

LANDMARK RESOLUTION RECOMMENDATION **RESOLUTION NO. 1242**

HEARING DATE: MAY 4, 2022

Record No.: 2021-004841DES **Project Address**: City Cemetery Zoning: P - PUBLIC

OS Height and Bulk District

Block/Lot: 1313/029

Project Sponsor: SF Planning Department

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400

San Francisco, CA 94103

City and County of San Francisco **Property Owner:**

> Recreation and Parks Department 30 Van Ness Avenue, Third Floor

San Francisco, CA 94102

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RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS LANDMARK DESIGNATION OF CITY CEMETERY. THE MAJORITY OF ASSESSOR'S PARCEL BLOCK NO. 1313, LOT NO. 029, AS LANDMARK NO. XXX CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES AND STANDARDS OF ARTICLE 10

- 1. WHEREAS, on April 20, 2021, Supervisor Chan introduced a proposed Resolution under Board of Supervisors (hereinafter "Board") File No. 210426 to initiate the Landmark designation of City Cemetery, located on the north side of Clement Street, between 33rd Avenue, Fort Miley VA Medical Center, and the Golden Gate, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 1313, Lot No. 029; and
- 2. WHEREAS, on July 26, 2021, the Board at its Land Use and Transportation Committee meeting recommended unanimously to Recommend to the full Board approval of the Resolution to initiate Landmark Designation (Board File No. 210426); and
- 3. WHEREAS, on July 27, 2021, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution to initiate Landmark Designation, and on August 4, 2021, Resolution No. 374-21 became effective (Board File No. 210426); and

- 4. WHEREAS, Department Staff, who meet the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, prepared the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet for City Cemetery which was reviewed for accuracy and conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10; and
- 5. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of May 4, 2022, reviewed Department staff's analysis of City Cemetery's historical significance pursuant to Article 10 as part of the Landmark Designation Executive Summary dated May 4, 2020, and recommended Landmark designation through this Resolution; and
- 6. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the nomination of City Cemetery as a Landmark is in the form prescribed by the Historic Preservation Commission and contains supporting historic, architectural, and/or cultural documentation; and
- 7. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that City Cemetery is eligible for local designation for its significance an early incarnation of social safety nets related to burial of the dead for socially, ethnically, and culturally diverse populations of San Franciscans in the late nineteenth century; its establishment on the margins of the city and its closure are associated with shifting attitudes regarding cemeteries in urban spaces during the late nineteenth and early twentieth cemeteries; and
- 8. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the designation of City Cemetery is also proper given the significance of the extant Kong Chow funerary structure and Ladies' Seamen's Friends Society obelisk both embody distinctive characteristics of late 19th century funerary design and practice; and
- 9. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the designation of City Cemetery is also proper given it is a significant archeological site containing the buried remnants of the cemetery including human remains that have yielded and are likely to yield information important to the history of the city; and
- 10. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that City Cemetery meets three of the Historic Preservation Commission's four priority areas for designation: property types that are underrepresented among the City's designated landmarks; property types associated with under-represented social and/or cultural groups; and property types in underrepresented geographies in the city; and
- 11. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that designation of City Cemetery advances the objectives outlined in Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Resolution No. 1127, adopted in 2020, otherwise called *Centering Preservation Planning on Racial and Social Equity*, which states goals for how the Commission and the Planning Department can develop proactive strategies to address structural and institutional racism and center their work and resource allocation on racial and social equity, focused on preservation; and
- 12. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that City Cemetery meets the eligibility requirements of Section 1004 of the Planning Code and warrants consideration for Article 10 landmark designation; and
- 13. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the boundaries and the list of character-defining features, as identified in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, should be considered for preservation under the proposed landmark designation as they relate to City Cemetery's historical significance and retain



historical integrity; and

- 14. WHEREAS, the proposed designation is consistent with the General Plan priority policies pursuant to Planning Code, Section 101.1 and furthers Priority Policy No. 7, which states that landmarks and historic buildings be preserved, and will serve the public necessity, convenience, and welfare pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302; and
- 15. WHEREAS, the Department has determined that landmark designation is exempt from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Class Eight Categorical); and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends to the Board of Supervisors approval of landmark designation of City Cemetery, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 1313, Lot No. 029 consistent with the purposes and standards of Article 10 of the Planning Code.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission at its meeting on May 4, 2022.

Jonas P. Ionin

Commission Secretary

AYES: Wright, Black, Foley, Johns, So, Nageswaran, Matsuda

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ADOPTED: May 4, 2022

