File No	170132	_Committee Item No	3
		Board Item No.	

# **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Board of Supervisors Meeting Date				
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Completed I		<b>Date</b> June 2, 2017 <b>Date</b>		

### RESOLUTION NO.

1	[Commemorative Street Plaques - Historical Markers - Top of Broadway Community Benefit District]
2	
3	Resolution authorizing the placement of thirteen street plaques commemorating
4	historical landmarks in the Top of Broadway Community Benefit District, at the
5	sidewalks located along the Broadway Street Corridor and Columbus Avenue, in
6	accordance with Public Works Code, Sections 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street
7	Plaque Ordinance; and accepting the named plaques as a gift to the City and County of
8	San Francisco.
9	
0	WHEREAS, Italian American Bank, located at 270 Columbus Ave, has been identified
1	as an established landmark financial institution; and
2	WHEREAS, In 1899, Andrea Sbarboro opened the second bank for the Italian
3	community with a cooperative structure similar to modern day credit unions; and
4	WHEREAS, Sbarbora was a member of the group of community leaders rebuilding Sar
5	Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire; and
6	WHEREAS, The North Beach location was opened on January 2, 1923, and the
7	original vaults remain in the building's basement; and
18	WHEREAS, The Italian American Bank was eventually absorbed by the Bank of
19	America; and
20	WHEREAS, 12 Adler located at 12 Saroyan Place (formerly Adler Street), is now
21	known as the legendary North Beach Dive Bar; and
22	WHEREAS, San Francisco's gay bars found their roots in the Barbary Coast; and
23	WHEREAS, In the 1950's, 12 Adler and the adjoining 529 Broadway were two lesbian
24	bars: and

Supervisor Peskin
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

25

WHEREAS, Tommy Vasu, the first known lesbian to legally own a bar in San Francisco, operated both establishments; and

WHEREAS, It closed in 1954 as a result of a citywide crackdown on gay bars; and WHEREAS, In 1968, the eclectic Spec's 12 Adler Museum Café opened, and became a favorite watering hole for strippers, longshoreman and artists; and

WHEREAS, Devil's Acre & Battle Row located at the area bounded by Kearny Street, Columbus Avenue, and Broadway Street was the home of the worst criminals in town; and WHEREAS, Saloons, gambling dens, brothels, and opium dens, the Devil's Acre was

the most notorious section on the Barbary Coast; and

WHEREAS, The word "hoodlum" originated here, referring to ruffians of the area; and WHEREAS, Battle Row was home of the infamous underground saloon, The Slaughterhouse, later renamed The Morgue after the owner smashed a bottle over the head of a drunkard; and

WHEREAS, In 1851 concerned citizens formed the first Vigilance Committee to clean up the area; and

WHEREAS, Terrific Street and the International Settlement located at Pacific Avenue between Kearny and Montgomery Streets was known as the birthplace of San Francisco jazz; and

WHEREAS, In the 1890s, musicians nicknamed Pacific Ave from Montgomery to Stockton "Terrific Street" because of the quality of music played in the bars and dance halls; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Bernhardt and Al Jolson performed at the Hippodrome, and Terrific Street was home to San Francisco's first jazz clubs; and

WHEREAS, In the 1930s it became an entertainment zone known as the International Settlement, and was popular until the late 1950s; and

1	WHEREAS, Comedians Whoopi Goldberg and Robin Williams also performed at the
2	Mabuhay Gardens, which closed in 1986; and
3	WHEREAS, The Jazz Workshop located at 473 Broadway Street, was the Center of
4	North Beach Jazz Scene; and
5	WHEREAS, Popular in the 1950s and 60s, The Jazz workshop featured jazz artists like
6	Charlie Mingus, Stan Getz, John Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie, and Miles Davis; and
7	WHEREAS, Between 1961 and 1964 several "Live at the Jazz Workshop" albums were
8	recorded here; and
9	WHEREAS, Comedian Lenny Bruce also performed at the Jazz Workshop, and in
10	1961 was arrested here on obscenity charges; and
11	WHEREAS, The Jazz Workshop closed in the late 60s; and
12	WHEREAS, Ristorante Fior d'Italia located at 492 Broadway, was known as "America's
13	Oldest Italian Restaurant"; and
14	WHEREAS, Opened May 1, 1886, originally to serve the clients of a Broadway
15	bordello; burned down in 1893, and its replacement was lost in the 1906 earthquake and fire;
16	and
17	WHEREAS, Legend has it they served food out of a tent for a year while a larger
18	location was being built that would serve 750 diners and 1500 meals a day; and
19	WHEREAS, "American's Oldest Italian Restaurant" eventually relocated to Washington
20	Square, where it was a North Beach mainstay for more than 50 years; and
21	WHEREAS, El Matador located at 492 Broadway, was "The Town's Favorite Nightcap"
22	Spot"; and
23	WHEREAS, San Francisco native Barnaby Conrad became a bullfighter in Spain,
24	where he was known as the "California Kid"; and
25	

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1	WHEREAS, He wrote the best seller "Matador", and used the royalties to open a bar
2	and restaurant in 1953; and
3	WHEREAS, It attracted local journalists, Hollywood starts, authors, and politicians; and
4	WHEREAS, Duke Ellington and Hoagy Carmichael performed at El Matador, which
5	Playboy magazine called "the town's favorite nightcap spot"; and
6	WHEREAS, Barnaby Conrad sold El Matador in the 1960s; and
7	WHEREAS, Peter Macchiarini Steps located the 1100 block of Kearny Street honoring
8	a San Francisco legend; and
9	WHEREAS, Bordering the infamous neighborhood of Sydney Town (bound by Kearny,
10	Sansome, Green and Broadway Streets), populated by former convicts from the penal
11	colonies of Australia; and
12	WHEREAS, In 2001, these steps were renamed in honor of Italian-American,
13	Modernist Jeweler, and Sculptor, Peter Macchiarini (1909-2001); and
14	WHEREAS, Macchiarini began making jewelry in 1936, and for more than 50 years
15	maintained an art studio and jewelry shop on Upper Grant Avenue in North Beach; and
16	WHEREAS, Finocchio's located at 506 Broadway Street was "America's Most Unusual
17	Nightclub"; and
18	WHEREAS, Opened in 1936, this cabaret featured female impersonators; and
19	WHEREAS, "Welcome to the world-famous Finocchio's, where the most beautiful
20	women onstage are men", was the club's well-known introduction; and
21	WHEREAS, "Impersonators" termed used by the Nightclub, had both gay and straight,
22	performed in elaborate drag shows; and
23	WHEREAS, Welcomed were interracial audiences during a time of segregation, and
24	sexual minorities before gay liberation; and
25	WHEREAS, Finocchio's closed in 1999 after 63 years; and

WHEREAS, The Old Broadway Jail located at 534 Broadway Street and Romolo Place (formerly Pinkney) is San Francisco's First County Jail in 1851; and

WHEREAS, The jail was damp and dark, with 60 cells that held approximately 200 prisoners; and

WHEREAS, Executions took place in the jail's enclosed yard; and

WHEREAS, By the start of the 20th century, the Broadway Jail had become severely dilapidated and escapes were common; and

WHEREAS, The building was seriously damaged in the 1906 earthquake and prisoners were transported to Alcatraz; and

WHEREAS, The Old Broadway Jail was destroyed by dynamite shortly thereafter; and WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors declares its intent to place the thirteen historical marker commemorative street plaques on the sidewalks alongside Broadway Street Corridor and Columbus Avenue in honor of the colorful history of Broadway Street since the 1800s and in remembrance of the iconic establishments that were once the celebrated figures of San Francisco entertainment industry way ahead of its time; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors accepts thirteen historical marker commemorative plaques in honor of the historical landmarks located along Broadway Street Corridor and Columbus Avenue as a gift to the City and County of San Francisco from the Top of Broadway Community Benefit District; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Public Works Code, Section 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance, authorizes the placement of the thirteen historical marker commemorative street plaques on the sidewalk at the named locations; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby urges the Arts Commission to approve the design and the placement of the thirteen historical marker commemorative plaques; and, be it

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Department of Public Works to add aforementioned plaques at the aforementioned locations on the City's official list of commemorative sites effective immediately from the date of passage of this Resolution.

#### BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco 94102-4689 Tel. No. 554-5184 Fax No. 554-5163 TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Tom DeCaigny, Director of Cultural Affairs, Arts Commission

Susan Pontious, Director of Public Art Program, Arts Commission

Mohammed Nuru, Director, Public Works

FROM:

Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE:

February 6, 2017

SUBJECT:

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Peskin on January 31, 2017:

File No. 170132

Resolution authorizing the placement of thirteen street plaques commemorating historical landmarks in the Top of Broadway Community Benefit District, at the sidewalks located along the Broadway Street Corridor and Columbus Avenue, in accordance with Public Works Code. Sections 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance; and accepting the named plagues as a gift to the City and County of San Francisco.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: alisa.somera@sfgov.org.

C: Rebekah Krell, Arts Commission Sharon Page Ritchie, Arts Commission Frank Lee, Public Works John Thomas, Public Works Lena Liu, Public Works

Print Form

For Clerk's Use Only:

## **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):  $\times$ 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Charter Amendment) 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee. П 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee. inquires" 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor 5. City Attorney request. 6. Call File No. from Committee. П 7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion). 8. Substitute Legislation File No. П 9. Reactivate File No. 10. Question(s) 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** ☐ Youth Commission ☐ Ethics Commission ☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative Form. Sponsor(s): Peskin Subject: [Historical Markers Commemorative Street Plaque – Top of Broadway Community Benefit District] The text is listed below or attached: Resolution authorizing the placement of thirteen street plaques commemorating historical landmarks in the Top of Broadway Community Benefit District, at the sidewalks located along Broadway Street Copridor and Columbus Ave, in accordance with Public Works Code, Sections 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance. accepting the named plaques as a gift to the City and County of San Francisco. Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

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