

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - Chinese Telephone Exchange Building]

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3 **Resolution initiating landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **the Chinese Telephone Exchange Building, located at 743 Washington Street,**
5 **Assessor's Parcel Block No. 0209, Lot No. 009.**

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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 Chinese Telephone Exchange Building, located at 743 Washington
14 Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 0209, Lot No. 009, was constructed in 1909 in the
15 Chinatown neighborhood; and

16 WHEREAS, The property is significant for its association with Chinese cultural heritage
17 as the only Chinese telephone exchange in the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, The property exhibits extant character defining features, including a
19 pagoda roof with curved canopies that resemble Chinese rooflines and red and gold accents;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The property is included in the Eligible Chinatown National Register
22 Historic District; and

23 WHEREAS, The property can be considered as an individually eligible historic resource
24 based on its year built, extant character-defining features, cultural associations, and sufficient
25 integrity; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of the
2 Chinese Telephone Exchange Building under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a
4 landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its
5 consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of
6 the Chinese Telephone Exchange Building; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic
8 Preservation Commission consider whether the Chinese Telephone Exchange Building
9 warrants landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to
10 Article 10 of the Planning Code.

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