File No.
 220716
 Committee Item No.
 2
 Board Item No.

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee: Land Use and Transportation Committee Date July 11, 2022

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FILE NO. 220716

RESOLUTION NO.

1	[Initiating Landmark Designation Amendment - St. James Presbyterian Church]
2	
3	Resolution initiating an amendment to the landmark designation of 240 Leland Avenue
4	(aka St. James Presbyterian Church), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 6246, Lot No. 012,
5	under Article 10 of the Planning Code.
6	
7	WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors (Board)
8	may by Resolution initiate a Landmark designation; and
9	WHEREAS, The St. James Presbyterian Church, located in the Visitacion Valley
10	neighborhood, at 240 Leland Avenue, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 6246, Lot No. 012, was
11	built in 1923 by renowned architect Julia Morgan; and
12	WHEREAS, The St. James Presbyterian Church has its roots in the first few years of
13	Visitacion Valley's history as a city neighborhood; and
14	WHEREAS, In 1906, a group came from the University Mound Presbyterian Church in
15	the Portola neighborhood and started a Sunday School in Visitacion Valley at the Bayshore
16	Hall, located at the present-day Visitacion Valley Branch Library; and
17	WHEREAS, On April 26, 1908, the congregation formed with 69 original members and
18	has been a part of the cultural and spiritual life of Visitacion Valley since; and
19	WHEREAS, The St. James Presbyterian Church is one of the oldest religious
20	congregations in Visitacion Valley and was where the family of the first American Governor of
21	California worshipped; and
22	WHEREAS, After outgrowing its modest original building, the congregation
23	commissioned Julia Morgan, one of California's most heralded master-architects and
24	engineers, to design the current church; and
25	

3 in 2023; and 4 WHEREAS, The prominent stained glass window on the church's façade, a long time 5 symbol of the St. James community, depicts the Parable of the Sower and was reportedly 6 relocated from a church in the Sierra Nevada foothills; and 7 WHEREAS, In 1947, the men of the church were organized as the Valley Churchmen 8 and carried the heaviest part of the load of repairing and improving the church property 9 through their volunteer labor; and 10 WHEREAS, St. James was designated the first Filipino Presbyterian ministry by the 11 Presbytery of San Francisco in the late 1980s; and 12 WHEREAS, Through decades of demographic and generational changes and now 13 recovering from the COVID pandemic of 2020, a small congregation of mostly Filipino families 14 continues to this day persevering as a church just like the group did in 1908; and 15 WHEREAS, In partnership with the Visitacion Valley History Project, community 16 worked on identifying preservation projects to address the neighborhood's 17 underrepresentation in the city's official inventory of historic buildings; and 18 WHEREAS, Visitacion Valley currently has no designated city-landmarks and through a month-long campaign to identify the neighborhood's first city landmark designation, residents 19 20 and community members voted for St. James Presbyterian Church; now, therefore, be it

WHEREAS, Designed in Arts and Crafts styles, the current St. James Presbyterian

Church building was dedicated on March 13, 1923, and will celebrate its centennial next year

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby initiates an amendment to the
 landmark designation of the St. James Presbyterian Church, located at 240 Leland Avenue

23 (Assessor's Parcel Block No. 6246, Lot No. 012); and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that Planning
 Department prepare a Landmark Designation Report to submit to the Historic Preservation

Supervisor Walton
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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1	Commission for its consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural
2	interest and value of the St. Presbyterian Church; and, be it
3	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that the Historical
4	Preservation Commission consider what amendments to the landmark designation are
5	warranted to capture the property's full historical significance, and submit its recommendation
6	to the Board of Supervisors, according to Article 10 of the Planning Code.
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Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

✓ 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).	
 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee. 	
 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee. 	
4. Request for letter beginning :"Supervisor	inquiries"
5. City Attorney Request.	
6. Call File No. from Committee.	
7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).	
8. Substitute Legislation File No.	
9. Reactivate File No.	
10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following	-
Small Business Commission Vouth Commission Ethics Commi	ssion
Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission	
Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative	Form.
	Form.
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative	Form.
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Sponsor(s):	Form.
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Sponsor(s): Walton	Form.
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Sponsor(s): Walton Subject:	Form.
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Sponsor(s): Walton Subject: Initiating Landmark Designation Amendment – St. James Presbyterian Church	

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