the design and the placement of the named commemorative plaques;  
22 and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the San Francisco  
24 Public Works to take all actions necessary to implement the intent of this Resolution, including  
25 approval of the installation of the aforementioned plaques and performing installation of the

1 plaques as part of the 6th Street Pedestrian Safety Project, provided, however, that the City  
2 shall not be required to replace plaques that are removed and/or are no longer available for  
3 safe usage; and, be it

4           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs San Francisco Public  
5 Works to add the aforementioned plaques at the aforementioned locations on the City's  
6 official list of commemorative sites effective immediately from the date of passage of this  
7 Resolution.

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**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Tails**  
**Resolution**

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

**File Number:** 230943

**Date Passed:** October 24, 2023

Resolution authorizing the placement of the Compton's Transgender Cultural District of San Francisco's Cultural Heritage District plaques, to be installed on the sidewalks at various historic location markers along the 6th Street corridor between Market Street and Howard Street, and initiating the process set forth in Public Works Code, Sections 789 et seq., to provide for the creation of a program for and installation of commemorative plaques in Compton's Transgender Cultural District.


October 16, 2023 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED


October 24, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 230943

I hereby certify that the foregoing  
Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/24/2023 by  
the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
County of San Francisco.

  
Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

  
London N. Breed  
Mayor

11/3/23  
Date Approved