

1 [Commemorative Street Name Designation - "Veterans Alley" - 0 Block of Shannon Street]

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3 **Resolution adding the commemorative street name "Veterans Alley" to the 0 Block of**
4 **Shannon Street in recognition of The San Francisco Veterans Mural Project (known**
5 **colloquially as "Veterans Alley"), a community-based mural project located in the**
6 **Tenderloin.**

7
8 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley was founded in October 2011 by two U.S military veterans,
9 Navy Veteran Amos Gregory (aka LowKeyRider1) and USMC Veteran Gilbert Lovato (aka
10 Gabriel, Archangel of the Bay) as a grassroots community project; and

11 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley consists of murals covering an entire block of public-facing
12 alley walls, where U.S. military veterans, their supporters and the community-at-large paint
13 their own stories about the true reality of war and the military experience; and

14 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley was created to give voice to the veteran population, which
15 has long been neglected and suffers due to inadequate care and support; and

16 WHEREAS, The objective of the project is to create awareness, understanding and
17 transformation within society centered around the universal concept of peace and humanity;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley has become a place where veterans gather around the
20 creation of the art of healing; and

21 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley has become a place for non-veteran Tenderloin residents,
22 both housed and unhoused, to gather around art and healing and to seek and connect with
23 services; and

24 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley has become a destination that inspires and educates both
25 tourists and San Franciscans on the experience of veterans and calls for peace; and

1 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley recognizes that the first victims of war are children and
2 through its Syrian Refugee Children's Mural Project has worked directly with Syrian children
3 affected by the Syrian Civil War to create art in schools and community centers in Antakya,
4 and Istanbul Turkey; and

5 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley artists have created artwork with San Francisco school-
6 aged children and young adults, both housed and unhoused, in school and after school
7 settings; and

8 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley has created a sister city mural project, The Deported
9 Veterans Mural Project, located in Tijuana, Mexico on the U.S.-Mexico border fence, which
10 works directly with deported U.S. military veterans advocating for their repatriation to the
11 United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Veterans Alley represents the first instance where veterans, through public
13 artwork, have created a constant dialogue with the community by highlighting the realities of
14 war and the military experience to teach society how to never use violence to resolve conflicts
15 ever again; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That in order to celebrate the legacy and contributions of The San
17 Francisco Veterans Mural Project, there shall be an honorary naming of "Veterans Alley" on
18 Shannon Street between Geary Street and O'Farrell Street; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Public Works is directed to add the
20 honorary street name to its official list of Commemorative Street Names in accordance with
21 Public Works Code, Section 789, et seq.