

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Jeffrey Tumlin, Executive Director, Municipal Transportation Agency

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

DATE: September 13, 2023

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Mandelman on September 5, 2023.

File No. 230948

Resolution adding the commemorative street name "Panos Place" to Corbin Place between the 100 and 200 block of Corbett Avenue in recognition of San Francisco resident Panagiotis Koutsoyannis.

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: Kate Breen, Municipal Transportation Agency
Janet Martinsen, Municipal Transportation Agency
Joel Ramos, Municipal Transportation Agency

1 [Commemorative Street Name Designation - "Panos Place" - 100-200 Block of Corbett
2 Avenue]

3 **Resolution adding the commemorative street name "Panos Place" to Corbin Place**
4 **between the 100 and 200 block of Corbett Avenue in recognition of San Francisco**
5 **resident Panagiotis Koutsoyannis.**

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7 WHEREAS, Corbett Heights Neighbors, a Corona Heights neighborhood association
8 formed in 2004, has formally requested that San Francisco rename Corbin Place, a short
9 stairway with gardens located perpendicular to, and between, Corbett Avenue and 17th Street
10 in the Corona Heights neighborhood of the City, to honor long time San Francisco resident
11 Panagiotis Koutoyannis, aka "Panos"; and

12 WHEREAS, Corbin Place is not a street; rather, it is a 60 foot stairway of 40 concrete
13 steps perpendicular to and linking the 100-200 block of Corbett Avenue to the 4000th block of
14 17th Street; with two gardens, each 21 feet wide on both sides of the stairway; located on
15 Department of Public Works property without any houses or structures accessible from Corbin
16 Place; and is generally identified on internet- accessible maps as the "Corbin Stairs;" and

17 WHEREAS, From the "S.F. Board of Supervisors Proceedings N.S 4" from 1909,
18 Corbin Place was dedicated and so named on 8 December 1909 (San Francisco Bill 1117,
19 Ordinance No. 988); and

20 WHEREAS, Diligent research has not conclusively confirmed the identity of the person,
21 if any, for which Corbin Place was named, speculation is that it may be for a Major General
22 Corbin who was born in Ohio but visited San Francisco for ten days, arriving on October 6 of
23 1904, while en route to the U.S. colony of the Philippines where he was to assume a position
24 as a Commander, this according to the San Francisco Chronicle in its edition of October 6,
25 1904; and

1 WHEREAS, Diligent research has failed to unearth any other indicia of San Francisco
2 related civic accomplishments of said Major Corbin or any contributions he might have made
3 to the betterment or history of the City; and

4 WHEREAS, Panagiotis Koutoyannis has lived in a residence that abuts the west side
5 garden of Corbin Place since 2009; and

6 WHEREAS, The stairway and the two gardens of Corbin Place were not regularly
7 maintained by the City until Mr. Koutoyannis commenced to do so in 2011, and thereafter he
8 continuously replanted and maintained the gardens; installed lights, seasonal decorations,
9 and an irrigation system; and added notable historical and San Francisco-specific artwork to
10 the gardens; and

11 WHEREAS, Thanks to the past and continuing work of Mr. Koutoyannis, all at his own
12 expense, the two gardens at Corbin Place are stunning and beautiful islands of green, light,
13 and delight to adults and children alike, as well as to the many Muni riders who regularly use
14 the stairs to access the 37 bus on Corbett Avenue; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2019 Corbett Heights Neighbors honored Mr. Koutoyannis for his
16 extraordinary work and generous contribution to the neighborhood by hosting an event in his
17 honor there, an event attended by scores of neighbors; and

18 WHEREAS, In view of the generous contribution of Mr. Koutoyannis, in both money
19 and time, in gifting the neighborhood this exceptional, peaceful, and beautiful island of green
20 and whimsy between two well-travelled traffic arteries, Corbett Avenue and 17th Street; now,
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the Municipal Transportation
23 Agency to erect street signs at Corbin Place, located between the 100 and 200 block of
24 Corbett Avenue, indicating both the honorary and the existing names of the street, either on a
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1 single sign or on separate signs, with the honorary name "Panos Place" in smaller letters
2 above or beneath the existing name.

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Introduction Form

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

I hereby submit 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 []

The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):

- Small Business Commission Youth Commission Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission Human Resources Department

General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):

- Yes No

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

Sponsor(s):

Mandelman

Subject:

[Commemorative Street Name Designation – "Panos Place" – 100-200 Block of Corbett Avenue]

Long Title or text listed:

Resolution adding the commemorative street name "Panos Place" to Corbin Place between the 100 and 200 block of Corbett Avenues in recognition of San Francisco resident Panagiotis Koutsoyannis.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

