

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TO: Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair, Land Use and Transportation Committee

FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: May 16, 2023

SUBJECT: **COMMITTEE REPORT, BOARD MEETING**
Tuesday, May 16, 2023

The following file should be presented as a **COMMITTEE REPORT** at the Board meeting, Tuesday, May 16, 2023. This item was acted upon at the Committee Meeting on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 1:30 p.m., by the votes indicated.

Item No. 28 **File No. 230269**

Resolution authorizing the placement of a commemorative plaque or statuary in United Nations Plaza in memory of Judith Heumann; directing the Department of Public Works to carry out the installation of the aforementioned plaque or statuary.

AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE

Vote:

Supervisor Myrna Melgar - Aye
Supervisor Dean Preston - Aye
Supervisor Aaron Peskin - Aye

RECOMMENDED AS AMENDED AS A COMMITTEE REPORT

Vote:

Supervisor Myrna Melgar - Aye
Supervisor Dean Preston - Aye
Supervisor Aaron Peskin - Aye

cc: Board of Supervisors
Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy
Anne Pearson, Deputy City Attorney

File No. 230269 Committee Item No. 2
Board Item No. 28

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Transportation Committee Date May 15, 2023

Board of Supervisors Meeting Date May 16, 2023

Cmte Board

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Youth Commission Report |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Information Form |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Award Letter |
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OTHER (Use back side if additional space is needed)

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Completed by: Erica Major Date May 11, 2023
Completed by: Erica Major Date May 16, 2023

1 [Commemorative Street Plaque - Judith Heumann - United Nations Plaza]

2

3 **Resolution authorizing the placement of a commemorative plaque or statuary in United**
4 **Nations Plaza in memory of Judith Heumann; directing the Department of Public Works**
5 **to carry out the installation of the aforementioned plaque or statuary.**

6

7 WHEREAS, Judy Heumann passed away at age 75 on May 4th, 2022, at her home in
8 Washington DC, and

9 WHEREAS, Judy Heumann was a disabled person who devoted her life to disability rights
10 advocacy and was a friend and mentor to countless other disabled people around the country and the
11 world, and

12 WHEREAS, Judy Heumann served as the Assistant Secretary of Education for Special
13 Education and Rehabilitative Services under President Bill Clinton from 1993 to 2001, and the
14 first Special Advisor for International Disability Rights, appointed by President Barack Obama
15 in 2010, and

16

17 WHEREAS, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, is American legislation that
18 guarantees disability access in all programs receiving federal funding . It was one of the first U.S.
19 federal civil rights laws offering protection for people with disabilities. It set precedents for
20 subsequent legislation for people with disabilities, including the Virginians with Disabilities Act
21 in 1985 and the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990.

22 WHEREAS, The 504 Sit-in was a disability rights protest that began April 5, 1977, in
23 Federal Buildings in multiple cities around the US, including San Francisco, by people with
24 disabilities in order to push the issuance of long-delayed regulations regarding Section 504 of
25 the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and

1 WHEREAS, The protest was organized in part by Judy Heumann, who was a lifelong
2 civil rights advocate for people with disabilities whose work produced significant contributions
3 to the development of human rights legislation and policies benefiting children and adults with
4 disabilities, anWHEREAS, The protest and 504 Sit-in at the Federal Building at 50 United
5 Nations Plaza were significant because they achieved the goal of prompting the Federal
6 government to issue the long awaited regulations to guarantee access and civil rights to
7 people with disabilities, and

8 WHEREAS, San Francisco Mayor Moscone provided support and encouragement to
9 the protest, successfully intervening with the federal government to prevent the removal of the
10 protesters, and

11 WHEREAS, The most successful sit-in occurred in San Francisco at 50 United Nations
12 Plaza, at the Federal Building, planned in part by Judith Heumann, Kitty Cone, and Mary Jane
13 Owen, lasted until May 4, 1977, a total of 26 days, with more than 150 people, including 120
14 disability rights activists, ASL interpreters, personal care attendants, and other allies refusing to
15 leave, making it the longest sit-in at a federal building to date, and

16 WHEREAS, The protesters who occupied the fourth floor of the Federal building at 50
17 United Nations Plaza were primarily young and diverse, including mostly disabled people of
18 color, and led by women, with queer women playing an especially prominent role, and

19 WHEREAS, The Black Panther Party arrived to deliver food to the protesters who
20 organized the community occupation of the building, despite the FBI attempting to stop them,
21 unsuccessfully from delivering hot meals, and Glide Memorial Church and several other
22 community organizations delivered blankets and other supplies, and

23 WHEREAS, Prior to the enactment in 1990 of the Americans with Disabilities Act ,
24 Section 504 was the most important disability rights legislation in the US, and

25

1 WHEREAS, Before the passage of Section 504, disability was viewed under the law as
2 a personal deficit and responsibility, and

3 WHEREAS, Before the passage of Section 504, the American legal framework enabled
4 the treatment of people with disabilities as second-class citizens, and systematically excluded
5 them from fully participating in society, and

6 WHEREAS, The passage of Section 504 marked a recognition that progress was
7 needed in recognizing the civil rights of people with disabilities, and

8 WHEREAS, Early versions of the Act were opposed and eventually vetoed by
9 President Richard Nixon in October 1972 and March 1973, and

10 WHEREAS, From the passage of the Rehabilitation Act in 1973 to 1977, there were no
11 published regulations, despite protests, and pressure from disabled American activists and
12 their allies, who filed a successful lawsuit to compel the Federal government to issue the
13 regulations,

14 WHEREAS, Disability in Action activists, led by Judith Heumann, staged a sit in on
15 Madison Ave., New York, protesters from Paralyzed Veterans of America, the National
16 Paraplegia Foundation, and others staged demonstrations in Washington DC, and

17 WHEREAS, The regulations were finally issued and signed on April 28, 1977; now,
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Public Works Code,
20 Section 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance, authorizes the placement
21 of plaques on the sidewalk at United Nations Plaza and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby urges Public Works to
23 waive all costs associated with permits and the installation of the commemorative plaque;
24 and, be it

25

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs Public Works to take all
2 actions necessary to implement the intent of this Resolution, including approval of the
3 installation of the aforementioned plaque; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs Public Works to
5 add aforementioned plaque at the aforementioned location on the City's official list of
6 commemorative sites effective immediately from the date of passage of this Resolution; and,
7 be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That Judith Heumann is hereby recognized by the San
9 Francisco Board of Supervisors for her significant contributions both nationally and
10 internationally to the Civil Rights and Disability Community.

From: [Fiona Hinze](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: comment for (file #230269) Judy Human SUPPORT
Date: Friday, May 12, 2023 5:14:19 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors

I am writing on behalf of Independent Living Resource Center San Francisco to express our **strong support** for the resolution authorizing the placement of a commemorative plaque or statuary in United Nations Plaza in memory of Judith Heumann ([file #230269](#))

Judy Human was a true pioneer and icon in the disability rights Community.

It is no exaggeration to say that The Americans With Disabilities Act probably wouldn't even exist as an actual law, if not for the relentless advocacy of Judy and those like her.

In her memoir, Judy wrote, "Change never happens at the pace we think it should. It happens over years of people joining together, strategizing, sharing, and pulling all the levers they possibly can. Gradually, excruciatingly slowly, things start to happen, and then suddenly, seemingly out of the blue, something will tip."

She was in this for the long haul and, because of her example, so are countless others.

A plaque or statuary as proposed in this resolution would be a fitting tribute to the legacy of Judy Human.

We thank you for your support of this resolution,

Fiona Hinze

Director of Public Policy

[Independent Living Resource Center San Francisco](#)

825 Howard Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

Email: fiona@ilrcsf.org

Phone: [415-543-6222](tel:415-543-6222), ext. 1106

Please note that ILRC SF is a scent-free environment, and we ask that you refrain from wearing scented products when visiting our office.

<http://www.facebook.com/ILRCSE>

From: [Farrah, Michael \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: georgiaconnor@creativityexplored.org
Subject: FW: Honoring Judy Heumann
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 1:28:57 PM
Attachments: [CE Comment for Judy Heumann Hearing.docx](#)

Hello Erica :

Please add this statement to the Public Record for File 230269.

Mike Farrah
Legislative Aide to Supervisor Myrna Melgar

From: Georgia Connor <georgiaconnor@creativityexplored.org>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 1:19 PM
To: Farrah, Michael (BOS) <michael.farah@sfgov.org>
Subject: Honoring Judy Heumann

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Hello Mr. Farrah,

I would like to formally submit my organization's, Creativity Explored, statement honoring the life and work of Judy Heumann. I will be calling in today as well, but was hoping it wasn't too late to have it as part of the official record. Let me know if there is any more information I can provide. Thank you.

All the best,

--

Georgia Connor (she/her)
Community Development AmeriCorps VISTA Member



[Art in advertising, writing in art.](#)
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Hello all, my name is Georgia Connor and today I am representing Creativity Explored in San Francisco. Creativity Explored is a studio-based collective that partners with developmentally disabled artists to celebrate and nurture the creative potential in all of us. We are a non-profit day program that serves over 130 neurodiverse artists and is celebrating 40 years as a resource in the community where people can create, exhibit and sell their artwork. Founded in 1983 by Florence and Elias Katz, an artist and a psychologist, CE is part of a trio of Bay Area organizations started by the Katz, with Creative Growth serving Oakland and NIAD (Nurturing Independence through Artistic Development) serving Richmond.

Creativity Explored was created in response to the nationwide deinstitutionalization of disabled people and functions as a source of community empowerment and dignity. Judy Heumann's life-long dedication and radical efforts to advance inclusion in the US have had an extraordinary impact on the daily lives of Creativity Explored artists. Judy Heumann's centering of disabled activists speaks to Creativity Explored's culture of person-centered thinking and our dedication to constant and collaborative growth between the artists and staff who make up our vibrant organization. Following Ms. Heumann's lead in fully integrating those with disabilities into the community, Creativity Explored's artists have had the space to flourish as autonomous and respected disabled change-makers.

Creativity Explored offers its thanks and appreciation to Ms. Heumann and the work of countless San Franciscans who recognized the necessity to end the exclusion of peoples with disabilities from society. We hope to continue in carrying out Ms. Huemann and our shared core values in our community space and honor her revolutionary life's work.

From: [Rick Hodgkins](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: My public comment on Judy Heumann:
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 7:36:00 AM

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Good afternoon chair and members of the board of supervisors. My name is Rick Hodgkinns I am a member of the Bay Area Association of disabled sailors, and I am also a patient of the University of California San Francisco medical center. I have multiple disabilities including congenital blindness, and I am speaking in favor of, the item and honor and the legacy and memory of Judy Heumann! I am also speaking in favor of the plaque to be put up over in United Nations plaza! Please do the right thing? Thank you!
Rick Hodgkins

Sent from my iPhone



MYRNA MELGAR

DATE: May 10, 2023

TO: Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisor Myrna Melgar, Chair, Land Use and Transportation Committee

RE: Land Use and Transportation Committee
COMMITTEE REPORTS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "mm", located to the right of the "FROM:" line.

Pursuant to Board Rule 4.20, as Chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee, I have deemed the following matters are of an urgent nature and request them be considered by the full Board on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, as Committee Reports:

- 230297 Initiating Landmark Designation - Westwood Park Entrance Gates and Pillars**
Sponsor: Melgar
Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code of the Westwood Park Entrance Gates, located at the intersection of Miramar Avenue and Monterey Boulevard and the Westwood Park Entrance Pillars located at the intersection of Miramar Avenue and Ocean Avenue.
- 230269 Commemorative Street Plaque - Judith Heumann - United Nations Plaza**
Sponsors: Melgar; Safai
Resolution authorizing the placement of a commemorative plaque or statuary in United Nations Plaza in memory of Judith Heumann; directing the Department of Public Works to carry out the installation of the aforementioned plaque or statuary.
- 230212 Planning, Building, Fire Codes - Small Business Month Fee Waivers Including for Awning Installation**
Sponsor: Engardio
Ordinance amending the Planning, Building, and Fire Codes to codify the annual waiver of awning replacement fees and awning sign fees applied for during the month of May, to annually waive fees for new awning installations applied for during the month of May, and to indicate that the Planning Code, Building, and Fire Code waivers pertaining to pedestrian street lighting as well as awning replacement, awning installation, and awning sign fees are keyed to permit application in May rather than permit issuance in May; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; making findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1; and making findings of public necessity, convenience, and welfare pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302.

These matters will be heard in the Land Use and Transportation Committee at a Regular Meeting on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.