FILE NO. 240348

RESOLUTION NO. 248-24

[Commemorative Plaques - San Francisco Little Italy Honor Walk]

Resolution authorizing the placement of commemorative plaques or statuary at two locations within the North Beach neighborhood, historically known as "Little Italy," at the sidewalk near the northwest corner of the intersection between Stockton Street and Union Street, and the southwest corner of the intersection between Stockton Street and Filbert Street, to celebrate prominent figures in the Italian American community; and directing the Department of Public Works to carry out the installation of the aforementioned plaques or statuary.

WHEREAS, California has always been a popular immigrant gateway for people seeking new opportunities and witnessed the greatest influx of people from across the world since the discovery of gold; and

WHEREAS, Due to its access to the Pacific Coast, the port of San Francisco, once known as Yerba Buena, became a prominent access point for those traveling by water into the United States; and

WHEREAS, Since the mid-19th century, San Francisco received an early influx of Italian immigrants from Italy, including Tuscany, Piedmont, Liguria, and Sicily; and

WHEREAS, These immigrants, spanning a diverse background from fishery and miners to entrepreneurs, bankers, and artists, sought a better life for themselves and their families on the Pacific West Coast of the United States; and

WHEREAS, By 1860, the largest number of Italian immigrants in the United States lived in California and by 1890 there were more Italian immigrants on the Pacific Coast than in New England; and

WHEREAS, The collective contributions and expansion of the Italian community gradually introduced Italian heritage and popular culture into mainstream society, including Italian Opera in 1851 and Italian Jesuit who founded the University of San Francisco in 1856, and has helped shaped the growth of the City of San Francisco, particularly with the establishment of the historic Italian neighborhood of North Beach; and

WHEREAS, By 1859, the Italian enclave in San Francisco and Northern California grew so large that it established its own Italian language newspaper, "La Voce del Popolo", and organized the first Columbus Day Parade to celebrate Italian pride on October 19, 1869; and

WHEREAS, On October 2, 2023, under the guidance of the General Consulate of Italy,
 a coalition of Italian and Italian American associations came together to establish the San
 Francisco Little Italy Honor Walk Project; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the organization is to "celebrate, remember, promote, and
enhance the Italian American community, its history, culture, and social development through
educational, recreational and charitable public programs and projects and to develop;" and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Little Italy Honor Walk will be a comprehensive and
immersive experience that combines the physical location of commemorative plaques with
exhibitions, conferences, and regular community conversation events for residents and
visitors to explore the historic neighborhood and learn about Italian heritage in San Francisco;
and

WHEREAS, The main path of the Honor Walk will begin at Washington Square Park
 and expand along Columbus Street from Joe DiMaggio Playground to Jackson Street; and
 WHEREAS, The Honor Walk will initiate the project with the installation of two plaques
 honoring George Moscone and Mariana Bertola, two Italian American prominent figures that
 had lasting impact in history of San Francisco and California; and

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WHEREAS, George Moscone was a son of Italian immigrants from Piedmont and Liguria, Italy, and grew up in the enclave of San Francisco's Marina District; and

WHEREAS, Moscone was an attorney and Democratic politician who became the 37th mayor of San Francisco and was widely known as "The People's Mayor", because of his embrace of diversity in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Moscone was the first mayor who advocated for the opening City Hall to member of the public and deliberately expanding the number of appointments of women, gay people, and racial minorities to city commissions and advisory boards; and

9 WHEREAS, Mariana Bertola was born in Pacheco, California, the daughter of Italian
 10 immigrant parents, Antonio Bertola and Atherine DeVoto Bertola; and

WHEREAS, Bertola graduated from Cooper Medical College at Stanford University in 1899 and was a prominent member of the American Medical Association and the San Francisco County Medical Society; and

WHEREAS, As a prominent obstetrician, Bertola believed in the importance of women and children's welfare and championed the "California Plan", which called for the establishment of a maternity and children's ward at every county hospital in California; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Public Works Code, Sections 789, et seq., the Commemorative Street Plaque Ordinance, authorizes the placement of plaques on the sidewalk near the northwest corner of the intersection between Stockton Street and Union Street, and the southwest corner of the intersection between Stockton Street and Filbert Street; and, be it

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

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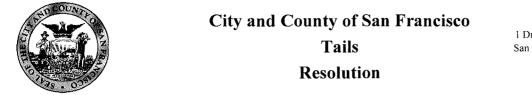
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1	FURTHER RESOLVED That the Board of Supervisors directs Public Works to add
2	aforementioned plaques at the aforementioned location to the City's official list of
3	commemorative sites effective immediately from the date of passage of this Resolution.
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	Supervisors Peskin: Stefani Mandelman Dorsey, Safai

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City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 240348

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Date Passed: April 30, 2024

Resolution authorizing the placement of commemorative plaques or statuary at two locations within the North Beach neighborhood, historically known as "Little Italy," at the sidewalk near the northwest corner of the intersection between Stockton Street and Union Street, and the southwest corner of the intersection between Stockton Street and Filbert Street, to celebrate prominent figures in the Italian American community; and directing the Department of Public Works to carry out the installation of the aforementioned plaques or statuary.

April 22, 2024 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

April 30, 2024 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 240348

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/30/2024 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

London N. Breed Mayor

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Date Approved