

1 [Resolution of Intention - Street Name Change - Sonora Lane to Vicha Ratanapakdee
2 Way]

3 **Resolution declaring the intention of the Board of Supervisors to rename the**
4 **stairwell at Sonora Lane between O’Farrell Street and Terra Anza Avenue, which**
5 **runs parallel to Anza Vista and St. Joseph’s Avenues and is perpendicular to**
6 **O’Farrell Street and Terra Anza Avenue to “Vicha Ratanapakdee Way.”**

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8 WHEREAS, Sonora Lane is the name of the public right of way between
9 O’Farrell Street and Terra Anza Avenue, and runs parallel to Anza Vista and St.
10 Joseph’s Avenues, and is perpendicular to O’Farrell Street and Terra Anza Avenue; and

11 WHEREAS, Sonora Lane is in the Anza Vista neighborhood and near the home
12 of Mr. Vicha Ratanapakdee, an 84-year-old immigrant from Thailand, and where he
13 lived with his family; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Ratanapakdee was well known in his community for his hour-
15 long walks each morning, a ritual that kept him vibrant and healthy during the pandemic;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, On January 28, 2021, Mr. Ratanapakdee was violently shoved and
18 tragically died shortly after the attack; and

19 WHEREAS, Stop AAPI Hate, a California-based coalition, has recorded nearly
20 7,000 hate incidents involving Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders nationwide since
21 the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Ratanapakdee is survived by loving family members in both
23 California and Thailand; and

24 WHEREAS, Since his passing, Mr. Ratanapakdee’s daughter and her husband
25 have both worked incredibly hard to ensure survivors of these attacks and their families

1 are supported through city services, law enforcement and the justice system; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Ratanapakdee’s daughter has also since worked to amplify the
3 voices of Asian Americans and the Thai and Southeast Asian communities through her
4 participation in marches, rallies, and many #stopAAPIHate events; and

5 WHEREAS, Renaming Sonora Lane to “Vicha Ratanapakdee Way” would
6 commemorate and memorialize Mr. Ratanapakdee’s death as a symbol of a movement
7 towards equality, anti-discrimination, and solidarity with the Asian American and Pacific
8 Islander Community; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors intends to rename Sonora Lane, to
10 Vicha Ratanapakdee Way to honor his legacy and to make it clear that the City of San
11 Francisco stands with its Asian American Pacific Islander communities during this
12 extraordinarily difficult time; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs Public Works to
14 initiate the City’s street naming procedures, expeditiously process the required actions
15 related to street renaming, coordinate with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors’ Office
16 regarding posted and published notice for the street renaming, and report to the Board
17 on its findings so that the Board may officially rename the street.

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