FILE NO. 260590

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Landmark Designation - William Shaughnessy Home]

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate the William Shaughnessy Home, located at 394 Fair Oaks Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 6511, Lot Nos. 042-044, on the west side of Fair Oaks Street between 25th Street and 24th Street, as a landmark consistent with the standards set forth in 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 William Shaughnessy Home, located at 394 Fair Oaks Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 6511, Lot Nos. 042-044. The ordinance finds that the William Shaughnessy Home is eligible for local designation as an intact and exemplary example of a Queen Anne home. The home was constructed circa 1894 in the Mission neighborhood by prolific contractor William Shaughnessy as his personal residence. Shaughnessy was known as the president of the California Mill Co., a position he resumed while living in the subject property. After his 1906 death, his wife and five children remained in the property but demolished the lot's carriage home for flats to improve family income. As a prominent corner property, the home displays exuberant Queen Anne features and retains a high degree of integrity.

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

Background Information

On May 20, 2026, after holding a public hearing on the proposed designation and having considered the specialized analyses reviewed by Planning Department staff and the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, the Historic Preservation Commission voted to recommend landmark designation of the William Shaughnessy Home to the Board of Supervisors.