

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Landmark Designation - Turk and Taylor Streets Intersection]

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate the Turk and Taylor Streets Intersection together with defined portions of 101 Taylor Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 0339, Lot No. 003 (known as the "Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot"), as a Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

Existing Law

Under Article 10, Section 1004 of the Planning Code, the Board of Supervisors may, by ordinance, designate an individual structure that has special character or special historical, architectural or aesthetic interest or value as a City landmark. Unless prohibited by state law, once a structure has been named a landmark, any construction, alteration, removal or demolition for which a City permit is required necessitates a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission. (Planning Code § 1006; Charter of the City and County of San Francisco, § 4.135.) Thus, landmark designation generally affords a high degree of protection to historic and architectural structures of merit in the City. There are currently more than 300 individual landmarks in the City under Article 10, in addition to structures and districts in the downtown area that are protected under Article 11. (See App. A to Article 10.)

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance amends the Planning Code to add a new historic landmark to the list of individual landmarks under Article 10: the intersection of Turk and Taylor Streets, and defined portions of Assessor's Block No. 0339 Lot No. 003, referred to in the legislation as the "Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot."

The ordinance finds that the Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot is eligible for local designation as it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of San Francisco history. Specifically, designation of the Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot is proper given its association with the first large-scale collective direct action on the part of people marginalized by sexuality/gender that resulted in lasting institutional change. By acting collectively, instead of as individuals, members of the community were able to further the cause to enable a greater freedom of gender expression without oppression. Moreover, after the riot, the City's Health and Police Departments began to develop supportive programs for the transgender people in San Francisco, some of which

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would also enable people to gain access to State and Federal anti-poverty programs. The riot to demand dignity succeeded in starting the long process to change society.

As required by Section 1004, the ordinance lists the particular features that shall be preserved, or replaced in-kind as determined necessary.

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