

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - Poole-Bell House]

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3 **Resolution initiating landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **the Poole-Bell House, located at 192 Laidley Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 6665,**
5 **Lot No. 107.**
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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 Poole-Bell House, located at 192 Laidley Street, Assessor's Parcel
14 Block No.6665, Lot No. 107, was constructed circa 1872 in the Glen Park neighborhood; and

15 WHEREAS, The Poole-Bell House is one of the earliest extant properties in Glen Park,
16 which was considered an outlying neighborhood when the subject property was constructed;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The Poole-Bell House was built by attorney John Pascoe Poole, who's
19 widow Annie Poole lived there until 1906; and

20 WHEREAS, Annie Poole sold the property to Teresa Bell, wealthy widow of the
21 financier Thomas Bell; and

22 WHEREAS, The Bells were associates of Mary Ellen Pleasant, a leading abolitionist
23 during San Francisco's Gold Rush Era; and
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1 WHEREAS, While Pleasant never resided in the Poole-Bell House, the property has a
2 documented history surrounding stories of crime and intrigue associated with Teresa Bell and
3 Mary Ellen Pleasant; and

4 WHEREAS, The property was constructed as an Italianate home and retains intact
5 features, including its full height double bay windows, bracketed cornice line, decks with
6 balustrades, sunburst ornamentation, horizontal wood siding, and more; and

7 WHEREAS, Theresa Bell added an additional story, giving the building a Second
8 Empire appearance; and

9 WHEREAS, The property is discussed in the 1968 book “Here Today, San Francisco’s
10 Architectural Heritage”, by the Junior League of San Francisco, Inc.; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2025, the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission adopted the
12 Early Residential Development in San Francisco, 1848-1899 Historic Context Statement
13 which provided frameworks for identifying and evaluating early residential buildings for
14 historical significance and integrity; and

15 WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Early
16 Residential Development in San Francisco, 1848-1899 Historic Context Statement, the
17 property can be considered as an individually eligible historic resource based on year built,
18 architectural significance, extant character-defining features, and sufficient integrity; now,
19 therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of the
21 Poole-Bell House under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a
23 landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its
24 consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of
25 the Poole-Bell House; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic
2 Preservation Commission consider whether the Poole-Bell House warrants landmark
3 designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the
4 Planning Code.