

File No. 190615

Committee Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

Board Item No. 31

# COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date: June 4, 2019

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- \_\_\_\_\_
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Prepared by: Lisa Lew

Date: May 31, 2019

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1 [Urging Naming the Central Subway's Chinatown Station the "Chinatown Rose Pak Station"]  
2

3 **Resolution urging San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to name the Central**  
4 **Subway's Chinatown Station the "Chinatown Rose Pak Station."**  
5

6 WHEREAS, Rose Pak has championed the role of Asian Americans in politics, and  
7 advocated for Asian Americans, immigrants, people of color and underserved communities to  
8 be able to organize for equity and fair representation with respect to public policies,  
9 government contracts, housing, healthcare and transportation; and

10 WHEREAS, Rose Pak was born in China in 1947 and grew up in Macau and Hong  
11 Kong as a refugee; and

12 WHEREAS, After obtaining a Master of Arts in Journalism from the Columbia School of  
13 Journalism, Rose Pak became the first female Asian American journalist for the San  
14 Francisco Chronicle, where she challenged racial and gender stereotypes and bias; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1979, Rose Pak resigned from her eight-year career at the San  
16 Francisco Chronicle to fully devote her life to community activism and spearhead campaigns  
17 for public projects serving the community's health and welfare; and

18 WHEREAS, Rose Pak dedicated many years advocating for the construction of the  
19 Central Subway and galvanized the Chinese community and a diverse coalition of  
20 neighborhood organizations to advocate for millions of dollars of funding from the Department  
21 of Transportation and local funding sources to improve connectivity between Chinatown and  
22 the rest of the city; and

23 WHEREAS, Chinatown is the densest neighborhood in San Francisco with over 10,000  
24 residents, serving as a significant economic and cultural hub for Asian Americans in northern  
25 California; and

1           WHEREAS, Rose Pak travelled to Washington D.C. to secure \$500 million of critical  
2 federal funding to push forward the planning and construction of the Central Subway; and

3           WHEREAS, The SFMTA has recognized influential San Francisco figures by naming  
4 Central Subway's two boring machines after two historic women, "Big Alma" de Bretteville  
5 Spreckels and Dr. Margaret "Mom" Chung; and

6           WHEREAS, The SFMTA acknowledges the importance of the Chinatown community  
7 who have been patient and engaged community partners throughout the design and  
8 construction phases of the project, even after repeated delays to the project's completion; and

9           WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors previously recognized the vital contribution to  
10 Chinatown of Rose Pak's leadership and advocacy in two separate resolutions, on file with the  
11 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 160334 and File No. 161045, respectively, first  
12 renaming an alleyway off Jackson Street in Chinatown to "Rose Pak's Way" and then later  
13 urging SFMTA Board of Directors to name the Central Subway's Chinatown Station in honor  
14 of Rose Pak's legacy and myriad contributions to the community; now, therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors strongly urges the SFMTA Board of  
16 Directors to name the Central Subway's Chinatown Station the "Chinatown Rose Pak Station"  
17 prior to June 30, 2019.

1 [Rename James Alley to "Rose Pak's Way 白蘭之道"]

2  
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.**

6  
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

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 emceeds 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

25

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.

1 [Urging the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's Board of Directors to Consider  
2 Naming the Central Subway's Chinatown Station the Central Subway's "Rose Pak Station"]

3 **Resolution urging the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board (SFMTA)**  
4 **of Directors to engage a community-led process to name Central Subway's Chinatown**  
5 **Station the Central Subway's "Rose Pak Station."**  
6

7 WHEREAS, Rose Pak dedicated over 40 years advocating for the construction and  
8 completion of the Central Subway to increase connectivity between Chinatown and the rest of  
9 the city; and

10 WHEREAS, Chinatown is the densest neighborhood in San Francisco with over 10,000  
11 residents and serves as a significant cultural and economic hub for the Bay Area's Asian  
12 community; and

13 WHEREAS, There is currently no direct connection between Chinatown and other rapid  
14 transit causing Muni buses to and from the neighborhood to be overcrowded; and

15 WHEREAS, The SFMTA deemed the Central Subway a priority to provide an efficient  
16 transit system that would link the southeastern part of San Francisco with Downtown and  
17 Chinatown; and

18 WHEREAS, The Central Subway aims to serve historically transit-dependent and low-  
19 income residents since 72% of households along the route do not own cars; and

20 WHEREAS, The Central Subway will offer efficient service to residents providing a  
21 direct link between the Bayshore and Mission Bay, South of Market, Financial District,  
22 Downtown, and Chinatown; and

23 WHEREAS, Rose Pak galvanized the Chinese community and a diverse coalition of  
24 neighborhood organizations to support the planning of the Central Subway;  
25

1           WHEREAS, Rose played an instrumental role in supporting the work to secure over  
2 \$500 million of federal funding for the Central Subway; and

3           WHEREAS, The SFMTA previously recognized influential San Franciscans by naming  
4 the Central Subway's Tunnel Boring Machines after two historic women, "Big Alma" de  
5 Bretteville Spreckels, and Dr. Margaret "Mom" Chung; and

6           WHEREAS, The SFMTA and the Central Subway project has been engaged with many  
7 community partners in the Chinatown community on the design, cultural elements, and  
8 infrastructure of the Chinatown station; and

9           WHEREAS, Central Subway project would not have been possible without the  
10 advocacy and support of Rose Pak; now, therefore, be it

11          RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the SFMTA Board of Directors to  
12 honor the legacy of Rose Pak and engage the Chinatown community to consider naming the  
13 Central Subway's Chinatown Station the Central Subway's "Rose Pak Station."  
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Print Form

# Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

RECEIVED  
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
 SAN FRANCISCO  
 2019 MAY 29 AM 11:50  
 Time stamp  
 BY or meeting date AK

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor [ ] inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. [ ] from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No. [ ]
- 9. Reactivate File No. [ ]
- 10. Topic 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 the Imperative Form.**

Sponsor(s):

Supervisor Aaron Peskin

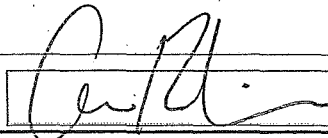
Subject:

Urging SFMTA to name the Central Subway's Chinatown Station the "Chinatown Rose Pak Station"

The text is listed:

Resolution urging San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) to name the Central Subway's Chinatown Station the "Chinatown Rose Pak Station."

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:



For Clerk's Use Only

