

1 [Mullen Avenue Plaque to Honor Carlos Santana]

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3 **Resolution supporting a street plaque to be installed in sidewalk in front of 205 Mullen**
4 **Avenue, in honor of Carlos Santana, where he was living in San Francisco when he was**
5 **first discovered, leading to a lifelong career as a world renowned and groundbreaking**
6 **musician while maintaining a strong connection to San Francisco.**

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8 WHEREAS, Carlos Humerto Santana Barragán, was born in Jalisco, Mexico, and
9 made his home in San Francisco in the 1960s, where he lived from 1966 to 1999, spanning
10 his early arrival in San Francisco to his discovery as a rock musician, and subsequent ascent
11 to stardom and recognition for his groundbreaking rock guitar style; and

12 WHEREAS, Carlos Santana’s music was incubated in this City, and his career was
13 further launched by his historic performance at Woodstock in 1969, all leading to 10 Grammy
14 Awards for his pioneering fusion of rock and Latin jazz; and

15 WHEREAS, Santana’s distinctive guitar style remains a global symbol of peace and
16 artistic innovation, and was one of the original musicians who pried open the world to
17 appreciate and deeply love and embrace Latin music styles, rhythms, and Spanish lyrics in
18 mainstream music industry; and

19 WHEREAS, Santana spent time at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts (MCCLA)
20 in its early days, playing with and supporting up-and-coming musicians, including drummer
21 Pete Escovedo, who went on to tour with Santana’s band for over five years, and many other
22 musical artists; and

23 WHEREAS, Santana has a long history of philanthropy, and giving back to San
24 Francisco arts and music, and a love and care for the Mission District, Bernal Heights and
25 District 9 neighborhood; and

1 WHEREAS, Community members and former neighbors of Santana in Bernal Heights
2 on Mullen Avenue wish to honor Santana with a plaque in his name to recognize the musical
3 and philanthropic contributions he has brought to San Francisco, and to the greater world; and

4 WHEREAS, In the late 1960s and early 1970's, Santana hosted Sunday jam sessions
5 in Precita Park, a few blocks away from where he lived, transforming the park into a mini-
6 concert venue and gathering space for local Chicano musicians, lowriders, Black Panthers,
7 hippies, poets, and neighbors young and old to enjoy, leaving lasting memories for long-time
8 residents of Bernal Heights; and

9 WHEREAS, In a March 6, 2015 article for the online blog Bernalwood, author Todd
10 Lappin interviewed local resident Orlando Galvez who reminisced "where else on this planet
11 could a six-year-old boy hear Santana's electric guitar on any given Sunday, free of charge, in
12 seventy-ish degree weather, before an evening mist of Pacific fog rolled in? A six year old boy
13 pays attention to the adults around him, because those adults seem like godly giants. As I
14 write of these remembered moments, I feel incredible gratitude for all the care and love I
15 received from everyone who was in the park in those days. Listening to Santana in Precita
16 Park had a big influence on me, but only now do I realize how much it shaped me into the
17 person I have become," reflecting on the early days of Santana's influence in San Francisco's
18 music scene and Chicano cultural identity; and

19 WHEREAS, Santana lived at the house at 205 Mullen Avenue for five years during the
20 making of his breakthrough album, from approximately 1965 to 1970, during which time he
21 was discovered and then became a Rock legend; and

22 WHEREAS, There are neighbors still living on Mullen Avenue, and others still in San
23 Francisco, who feel a deep connection and appreciation for the mark Santana made on their
24 block and the historical significance of the house in which he lived and produced his
25 groundbreaking music; and

1 WHEREAS, There is a group, including current and former neighbors of 205 Mullen
2 Avenue, who intend to apply for a Love our Neighborhood permit from the San Francisco
3 Department of Public works, which requires approval from the Board of Supervisors for this
4 public art; and

5 WHEREAS, This same group will get approval from the San Francisco Arts
6 Commission for the design of the plaque; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors supports the installation of
8 a plaque in honor of Santana in the sidewalk furnishing zone in front of 205 Mullen Avenue.

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