

1 [Ordinance to Amend Appendix A of Planning Code Article 10 to Designate City Lights
2 Bookstore As a Landmark.]

3 **Ordinance Amending Appendix A of Planning Code Article 10 to designate 261-271**
4 **Columbus Avenue, City Lights Bookstore, as Landmark No. 228.**

5 Note: Additions are single-underline italics Times New Roman;
6 deletions are ~~strikethrough italics Times New Roman~~.
7 Board amendment additions are double underlined.
8 Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

9 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

10 Section 1. Findings

11 The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that 261-271 Columbus Avenue, City Lights
12 Bookstore, Lot 18 in Assessor’s Block 162, has a special character and special historical,
13 architectural and aesthetic interest and value, and that its designation as a Landmark will
14 further the purposes of, and conform to the standards set forth in Article 10 of the City
15 Planning Code.

16 (a) This designation has been fully approved by Resolution No. 533 of the
17 Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and Resolution No. 16156 of the Planning
18 Commission, which Resolutions are on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors under
19 File No. _____ and which Resolutions are incorporated herein and made part hereof
20 as though fully set forth.

21 (b) Priority Policy Findings.

22 Pursuant to Section 101.1 of the Planning Code, the Board of Supervisors makes the
23 following findings:

1 (1) The designation is in conformity with the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section
2 101.1 and with the General Plan as set forth in the letter dated June 8, 2001 from the Director
3 of Planning. Such letter is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. _____.

4 (2) The Board of Supervisors finds that this ordinance is in conformity with the Priority
5 Policies of Section 101.1 of the Planning Code and with the General Plan, and hereby adopts
6 the findings set forth in the letter dated June 8, 2001 from the Director of Planning and
7 incorporates such findings by reference as if fully set forth herein.

8 (c) Required Data:

9 (1) The description, location and boundary of the Landmark site is Lot 18, in
10 Assessor's Block 162.

11 (2) The characteristics of the Landmark which justify its designation are described
12 and shown in the Landmark Designation Report adopted by the Landmarks Preservation
13 Advisory Board on March 21, 2001 and other supporting materials contained in Planning
14 Department Docket No. 2000.507L. The characteristics of the landmark which justify its
15 designation are as follows:

16 (A) Association with major developments in post-World War II literature as publisher
17 of Beat Generation writers, the defense of Allen Ginsberg's *Howl and Other Poems* in a
18 landmark test of First Amendment protections, and with the building's early tenants who were
19 important to the Italian community of North Beach.

20 (B) Association with persons important in the literary and cultural development of
21 San Francisco and the nation, including Lawrence Ferlinghetti, co-founder and current owner
22 of City Lights and first Poet Laureate of San Francisco; poets Allen Ginsberg, Gregory Corso,
23 Diane di Prima, Kenneth Patchen, Philip Lamantia, Michael McClure, Gary Snyder; novelists
24 Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs and Herbert Gold; performance artists Lord Buckley and
25

1 Lenny Bruce; and philosophers/advisors/elder statesmen of the Beats such as Kenneth
2 Rexroth and Alan Watts.

3 (C) Distinctive characteristics typical of small commercial buildings constructed
4 following the 1906 earthquake and fire.

5 (3) The particular exterior features that should be preserved, or replaced in-kind as
6 determined necessary, are those generally shown in the photographs and described in the
7 Landmark Designation Report, both which can be found in the case docket 2000.507L. The
8 description of the particular features that should be preserved are as follows:

9 (A) The exterior storefronts and original entrances, the row of clerestory windows at
10 the mezzanine level, the second story windows, and the upper and belt cornices. The
11 building envelope and the small scale of the building in its location in a compact, low rise
12 streetscape are also defining characteristics that should be preserved.

13 (B) The ground floor wall on the south elevation of the building (along Jack Kerouac
14 Street/formerly Adler Alley) currently serves as a place for murals of a political nature.
15 Because such murals are changed from time to time at the discretion of the owners of City
16 Lights bookstore, the murals shall not be required to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness,
17 provided that such murals do not meet the definition of a sign as described in Section 602.19
18 of the Planning Code.

19 Section 2. Additional Controls

20 The property shall be subject to following further controls and procedures, pursuant to
21 this Ordinance and Planning Code Article 10.

22 (a) Alterations That Require Review by the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board

23 Prior to issuance of any building permit for construction, alteration, or demolition
24 affecting the exterior of the Landmark beyond ordinary maintenance and repairs, as defined
25 below, any property owner of 261-271 Columbus Avenue shall apply for and obtain a

1 Certificate of Appropriateness from the Planning Department after review by Landmarks
2 Preservation Advisory Board as required by Article 10 of the Planning Code. Ordinary
3 maintenance and repairs shall not require the review or advice of the Planning Commission or
4 the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board.

5 (b) Definition of Ordinary Maintenance and Repairs

6 Ordinary maintenance and repairs shall mean any work, the sole purpose and effect of
7 which is to correct deterioration, decay or damage, including repair of damage caused by fire
8 or other disaster.

9 Section 3. Amendment of Appendix A of Planning Code Article 10 to add: City Lights
10 Bookstore 261-271 Columbus Avenue 162/18.

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12 RECOMMENDED:
13 PLANNING COMMISSION

14 By: _____
15 Gerald G. Green
16 Director of Planning

17 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
18 LOUISE H. RENNE, City Attorney

19 By: _____
20 Sarah Ellen Owsowitz-Klein
21 Deputy City Attorney

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