[Initiating Landmark Designation - Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex]

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex, consisting of 110 Diamond Street (Church), 100 Diamond Street (Rectory), 115 Diamond Street (Convent), 117 Diamond Street (School); Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 002 (Church), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 001 (Rectory), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2694, Lot No. 033 (Convent), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2694, Lot No. 028 (School).

WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by Resolution initiate landmark designation; and

WHEREAS, Planning Code, Section 1004.2(b), requires the Historic Preservation Commission to respond to historic district or individual landmark designations initiated by the Board of Supervisors within 90 days, and authorizes the Board, by Resolution, to extend the time within which the Historic Preservation Commission is to render its decision; and

WHEREAS, The Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex is significant for its association with the growth of the Roman Catholic Church in San Francisco at the turn of the twentieth century, as an important social asset for the Eureka Valley immigrant communities in the early twentieth century, with the history of Roman Catholic relations with LGBTQ communities, and for its early and continued use as an AIDS hospice; and

WHEREAS, In November 1900, the Archdiocese of San Francisco established the Most Holy Redeemer parish, located at 110 Diamond Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 002, to serve the Irish, German, and Italian Catholic populations of Eureka Valley, now commonly known as the Castro, and by 1901 the parish had completed the subject Classical Revival church; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the church, in 1925 a convent and school were constructed on the opposite side of Diamond Street, at 115-117 Diamond Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2694, Lots No. 033 and 028, and in 1939 a rectory was constructed to the north of the church, at 100 Diamond Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 001; and

WHEREAS, The church long served as a hub for neighborhood social events, in addition to religious services; and

WHEREAS, While originally a conservative congregation, the church changed its stance on LGBTQ inclusion in the early 1980s in response to shifting neighborhood demographics; and

WHEREAS, The complex became an important local hub for the Castro's LGBTQ residents with community based programs and assets when Federal resources were lacking; including a shelter for homeless youth (1984), an AIDS support group (1984), an AIDS minister, and development of the AIDS hospice; and

WHEREAS, In 1987, the defunct convent of Most Holy Redeemer Church in the Castro became the Coming Home Hospice, reportedly the first AIDS hospice in the nation; and

WHEREAS, The property today has continued to house the Coming Home Hospice; and

WHEREAS, The 2017 Eureka Valley Historic Context Statement identifies the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex as an important center of religious and social life in the historically Catholic dominated Eureka Valley district for early immigrant groups including Irish, German and Italian populations; and

WHEREAS, In 2016 the San Francsico Historic Preservation Commission adopted the Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco which provided frameworks for identifying and evaluating sites for historical significance and integrity associated with San Francisco's diverse and robust LGBTQ histories; and

WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History was prepared by qualified historians in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; and

WHEREAS, Through applying the evaluative framework as outlined in the Citywide

Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History, the property can be considered as an

individually eligible historic resource based on its strong association with LGBTQ History; and

WHEREAS, The Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History identifies the Coming Home Hospice as a property which may be eligible for City Landmark status; and

WHEREAS, The Castro LGBTQ Cultural District's 2024 Cultural History, Housing and Economic Sustainability Strategies (CHHESS) report includes the strategy, "Ensure the Historic Preservation Commission and/or the Board of Supervisors prioritize further municipal landmarking and state and national nomination of Castro LGBTQIA+ historical sites..."; and

WHEREAS, The building exterior remains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex under Planning Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board requests that the Planning Department prepare a landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural interest and value of the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic Preservation Commission consider whether the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex warrants landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to Article 10 of the Planning Code.



City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

Resolution

File Number:

250846

Date Passed: October 21, 2025

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for the Most Holy Redeemer Church Complex, consisting of 110 Diamond Street (Church), 100 Diamond Street (Rectory), 115 Diamond Street (Convent), 117 Diamond Street (School); Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 002 (Church), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2693, Lot No. 001 (Rectory), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2694, Lot No. 033 (Convent), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 2694, Lot No. 028 (School).

October 06, 2025 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

October 21, 2025 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill and Walton

File No. 250846

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/21/2025 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Daniel Lurie Mayor

Date Approved