

1 [Commemorative Plaque - Carlos Santana - 205 Mullen Avenue]

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3 **Resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to approve the installation of a**  
4 **commemorative street plaque in honor of Carlos Santana who has enjoyed a lifelong**  
5 **career as a world renowned and groundbreaking musician while maintaining a strong**  
6 **connection to San Francisco, provided that the installation shall be approved following**  
7 **the Arts Commission's approval of the commemorative street plaque design and the**  
8 **Director's review of all corresponding permit application materials, and the**  
9 **commemorative street plaque shall be installed in the sidewalk at an appropriate**  
10 **location in the vicinity of 205 Mullen Avenue, San Francisco, where Carlos Santana was**  
11 **living when he was first discovered.**

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13 WHEREAS, Carlos Humerto Santana Barragán, also known as "Carlos Santana," was  
14 born in Jalisco, Mexico, and made his home in San Francisco in the 1960's, where he lived  
15 from 1966 to 1999, spanning his early arrival in San Francisco to his discovery as a rock  
16 musician, and subsequent ascent to stardom and recognition for his groundbreaking rock  
17 guitar style; and

18 WHEREAS, Carlos Santana's music was incubated in this City, and his career was  
19 further launched by his historic performance at Woodstock in 1969, all leading to 10 Grammy  
20 Awards for his pioneering fusion of rock and Latin jazz; and

21 WHEREAS, Santana's distinctive guitar style remains a global symbol of peace and  
22 artistic innovation, and Santana was one of the original musicians who pried open the world to  
23 appreciate and deeply love and embrace Latin music styles, rhythms, and Spanish lyrics in  
24 mainstream music industry; and

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1           WHEREAS, Santana spent time at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts  
2 (“MCCLA”) in its early days, playing with and supporting up-and-coming musicians, including  
3 drummer Pete Escovedo, who went on to tour with Santana’s band for over five years, and  
4 many other musical artists; and

5           WHEREAS, Santana has a long history of philanthropy, and giving back to San  
6 Francisco arts and music, and a love and care for the Mission District, Bernal Heights and  
7 District 9 neighborhood; and

8           WHEREAS, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, along with community members  
9 and former neighbors of Santana in Bernal Heights on Mullen Avenue, wish to honor Santana  
10 with a plaque in his name to recognize the musical and philanthropic contributions he has  
11 brought to San Francisco, and to the greater world; and

12           WHEREAS, In the late 1960’s and early 1970’s, Santana hosted Sunday jam sessions  
13 in Precita Park, a few blocks away from where he lived, transforming the park into a mini-  
14 concert venue and gathering space for local Chicano musicians, lowriders, Black Panthers,  
15 hippies, poets, and neighbors young and old to enjoy, leaving lasting memories for long-time  
16 residents of Bernal Heights; and

17           WHEREAS, In a March 6, 2015, article for the online blog Bernalwood, author Todd  
18 Lappin interviewed local resident Orlando Galvez who reminisced, “where else on this planet  
19 could a six-year-old boy hear Santana’s electric guitar on any given Sunday, free of charge, in  
20 70-ish degree weather, before an evening mist of Pacific fog rolled in; A six year old boy pays  
21 attention to the adults around him, because those adults seem like godly giants, as I write of  
22 these remembered moments, I feel incredible gratitude for all the care and love I received  
23 from everyone who was in the park in those days, listening to Santana in Precita Park had a  
24 big influence on me, but only now do I realize how much it shaped me into the person I have  
25

1 become,” reflecting on the early days of Santana’s influence in San Francisco’s music scene  
2 and Chicano cultural identity; and

3 WHEREAS, Santana lived at the house at 205 Mullen Avenue for five years during the  
4 making of his breakthrough album, from approximately 1965 to 1970, during which time he  
5 was discovered and then became a Rock legend; and

6 WHEREAS, There are neighbors still living on Mullen Avenue, and others still in San  
7 Francisco, who feel a deep connection and appreciation for the mark Santana made on their  
8 block and the historical significance of the house in which he lived and produced his  
9 groundbreaking music; and

10 WHEREAS, There is a group, including the Good Samaritan Family Resource Center  
11 and current and former neighbors of 205 Mullen Avenue, who intend to apply for and obtain a  
12 Love our Neighborhood permit from the San Francisco Department of Public Works to allow  
13 the installation of Carlos Santana’s commemorative street plaque; and this group intends to  
14 remain the owner of the commemorative street plaque and remain responsible for the  
15 maintenance and repair of the commemorative street plaque; and

16 WHEREAS, This same group will obtain approval from the San Francisco Arts  
17 Commission for the design of the commemorative street plaque; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors approves the commemoration of Carlos  
19 Santana, for all the reasons stated herein, with the installation of a commemorative street  
20 plaque in honor of Santana in the sidewalk furnishing zone in the vicinity of 205 Mullen  
21 Avenue; and be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Public  
23 Works Director, or the Director’s designee, to approve the installation of a commemorative  
24 street plaque in the vicinity of 205 Mullen Avenue following the Arts Commission’s approval of  
25 the plaque design and the Director’s review of all permit application materials, provided that

1 the Department shall only approve the installation of commemorative street plaques that  
2 comply with the applicable engineering, installation, safety, and siting criteria.

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