

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Landmark Designation - 2868 Mission Street (“Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts”)]

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate 2868 Mission Street (“Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts”), Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 6516, Lot No. 007, 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 approximately 295 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: 2868 Mission Street (“Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts”), Assessor’s Block No. 6516 Lot No. 007.

The ordinance finds that the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts is eligible for designation as it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of San Francisco history (National Register Criterion A). Specifically, designation of the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts is proper given its association with Latinx history and culture in San Francisco, as the foremost art and cultural center for the Latinx community in San Francisco. The Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts is significant for its association with the social and ethnic history of the Mission District as a predominately Latinx enclave, along with the development of Latinx arts in San Francisco in association with California’s Latinx cultural center movement of the 1970s.

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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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