FILE NO. 260583

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Landmark Designation - Mission Congregational Church]

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate the Mission Congregational Church, located at 3689 19th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3598, Lot No. 060, on the south side of 19th Street between Dolores Street and Guerrero 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 Mission Congregational Church, located at 3689 19th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3598, Lot No. 060. The ordinance finds that the Mission Congregational Church is eligible for local designation as an intact example of a Gothic Revival Church in San Francisco, and for its association with post-1906 earthquake and fire reconstruction of the Mission Neighborhood. Constructed in 1910, the brick-framed church was designed by architect Reverend Francis W. Reid. The church was built as the Mission Congregational Church, which was a consolidation of the Third Congregational Church organized in 1863 and the Olivet Congregational Church organized in 1884. In 1930, the church was purchased by the Ascension Lutheran Church. While the parcel was vacant prior to the Great 1906 Earthquake and Fires, it lies in an area heavily impacted by the Fires, known as the burn zone. Thus, the church is associated with the neighborhood's reconstruction following the disaster.

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 Mission Congregational Church to the Board of Supervisors.