Committee Item	No.	4	
Board Item No.	22		

## **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Public Safety and Ngbh Services Date: January 11, 202		
Board of Su	pervisors Meeting:	<b>Date:</b> <u>January 23, 2024</u>
Cmte Boar	rd	
	Motion	
	Resolution - VERSION 2	
	Ordinance	
H	Legislative Digest	Damant
H	Budget and Legislative Analyst	Report
	Youth Commission Report Introduction Form	
	Department/Agency Cover Lette	er and/or Report
H H	MOU	i dia, oi Ropoit
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	Form 126 – Ethics Commission	
	Award Letter	
H	Application	
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OTHER		
	Committee Presentation – Janua	rv 11 2024
	Referral FYI – October 25, 2023	my 11, 2027
Dropared by	. John Carroll	Data: January 4, 2024
		Date: <u>January 4, 2024</u> Date: <u>January 19, 2024</u>
Prepared by		
Prepared by	<b>]</b>	Date:

## AMENDED IN COMMITTEE 1/11/24 RESOLUTION NO.

FILE NO. 231087

1	[Support for the SOMA Pilipinas Gateway Cultural Marker]
2	
3	Resolution expressing support for a permanent cultural monument for the Filipino
4	Cultural Heritage District; urging the Arts Commission to commission new works that
5	center voices and stories that are not currently reflected by the current collection, such
6	as the voices that reflect Filipino culture and identity; and finding that the SOMA
7	Pilipinas Gateway Project could provide a model for the City to advance social
8	and racial equity by producing cultural monuments that lift up the rich history and
9	collective experience, contributions, struggles, and triumphs of people of color and
10	immigrant communities who are an important part of San Francisco's diversity and
11	soul as a City.
12	
13	WHEREAS, SOMA Pilipinas was formally recognized by the City and County of San
14	Francisco as the Filipino Cultural Heritage District in April 2016, and designated by the State
15	of California in July 2017; and
16	WHEREAS, A core mission of the cultural district is to increase the visibility and
17	celebrate the contributions of the Filipino community in SOMA, San Francisco, California and
18	the Diaspora, and to develop cultural arts, assets, and creative place-keeping and place-
19	making cultural markers and monuments; and
20	WHEREAS, The SOMA Pilipinas Cultural District does not have any permanent cultural
21	markers that are clearly identifiable and recognizable by the public, as do other communities
22	in San Francisco; and
23	WHEREAS, A combination of ongoing displacement, historically racist planning, and
24	the lack of recognition of the South of Market as a neighborhood with families, children, and
25	

1	seniors has rendered the Filipino community in the South of Market invisible to other
2	residents, workers, and visitors in the city; and
3	WHEREAS, The San Francisco Monuments and Memorials Advisory Committee
4	Report, conducted on behalf of the San Francisco Arts Commission, Human Rights
5	Commission, and Recreation and Parks Department in 2020, recommends that new works
6	should center voices and stories that have been neglected by the current collection, but are
7	important to the history and identity of San Francisco; and
8	WHEREAS, There are no works in the San Francisco Civic Arts Collection within the
9	South of Market that represent Filipino culture or identity; and
10	WHEREAS, All other historical and Philippine-related monuments in San Francisco are
11	war trophies and celebrations of the American invasion and occupation of the Philippines,
12	such as the Dewey Monument located in Union Square which serves as a tribute to the
13	bloody and exploitative colonial history between the U.S. and the Philippines; and
14	WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors approved unanimously in September 2022 the
15	SOMA Pilipinas Cultural History, Housing, and Economic Sustainability Strategy (CHHESS)
16	report, which was developed through a community process in collaboration with city
17	departments and serves as a roadmap of priorities and strategies for stabilizing and
18	developing the Filipino community; and
19	WHEREAS, The SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS report strategies include City support for
20	cultural district public realm improvements including the creation of monuments such as
21	gateways, and working with the San Francisco Arts Commission and other City Departments
22	to support and maintain community-empowering monuments; and
23	WHEREAS, The selected site of the gateway at Russ and Folsom Streets is within the
24	Youth and Family Special Use District which was created to protect and enhance the health

and environment of youth and families, is in proximity to community organizations serving the

1	Filipino community such as Bessie Carmichael Elementary School, Galing Bata - Filipino
2	Education Center, West Bay, and United Playaz, and is across the street from Victoria Manalo
3	Draves Park, a two-acre public open space named after the late SOMA resident and Filipino
4	American Victoria Manalo Draves who is the first woman diver to win two gold medals at
5	the 1948 Summer Olympics; and
6	WHEREAS, The site of the proposed SOMA Pilipinas Gateway is a hub for cultural
7	connection and multigenerational community pride through public art works that center the
8	stories of Filipino American community members including: Francesca "ChiChai" Mateo's
9	incoming Pagsasama Sama Mural on 1048 Folsom (commissioned by SOMA Pilipinas and
10	SOMA West CBD); Fraceska Gamez and Cece Carpio's mural at 1052 Folsom
11	(commissioned by SOMA West CBD), "We Live Here" Utility Boxes by Mel Vera Cruz
12	(commissioned by South of Market Community Action Network), and Polebanners by
13	Anotherwise.Co and Nix Guirre (commissioned by SOMA Pilipinas); and
14	WHEREAS, In 2021-2023, SOMA Pilipinas and SOMA West CBD have completed a
15	total of 7 activations at the Russ and Folsom intersection, as part of the Office of Economic
16	and Workforce Development Alley Activation Grant, to invite community members to
17	reimagine the intersection as a site for community, culture, and joy; and
18	WHEREAS, Activations include a holiday celebration called SOMA Sings, SOMA
19	Neighborhood Clean Up, SOMA Sunday Streets, a total of three Ethnotours with Bessie
20	Carmichael Middle School Students, Balboa High School Students, and attendees of SF
21	Urban Film Festival's Our Place in the Park; and an upcoming community mural event in the
22	Fall of 2023; and
23	WHEREAS, In July 2019, SOMA Pilipinas issued a call for qualifications, inviting artists
24	in the community to submit their portfolios. Upon review by the SOMA Pilipinas team and a
25	SOMA Pilipinas Gateway advisory board involving professionals in landscape architecture,

1	placemaking, and commercial interior design (including Gerdo Aquino, Susanna Fracker, and
2	Primo Ordilla), SOMA Pilipinas invited four artists (Michael Arcega, Robin Birdd of
3	Microwaves, and Franceska Gamez) to submit proposals for the SOMA Pilipinas Gateway;
4	and
5	WHEREAS, In July 2021, SOMA Pilipinas presented three gateway design proposals
6	at the Moss St. Block Party organized by SF Parks Alliance and SOMA West CBD, more than
7	a year after the district first publicly released a call for design proposals; and
8	WHEREAS, Community members selected Franceska Gamez's Pagmamana proposal
9	and shared that the design highlights the importance of learning the history of our motherland
10	and preserving the unique contributions of Filipinos in San Francisco and California; and
11	WHEREAS, Selected Filipina-American artist, Franceska Gamez has been creating
12	large-scale public murals, fully immersive installations, and sculptures; and
13	WHEREAS, Her mural work can be seen throughout California, the East Coast, as well
14	as overseas in Europe and Southeast Asia, which includes public artworks commissioned by
15	Asian American Women Artists Association and the SF Arts Commission, SOMA Pilipinas,
16	and the City of Sacramento, and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency; and
17	WHEREAS, The Pagmamana (Heritage) Gateway Design Proposal is a tribute to the
18	rich history and legacy of Filipinos in the SOMA community and a celebration and reminder of
19	the significant role that the Filipino community has played in shaping the culture and identity of
20	San Francisco and California; and
21	WHEREAS, The symbols incorporated into the design share Filipino traditions and
22	values that have been passed down from generation to generation; and
23	WHEREAS, In 2022, SOMA Pilipinas conducted a total of 9 formal feedback sessions
24	with Community Advisory Groups which includes 50 community members representing
25	Residents living in SOMA and the Tenderloin, School Communities, Artists, Seniors, Small

1	Business Owners, Community Workers, and Youth within the Filipino community in the South
2	of Market; and
3	WHEREAS, In 2022, SOMA Pilipinas shared the SOMA Pilipinas Gateway design
4	model at multiple community and public events including an online virtual presentation of the
5	proposed Gateway design, FEC Galing Bata's Filipino American History Month Celebration,
6	UNDISCOVERED Block Party, and the SOMA Pilipinas 6th Anniversary "Art is Power," and
7	the 20th Annual Parol Lantern Festival; and
8	WHEREAS, Community feedback surveys demonstrated that 84% of respondents
9	shared that they would love to see this district gateway design as a public art piece in the
10	SOMA Pilipinas Filipino Cultural Heritage District and 84.2% of respondents shared that they
11	would be excited to visit the incoming SOMA Pilipinas Gateway with family, friends, and other
12	community members; and
13	WHEREAS, Riz Gache, landscape architect who has worked closely with architects,
14	engineers, city agencies, and contractors on large-scale projects such as Union Square
15	Redesign and the Mission Rock Street Scape Project and, Crissy Field Promenade; and
16	WHEREAS, Riz Gache is also a community member, who grew up in San Francisco
17	and was a youth client of West Bay. Riz worked closely with Gateway artist Franceska Gamez
18	to conduct site analysis and support with landscaping for the site of the proposed Gateway
19	Design; and
20	WHEREAS, Franceska Gamez and Riz Gache produced a Gateway Design Proposal
21	that includes a +/-45-foot wide by 25-foot tall corten steel arch supported on concrete
22	foundations at each end; and
23	WHEREAS, The Gateway Design Proposal also includes landscaping plans to ensure
24	the safety of pedestrians to include vehicular safety barriers, various paving surfaces, site
25	lighting, and concrete seat walls; and

WHEREAS, Riz Gache consulted with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation
Agency (SFMTA) and the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) in consideration of Fire
Vehicle Height Clearance, SFFD Turning Radius, and Fire Vehicle Turn Plan (North and
South Bound) in collaboration with SFMTA also prepared layout plans with consideration of
existing utility and grading plans, provided by the Department of Public Works to ensure the
gateway structure does not impede on existing utility lines; and
WHEREAS, In November 2022, SOMA Pilipinas contracted with a structural
engineering geotech firm to conduct analysis of the Russ and Folsom intersection including

soil studies outlining the soil conditions and dictating the footing demand; and

WHEREAS, The Geotech analysis included reviews of geotechnical information for the site and site vicinity, site reconnaissance to check site access subsurface conditions, historic earthquake failures and utility markings, and a preliminary geotechnical report to evaluate different foundation types and the potential impact of liquefaction associated hazards for the proposed project, and Riz Gache pre-submitted a packet to the Department of Public Works, on behalf of SOMA Pilipinas, including renderings of the Gateway Design Proposal; and

WHEREAS, SOMA Pilipinas has coordinated with SFMTA to correspond with the incoming Howard and Folsom Streetscapes work, which will include implementing Filipinothemed crosswalk designs at 9 locations, including the Russ and Folsom intersection and the upcoming Howard Streetscape Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, SOMA West CBD has committed to routine maintenance of the steel structure (including regular inspections for damage or wear, power washing to remove dirt and grime, removal of graffiti, and routine maintenance of the bronze relief; Maintenance for the steel structure would include regular inspections to check for any damage or wear, powerwashing to remove dirt and grime, tightening bolts and fasteners, repairing any

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1	damaged or worn parts power-washing the ground and seating, lighting repair to ensure
2	structure is well-maintained and safe; and
3	WHEREAS, SOMA West also commits to use spray cleaner that breaks down enamel
4	paint that can be used to remove the graffiti, and it can then be wiped or power-washed off.
5	SOMA West commits to routine Maintenance for Bronze Relief which could include hosing off
6	accumulated dust, bird droppings, salts from ice control, and other materials weekly; and
7	WHEREAS, In January 2020, the Board of Supervisors approved the Flower Mart
8	Development Agreement which includes as part of their Developer's Eastern Neighborhoods
9	Infrastructure Impact Fees up to \$300,000 that the developer shall fund the design and
10	complete the construction or a SOMA Pilipinas monument in a public location approved by the
11	Planning Director, unless it is not fully approved and permitted within three years of the
12	effective date of the Development Agreement; and
13	WHEREAS, The initial phase of the Flower Mart Project at Sixth & Brannan Streets is
14	the construction of a new, permanent relocation site for the Wholesale Flower Market at 901
15	16th Street in San Francisco and that the new market at 901 16th Street is currently under
16	construction with an anticipated completion date in 2024; and
17	WHEREAS, Once the new market is completed, the existing flower vendors at Sixth &
18	Brannan will move into their new, permanent home and the Sixth & Brannan site can be
19	developed, the timing of which will depend on market conditions and other factors; and
20	WHEREAS, In January 2023, SOMA Pilipinas, Franceska Gamez, and Riz Gache has
21	prepared a major encroachment packet to submit to the Department of Public Works for
22	permitting and the SF Arts Commission's Visual Arts Committee for design approval to
23	explore the Planning Director's proposal that the gateway be built and owned by the City; and
24	WHEREAS, For the last ten months, the Planning Director has met with the City

25

Departments including the Planning Department, SF Arts Commission, Department of Public

1	Works, and SFMTA to discuss the City finalizing the design, permitting, building and owning
2	the SOMA Pilipinas Gateway given the structure will be in the public right of way; now,
3	therefore, be it
4	RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors express wholehearted support for the
5	importance of a permanent cultural monument for the Filipino Cultural Heritage District; and,
6	be it
7	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urge the San Francisco Arts
8	Commission, in furtherance of the recommendations of the Monuments report, to commission
9	new works that center voices and stories that are not reflected by the current collection, such
10	as the voices that reflect Filipino culture and identity; and, be it
11	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors finds that the Gateway Project
12	could provide a model for the City to advance social and racial equity by producing cultural
13	monuments that lift up the rich history and collective experience, contributions, struggles, and
14	triumphs of people of color and immigrant communities who are an important part of San
15	Francisco's diversity and soul as a City.
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## **GATEWAY PROPOSAL**

Prepared by SOMA Pilipinas, Franceska Gamez, & Riz Gache

**Web:** somapilipinas.org **Email:** raquel@somapilipinas.org, frankie@franceskagamez.com **Phone:** 415-244-9734 (Raquel)

## **Table of Contents**

- 2-5 · About the Artist
- 6 · Community Collaboration
- 7 · Location
- 8 · Design Inspiration
- 9-14 · Proposed Gateway Design
- 15 · Maintenance
- 16-23 Structural & Planning

### **About the Artist**



WEB: franceskagamez.com IG: @franceskagamez

**Franceska Gamez** is a visual artist, born in Manila and raised the Bay Area. Both cultures nurtured her identity and practice as the artist she is today. You can find her creating large-scale public murals, fully immersive installations, and tiny palm-sized sculptures. Her work is characterized by an elegant blend of abstract and representational forms in which she tells stories, illuminating emotions that envelope them. Her practice in the arts has led to dynamic bouts in installation, carpentry, writing, curation, art conservation, and project management. Her mural work can be seen throughout California, the East Coast, as well as overseas in Europe and Southeast Asia.

Select Collaborations: For Freedoms, Woman Life Freedom Movement, The California Endowment, California Humanities, California Medical Association, The California Rice Commission, Sacramento Region Community Foundation, California Faculty Association, Greenpeace DC, San Francisco Arts Commission, Asian American Women Artists Association (AAWAA), California Auto Museum, Covered California, Market 5-1-5, Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC) LA.



# **Select Work Samples**



"Pasalubong" Franceska Gamez. Commissioned by SOMA Pilipinas & SF MOMA. 2021.



"Generations of Hope" Erin Yoshi & Franceska Gamez. Commissioned by AAWAA & SF Arts Commission. Granted SF Beautification Award. 2018.

# **Select Work Samples**











## **Design Inspiration**

### SOMA Pilipinas Is A Celebration Of Where We Come From, And Where WE ARE Going.

Pagmamano is a gesture used in Filipino culture. Its a sign of respect to elders and a way of accepting blessings

Traditional wood carvings from Paete, Laguna The **golden sun** represents the first 8 provinces that led the Philippine Revolution against Spanish rule. It also symbolizes unity, freedom, democracy, & sovereignty.

**Baybayin** is one of the pre-colonial writing systems used by early Filipinos. The Philippines is an archipelago, a string of over 7,100 islands. **Water** is a bridge that connects & separate us, from island to island, across seas and to the diaspora.











The Gateway sculpture is a tribute to the rich history and legacy of Filipino/a/x-Americans and the SOMA community. It is a celebration and reminder of the significant role that we have played and continue to play in shaping the culture and identity of the United States. The symbols incorporated into the design share our traditions and values, such as *Bayanihan* and *Kapwa*, that have been passed down from generation to generation. With the sculpture, we harness sunshine to cast shadows of our golden sun, water, and *baybayin* across the intersection. Water is our bridge, it moves through our bodies as it does through land, nourishing us with the knowledge passed down from our ancestors, merging with the experiences from our unique lifetime. The bronze hands and leaves are inspired by traditional wood relief carvings. They hold vignettes of our journey, our *pamana* (heritage) and the ways we honor our culture through the gesture of *pagmamana*. We envision creating a gathering space, a symbol of belonging and pride for all neighbors and visitors alike.









# **SOMA Pilipinas Gateway Design**





#### Gateway Material:

- 1. Arch (Facia): Laser cut 3/8" Painted stainless steel
- 2. Base relief: Cast bronze
- 3. Frame: 14"-16" diameter stainless steel tubing.
- 4. Mounts and fasteners: Stainless steel

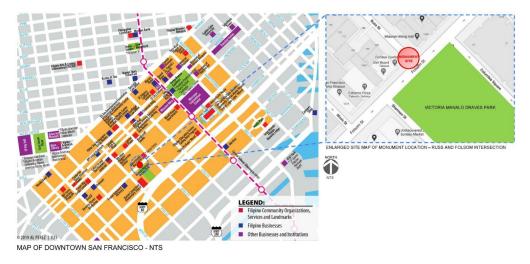
Footing attachment to foundation: 3/4" Plate mounted







## Location





OVERALL PROPOSED PLAN FOR FOLSOM STREET - NTS (PLAN BY DPW FOR REFERENCE)



# **SOMA Pilipinas Gateway Design**

## Pagmamana:

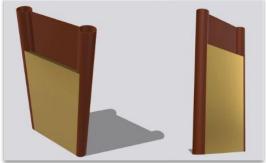
Tagalog. n. inheriting; inheritance; heredity



## **SOMA Pilipinas Gateway Design**

Basic structure with footing & bronze relief plates.





Embedded within the leaves are intricate, symbolic vignettes cast in bronze. On the left, the past and present converge, paying tribute to our ancestors. On the right, the present and future intersect, showcasing the enduring legacies that span generations.



### **Bronze Relief Images - Left Side**

- Hands emphasize honoring our history, ancestors & heritage.
- Connection to motherland.
- Highlighting indigenous tribes.
- Legacy of cultural preservation.
- Anti colonial resistance.





### **Bronze Relief Images - Right Side**

- Hands emphasize care for future generations.
- Capturing the character of our community & diversity within the diaspora.
- Illustrates our contributions & legacies: Labor movements, housing rights, ethnic studies, multi-racial solidarity, art & activism, local heroes, nurses, veterans, mothers.





## **Community Collaboration**











"The SOMA Gateway design is not only symbolic, historical, unifying our different regions and respectful of our elders. But it is also unique and ingenious because of the shadow-casting effect across the Russ and Folsom Street intersection."

"Very much needed presence in the SOMA District"

"Love to see more Asian culture spreading their voices"

"This district gateway design highlights that we are Filipino-American and part of the diaspora. It's like a bridge, because it honors our heritage but it also honors our present."

SOMA Pilipinas presented initial gateway design proposals at the Moss St. Block Party in July 2021, more than a year after the release for a call for design proposals. Community members shared their feedback and selected Gamez' piece.

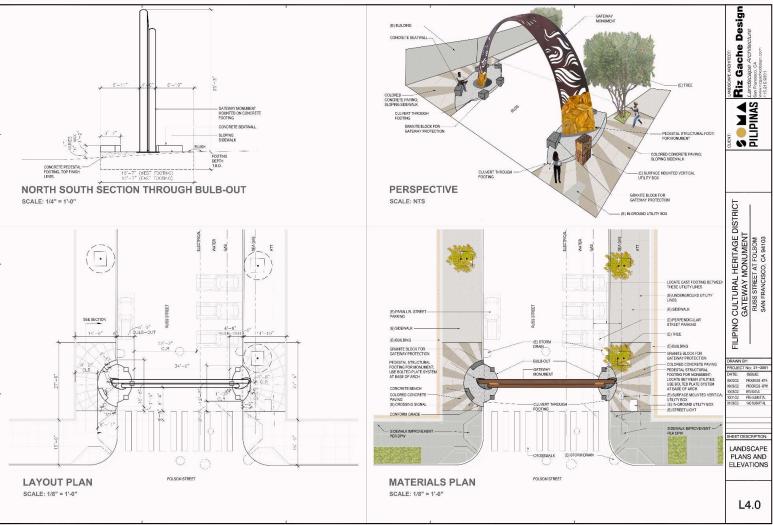
The design and model was shared at 4 community events, 1 virtual presentation, and 2 ethnotours involving Balboa HS and Bessie Carmichael Elementary. Community members were invited to share their feedback by filling surveys and offering testimonials.

SOMA Pilipinas also hosted a total of 9 feedback sessions with our SOMA Pilipinas Community Advisory Groups including SOMA/TL Residents, School Communities, Artists, Seniors, Small Business Owners, Community Workers, and Youth.

Full list of engagements included in notes.

#### **SURVEY STATS:**

- 84% of respondents shared they would love to see this district gateway design as a public art piece in SOMA Pilipinas- Filipino Cultural Heritage District.
- 79% of respondents shared that this district gateway design makes them want to learn more from Filipino/x communities in San Francisco.
- 84.2% of respondents shared that they would be excited to visit the incoming SOMA Pilipinas Gateway with family, friends, and other community members.

















③ VEHICULAR SAFETY BARRIER

(4) SITE LIGHTING



1 PAVING SURFACE





IN GROUND RECESSED LED LIFLIGHT IN SERIES AT BASE OF SEATWALL

IN-GROUND RECESSED LED UPLIGHT FOR GATEWAY



② CONCRETE SEATWALL

MATERIALS BOARD

L6.0

#### **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



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TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Ralph Remington, Director of Cultural Affairs, Arts Commission

Carla Short, Interim Director, Public Works Rich Hillis, Director, Planning Department

FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services

Committee, Board of Supervisors

DATE: October 25, 2023

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Dorsey on October 17, 2023:

File No. 231087

Resolution expressing support for the SoMa Pilipinas gateway design and gateway construction at the intersection of Folsom and Russ Streets; and urging the San Francisco Arts Commission and the Department of Public Works to work closely with the Planning Department and SoMa Pilipinas to build and own the gateway.

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.

C:
Offices of Chair Stefani and Supervisor Dorsey
Alyssa Ventre, Arts Commission
Mary Chou, Arts Commission
Joanne Lee, Arts Commission
David Steinberg, Public Works
lan Schneider, Public Works
John Thomas, Public Works
Lena Liu, Public Works
Dan Sider, Planning Department
Aaron Starr, Planning Department
Josh Switzky, Planning Department
Richard Sucre, Planning Department

## **Introduction Form**

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I here	by subn	nit the following item for introduction (select only one):
	1.	For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
	2.	Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
	3.	Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
	4.	Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires"
	5.	City Attorney Request
	6.	Call File No. from Committee.
	7.	Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
	8.	Substitute Legislation File No.
	9.	Reactivate File No.
	10.	Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on
	al Plan ☐ Ye	Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):  Building Inspection Commission   Human Resources Department (Proposed legislation Subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):  Building Inspection Commission   Human Resources Department (Proposed legislation Subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):  Building Inspection Commission   Human Resources Department (Proposed legislation Subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):  Building Inspection Commission   Human Resources Department (Proposed legislation Subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):  Building Inspection Commission   Building Inspection   Building Inspection Commission   Building Inspection   Building Inspection Commission   Building Inspection   Building Inspection Commission   Building Inspection Commission   Building Inspection   Building Inspection Commission   Building Inspection   Buil
Spons	sor(s):	
Subje	ct:	
Long	Title or	text listed:
		Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: