

1 [Rename James Alley to “Rose Pak’s Way 白蘭之道”]

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3 **Resolution changing the name of James Alley, an alleyway off of Jackson Street in**
4 **Chinatown, to “Rose Pak’s Way 白蘭之道” in recognition of Rose Pak’s contributions**
5 **to the City and County of San Francisco and the Chinatown community.**

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7 WHEREAS, Rose Pak was born in 1947 in China and grew up in Macau and Hong
8 Kong as a refugee after her father died in the civil war; and

9 WHEREAS, Rose Pak won a scholarship at the age of 17 to a women’s college in San
10 Francisco; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1972, after obtaining a Master of Arts degree in Journalism from the
12 Columbia School of Journalism in New York, Rose Pak became the first female Asian
13 American journalist for the San Francisco Chronicle, where she continued to challenge racial
14 and gender stereotypes and bias; and

15 WHEREAS, Rose Pak resigned from her eight-year career as a San Francisco
16 Chronicle staff journalist in 1979 to spearhead the campaign to save beloved Chinatown
17 institution, Chinese Hospital, after the State Board issued a Fire Code Notice of Violation to
18 Chinese Hospital, ordering significant upgrades to the hospital’s infrastructure or risk having
19 the hospital shut down completely; and

20 WHEREAS, Chinese Hospital has provided critical culturally competent medical
21 services to the larger Chinatown community since 1925, further expanding its successful
22 patient services model to the Excelsior neighborhood and Daly City; and

23 WHEREAS, The closure of Chinese Hospital would have had devastating impacts on
24 the large immigrant and Asian American population in the Bay Area; and

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1 WHEREAS, Rose Pak committed to saving Chinese Hospital and dedicated the greater
2 part of her adult life fundraising for Chinese Hospital's rebuild, acting as an emissary to
3 visiting dignitaries and would-be benefactors and evangelizing the importance of Chinese
4 Hospital's mission and contributions to the larger Asian American community; and

5 WHEREAS, Rose Pak became a Board Member of Chinese Hospital (and still serves
6 as the Chair of the Fundraising Committee) in order to lead the massive fundraising effort that
7 garnered \$160,000,000 to build a new Chinese Hospital building next to the old facilities on
8 Jackson Street; and

9 WHEREAS, Rose Pak became the General Consultant for the Chinese Chamber of
10 Commerce in 1984, and in this capacity emceed the annual San Francisco Chinese New Year
11 Fair and Parade with characteristic wit and spectacle, ensuring the Chinese New Year Parade
12 was named one of the top 10 parades by the International Festivals and Events Association;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Rose Pak has championed the role of Asian Americans in politics and
15 advocated for Asian Americans, immigrants and people of color to educate and organize for
16 equity and fair representation with respect to housing, contracting and budget policies; and

17 WHEREAS, Rose Pak has challenged traditional stereotypes and strongholds of
18 straight, white male power in the interest of social justice, even when those public positions
19 have been controversial or unpopular; and

20 WHEREAS, Rose Pak has chosen an intentional life of public service devoted to the
21 work of supporting her surrogate Chinatown family and public projects that serve the
22 community's health and general welfare; and

23 WHEREAS, The grand re-opening of the Chinese Hospital will take place at the end of
24 April, 2016; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
2 change the name of James Alley to "Rose Pak's Way 白蘭之道," in ceremonial recognition of
3 Rose Pak's valued contributions to the City of San Francisco, Chinatown, and the greater
4 Chinese and Asian American communities; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
6 Francisco, directs the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) to prepare an
7 independent street sign with the new name "Rose Pak's Way 白蘭之道" in large letters to be
8 affixed separately from the current James Alley sign; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
10 Francisco urges the SFMTA to expedite the installation of the approved new sign in time for
11 the grand re-opening of Chinese Hospital; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage of the "Street Vacation – James Alley –
13 Chinese Hospital Improvements (File #160153)" street vacation ordinance, the existing James
14 Alley sign will finally be removed; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the street renaming is commemorative in nature and not
16 subject to procedural hearings or noticing pursuant to Streets and Highway Code, Section
17 970.5, or San Francisco Transportation, Code Section 2.2; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Public Works is directed to add the
19 honorary street name to its official list of Commemorative Street Names in accordance with
20 Public Works Code, 789 et seq.

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