



City and County of San Francisco

Department on the Status of Women

Emily M. Murase, PhD

Director



January 18, 2018

John Carroll
Clerk, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: Administrative Code - Maya Angelou Artistic Representation at Main Library - City Policy Regarding Depiction of Women on City Property - Women's Recognition Public Art Fund (File No. 170781)


Dear Mr. Carroll:

The Department on the Status of Women has examined the proposed ordinance to erect a statue of Maya Angelou at the Main Library; set a City policy that at least 30 percent of nonfiction figures depicted in works of art on City-owned property, public building names, and street names, be women; and create a fund to accept gifts to pay for public art depicting historically significant women on City property. We strongly support the intention of the ordinance to address the underrepresentation of women's contributions to society and encourage and affirm women's leadership. We further applaud the establishment of a specific goal of 30 percent women for the public representation of nonfiction figures in the City and a commitment to monitor it.

Under the legislation, the Department on the Status of Women is required to report to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor on a biannual basis the proportion of women in each of the categories described in the ordinance. We strongly agree that without measurement, there is unlikely to be progress toward meeting the goal. In 1998, San Francisco became the first city in the world to adopt a local measure implementing the principles of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which requires San Francisco to take preventive measures in the form of gender analysis to identify and address discrimination in government operations, budget, and workforce. We encourage the Board of Supervisors to pass this legislation to continue San Francisco's legacy of leadership on women's human rights.

On behalf of the Commission on the Status of Women, I would like to report that the Commission voted unanimously in support of the Women's Representation by 2020 legislation (File No. 170781), authored by Supervisor Mark Farrell, at its meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2018.

Sincerely,



Emily M. Murase

Cc: Supervisor Mark Farrell
Margaux Kelly, Office of Supervisor Mark Farrell

1 [Administrative Code - Maya Angelou ~~Statue~~ Artistic Representation at Main Library - City
2 Policy Regarding Depiction of Women on City Property - Women's Recognition Public Art
Fund]

3 **Ordinance directing the Arts Commission to erect a ~~statue of~~ work of art depicting
4 Maya Angelou at the Main Library; setting a City policy that at least 30% of nonfictional
5 figures depicted or commemorated in statues and other works of art on City-owned
6 property, public building names, and street names, be women; amending the
7 Administrative Code to create a fund to accept gifts to pay for the design, construction,
8 repair, maintenance, and improvement of public art depicting historically significant
9 women on City property; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under
10 the California Environmental Quality Act.**

11 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.
12 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
13 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.
14 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.
15 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.
16 **Asterisks (* * * *)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code
17 subsections or parts of tables.

18 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

19 Section 1. Environmental Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the
20 actions contemplated in this ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act
21 (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with
22 the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. ____ and is incorporated herein by reference.
23 The Board affirms this determination.
24
25

1 Section 2. Findings.

2 (a) Studies conducted at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University
3 of Washington indicate that visible representation of women in leadership positions encourage
4 and support young women's careers and educational aspirations via the role model effect.

5 (b) Women's historical contributions are inadequately recognized in public statues,
6 memorials, and other works of art, as demonstrated by the dearth of statues depicting
7 historical women in American cities. In San Francisco, for example, of the 585 permanently
8 sited works in the Arts Commission's Civic Art Collection, 87 are sculptural monuments and
9 memorials—and only two of the 87 depict nonfictional women. The San Francisco Arts
10 Commission has made great strides towards supporting cultural equality in the arts, including
11 gender equality, by awarding 50% of its public art commissions to female artists. But
12 throughout society, the failure to honor accomplished women through statues, monuments,
13 memorials, and plaques on public display, in San Francisco and elsewhere, leaves a harmful
14 void in our public spaces. Instead of there being on display plentiful historical role models for
15 everyone to see, celebrate, honor, and emulate, there is a different, disturbing message
16 conveyed by this void. It silently communicates a message of women's insignificance in
17 government and politics, commerce, labor, arts, sciences, and the professions, among other
18 human endeavors, and thus reinforces the antiquated stereotype of women not serving in
19 positions of leadership or otherwise making notable historical accomplishments—a stereotype
20 at odds with reality and with the City's commitment to equal opportunity for all.

21 (c) There is a national movement to increase female representation in public statues
22 and works of art to 30% by the year 2020, the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th
23 Amendment to the United States Constitution, granting women the right to vote. The City
24 should at least meet, and hopefully exceed, that minimum threshold of female representation
25 to recognize women's contributions to San Francisco, California, the United States, and the

1 world. When women represent just 30 percent of the senior leadership team or board,
2 organizations start to experience a positive shift, not only in performance, but also in market
3 share that creates competitive advantages. Research further suggests that 30 percent is the
4 proportion when critical mass is reached and in a group setting, the voices of the minority
5 group become heard in their own right, rather than simply representing the minority.

6 (d) Dr. Maya Angelou's many accomplishments include breaking the color and gender
7 barrier by becoming San Francisco's first African American female streetcar conductor, an
8 award winning author and poet, a Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient and civil rights
9 leader.

10
11 Section 3. Artistic Depiction of Maya Angelou Statue at the Main Library.

12 (a) By no later than December 31, 2020, the Arts Commission shall erect a work of
13 art depicting statue of Dr. Maya Angelou at the Main Library. The Arts Commission shall
14 determine the design of the statue artwork and the specific location at the Main Library,
15 provided that the artwork shall include a significant figurative representation of Maya Angelou.
16 The statue artwork shall be appropriately scaled for its location, shall not create an adverse
17 impact on the use of the Library, and shall be physically accessible to members of the public
18 with mobility-related disabilities. The Arts Commission shall also select an artist to build create
19 the statue artwork. The Library Commission shall appoint an individual, who may be a
20 member of the Library Commission, to serve on the Arts Commission's selection committee
21 for the artist. Additionally, in selecting the design and location, and in overseeing the
22 construction and placement of the statue artwork, the Commission shall solicit input from the
23 Library Commission and the City Librarian, or his or her designee. By no later than December
24 31, 2020, the statue artwork shall be completed and placed at the approved location.

1 (b) The Arts Commission shall be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the
2 statueartwork. The Arts Commission may use funds in the Women's Recognition Public Art
3 Fund in Administrative Code Section 10.100-363 or funds otherwise appropriated by
4 ordinance for this purpose.

5
6 Section 4. The Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Sections 4.27 and
7 10.100-363, to read as follows:

8 **SEC. 4.27. POLICY OF PROMOTING REPRESENTATIONS OF WOMEN ON CITY**
9 **PROPERTY.**

10 (a) Policy Goal. It shall be the policy of the City and County of San Francisco to
11 endeavor to ensure that at least 30% of nonfictional persons in each of the following
12 categories on property owned by the City be women: (1) depictions of historical figures in
13 statues, monuments, memorials, plaques, and similar objects publicly recognizing historical
14 figures; (2) names of City streets for historical figures; (3) names of City-owned buildings or
15 designated rooms or spaces in those buildings for historical figures; and, (4) depictions of
16 historical figures in other works of public art. This policy shall apply to City-owned streets and
17 right-of-ways, parks, and other City-owned public open spaces, and areas of City buildings
18 open to the public without an admission fee, but shall not apply to permanent or temporary
19 collections of artwork displayed in City museums listed in Charter Section 5.102.

20 (b) Department Reports.

21 (1) By no later than February 28, 2018, the Arts Commission shall post on its
22 website a list of all statues, monuments, memorials, plaques, similar objects, and other works
23 of art described in subsection (a) that depict publicly recognizing historical figures; the
24 Department of Public Works shall post on its website a list of all City streets named for
25 historical figures; the City Administrator's Office shall post on its website a list of all City-

1 owned buildings or designated rooms or spaces in those buildings named for historical
2 figures; and the Recreation and Park Department shall post on its website a list of all parks
3 named for historical figures. After February 2018, each of these departments shall update
4 these lists on a quarterly basis.

5 (2) Beginning in 2018 and each year thereafter, the Department on the Status
6 of Women shall submit a written report during the month of December to the Board of
7 Supervisors and the Mayor regarding the proportion of women in each of the categories
8 described in subsection (a).

9
10 **SEC. 10.100-363. WOMEN'S RECOGNITION PUBLIC ART FUND.**

11 (a) Establishment of Fund. The Women's Recognition Public Art Fund is established as a
12 category eight fund into which shall be deposited all gifts, donations, and contributions which may be
13 offered to the City and County, and all monies appropriated by ordinance, for the purpose of designing,
14 constructing, repairing, maintaining, and improving statues and other works of public art depicting
15 historically significant women, including the ~~statue of~~ artwork depicting Maya Angelou required by
16 the ordinance in Board of Supervisors File No. _____. The Arts Commission shall have the authority
17 to accept and expend any donation of funds, goods, or services in accordance with this Section 10.100-
18 363 without further action by the Board of Supervisors.

19 (b) Uses of Fund. All monies in the Fund shall be expended solely for the purposes of
20 designing, constructing, repairing, maintaining, or improving statues and other works of public art
21 depicting historically significant women physically accessible to the public on City property.

22
23 ~~Section 5. Policy of Promoting Representations of Women in the Public Realm. It shall~~
24 ~~be the policy of the City and County of San Francisco that the City shall endeavor to ensure~~
25 ~~that at least 30% of nonfictional persons in each of the following categories on property owned~~

1 ~~by the City shall be women: (a) depictions of historical figures in statues, monuments,~~
2 ~~memorials, plaques, and similar objects for publicly recognizing historical figures; (b) names of~~
3 ~~City streets; (c) names of City-owned buildings or designated rooms or spaces in those~~
4 ~~buildings; and (d) depictions of historical figures in other works of public art. This policy shall~~
5 ~~apply to City-owned streets and right-of-ways, parks, and other City-owned public open~~
6 ~~spaces, and areas of City buildings open to the public without an admission fee, but shall not~~
7 ~~apply to permanent or temporary collections of artwork displayed in City museums listed in~~
8 ~~Charter Section 5.102. By no later than December 31 each year, the Department on the~~
9 ~~Status of Women shall report to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor regarding the~~
10 ~~proportion of women in each of the categories described above.~~

11

12 Section 6. Undertaking for the General Welfare. In enacting and implementing this
13 ordinance, the City is assuming an undertaking only to promote the general welfare. It is not
14 assuming, nor is it imposing on its officers and employees, an obligation for breach of which it
15 is liable in money damages to any person who claims that such breach proximately caused
16 injury. Nor does this ordinance create a right which may be enforced through declaratory or
17 injunctive relief, or any other form of judicial remedy.

18

19 Section 7. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
20 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the
21 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
22 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

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24 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
25 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

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By: _____
JON GIVNER
Deputy City Attorney

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I hereby certify that this proposed legislation was supported by the Commission on the Status of Women at their Meeting on January 9, 2018.



Herschell Larrick, Commission Secretary

Vote: 6-0 Approved
Ayes: Commissioners Mesloh, Zwart, Philhour, Schwab-Pomerantz, Shorter and Soo
Noes: None
All Commissioners Present.