

1 [Resolution to Initiate the Designation of 690 Market, the Chronicle Building, as a Landmark]

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3 **Resolution initiating the designation of 690 Market, the Chronicle Building, Lot 6 in**
4 **Assessor's Block 311, as a landmark pursuant to Section 1004.1 of the Planning Code**
5 **and urging expedited consideration of the building's landmark status and a Mills Act**
6 **contract associated with the building's rehabilitation and restoration.**

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8 WHEREAS, 690 Market, also known as the Chronicle Building, is located immediately
9 north of Market and Geary Street; and

10 WHEREAS, the building has stood at this intersection since 1890; and,

11 WHEREAS, the building has survived both the 1906 and 1989 earthquakes; and

12 WHEREAS, the building was entirely completed and repaired in 1908 after significant
13 damage from the 1906 earthquake.

14 WHEREAS, the building was remodeled in 1962-1963 to install corporate-modern
15 steel and a glass curtain wall; and,

16 WHEREAS, the building's original sandstone base exterior remained intact underneath
17 the glass curtain wall

18 WHEREAS, the building is a cultural and architectural anchor for the Financial District;
19 and,

20 WHEREAS, the building is associated with the San Francisco earthquake and fire of
21 1906, and with the San Francisco labor movement (National Register criterion A); and,

22 WHEREAS, the building is closely associated with *San Francisco Chronicle* publisher
23 and San Francisco civil leader and downtown landowner Michael H. de Young (National
24 Register criterion B); and,

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1 WHEREAS, the building is San Francisco’s first steel-frame skyscraper, features
2 pioneering seismic systems and is a work of masters Daniel H. Burnham, John Wellborn Root
3 and Willis Polk (National Register criterion C); and,

4 WHEREAS, the building’s corporate-modern steel and a glass curtain wall has now
5 been removed and building’s exterior has been rehabilitated to restore its historic character;
6 and,

7 WHEREAS, the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board approved the building as a
8 “conditional landmark” by Resolution No. 570, and the Planning Commission approved the
9 building as a “conditional landmark” by Resolution No. 16751; and,

10 WHEREAS, the building appears to have been restored and rehabilitated in
11 accordance with the terms contemplated by the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and
12 the Planning Commission when they approved the building’s “conditional landmark”
13 designation; now, therefore, be it,

14 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does hereby initiate the
15 designation of 690 Market, the Chronicle Building, Lot 6 in Assessor’s Block 311, as a
16 landmark, and so directs the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board to place the property in
17 consideration as a landmark pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code and other
18 appropriate provisions of law; and be it,

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does hereby
20 urge the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board, the Planning Department and the Planning
21 Commission to give expedited consideration to both the designation of the property as a
22 landmark and the approval of a Mills Act contract in association with the historic restoration
23 and rehabilitation of the property.