	File No.	280842
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Committee Item No	). <u>10</u>	
Board Item No.		

## **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Committee: Land Use and Transportation Date: October 6, 2025			
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1	[Initiating Landmark Designation - Bob Ross House]
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3	Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for
4	the Bob Ross House, 4200 20th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2696 Lot No. 014A.
5	
6	WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by
7	Resolution initiate landmark designation; and
8	WHEREAS, Planning Code, Section 1004.2(b), requires the Historic Preservation
9	Commission to respond to historic district or individual landmark designations initiated by the
10	Board of Supervisors within 90 days, and authorizes the Board, by Resolution, to extend the
11	time within which the Historic Preservation Commission is to render its decision; and
12	WHEREAS, The Bob Ross House, located at 4200 20th Street, Assessor's Parcel
13	Block No. 2696 Lot No. 014A, is significant for its historical association with San Francisco's
14	LGBTQ community as the home of Bob Ross, co-founder of the Bay Area Reporter; and
15	WHEREAS, Bob Ross co-founded the Bay Area Reporter in 1971 and remained the
16	publisher of the Bay Area Reporter until his death in 2003; and
17	WHEREAS, Bob Ross also co-founded the Tavern Guild, which raised money and
18	provided support for numerous pro-gay politicians; and
19	WHEREAS, Bob Ross held frequent political and professional events at the subject
20	property; and
21	WHEREAS, Bob Ross was instrumental in helping Harvey Milk win the election and
22	was one of four names on Milk's short list to replace him if he died in office; and
23	WHEREAS, Bob Ross was appointed by Mayor Dianne Feinstein to help undertake a
24	joint investigation into the police response after the riot that erupted in the wake of the Dan
25	White verdict; and

1	WHEREAS, Bob Ross also served on the board of the Gay Games and co-founded the
2	LGBTQ mental health organization Operation Concern; and
3	WHEREAS, In 2016 the San Francsico Historic Preservation Commission adopted the
4	Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco which provided
5	frameworks for identifying and evaluating sites for historical significance and integrity
6	associated with San Francisco's diverse and robust LGBTQ histories; and
7	WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History was prepared
8	by qualified historians in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; and
9	WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Citywide
10	Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History, the property can be considered as an
11	individually eligible historic resource based on its strong association with LGBTQ History; and
12	WHEREAS, The 2017 Eureka Valley Historic Context Statement identifies
13	the 4200 20 <sup>th</sup> Street as a potentially eligible historic resource as the home of Bob Ross and
14	frequent site of political and professional events for the LGBTQ community; and
15	WHEREAS, The Castro LGBTQ Cultural District's 2024 Cultural History, Housing and
16	Economic Sustainability Strategies (CHHESS) report includes the strategy, "Ensure the
17	Historic Preservation Commission and/or the Board of Supervisors prioritize further municipal
18	landmarking and state and national nominations of Castro LGBTQIA+ historical sites";
19	including this house specifically; and
20	WHEREAS, The building exterior remains identifiable as the location of the Bob Ross
21	House, as it did during his tenure; now, therefore, be it
22	RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of the
23	Bob Ross House under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it
24	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a
25	landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its

1	consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of
2	the Bob Ross House; and, be it
3	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic
4	Preservation Commission consider whether the Bob Ross House warrants landmark
5	designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the
6	Planning Code.
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## **Introduction Form**

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I here	by subn	nit the following item for introduction (select only one):
	1.	For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
	2.	Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
	3.	Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
	4.	Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires"
	5.	City Attorney Request
	6.	Call File No. from Committee.
	7.	Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
	8.	Substitute Legislation File No.
	9.	Reactivate File No.
	10.	Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on
The p	roposed	legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):
	□ Sr	nall Business Commission   Youth Commission   Ethics Commission
	□ Pl	anning Commission   Building Inspection Commission   Human Resources Department
Gene	ral Plan	Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):
	□ Ye	es 🗆 No
(Note	: For In	aperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)
Spons	sor(s):	
Subje	ect:	
Long	Title or	text listed:
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