

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - St. Matthew's Church]

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3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **St. Matthew's Church, located at 3281-16th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3567,**
5 **Lot No. 034.**
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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, St. Matthew's Church was constructed in 1907 at 3281-16th Street,
14 Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3567, Lot No. 034, in the Mission neighborhood by the German
15 Evangelical Lutheran Church and has been owned and occupied by the group since; and

16 WHEREAS, The building remains in its original location and is an exemplary example
17 of Gothic Revival architecture in San Francisco; and

18 WHEREAS, The property includes intact features including its steeply-pitched front
19 gable roof, large central rose window in lancet opening, and tower with pyramidal hipped roof
20 and cross; and

21 WHEREAS, Gothic Revival style was a popular choice for residential and religious
22 buildings during the early years of San Francisco's establishment and expansion upon initially
23 being settled during the Gold Rush; and
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1 WHEREAS, By 1880, the Gothic Revival style had mostly been replaced by Victorian
2 style architecture but remained a popular choice for religious architecture well into the 20th
3 century, though extant examples of Gothic Revival architecture are rare in San Francisco; and

4 WHEREAS, The 1968 book "Here Today, San Francisco's Architectural Heritage", by
5 the Junior League of San Francisco, Inc. discusses the property as the only church in San
6 Francisco offering services in both German and English; and

7 WHEREAS, The 2005 Inner Mission North 1853-1943 Context Statement identified the
8 property as being of individual significance; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2025 the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission adopted the
10 Early Settlement Era Styles (1848-1906) Historic Context Statement which provided
11 frameworks for identifying and evaluating Gothic Revival and other early settlement era style
12 buildings for historical significance and integrity; and

13 WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Early
14 Settlement Era Styles (1848-1906) Historic Context Statement, the property can be
15 considered as an individually eligible historic resource based on year built, architectural
16 significance, extant character defining features, and sufficient integrity; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates a landmark designation of St.
18 Matthew's Church under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a
20 landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its
21 consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of St.
22 Matthew's Church; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic
24 Preservation Commission consider whether St. Matthew's Church warrants landmark
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1 designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the
2 Planning Code.