

1 [Street Name Change - Gilbert Street to Jeff Adachi Way]

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3 **Resolution renaming one block of Gilbert Street between Bryant and Brannan Street,**
4 **which runs parallel to Sixth and Seventh Streets and perpendicular to Bryant and**
5 **Brannan Streets, to “Jeff Adachi Way.”**

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7 WHEREAS, Gilbert Street is the name of the public right-of-way between Bryant and
8 Brannan Streets, and parallel to Sixth and Seventh Streets; and

9 WHEREAS, The building that houses the Office of the Public Defender, for the City and
10 County of San Francisco, was built on Seventh Street in 1987, and the back of building faces
11 Gilbert Street; and

12 WHEREAS, The Public Defender hired Jeff Adachi in 1987, as a Deputy Public
13 Defender assigned; and

14 WHEREAS, Beginning in 1987 until February 22, 2019, Jeff Adachi walked from the
15 Public Defender’s Office back entrance door, out to Gilbert Street to get to the criminal
16 courthouse located at 850 Bryant Street; and

17 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi used Gilbert Street as his thoroughfare to get to the criminal
18 courthouse but also as a place to chat with lawyers who were coming back from court that
19 day; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1999, because of his legendary reputation as an amazing trial lawyer,
21 Jeff Adachi became Chief Attorney of the Public Defender’s Office; and

22 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi became the elected Public Defender in January 2003 when he
23 took office; and

24 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi was elected Public Defender of San Francisco five times, often
25 running unopposed; and

1 WHEREAS, During his 16 year tenure as Public Defender, Jeff Adachi transformed the
2 Office of the Public Defender into the national model for public defender work; and

3 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi became the voice not only in San Francisco but across the
4 country, for racial justice on behalf of the criminally accused; and

5 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi, a true believer who spearheaded a rebirth of the fight for
6 racial and social equality, and built a nationwide army to carry the battle forward; and

7 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi led by example, trying and winning difficult cases for indigent
8 clients; and

9 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi inspired multiple generations of lawyers to follow his example,
10 to be fearless, to never waiver in the struggle for equal justice under the law; and

11 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi was a beloved warrior for justice in San Francisco and
12 throughout the country; and

13 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi loved the City and County of San Francisco; and

14 WHEREAS, Plaques in honor of Jeff Adachi are being placed in his hometown of
15 Sacramento and Tokyo; and

16 WHEREAS In the weeks after his death, memorials to him have not ceased; and

17 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi was more than just a Public Defender, he was a community
18 organizer that championed the fight to protect the vulnerable and marginalized; and

19 WHEREAS, Jeff Adachi had widespread support throughout San Francisco; and

20 WHEREAS, A candlelight vigil and march organized by the community just days after
21 his passing was attended by over 1200 people; and

22 WHEREAS, Mayor London Breed hosted a public memorial for Jeff Adachi at City Hall
23 and hundreds of community members and leaders attended to celebrate his life, now
24 therefore, be it

1 WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works, in full compliance, with its regulations on
2 street name changes, conducted its investigation on a street name change for Gilbert Street
3 between June 21, 2019 and July 26, 2019; results of such investigation are on file with the
4 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 190318, and are incorporated herein by
5 reference; and

6 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes that the Department of Public
7 Works, on behalf of the City, has taken all necessary actions to effect this name change,
8 including fully complying with regulations regarding street name changes under California
9 Streets and Highways Code, Section 970.5, which requires posted notice on the street for at
10 least 10 days prior to the Board of Supervisors hearing on this resolution, Public Works Code,
11 Section 423, California Government Code, Section 34091.1, and California Streets and
12 Highways Code, Sections 970.5 and 5026; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby changes one block of Gilbert Street
14 between Bryant and Brannan Street from Gilbert Street to Jeff Adachi Way to enshrine his
15 legacy, and to mark his permanent transformation of the fight for justice on behalf of
16 immigrants and the criminally accused; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors in accordance with
18 Transportation Code, Section 2.2, directs the Municipal Transportation Agency to prepare
19 street signs indicating both the new and former names of the street, with the new name “Jeff
20 Adachi Way in large letters, and the old name “Gilbert Street” in smaller letters above or
21 beneath the new name; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That both of the street names shall remain posted on street
23 signs for five years, and then the street signs shall be replaced with signs indicating only the
24 new street name, “Jeff Adachi Way;” and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That in adopting this legislation, the Board of Supervisors
2 does not intend to effectuate any change in City department jurisdictional control over the
3 subject portion of “Gilbert Street” to be known as “Jeff Adachi Way”; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
5 to promptly forward a copy of this Resolution to the County Surveyor in accordance with
6 California Streets and Highways ,Code Section 5026, and that the County Surveyor include
7 the new street name on the Official Map of the City.

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