

1 [Street Name Change - Sonora Lane to Vicha Ratanapakdee Way]

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3 **Resolution changing the street name of Sonora Lane, between O'Farrell Street and**
4 **Terra Anza Avenue, in the Anza Vista neighborhood, to "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way."**

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6 WHEREAS, On October 19, 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No.
7 489-21, declaring the Board's intent to rename Sonora Lane, between O'Farrell Street and
8 Terra Anza Avenue, to "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way," and directing the Department of Public
9 Works to initiate the City's street naming procedures; and

10 WHEREAS, Sonora Lane is the existing name of the public right-of-way between
11 O'Farrell Street and Terra Anza Avenue, and runs parallel to Anza Vista and St. Joseph's
12 Avenues, and is perpendicular to O'Farrell Street and Terra Anza Avenue; and

13 WHEREAS, Sonora Lane is in the Anza Vista neighborhood and near what was the
14 home of Mr. Vicha Ratanapakdee, and which remains the home of his family; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Ratanapakdee was an 84-year-old immigrant from Thailand who was
16 well known in the Anza Vista neighborhood for his hour-long walks each morning, a ritual that
17 kept him vibrant and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

18 WHEREAS, On January 28, 2021, Mr. Ratanapakdee, while walking peacefully in the
19 neighborhood, was suddenly and violently shoved to the pavement by an assailant, resulting
20 in severe head injuries from which Mr. Ratanapakdee tragically died shortly after the attack;
21 and

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

1 WHEREAS, Since Mr. Ratanapakdee’s passing, his daughter has dedicated herself to
2 working to ensure survivors of these attacks and their families are supported through city
3 services, law enforcement, and the justice system; and

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

7 WHEREAS, Renaming Sonora Lane to “Vicha Ratanapakdee Lane” would
8 commemorate and memorialize Mr. Ratanapakdee’s death as a symbol of a movement
9 towards equality, anti-discrimination, and solidarity with the Asian American and Pacific
10 Islander Community, and as a reminder of the importance of peace among all peoples, in
11 accordance with Mr. Ratanapakdee’s deepest values; and

12 WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works conducted a review and investigation of
13 the proposed street name change as directed under Resolution No. 489-21, finding that the
14 proposed street name does not exist in the City’s current list of official street names, and
15 therefore does not warrant objection under Public Works Code, Section 423, and further
16 finding that, pursuant to the process for changing street names set forth in the “Establishing
17 Street Names” bulletin posted on the Department’s webpage, no City Agencies or fronting
18 property owners object to the proposed name change; and

19 WHEREAS, On January 20, 2022, the Department of Public Works notified the Clerk of
20 the Board of Supervisors that it had completed its investigation into the proposed renaming of
21 Sonora Lane, the only segment of which runs between Terra Vista Avenue and O’Farrell
22 Street, and the results of which investigation are on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No.
23 210885, the file for this Resolution; and

24 WHEREAS, In compliance with the requirement of California Streets and Highways
25 Code, Section 970.5, notice of a public hearing was posted at least 10 days prior to the

1 hearing on this Resolution before the Land Use and Transportation Committee, in at least
2 three public places along the street proposed to be affected by the renaming; now, therefore,
3 be it

4 RESOLVED, That pursuant to its authority under California Government Code, Section
5 34091.1 and California Streets and Highways Code, Sections 970.5 and 5026, the Board of
6 Supervisors hereby renames Sonora Lane, between Terra Vista Avenue and O'Farrell Street,
7 to "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way" to honor Mr. Ratanapakdee's legacy, and to make clear that
8 the City and County of San Francisco stands with its Asian American Pacific Islander
9 communities during this extraordinarily difficult time for those communities; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Municipal
11 Transportation Agency to erect street signs in accordance with Transportation Code, Section
12 2.2, which signs should indicate both the new and the former names of the street affected by
13 this Resolution—the new street name, "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way," in large letters and the
14 former name, "Sonora Lane," in smaller letters above or beneath the new name—and such
15 signs indicating the two street names shall remain posted for five years and then replaced
16 with signs indicating only the new street name "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way;" and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That in adopting this legislation, the Board of Supervisors
18 does not intend to effectuate any change in City department jurisdictional control over the
19 public right-of-way to be renamed as "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way;" and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
21 to promptly forward a copy of this Resolution to the County Surveyor in accordance with
22 California Streets and Highways Code, Section 5026, and that the County Surveyor include
23 the new street name on the Official Map of the City; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Department of
25 Public Works to add "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way" to the City's official list of street names.

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City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 220248

Date Passed: May 24, 2022

Resolution changing the street name of Sonora Lane, between O'Farrell Street and Terra Anza Avenue, in the Anza Vista neighborhood, to "Vicha Ratanapakdee Way."

May 23, 2022 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED AS COMMITTEE REPORT

May 24, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

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

File No. 220248

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/24/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Handwritten signature of Angela Calvillo
Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Handwritten signature of London N. Breed

London N. Breed
Mayor

6/3/22

Date Approved