RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE DESIGNATING, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 13.48 OF TITLE 13 OF THE SAN JOSÉ MUNICIPAL CODE, THE FORMER BANK OF CALIFORNIA BUILDING LOCATED AT 170 PARK CENTER PLAZA AS A CITY LANDMARK OF SPECIAL HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, CULTURAL, AESTHETIC OR ENGINEERING INTEREST OR VALUE OF A HISTORIC NATURE

File No. HL20-001

WHEREAS, Chapter 13.48 of Title 13 of the San José Municipal Code provides for the designation of structures and/or sites of special historical, architectural, cultural, aesthetic or engineering interest or value of a historical nature as landmarks by the City Council of the City of San José; and

WHEREAS, said Chapter 13.48 of Title 13 provides that any historic property can be nominated for designation as a City Landmark by the City Council, the Historic Landmarks Commission, or by application of the owner or the authorized agent of the owner of the property for which designation is requested; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement initiated the procedure pursuant to said Chapter 13.48 of Title 13 for consideration of such landmark designation for the former Bank of California Building located at 170 Park Center Plaza; and

WHEREAS, said Chapter 13.48 of Title 13 provides that before this Council may designate any building as a landmark, it shall hold at least one public hearing on such proposed designation, and that before it holds said public hearing, the Director of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement shall set the public hearing of said proposed

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landmark designation to the Historic Landmarks Commission of the City of San José for its consideration at a public hearing and for its report and recommendation thereon; and

WHEREAS, within the time and in the manner provided by Chapter 13.48 of Title 13, the Historic Landmarks Commission did, on June 3, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. a public hearing on said landmark designation and recommend approval of the designation of the former Bank of California Building, located at 170 Park Center Plaza, described hereinafter in Section 1 of this Resolution, as a landmark of special historical, architectural, cultural, aesthetic or engineering interest or value of a historic nature and made certain findings with respect thereto; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the City of San José Historic Landmark Nomination Form No. HL20-001 upon which such recommendation was made is on file in the Planning Division of the City of San José and available for review; and

WHEREAS, within the time and in the manner provided by said Chapter 13.48 of Title 13, the Director of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement gave notice that on June 16, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as said matter could be heard, this Council would, in the City Hall of the City of San José, 200 East Santa Clara Street, San José, California, or at such other location or manner as specified in the hearing notice, hold a virtual public hearing on said landmark designation, at which hearing any and all persons interested in said proposed designation could participate and avail themselves of an opportunity to be heard an to present their views with respect to said proposed designation; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is all that real property located within the City of San José at 170 Park Center Plaza and described in <u>Exhibit "A,</u>" which exhibit is attached hereto and made a part hereof by this reference as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, at the aforesaid time and place set for hearing, or to which the hearing was continued, this Council duly met, convened, and gave all persons full opportunity to be heard and present their views with respect to said proposed landmark designation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSÉ AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 13.48 of Title 13 of the San José Municipal Code, the Historic Preservation Ordinance, this Council does hereby designate the hereinafter described former Bank of California Building, located at 170 Park Center Plaza as a landmark of special historic, architectural, cultural, aesthetic or engineering interest or value of a historic nature.

SECTION 2. Said designation is based on the following criteria of the Historic

Preservation Ordinance:

Criterion 1. Its character, interest or value as part of the local, regional, state or national history, heritage or culture;

The building was once a key anchor to the Park Center Plaza financial center as a part of the City's first urban renewal project and was successful attracting major banking institutions to San José. The brutalist design is characteristic of the design direction for the Plaza where many of the bank buildings were designed in abstract forms. As a pivotal urban renewal project associated with the revitalization of Downtown San José during the post-war period of industrialization and suburbanization, the original portions of City View Plaza remain today as a key and exceptional representative of an important local pattern of community redevelopment.

Criterion 4. Its exemplification of the cultural, economic, social, or historic heritage of the city of San José;

City View Plaza, known originally and until recently as Park Center Plaza, was San José's first major redevelopment project when conceived in the late 1950s and initiated between 1966 and 1968 by San José Center Corp under the authority of the Redevelopment Agency of the City of San José. One of the six remaining Park Center Plaza buildings and structures designed by Gruen Associates in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Bank of California building can be found to contribute to

the period of significance, design, and use identified with the development of this financial center in Downtown San José. It exemplifies an important period in the city's economic history as a representation of planned redevelopment and of corporate design development and brutalist architecture.

Criterion 6. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.

The property has associations with César Pelli and Gruen Associates and is important for its excellence in architectural design, detail, materials, and craftsmanship. The Bank of California building has a distinctive brutalist architectural style and is set apart from the other contributing buildings by more recent infill construction, by its lower landscaped setting, and by its more sculptural design, but it shares the period of significance, the financial associations, an architect, and its excellence in materials and detailing.

Criterion 7. Its identification as the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city of San José; and

The exceptional Bank of California building was designed by internationally renowned architect César Pelli while at Gruen Associates, whose work has influenced the development of the City of San José as the master designers of Park Center Plaza.

Criterion 8. Its embodiment of elements of architectural or engineering design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represents a significant architectural innovation, or which is unique.

The building is described as monumental in scale, but small in size. It has recognizable and distinctive forms. It makes a statement in its nearly all concrete shapes with a stature. It is described as an architectural innovation and has a unique eye-catching entry. Its chiseled shapes in various linear, angled, and blocky forms were masterfully arranged.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> The City Clerk is hereby directed to notify those persons designated in San José Municipal Code Section 13.48.110, Subsection L, in the manner specified by said Section and to direct the recordation of a Notice of Granting of this resolution in the Office of the Recorder of the County of Santa Clara.

PASSED FOR PUBLICATION of title this ____ day of _____, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

SAM LICCARDO Mayor

ATTEST:

TONI TABER, CMC City Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"

LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR FORMER BANK OF CALIFORNIA BUILDING 170 PARK CENTER PLAZA HL20-001

All of Parcel 3 as shown on that certain Parcel Map filed for record on October 28th, 1983 in Book 520 of Maps at Pages 39-42, Santa Clara County Records.

PARCEL MAP

	(4 sheets)		
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