File	No.	250846

Committee Item No	o. <u>14</u>
Board Item No.	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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1	[Initiating Landmark Designation - Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex]
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3	Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for
4	the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex, consisting of 110 Diamond Street
5	(Church), 100 Diamond Street (Rectory), 115 Diamond Street (Convent), 117 Diamond
6	Street (School); Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 002 (Church), Assessor's
7	Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 001 (Rectory), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2694, Lot
8	No. 033 (Convent), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2694, Lot No. 028 (School).
9	
10	WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by
11	Resolution initiate landmark designation; and
12	WHEREAS, Planning Code, Section 1004.2(b), requires the Historic Preservation
13	Commission to respond to historic district or individual landmark designations initiated by the
14	Board of Supervisors within 90 days, and authorizes the Board, by Resolution, to extend the
15	time within which the Historic Preservation Commission is to render its decision; and
16	WHEREAS, The Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex is significant for its association
17	with the growth of the Roman Catholic Church in San Francisco at the turn of the twentieth
18	century, as an important social asset for the Eureka Valley immigrant communities in the early
19	twentieth century, with the history of Roman Catholic relations with LGBTQ communities, and
20	for its early and continued use as an AIDS hospice; and
21	WHEREAS, In November 1900, the Archdiocese of San Francisco established the
22	Most Holy Redeemer parish, located at 110 Diamond Street, Assessor's Parcel Block
23	No. 2693, Lot No. 002, to serve the Irish, German, and Italian Catholic populations of Eureka
24	Valley, now commonly known as the Castro, and by 1901 the parish had completed the
25	subject Classical Revival church; and

1	WHEREAS, In addition to the church, in 1925 a convent and school were constructed
2	on the opposite side of Diamond Street, at 115-117 Diamond Street, Assessor's Parcel Block
3	No. 2694, Lots No. 033 and 028, and in 1939 a rectory was constructed to the north of the
4	church, at 100 Diamond Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 001; and
5	WHEREAS, The church long served as a hub for neighborhood social events, in
6	addition to religious services; and
7	WHEREAS, While originally a conservative congregation, the church changed its
8	stance on LGBTQ inclusion in the early 1980s in response to shifting neighborhood
9	demographics; and
10	WHEREAS, The complex became an important local hub for the Castro's LGBTQ
11	residents with community based programs and assets when Federal resources were lacking;
12	including a shelter for homeless youth (1984), an AIDS support group (1984), an AIDS
13	minister, and development of the AIDS hospice; and
14	WHEREAS, In 1987, the defunct convent of Most Holy Redeemer Church in the Castro
15	became the Coming Home Hospice, reportedly the first AIDS hospice in the nation; and
16	WHEREAS, The property today has continued to house the Coming Home Hospice;
17	and
18	WHEREAS, The 2017 Eureka Valley Historic Context Statement identifies the Most
19	Holy Redeemer Church Complex as an important center of religious and social life in the
20	historically Catholic dominated Eureka Valley district for early immigrant groups including
21	Irish, German and Italian populations; and
22	WHEREAS, In 2016 the San Francsico Historic Preservation Commission adopted the
23	Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco which provided
24	frameworks for identifying and evaluating sites for historical significance and integrity

associated with San Francisco's diverse and robust LGBTQ histories; and

25

1	WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History was prepared
2	by qualified historians in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; and
3	WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Citywide
4	Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History, the property can be considered as an
5	individually eligible historic resource based on its strong association with LGBTQ History; and
6	WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History identifies the
7	Coming Home Hospice as a property which may be eligible for City Landmark status; and
8	WHEREAS, The Castro LGBTQ Cultural District's 2024 Cultural History, Housing and
9	Economic Sustainability Strategies (CHHESS) report includes the strategy, "Ensure the
10	Historic Preservation Commission and/or the Board of Supervisors prioritize further municipal
11	landmarking and state and national nomination of Castro LGBTQIA+ historical sites"; and
12	WHEREAS, The building exterior remains sufficient integrity to convey its significance
13	as the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex; now, therefore, be it
14	RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of the
15	Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it
16	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a
17	landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its
18	consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of
19	the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex; and, be it
20	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic
21	Preservation Commission consider whether the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex
22	warrants landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to
23	Article 10 of the Planning Code.
24	

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Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I here	by subm	nit the following item for introduction (select only one):
	1.	For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
	2.	Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
	3.	Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
	4.	Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires"
	5.	City Attorney Request
	6.	Call File No. from Committee.
	7.	Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
	8.	Substitute Legislation File No.
	9.	Reactivate File No.
	10.	Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on
The p	roposed	legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):
	□ Sn	nall Business Commission Youth Commission Ethics Commission
	□ Pla	anning Commission Building Inspection Commission Human Resources Department
Gene	ral Plan	Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):
	□ Ye	es \square No
(Note	: For Im	perative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)
Spons	sor(s):	
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Subje	ct:	
Long	Title or	text listed:
		Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:
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