FILE NO. 260754

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Landmark Designation - Engine Company No. 33]

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate Engine Company No. 33, located at 117 Broad Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 7113, Lot No. 041, on the south side of Broad Street between Capitol Avenue and Plymouth Avenue, 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: Engine Company No. 33, located at 117 Broad Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 7113, Lot No. 041. The ordinance finds that Engine Company No. 33 is eligible for local designation because it is significant as one of San Francisco's earliest extant firehouses, for its association with Ocean View's early history, and as an intact example of a Classical Revival firehouse. The property was constructed in 1896, as a firehouse to house Engine Company Number 33, and operated as such until 1974, after which it was sold by the City and County of San Francisco. The building is now residential and under private ownership. The building is located in the Ocean View neighborhood, which was considered an outlying neighborhood at the time of construction, as Ocean View did not develop as a residential neighborhood until after the Great 1906 Earthquake and Fire. The firehouse was designed by architect Charles R. Wilson in the Classical Revival style and retains high integrity. In 1896, Engine Company No. 33 was dispatched to assist with a fire in nearby Colma, which was the first San Francisco act of mutual aid to assist a neighboring fire

department. Engine Company No. 33 was the last horse drawn unit in the San Francisco Fire Department, not converting to using motorized apparatus until 1921.

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 June 17, 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 Engine Company No. 33 to the Board of Supervisors.