BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall

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MEMORANDUM

Date:

November 7, 2025

To:

Jonas Ionin, Commission Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission

From:

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors

Subject:

Sixteen Resolutions Initiating Landmark Designations

(File Nos. 250835-250850)

On October 21, 2025, the Board of Supervisors finally passed sixteen resolutions initiating landmark designations, sponsored by President Rafael Mandelman (File Nos. 250835, 250836, 250837, 250838, 250839, 250840, 250841, 250842, 250843, 250844, 250845, 250846, 250847, 250848, 250849, and 250850), which were enacted on October 24, 2025.

Please find the attached courtesy copies of Resolution Nos. 484-25, 485-25, 486-25, 487-25, 488-25, 489-25, 490-25, 491-25, 492-25, 493-25, 495-25, 496-25, 497-25, 498-25, and 499-25 for your office's information and consideration of next steps.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (415) 554-5184.

c: President Rafael Mandelman, Board of Supervisors Sarah Dennis Phillips, Director, Planning Department Aaron Starr, Manager of Legislative Affairs Josh Switzky, Planning Department Pilar LaValley, Planning Department

[Initiating Landmark Designation - St. Nicholas Cathedral]

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for St. Nicholas Cathedral, 2005 15th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3558, Lot No. 074.

WHEREAS, Uder Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by Resolution initiate landmark designations; and

WHEREAS, Planning Code, Section 1004.2(b), requires the Historic Preservation Commission to respond to historic district or individual landmark designations initiated by the Board of Supervisors within 90 days, and authorizes the Board, by Resolution, to extend the time within which the Historic Preservation Commission is to render its decision; and

WHEREAS, St. Nicholas Cathedral was constructed in 1904 at 2005 15th St,
Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3558, Lot No. 074, in the Castro/Upper Market neighborhood originally as St. Luke's German Evangelical Lutheran Church; and

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

WHEREAS, The property includes intact features including its egg and dart cornice at roofline, arched stained glass windows; roof and vine ornaments; and tower with pyramidal hipped roof; and

WHEREAS, The property includes a blue onion-shaped cupola with gold cross which were added in the 1960s when the property was acquired by the Russan Orthodox Church; and

WHEREAS, Gothic Revival style was a popular choice for residential and religious buildings during the early years of San Francisco's establishment and expansion upon initially being settled during the Gold Rush; and

WHEREAS, By 1880, the Gothic Revival style had mostly been replaced by Edwardian style architecture but remained a popular choice for religious architecture well into the 20th century, though extant examples of Gothic Revival architecture are rare in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The 1968 book "Here Today, San Francisco's Architectural Heritage", by the Junior League of San Francisco, Inc. discusses the property; and

WHEREAS, The 2009 Market Octavia Historic Resource Survey was conducted following the adoption of the Market & Octavia Area Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Market Octavia Historic Resource Survey was prepared by qualified historians in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; and

WHEREAS, The Market Octavia Historic Resource Survey identified the property as being individually eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources; and

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

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

RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of St. Nicholas Cathedral under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of St. Nicholas Cathedral; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic Preservation Commission consider whether St. Nicholas Cathedral warrants landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the Planning Code.



City and County of San Francisco **Tails**

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number:

250838

Date Passed: October 21, 2025

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for St. Nicholas Cathedral, 2005 15th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3558, Lot No. 074.

October 06, 2025 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

October 21, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

File No. 250838

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/21/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Daniel Lurie Mayor

Date Approved