

1 [Resolution of Intention - Street Name Change - Donner Avenue to Charlie Way]

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3 **Resolution declaring the intention of the Board of Supervisors to rename Donner**
4 **Avenue between Arelious Walker Drive and West Harney Way, which is a street located**
5 **in Alice Griffith Public Housing, to Charlie Way.**

6

7 WHEREAS, Donner Avenue is the name of the public right-of-way inside of the Alice
8 Griffith Housing Projects; and

9 WHEREAS, Alice Griffith Housing Projects, formerly known, as Double Rock, is where
10 a young ten-year-old Charlie Walker and his family planted their first California roots after
11 leaving Vicksburg, Mississippi in 1943 escaping Jim Crow and massive lynching; and

12 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker like most Black migrants from the deep south, was placed
13 in segregated public housing communities in San Francisco; Charlie's family resided at 211
14 Double Rock Road Building 32-R; and

15 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker at the age of 14 1/2 forged his own birth certificate and
16 entered the US Air Force where he was heavily trained on weaponry and war fighting
17 principles; and

18 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker was one of the first Black employees for the San Francisco
19 Chronicle, under the supervision of Mr. Gilroy, Charlie was able to convince Mr. Gilroy that
20 expanding paper route services in the Fillmore areas would be just as lucrative as it was in the
21 white areas because black people also liked to read the paper; Charlie dispelled the myth that
22 Black residents were less likely to pay for their subscriptions; and

23 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker led protests in the 1960s to open public construction jobs
24 to Black contracts who were being shunned and deliberately passed over for white contractors

25

1 and white-dominated unions; Charlie Walker and his team of organizers were able to garner
2 huge contracts on the BART construction; and

3 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker and five other community men armed with weaponry came
4 to City Hall to secure then-Assembly Member, Willie Brown, to exit out of City Hall after the
5 assassination of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk; and

6 WHEREAS, In the early 1990s, Charlie wrote an opinion column in the New Bayview
7 Newspaper called “Why Has Nothing Worked?” and he provided the following solution to San
8 Francisco Black Community: “There is but one way to come up from under the madness, we
9 must own and operate the businesses in our community;” and

10 WHEREAS, In the late 1990s, Charlie Walker wrote a book called “America is Still the
11 Place” detailing the racism he faced during Standard Oil spill of the 1970s; the Book spun into
12 a decade long public access television show titled after the book and in 2016, the book was
13 turned into a film under the same name that won several awards; and

14 WHEREAS, In the late 1990s, Charlie became a school reformer and was instrumental
15 in brokering a black-centered parochial school, Muhammad University, to the children of
16 Bayview Hunter’s Point; Charlie was tired of Black children especially Black boys being
17 suspended and expelled out of San Francisco Public Schools and wanted a K-12 alternative;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker has inspired multiple generations of community leaders
20 including his daughter, Yolanda Jones, who owns and operates Y-CAT Construction; which,
21 hires over 30 individuals from District 10 community and his granddaughter, Geoffrea Morris,
22 Reentry Advocate and co-founder of Parks 94124, which garnered state funding to restore
23 Hunters Point’s Hilltop Park which was completed in 2016; and

24 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker’s grit is embedded in the fabric of Bayview Hunters Point
25 activism and politics; and

1 WHEREAS, Charlie remains a beloved warrior and crusader for the many black and
2 minority business owner who have been disenfranchised out of the workforce or business
3 opportunities; and

4 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker is more than a trucker, business owner, social justice icon,
5 he is the “Mayor of Bayview Hunter’s Point,” and one of the fathers of Black own businesses
6 in San Francisco and in June of 2019, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by
7 the African American Chamber of Commerce; and

8 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker loves the City and County of San Francisco and remain an
9 outspoken activist in the Bayview Hunters Point Community even at the age of 86; and

10 WHEREAS, Charlie Walker is integral figure that is woven into fabric of San Francisco
11 neighborhood politics with his name being synonymous with words Bayview Hunters Point;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors intends to rename Donner Avenue to
14 Charlie Way to enshrine his legacy, and to mark his permanent transformation for the fight for
15 Black and Minority business in City and County of San Francisco, and, be it,

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs Public Works to initiate
17 the City’s Street renaming procedures, expeditiously process the required actions related to
18 renaming, coordinate with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors’ Office regarding posted
19 and published notice for the street renaming, report to the Board on its findings so that the
20 Board may officially rename the street.

From: [Gamero, Lili \(POL\)](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: RE: REFERRAL FYI (210888) Resolution of Intention - Street Name Change - Donner Avenue to Charlie Way
Date: Thursday, August 26, 2021 5:30:29 PM

Good Afternoon Erica,
SFPD has no objections to the name change. Thank you and have a lovely evening.

Best,
Lili Gamero
Legislative Liaison
Policy & Public Affairs
San Francisco Police Department

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From: Major, Erica (BOS) <erica.major@sfgov.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 12:13 PM
To: Degrafinried, Alaric (DPW) <alaric.degrafinried@sfdpw.org>; Scott, William (POL) <william.scott@sfgov.org>; Tumlin, Jeffrey (MTA) <Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com>; Nicholson, Jeanine (FIR) <jeanine.nicholson@sfgov.org>; Carroll, Maryellen (DEM) <maryellen.carroll@sfgov.org>
Cc: Steinberg, David (DPW) <david.steinberg@sfdpw.org>; Spitz, Jeremy (DPW) <Jeremy.Spitz@sfdpw.org>; Loftus, Thomas (TIS) <thomas.loftus@sfgov.org>; Liu, Lena (DPW) <lina.liu@sfdpw.org>; Carr, Rowena (POL) <Rowena.Carr@sfgov.org>; Gamero, Lili (POL) <lili.gamero@sfgov.org>; Oliva-Aroche, Diana (POL) <diana.oliva-aroche@sfgov.org>; Youngblood, Stacy (POL) <Stacy.A.Youngblood@sfgov.org>; Breen, Kate (MTA) <Kate.Breen@sfmta.com>; Martinsen, Janet (MTA) <Janet.Martinsen@sfmta.com>; Ramos, Joel (MTA) <Joel.Ramos@sfmta.com>; Ludwig, Theresa (FIR) <theresa.ludwig@sfgov.org>; Lim, Victor (DEM) <victor.lim@sfgov.org>
Subject: REFERRAL FYI (210888) Resolution of Intention - Street Name Change - Donner Avenue to Charlie Way

Greetings,

This matter is being forwarded to your department for informational purposes. If you have any comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

ERICA MAJOR

Assistant Clerk

Board of Supervisors

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102

Phone: (415) 554-4441 | Fax: (415) 554-5163

(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a “virtual” meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.

Due to the current COVID-19 health emergency and the Shelter in Place Order, the Office of the Clerk of the Board is working remotely while providing complete access to the legislative process and our services.

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**From:** [Nicholson, Jeanine \(FIR\)](#)  
**To:** [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: REFERRAL FYI (210888) Resolution of Intention - Street Name Change - Donner Avenue to Charlie Way  
**Date:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 8:53:56 AM

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Greetings,

The San Francisco Fire Department has no objection to moving forward with the proposed street name changes.

Regards,

**Jeanine R. Nicholson** (*she/her/hers*)

Chief of Department  
San Francisco Fire Department  
698 Second Street  
San Francisco, CA 94107  
(415) 558-3401

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**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 12:13 PM  
**To:** Degrafinried, Alaric (DPW) <alaric.degrafinried@sfdpw.org>; Scott, William (POL) <william.scott@sfgov.org>; Tumlin, Jeffrey (MTA) <Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com>; Nicholson, Jeanine (FIR) <jeanine.nicholson@sfgov.org>; Carroll, Maryellen (DEM) <maryellen.carroll@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** Steinberg, David (DPW) <david.steinberg@sfdpw.org>; Spitz, Jeremy (DPW) <Jeremy.Spitz@sfdpw.org>; Loftus, Thomas (TIS) <thomas.loftus@sfgov.org>; Liu, Lena (DPW) <lina.liu@sfdpw.org>; Carr, Rowena (POL) <Rowena.Carr@sfgov.org>; Gamero, Lili (POL) <lili.gamero@sfgov.org>; Oliva-Aroche, Diana (POL) <diana.oliva-aroche@sfgov.org>; Youngblood, Stacy (POL) <Stacy.A.Youngblood@sfgov.org>; Breen, Kate (MTA) <Kate.Breen@sfmta.com>; Martinsen, Janet (MTA) <Janet.Martinsen@sfmta.com>; Ramos, Joel (MTA) <Joel.Ramos@sfmta.com>; Ludwig, Theresa (FIR) <theresa.ludwig@sfgov.org>; Lim, Victor (DEM) <victor.lim@sfgov.org>  
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**ERICA MAJOR**

**Assistant Clerk**

Board of Supervisors

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102  
Phone: (415) 554-4441 | Fax: (415) 554-5163  
[Erica.Major@sfgov.org](mailto:Erica.Major@sfgov.org) | [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org)

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BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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San Francisco 94102-4689
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Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Alaric Degrafinried, Interim Director, Public Works
William Scott, Police Chief, Police Department
Jeffrey Tumlin, Executive Director, Municipal Transportation Agency
Jeanine Nicholson, Chief, Fire Department
Mary Ellen Carroll, Executive Director, Department of Emergency Management

FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: August 3, 2021

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Walton on July 27, 2021:

File No. 210888

Resolution declaring the intention of the Board of Supervisors to rename Donner Avenue between Arelious Walker Drive and West Harney Way, which is a street located in Alice Griffith Public Housing, to Charlie Way.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: erica.major@sfgov.org.

cc: David Steinberg, Public Works
Jeremy Spitz, Public Works
John Thomas, Public Works
Lena Liu, Public Works
Rowena Carr, Police Department
Lili Gamero, Police Department
Diana Oliva-Aroche, Police Department
Sgt Stacy Youngblood, Police Department
Kate Breen, Municipal Transportation Agency
Janet Martinsen, Municipal Transportation Agency
Joel Ramos, Municipal Transportation Agency
Theresa Ludwig, Fire Department
Victor Lim, Department of Emergency Management

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

Walton

Subject:

Resolution of Intention- Street Name Change- Donner Avenue to Charlie Way

The text is listed:

Resolution declaring the intention of the Board of Supervisors to rename Donner Avenue between Arelious Walker Drive and West Harney Way; which is a street only in the located in Alice Griffith Public Housing to Charlie Way.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: /s/ Shamann Walton

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