

1 [Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Lotta's Fountain]

2
3 **Resolution celebrating the 150th anniversary of the presentation of Lotta's Fountain to**
4 **the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Lotta's Fountain was gifted to the City and County of San Francisco by the
7 legendary performer Lotta Crabtree on September 9, 1875; and

8 WHEREAS, Lotta's Fountain is a twenty-four foot tall cast iron, bronze ornate fountain
9 located at the intersection of Market, Kearny, and Geary Streets; and

10 WHEREAS, Lotta Crabtree, also known as "Lotta" or "Miss Lotta," was one of the most
11 well-known young "Fairy Stars" in San Francisco throughout the 1850's and 1860's as she
12 kept the city entertained through her singing, dancing, and acting at various San Francisco
13 theatres; and

14 WHEREAS, Lotta frequently performed at benefits for San Francisco volunteer fire
15 companies and always held San Francisco close to her heart as she toured around the
16 country; and

17 WHEREAS, Lotta commissioned this fountain to provide free drinking water to the
18 public as an expression of her gratitude to San Francisco for recognizing her talents early on
19 and this gift was a great public benefit for 19th century San Francisco; and

20 WHEREAS, Every April 18th at 5:12 am, firefighters, police officers, and dozens of
21 ordinary San Franciscans participate in a memorial ceremony at Lotta's Fountain to remember
22 the victims of the 1906 earthquake and recognize the importance that the fountain played in
23 the aftermath of that tragedy as a central meeting point for San Franciscans seeking refuge
24 from the city's ruins; and

1 WHEREAS, Lotta's Fountain was the site of the famous 1910 Christmas Eve
2 performance by opera singer Luisa Tetrazzini, who drew a crowd of 250,000 to the fountain
3 for that performance; and

4 WHEREAS, Lotta's Fountain was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in
5 1975; and

6 WHEREAS, Lotta's Fountain was the first piece of art in the San Francisco Civic Art
7 Collection; and

8 WHEREAS, In a 2023 survey conducted by the San Francisco Monuments and
9 Memorials Advisory Committee, Lotta's Fountain was found to be the most liked monument or
10 memorial in the Civic Art Collection; and

11 WHEREAS, Lotta's Fountain is now the oldest surviving memorial in San Francisco;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
14 hereby recognizes the 150th anniversary of the presentation of Lotta's Fountain to the City
15 and County of San Francisco on September 9, 2025; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco celebrates the
17 unique value that Lotta's Fountain holds as a historical treasure, a work of art, a cultural
18 symbol, and the site of a cherished and long-standing tradition honoring the resilience of San
19 Francisco.