

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - Full Moon Coffeehouse]

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3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **the Full Moon Coffeehouse, located at 4416-18th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block**
5 **No. 2650, Lot No. 017.**
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7 WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by
8 Resolution initiate landmark designation; 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, Full Moon Coffeehouse, located at 4416-18th Street, Assessor's Parcel
14 Block No. 2650, Lot No. 017, is significant for its early association with the Castro as an
15 LGBTQ enclave as the neighborhood established itself as queer San Francisco's cultural,
16 economic and political hub, drawing international attention to issues surrounding LGBTQ
17 equality; and

18 WHEREAS, Full Moon Coffeehouse opened in 1974 and was unique as an early
19 lesbian establishment, during a time when the Castro was largely dominated by gay men; and

20 WHEREAS, Full Moon Coffeehouse was collectively owned by a group of lesbians, and
21 is credited as the first women-only establishment in San Francisco; and

22 WHEREAS, Full Moon Coffeehouse was run by a collective who installed new floors
23 and plumbing, and ran the business using vocational skills learned from the Women's Skills
24 Center at 51 Waller Street; and
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1 WHEREAS, Full Moon Coffeehouse also sold books, hosted poetry readings and
2 musical performances, serving as an important social center for San Francisco’s lesbian
3 community; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2016 the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission adopted the
5 Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco which provided
6 frameworks for identifying and evaluating sites for historical significance and integrity
7 associated with San Francisco’s diverse and robust LGBTQ histories; and

8 WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History was prepared
9 by qualified historians in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards; and

10 WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Citywide
11 Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History, the property can be considered an individually
12 eligible historic resource based on its strong association with LGBTQ History; and

13 WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History identifies the
14 Full Moon Coffeehouse as a property which may be eligible for City Landmark status; 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...”; and

19 WHEREAS, The building exterior remains identifiable as the location of the Full Moon
20 Coffeehouse, as it did in the 1970s; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates a landmark designation of the
22 Full Moon Coffeehouse under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a
24 landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its
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1 consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of
2 the Full Moon Coffeehouse; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic
4 Preservation Commission consider whether the Full Moon Coffeehouse warrants landmark
5 designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the
6 Planning Code.