## **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



City Hall

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## **MEMORANDUM**

Date:

November 7, 2025

To:

Jonas Ionin, Commission Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission

From:

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors

Subject:

Sixteen Resolutions Initiating Landmark Designations

(File Nos. 250835-250850)

On October 21, 2025, the Board of Supervisors finally passed sixteen resolutions initiating landmark designations, sponsored by President Rafael Mandelman (File Nos. 250835, 250836, 250837, 250838, 250839, 250840, 250841, 250842, 250843, 250844, 250845, 250846, 250847, 250848, 250849, and 250850), which were enacted on October 24, 2025.

Please find the attached courtesy copies of Resolution Nos. 484-25, 485-25, 486-25, 487-25, 488-25, 489-25, 490-25, 491-25, 492-25, 493-25, 495-25, 496-25, 497-25, 498-25, and 499-25 for your office's information and consideration of next steps.

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

c: President Rafael Mandelman, Board of Supervisors Sarah Dennis Phillips, Director, Planning Department Aaron Starr, Manager of Legislative Affairs Josh Switzky, Planning Department Pilar LaValley, Planning Department

[Initiating Landmark Designation - Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location)]

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location), located at 220 Danvers Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2702, Lot No. 019.

WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by Resolution initiate landmark designation; and

WHEREAS, Planning Code, Section 1004.2(b), requires the Historic Preservation Commission to respond to historic district or individual landmark designations initiated by the Board of Supervisors within 90 days, and authorizes the Board, by Resolution, to extend the time within which the Historic Preservation Commission is to render its decision; and

WHEREAS, Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location) is significant for its historical association with San Francisco's LGBTQ Jewish community as the original home of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, one of the first LGBTQ Jewish groups on the West Coast; and

WHEREAS, Formed in 1977, Sha'ar Zahav, faced several early challenges including finding a regular place to meet, unwillingness of local publishers to accept advertisement for their public services, and initial lack of acceptance from other local Jewish organizations; and

WHEREAS, By the early 1980s, Sha'ar Zahav had raised funds to purchase a former Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, located at 220 Danvers Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2702, Lot No. 019, in Corbett Heights; and

WHEREAS, The congregation grew so fast that the new 120-seat sanctuary quickly became too small and in 1998, Sha'ar Zahav left the Danvers Street site for its current, and more spacious location in a former funeral home at the corner of Dolores Street and 16th Street; and

WHEREAS, In 2016 the San Francsico Historic Preservation Commission adopted the Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco which provided frameworks for identifying and evaluating sites for historical significance and integrity associated with San Francisco's diverse and robust LGBTQ histories; and

WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History was prepared by qualified historians in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; and

WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History, the property can be considered as an individually eligible historic resource based on its strong association with LGBTQ History; and

WHEREAS, Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History identifies the Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location) as a property which may be eligible for City Landmark status; and

WHEREAS, The Castro LGBTQ Cultural District's 2024 Cultural History, Housing and Economic Sustainability Strategies (CHHESS) report includes the strategy, "Ensure the Historic Preservation Commission and/or the Board of Supervisors prioritize further municipal landmarking and state and national nomination of Castro LGBTQIA+ historical sites..."; and

WHEREAS, The building exterior remains identifiable as the location of Sha'ar Zahav, as it did in the 1980s-1990s; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates a landmark designation of the Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location) under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of the Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location); and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic Preservation Commission consider whether the Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location) warrants landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the Planning Code.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## Resolution

File Number:

250847

Date Passed: October 21, 2025

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for Sha'ar Zahav (Historic Location), located at 220 Danvers Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2702, Lot No. 019.

October 06, 2025 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

October 21, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

File No. 250847

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/21/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

**Daniel Lurie** Mayor

**Date Approved** 

OCT 24, 2025