

BOARD of SUPERVISORS




City Hall
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MEMORANDUM

Date: July 20, 2018

To: Mohammed Nuru, Director, Public Works
William Scott, Police Chief, Police Department
Ed Reiskin, Executive Director, Municipal Transportation Agency
Joanne Hayes-White, Chief, Fire Department
Anne Kronenberg, Executive Director, Department of Emergency Management

From:  Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors

Subject: Street Name Change - From Phelan Avenue to "Frida Kahlo Way"
(File No. 180371)

On June 19, 2018, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 189-18, sponsored by Supervisors Norman Yee, Hillary Ronen, Sandra Lee Fewer, Jane Kim, and Ahsha Safai, and enacted on June 27, 2018.

File No. 180371 Street Name Change - From Phelan Avenue to "Frida Kahlo Way"

Resolution renaming Phelan Avenue, between Flood Avenue and Ocean Avenue, to "Frida Kahlo Way."

Please find the attached courtesy copy of the Resolution for your record and reference for updating the Official Map of the City.

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

c: Javier Rivera, Office of the City and County Surveyor
David Steinberg, Public Works
Jeremy Spitz, Public Works
Jennifer Blot, Public Works
John Thomas, Public Works
Lena Liu, Public Works
Rowena Carr, Police Department
Asja Steeves, Police Department
Sergeant Rachael Kilshaw, Police Department
Janet Martinsen, Municipal Transportation Agency
Kate Breen, Municipal Transportation Agency
Dillon Auyoung, Municipal Transportation Agency
Kelly Alves, Fire Department

1 [Street Name Change - From Phelan Avenue to "Frida Kahlo Way"]
2

3 **Resolution renaming Phelan Avenue, between Flood Avenue and Ocean Avenue, to**
4 **"Frida Kahlo Way."**
5

6 WHEREAS, Phelan Avenue is the name of the public right-of-way between Flood and
7 Ocean Avenues; and

8 WHEREAS, Phelan Ave was named in approximately 1906 after James Phelan, the
9 father of James Duval Phelan; and

10 WHEREAS, James Duval Phelan served as the Mayor of San Francisco from 1897 to
11 1902; and

12 WHEREAS, James Duval Phelan ("Phelan") (1861-1930) served as a U.S. Senator
13 from 1915 to 1921; and

14 WHEREAS, Phelan supported racist, xenophobic and anti-immigration policies; and

15 WHEREAS, Phelan supported the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and the Immigration
16 Act of 1924, which halted immigration from China and Japan to the United States; and

17 WHEREAS, Phelan ran unsuccessfully for a second term and during this senatorial
18 campaign using anti-Asian rhetoric, such as "Keep California White" and "Save Our State from
19 Oriental Aggression;" and

20 WHEREAS, Phelan supported laws banning interracial marriage between Asians and
21 Caucasians; and

22 WHEREAS, In the 1970s, James D. Phelan State Beach was restored to its original
23 name, China Beach, when the National Park Service acquired the land; and
24
25

1 WHEREAS, The City College of San Francisco's main campus, at Ocean and Phelan
2 Avenues, was once named Phelan campus but was renamed the Ocean campus due to
3 Phelan's racist legacy; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2017, University of San Francisco students successfully lobbied to
5 rename the school's Phelan Hall to Burt A. Toler Hall, after an African-American alumnus; and

6 WHEREAS, Under the current Presidential administration, anti-immigrant, racist,
7 bigoted and white supremacist rhetoric and acts of violence have drastically increased; and

8 WHEREAS, Across the country, public statues, parks, plazas, buildings and streets
9 have been renamed to remove names that honored influential Confederate figures; and

10 WHEREAS, San Francisco remains a city that is founded on the principles of inclusion,
11 tolerance and diversity; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco is proud to be a Sanctuary City that protects and supports
13 our immigrants; and

14 WHEREAS, There is a local, national and international movement to publically
15 recognize women in public offices and public places; and

16 WHEREAS, Supervisor Norman Yee's office conducted extensive community outreach
17 starting nine months ago and formed a Renaming Committee for Phelan Avenue that involved
18 residents and stakeholders to create a shortlist of names to replace Phelan Avenue; and

19 WHEREAS, The community voted on this list and elected to rename Phelan Avenue to
20 Frida Kahlo Way, in recognition of her contribution to San Francisco art and culture; and

21 WHEREAS, Frida Kahlo was a queer, Mexican woman of color with disabilities; and

22 WHEREAS, Frida Kahlo is an internationally recognized painter; and

23 WHEREAS, Frida Kahlo was married to the famous muralist, Diego Rivera, whose
24 world famous Pan American Unity mural is located on City College of San Francisco's Ocean
25 campus; and

1 WHEREAS, Frida Kahlo's portrait is the one of the most widely recognized images in
2 the Pan American Unity mural; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1930, Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo first lived and worked in San
4 Francisco when Rivera painted murals at The City Club of San Francisco and at the California
5 School of Fine Arts (now the San Francisco Art Institute); and

6 WHEREAS, During this time in San Francisco, Frida Kahlo befriended San Francisco
7 photographers, Ansel Adams, Imogen Cunningham, and Edward Weston, and also painted
8 her "Frida and Diego Rivera" double portrait which is on display in the San Francisco Museum
9 of Modern Art; and

10 WHEREAS, Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo deepened their connection to San Francisco
11 when Diego Rivera returned to the City in 1940 to paint the Pan American Unity mural at the
12 Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island (intended as a gift to City College of
13 San Francisco), while Frida Kahlo visited and the couple remarried in San Francisco; and

14 WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works, in full compliance, with its regulations on
15 street name changes, conducted its investigation on a street name change for Phelan Avenue
16 between April 20 and May 21, 2018; results of such investigation are on file with the Clerk of
17 the Board of Supervisors in File No. 180371, and are incorporated herein by reference; and

18 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes that the Department of Public
19 Works, on behalf of the City, has taken all necessary actions to effect this name change,
20 including fully complying with regulations regarding street name changes under California
21 Streets and Highways Code, Section 970.5, which requires posted notice on the street for at
22 least 10 days prior to the Board of Supervisors hearing on this resolution, Public Works Code,
23 Section 423, California Government Code, Section 34091.1, and California Streets and
24 Highways Code, Sections 970.5 and 5026; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby changes the name of Phelan
2 Avenue to "Frida Kahlo Way" to recognize Kahlo's influence as a leader in the Latinx, feminist
3 and the LGBTQ communities; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors in accordance with
5 Transportation Code, Section 2.2, directs the Municipal Transportation Agency to prepare
6 street signs indicating both the new and former names of the street, with the new name "Frida
7 Kahlo Way" in large letters, and the old name "Phelan Avenue" in smaller letters above or
8 beneath the new name; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That both of the street names shall remain posted on street
10 signs for five years, and then the street signs shall be replaced with signs indicating only the
11 new street name, "Frida Kahlo Way;" and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That in adopting this legislation, the Board of Supervisors
13 does not intend to effectuate any change in City department jurisdictional control over the
14 subject portion of "Phelan Avenue" to be known as "Frida Kahlo Way"; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
16 to promptly forward a copy of this Resolution to the County Surveyor in accordance with
17 California Streets and Highways ,Code Section 5026, and that the County Surveyor include
18 the new street name on the Official Map of the City.



City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

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

File Number: 180371

Date Passed: June 19, 2018

Resolution renaming Phelan Avenue, between Flood Avenue and Ocean Avenue, to "Frida Kahlo Way."

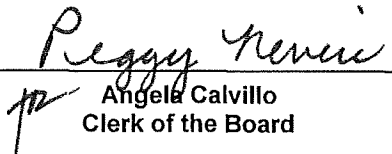
June 11, 2018 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

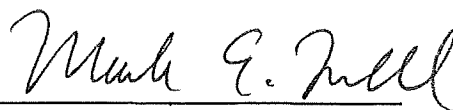
June 19, 2018 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

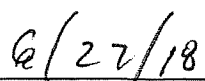
Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Stefani, Tang and Yee

File No. 180371

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 6/19/2018 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.


Angela Galvillo
Clerk of the Board


Mark E. Farrell
Mayor


Date Approved