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PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING

San Francisco Arts Commission

June 30, 2017

Edwin M. Lee  
MayorTom DeCaigny  
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City and County of San Francisco

Tim Frye  
Historic Preservation Officer  
Historic Preservation Commission  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Asian Art Museum Expansion and Renovation

Dear Mr. Frye:

I'm writing to express my support of the Asian Art Museum's new building and renovation project.

The San Francisco Arts Commission's mission is to champion the arts as essential to daily life by investing in a vibrant arts community, enlivening the urban environment and shaping innovative cultural policy. We believe art grounds a street, a corner, a place, and enhances both the environment and people's reactions to it. The expansion project's celebratory façade (architecture), the Community Art Wall (art) and the wayfinding signage (graphic design) at the Hyde Street intersection are all examples of high quality design that, in concert, contribute to the urban experience and will build upon the Asian Art Museum's presence in the Civic Center.

I hope the Historic Preservation Commission will support this expansion project as a quality addition to the Civic Center Historic District.

Very truly yours,

Tom DeCaigny  
Director of Cultural Affairs

TD/spr

cc: Jay Xu, Director and Chief Executive Officer, Asian Art Museum



## **APPENDIX J TO ARTICLE 10 - CIVIC CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT**

### **SEC. 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that the area known and described in this ordinance as the Civic Center Historic District contains a number of structures having a special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and value, and constitutes a distinct section of the City. The Board of Supervisors further finds that designation of said area as an Historic District will be in furtherance of and in conformance with the purposes of Article 10 of the City Planning Code and the standards set forth therein, and that preservation on an area basis rather than on the basis of individual structures alone is in order.

This ordinance is intended to further the general purpose of historic preservation legislation as set forth in Section 1001 of the City Planning Code, to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the public.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

### **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION.**

Pursuant to Section 1004 of the City Planning Code, Chapter II, Part II of the San Francisco Municipal Code, the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District is hereby designated as an Historic District, this designation having been duly approved by Resolution No. 13719 of the City Planning Commission and Resolution No. 454 of the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

### **SEC. 3. LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES.**

The location and boundaries of the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District generally bounded by Golden Gate Avenue to the north, Franklin Street to the west, Jones Street to the east and Market Street to the south shall be as designated on the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District Map, the original of which is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors under File No. 115-94-10, which Map is hereby incorporated herein as though fully set forth.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

### **SEC. 4. RELATION TO CITY PLANNING CODE AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO.**

(a) Article 10 of the City Planning Code is the basic law governing historic preservation in the City and County of San Francisco. This ordinance, being a specific application of Article 10, is both subject to and in addition to the provisions thereof.

(b) Except as may be specifically provided to the contrary in this ordinance, nothing in this ordinance shall supersede, impair or modify any City Planning Code provisions applicable to property in the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District, including but not limited to existing and future regulations controlling uses, height, bulk, lot coverage, floor area ratio, required open space, off-street parking and signs.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 5. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.**

The San Francisco Civic Center possesses a unique place and significance in the areas of architecture, history, and environment worthy of protection as an historic district.

The land on which the Civic Center stands was declared a City Hall Reservation as early as 1870. Portions of that reservation land were sold to raise funds for City Hall construction, and Old City Hall - located on the site that had first been used as the Yerba Buena Cemetery, approximately where the present library stands - was erected between 1871 and 1897, in a lengthy project marked by the now well known City government corruption of that time.

In 1899, B.J.S. Cahill, with the encouragement of Mayor Phelan, proposed a grander vision for the area, with the dual goal of clearing up land titles clouded by the dubious practices of the promoters of the Old City Hall and, at the same time, of creating an imposing setting for the entire area. This plan envisioned clearing out smaller structures and visually uniting the remaining monumental structures - Old City Hall, the Main Post Office, the Hibernia Bank building, and other larger structures - and setting them off against new open spaces (such as a planned extension of the Golden Gate Park panhandle to Market Street). Conflicting new developments were blocked for a time, but the plan eventually failed, in large part because of general distrust - bred of experience, perhaps - of large government projects.

Undaunted, former Mayor Phelan soon led the formation of an Association for the Improvement and Adornment of San Francisco. In 1904, the Association invited Daniel Burnham to design a grand plan for the City, with B.J.S. Cahill providing a design for the Civic Center. This produced two visions of the Civic Center: Cahill, with the practicality borne of personal and local experience, proposed using existing structures and City-owned land to create a central plaza, surrounded by major buildings, and, again, connected to a Golden Gate Park panhandle extension; Burnham proposed a grander Civic Center, with buildings connected by a generally circular series of boulevards and grand open vistas. The Burnham Plan, though politically impractical, fired the public imagination and was submitted to and adopted by the Board of Supervisors on September 27, 1905.

Following the 1906 earthquake, the public desire to rebuild and reclaim what had just been lost confirmed in practice what Cahill had perceived before: that political expediency set limits to the definition of the Civic Center. Competition continued between the different views of Burnham and Cahill of what the Civic Center might become, but by 1912 the Board of Supervisors had endorsed the Cahill Plan as modified in 1909. The momentum of growing civic pride and the Civic Center development effort - spearheaded by then-Mayor Rolph and the coming of the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition - was focused into the general outlines sketched by Cahill.



Mayor Rolph, a reform candidate, saw the Civic Center as a central civic improvement, the symbol of a new unity of the people under a new and honest political era and a permanent expression of the grandeur and vitality which the 1915 Exposition would exemplify on a temporary scale.

The World Columbian Exposition in Chicago, in 1893, was the source of inspiration for the "City Beautiful" movement which emphasizes formal plan and composition of monumental scale, neoclassical style buildings fronting plazas, boulevards and grand public gathering spaces. The order, harmony, cleanliness, and grandeur of the exhibition, called "The White City," was in sharp contrast to the rapid, chaotic growth that most U.S. cities had experienced in the preceding era of rapid immigration and industrialization.

Several world's fairs were held throughout the country in the later 1800's, spreading the ideals of classical architecture, Beaux Arts forms, and the concepts of planning and cooperation for ensemble effect in design. These planning and design schemes were an important influence for forty years, with their primary manifestation coming in designs for cities, parks, and civic centers. Numerous City plans were commissioned in the early years, but only Cleveland and San Francisco implemented a portion of their plans, with San Francisco more nearly reaching completion.

The historic significance of the "City Beautiful" movement lies in the manner in which it reformed and refocused architectural vision, contributing to something of a national style of architecture; and, on a practical level, in the formation of City Planning Departments and schools or courses devoted to City Planning.

The design of the San Francisco Civic Center is an example of the development of those significant contributions. More particularly, the San Francisco Civic Center is an expression of a nation ready to display its new international importance in an architectural statement. At the time it took form, geography and historical events had made San Francisco the center of western America. Monumental classical architecture for the City's central public space expressed this consciousness, as well as the accompanying belief that such inspiring surroundings should be democratically available to all, not just a privileged few.

The Exposition Auditorium, the Central Plaza, and the Powerhouse were completed before the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition, and the new City Hall was completed in late 1915. The library was completed in 1916; the State Building in 1921; and the Public Health Building in 1932 and the Old Federal Building in 1936. The present Opera House and Veterans Building expanded the Civic Center to the west in 1932 and 1933, respectively, much in the manner the original proponents envisioned. The original plaza was excavated in 1956 to add the underground parking garage. At this time the ground level details were changed into the present reflecting pool and semi-park. United Nations Plaza, which opens the vista to the east of City Hall in a manner consistent with the original vision of the Civic Center, was created in the mid-1970's.

It is an exemplary City Beautiful complex in the best of the American Academic Beaux Arts tradition. Designed and built in the revival of classical style, stemming from the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 that has been called the "American Renaissance," it succeeds in making a strong impression of Civic dignity and pride. The San Francisco Civic Center Historic District consists of a principal aggregation of monumental buildings around a central open space, with additional buildings extending the principal axis at either end. It includes all or part of the fifteen City blocks. There are eight major buildings, a group of secondary buildings, three unrealized building sites, and a large plaza within the Historic District.

Each building in the Civic Center was faced with the problem of providing modern, functional facilities in a classical idiom. The classical Beaux Arts style was deemed suitable as the traditional style of American governmental buildings, and was amenable to City Beautiful ideals of harmony among many buildings on a grand scale. The formal composition of "City Beautiful" architecture, plantings, street embellishments and plazas was meant to be an expression of civic authority and pride - intending to impress and overawe. The classical style aptly expressed the mood of a nation eager to redefine its newly achieved international importance in architectural terms. It reflected a mood and an existing state of affairs as much as an inspiration to dominance. In San Francisco, it represented the city's emergence as a regional center of national importance, and within the City, it symbolized the united efforts of a population recently divided along many lines.

In terms of "democratic" architecture, or architecture for an ever larger segment of the population, monumental classical architecture uncompromisingly demonstrated the enhanced concern for the general public. Only a few years earlier, such splendor was exclusively reserved for the rich and the privileged few. To this day, no greater public interiors have been built in the United States than those influenced by and representative of the City Beautiful Movement, including among the very finest, the San Francisco City Hall.

Within the scope of turn of the century classical architecture in the United States, the San Francisco Civic Center contains several fine examples of the mode and one superlative example in its City Hall. The other buildings in the group, although less interesting individually cannot properly be evaluated in the same way. In particular, the State Building, the Federal Building, the Health Building and the War Memorial group would probably appear rather dull compared to City Hall, as if they were missing an essential ingredient. But seen in the context of the Civic Center as a whole, and in relation to City Hall, all the buildings together achieve distinction.

The criteria on which the buildings are judged, then, must be the degree to which each enhances the group without distracting from City Hall. These qualities are achieved through a harmony of color, material, scale, size, texture, rhythm and style. Within these constrictions the buildings achieve individual interest through the imaginative manipulation of the elements.

The historic Civic Center buildings are unified in the Beaux Arts classical design. They are organized into horizontal bands of vertically proportioned elements, with the grand order of the facade displayed on two or three floors above a usually rusticated base of one or two ground and partially sub-ground floors. Civic Center Historic District contains standard features such as overall form, massing, scale, proportion, orientation, depth of face, fenestration and ornamentation, materials, color, texture, architectural detailing, facade line continuity, decorative and sculptural features, street furniture, granite curbing and grille work.

The Civic Center is designated as both a National Historic Landmark District and a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places, the former designation occurred on February 27, 1987, the latter, October 10, 1978. These designations offer recognition that certain properties within the Historic District are worthy of preservation and alterations undertaken both in the local and federal districts shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Said Standards were adopted by the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board at its Regular Meeting of October 2, 1985, the amended Standards were readopted by the Landmarks Board at its Regular Meetings of February 6, 1991 and August 3, 1994.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)



## **SEC. 6. FEATURES.**

The architectural features of said Historic District that should be preserved are set forth in this ordinance and described and depicted in the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board's Case Report "San Francisco Civic Center Historic District" including Appendix A: Survey of Parcels. Said Case Report was adopted by the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board at its Regular Meeting of October 6, 1993 by Resolution No. 454 and was adopted and amended by the City Planning Commission at its Regular Meeting of July 7, 1994 by Resolution No. 13719. The architectural features, formal plan composition and streetscape elements of said Historic District that should be preserved and strengthened are also identified in the Civic Center Plan, an Element of the City's Master Plan, and in the Civic Center Urban Design Guidelines adopted by the Planning Commission pursuant to that plan.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 7. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS.**

The procedures, requirements, controls and standards in Sections 1005 through 1006.8 of Article 10 of the City Planning Code shall apply to all applications for Certificates of Appropriateness in the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District.

In addition, the following provisions shall apply to all such applications. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the following provisions and Article 10, the procedures, requirements, controls and standards affording stricter protection to the Historic District shall prevail, except for the provisions of Section 8 of this designation ordinance.

A Certificate of Appropriateness shall be required for all major alterations, as set forth below, to Contributory or Contributory/Altered buildings sites, structures or objects within the Historic District. Within 10 days after the Central Permit Bureau refers any permit application to the Department, the Zoning Administrator and the Secretary to the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board shall determine in writing whether the proposed alteration is a major alteration or a minor alteration. The decision of the Zoning Administrator shall be final.

(a) An alteration is considered major if any of the following apply:

(1) The alteration will remove or cover an exterior architectural feature or a portion of an exceptionally significant interior as set forth in Section 10, or replace it with substitutes that are inappropriate in material, scale, color or architectural style. This provision shall apply to exceptionally significant interior public spaces designated in Section 10 of said ordinance; or

(2) The alteration would affect all or any substantial part of a structure's interior or exterior column or load-bearing wall, exterior walls or exterior ornamentation; or

(3) The alteration results in a substantial addition of height above the height of the structure; or

(4) The cumulative impacts of serial permits may be determined to be a major alteration. An alteration, in combination with other alterations authorized within the preceding five years, shall be deemed a major alteration if the cumulative impact of said alterations may be considered a major alteration as described above.

(b) An alteration is considered minor if the criteria set forth in Subsection (a) do not apply or the work consists of ordinary repair and maintenance.

(c) The Department of City Planning in consultation with the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board, may promulgate Rules and Regulations to distinguish major alterations from minor alterations for this Historic District consistent with this Section 7.

(d) Permit applications determined to be for minor alterations shall be returned, with that determination noted, to the Central Permit Bureau for further processing; provided, however, that the Zoning Administrator may take any other otherwise authorized action with respect to the application.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 8. APPEALS FROM THE LANDMARKS PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD AND CITY PLANNING COMMISSION DECISIONS ON CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS.**

(a) Certificate of Appropriateness decisions of the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board may be appealed to the City Planning Commission pursuant to the provisions of Planning Code Section 1006.8. Nothing in this ordinance shall supersede, impair or modify provisions of the City Charter or laws governing the State of California and the United States of America. All governmental bodies shall work cooperatively with the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board on proposed exterior and interior changes to ensure that the alteration of buildings within this Historic District comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, Revised 1990 (and subsequent revisions).

(b) This ordinance designating the Civic Center Historic District shall in no way diminish the powers, rights and duties vested in the Art Commission, the War Memorial Board of Trustees, the Library or the Asian Art Museum. It is the intent of the Board of Supervisors, however, to retain its authority, and the authority of the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and the Planning Commission, over historic preservation decisions in the Civic Center Historic District in order to ensure the appropriate treatment of the historical elements of this historic district.

(c) The entities referenced in Subsection 8(b) above shall consult with the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board on any proposed interior alterations to the publicly accessible spaces of their buildings, regardless of whether a Certificate of Appropriateness is required by this ordinance or by Article 10.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 9. STANDARDS FOR REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.**

(a) The standards for review of all applications for Certificates of Appropriateness are as set forth in Section 1006.7 of Article 10 and are as follows:

(b) For applications pertaining to sites, buildings, structures and objects in the Civic Center Historic District, any alteration, construction, relocation or demolition, shall comply with the standards contained in Section 1017(c), and shall (1) be compatible with respect to height, massing, fenestration, materials, color, texture, detail, style, scale and proportion, signage, landscaping and street furniture which may define the character of the historic district as



described in Section 5 of this designating ordinance and in the Civic Center Urban Design Guidelines adopted by the City Planning Commission; and (2) preserve, enhance or restore, and not damage or destroy, the exterior architectural appearance of the subject site, building, structure and object which is compatible with the character of the Historic District.

(1) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any exterior change to a site, building, structure and object which is not already compatible with the character of the Historic District shall bring the site, building, structure and object closer to compatibility. Where the required compatibility exists, the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness shall be approved.

(2) Except as provided in Planning Code Subsection 1017(d), no application for a demolition permit in a Historic District may be approved until a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement structure has been approved by the Landmarks Board.

(c) Alterations to Contributory and Contributory/Altered buildings shall be compatible with the architectural and historic character of this Historic District. New construction shall be compatible with the character of the Historic District as described in the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board San Francisco Civic Center Historic District Case Report and its Appendix A and with the Civic Center Urban Design Guidelines adopted by the City Planning Commission. Said Case Report was adopted by the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board at its Regular Meeting of October 6, 1993 by Resolution No. 454 and was adopted and amended by the City Planning Commission at its Regular Meeting of July 7, 1994 by Resolution No. 13719 and is contained in Board of Supervisors File No. 115-94-10.

(d) Treatment of Stone Surfaces. Numerous structures in the Historic District exhibit stone, terra cotta, or brick exterior surfacing. Proposed treatment of said masonry surfaces with any acid wash, sandblasting, high pressure wash or other abrasive methods is discouraged as such abrasive treatments can severely damage historic masonry surfaces.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 10. CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICABILITY FOR ALTERATIONS TO EXCEPTIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INTERIOR PUBLIC SPACES.**

Pursuant to Section 1004(c)(1) of the City Planning Code, proposed alterations to exceptionally significant interiors of the following publicly owned buildings shall require a Certificate of Appropriateness:

(a) San Francisco City Hall, 400 Van Ness Avenue (City Landmark No. 21 and a Contributory Building to the Historic District) shall comply with Sections 1006 and 1006.8(e) for any construction or alteration which requires a building permit for the following exceptionally significant interior public spaces which shall be designated and shall include: the Board of Supervisor's Chambers (Room C200); the Rotunda; and the Mayor's Office (Rooms D200, D205 and D209) including the Reception Room, inner corridors and offices and the Chief Administrator's Offices (C.A.O.'s) Offices (Room 289) which were previously designated under Ordinance No. 16-70, effective date, March 13, 1970.

(b) The Main Library, 200 Larkin Street, a Contributory Building to the Historic District. The following exceptionally significant interior public spaces shall be designated: the Monumental Grand Staircase (Room S101), the Main Entrance Hall and Vestibule, (Rooms 101 and 191); the

Monumental Public Corridors and Balcony Spaces including the Gottardo Piazzoni Murals in Public Corridor 290 (Rooms 190, 192, 193, 290 and 291A); and the Main Program Spaces (Rooms 200, 201, 202, 203, 210 and 218).

(c) The Public Health Department, 101 Grove Street, a Contributory Building to the Historic District. The following exceptionally significant interior public spaces shall be designated: the Main Entry and Elevator Lobby; the Marble Lined Corridors (All Floors) and the Third Floor Board Meeting Room/Auditorium.

(d) No other sites, buildings, structures and objects have exceptionally significant interior public spaces and would be subject to this Section.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 11. SIGNIFICANCE OF INDIVIDUAL BUILDINGS TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT.**

The history of each parcel within the Historic District is documented in Appendix A: Survey of Parcels, and is included in the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District Case Report as readopted by the Landmarks Board on October 6, 1993 by Resolution No. 454 and as amended and readopted by the City Planning Commission on July 7, 1994 by Resolution No. 13719 and is located in Board of Supervisors File No. 115-94-10.

Each building is assigned a finding from the three following categories:

1. **Contributory.** This category identifies buildings which date from the Historic District's period of significance (1906 to 1936) which reflect a Beaux Arts style and which retain their historic and architectural integrity. These structures are of the highest importance in maintaining the character of the Historic District. Recognizing the unique character of this Historic District which is derived from its expression of an historic plan, some structures within the Historic District may date from the Historic District's period of significance but do not contribute to the intended original plan in their architecture, detailing, height or scale. Such buildings are designated noncontributory and may be considered for replacement with structures designed in a monumental style and manner which would complete the San Francisco Civic Center Plan as originally conceived.

The following buildings are deemed Contributory to the Historic District: Newton Tharp Commercial High School, 170 Fell Street, Lot 1 within Assessor's Block 815; (a portion of Landmark No. 140), Federal Building, 50 Fulton Street, (50 United Nations Plaza) Lot 35 within Assessor's Block 351; Exposition Auditorium, 99 Grove Street, Assessor's Block 812; Department of Public Health, 101 Grove Street/50 Ivy/Lech Walesa Street, Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 811; San Francisco Public Library, 200 Larkin Street, Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 353; Orpheum Theater Building, 1182 - 92 Market Street, Lot 22 in Assessor's Block 351; 1212 Market Street, Lot 3 in Assessor's Block 355; 1240 - 1242 Market Street, Lot 6 in Assessor's Block 355; Hotel Avalon, 1272 - 1276 Market Street, Lot 9 in Assessor's Block 355; 1278 - 1298 Market Street, Lot 10 in Assessor's Block 355; Methodist Book Concern, 83 McAllister Street, Lot 32 in Assessor's Block 351; Old State Office Building, 50 McAllister Street, Lot 2 in Assessor's Block 765; Barbara Apartments, 580 McAllister Street, Lot 8 in Assessor's Block 767; 1 United Nations Plaza (35 - 57 Fulton Street); Lot 37 in Assessor's Block 351; the High School of Commerce, 135 Van Ness Avenue, (a portion of Landmark No. 140), Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 815; War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Avenue (a portion of Landmark No. 84),



Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 786; San Francisco City Hall, 400 Van Ness Avenue (Landmark No. 21), Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 787; War Memorial Veteran's Building, 401 Van Ness Avenue (a portion of Landmark No. 84), Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 786; and, the Corinthian Court Apartments, 500 - 524 Van Ness Avenue, Lot 6 in Assessor's Block 766.

2. **Contributory/Altered.** This category identifies buildings which date from the Historic District's period of significance and have had alterations as detailed on page 22 of the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District Case Report located in Board of Supervisors File No. 115-94-10. Appropriate restoration of such buildings is encouraged, though in certain situations (see No. 1 above) their demolition and replacement may be more appropriate in order to achieve completion of the original San Francisco Civic Center plan. Such replacement should adhere to any Civic Center Urban Design Guidelines adopted by the City Planning Commission.

The following buildings shall be deemed Contributory/Altered within the Historic District: Marye Building, 1200-1208 Market Street, Lot 15 in Assessor's Block 355; 1220-1232 Market Street (29 Grove Street), Lot 4 in Assessor's Block 355; 1236 Market Street (37 - 39 Grove Street), Lot 5 in Assessor's Block 355; the Wells Fargo Building, 1256 - 1264 Market Street, Lot 8 in Assessor's Block 355. The following site shall also be deemed Contributory/Altered within the Historic District: Civic Center Plaza, being all of Block 788.

3. **Noncontributory.** This category identifies buildings which post-date the Historic District's period of significance or have had their integrity compromised by inappropriate alterations as detailed on page 21 of the San Francisco Civic Center Historic District Case Report. Demolition permit applications for these buildings will be processed without reference to the suspension provisions of Article 10. Alterations to Noncontributory buildings will require Certificate of Appropriateness if determined to be a major alteration in order to minimize conflicts with the historic character of the Historic District. Replacement buildings should adhere to Civic Center Urban Design Guidelines adopted by the City Planning Commission.

The remaining buildings shall also be deemed to be Noncontributory within the Historic District: California State Courts Building, 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Lot 3 within Assessor's Block 765; vacant lot, 41 - 47 Grove Street, Lot 12 in Assessor's Block 355; vacant lot, southeast corner of Grove Street at Larkin Street, Lot 11 in Assessor's Block 355; vacant lot, 165 Grove Street, Lot 21 in Assessor's Block 811; Library Annex, 45 Hyde Street, Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 353; the New Main Library, 100 Larkin Street, Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 354; 1170 Market Street, Lot 51 in Assessor's Block 351; 1220 - 1232 Market Street (29 Grove Street), Lot 4 in Assessor's Block 355; 1236 Market Street (37 - 39 Grove Street), Lot 5 in Assessor's Block 355; 1244-1254 Market Street, Lot 7 in Assessor's Block 355; 77 - 79 McAllister Street, Lot 33 in Assessor's Block 351; 456 McAllister Street., Lot 4 in Assessor's Block 766; 460 McAllister Street, Lot 5 in Assessor's Block 766; vacant lot, 401 Polk Street, Lot 2 in Assessor's Block 766; 10 United Nations Plaza, Lot 50 in Assessor's Block 351; Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Avenue, Lot 1 in Assessor's Block 810; 234 Van Ness Avenue, Lot 18 in Assessor's Block 811; 240 Van Ness Avenue, Lot 19 in Assessor's Block 811 and the Edmund G. Brown State Office Building, 501 Van Ness Avenue, Assessor's Block 767.

The Board of Supervisors, through the adoption of this ordinance, shall deem 450 McAllister Street, Lot 3 in Assessor's Block 766, the Civic Center Powerhouse, 320 Larkin Street (298 McAllister Street) Lot 8 in Assessor's Block 347, the San Francisco Art Commission Gallery, 155 Grove Street, Lot 16 in Assessor's Block 811 and the Church of Christ Building, 171-195 Grove Street, Lot 20 in Assessor's Block 811 as Noncontributory buildings. Any replacement



building should adhere to Civic Center Urban Design Guidelines adopted by the City Planning Commission.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 12. CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR CITY HALL ALTERATIONS.**

Section 1006.8(e) of the City Planning Code describes the process for review of Certificate of Appropriateness applications proposing alterations to City Hall, Landmark No. 21. Nothing in this legislation shall be construed to amend said Section 1006.8(e). Said process shall serve to meet the Certificate of Appropriateness requirement for City Hall by its inclusion in this Historic District.

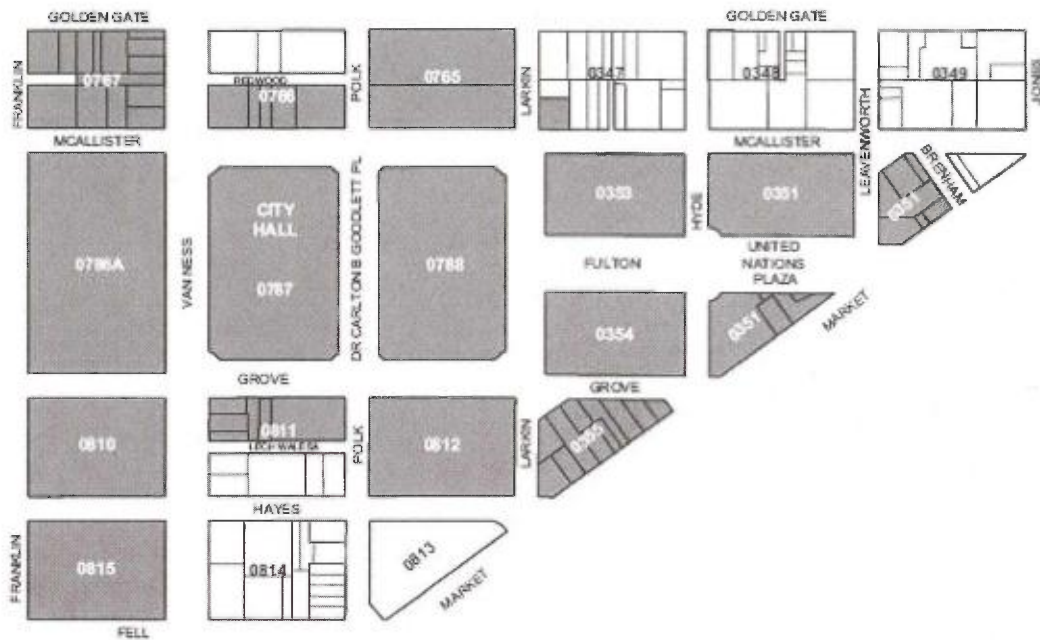
(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

## **SEC. 13. PAINT COLOR.**

Nothing in this legislation shall be construed to regulate paint colors within the Historic District. Painting of previously unpainted masonry and stone surfaces is discouraged.

(Added by Ord. 413-94, App. 12/23/94)

CIVIC CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 Feet







Received at HPC Hearing 7/19  
D. Smith.

53 Manor Drive  
San Francisco, CA 94127-2733  
July 13, 2017

San Francisco Planning Commission  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

Subject: Third Baptist Church – Landmark Designation Program

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

I am writing in support of the measure of identifying Third Baptist Church as a Historical Landmark via Article 10 Landmark Designation under the Landmark Designation Program as I am unable to attend the hearing on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Like many other African-American families, my parents came to California in the mid-thirties as a part of the mass movement from the south. Shortly after their arrival here, they united with Third Baptist. At the time, it was located at the corner of Hyde and Clay Streets.

During this era, my older brother and sister were born. The family continued its membership with the church and, in 1954, was part of the group that planned, packed, and moved to 1399 McAllister Street, a facility, as I understand it, was constructed in whole or in part by members of the congregation. I was born later than year.

Over the years, our family was a very active part of the life of Third Baptist participating in the choirs, usher boards, Sunday School, Baptist Training Union, children and youth activities, sports teams, etc. Because of various life changes, my siblings as adults moved on to other congregations. However, my mother and father continued their membership with the church until their respective deaths in 1988 and 1998. My husband, youngest son, and I remain as members to this day, and still participate in various facets of the church.

In writing this letter, I think of the many senior members (most now deceased) that I became acquainted with. Many of them came from the Hyde and Clay location and always had stories to share.

Another one of the treasured memories I have growing up in "Third" are the friendships I made and the lessons I was taught both spiritually as well as those that have aided me in my current profession and socially. Although we all now live in various cities, I remain in contact with a number of childhood friends and acquaintances because the village in which we participated created a bond for us.

"Third" has always been that "cross on the hill", recognizable to all who have come in contact with it. In its going on 63-year existence at its current location, the church has provided much to its membership and surrounding community, as well as throughout the nation and the world.

Over the years, we have been exposed to personalities such as Marian Anderson, Martin Luther King, Jr., Paul Robeson, and Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., just to name a few. In more recent years, individuals such as Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton, Willie Mays, and Cassie Russell have passed through our doors.

Education has been an important part of church life exposing youth to various institutions of higher learning, supporting the academic goals of many young people. My siblings and I were all recipients of the educational funds provided to young people. My youngest son was recently the recipient of a private scholarship as a result of his involvement in the church and has applications submitted for two others.

As you can see, many people have benefitted by the opportunities made available by Third Baptist and for this reason, I believe coming generations should know the contributions that the church has made by having it designated as a historical landmark.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Beverly A. Boone