

SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. 240806-095

WHEREAS, Charter Section 8A.102 (b) (1) states that “[t]he Agency shall have exclusive authority over the acquisition, construction, management, supervision, maintenance, extension, operation, use and control of all property, as well as the real, personal and financial assets of the Agency; and,

WHEREAS, The “Naming Policy for SFMTA Assets” states the following regarding rolling stock, physical facilities, and other assets:

Consideration may be given to name such facilities after individuals or a group of individuals who have made an extraordinary contribution to local public transportation or based on their achievements either at a local, state, or national level or because they have broadly recognized social, historical, cultural or political significance; and,

WHEREAS, The SFMTA finds that this dedication is consistent with the Naming Policy and wishes to dedicate Cable Car #53 to the legacy of Tony Bennett, who passed away on July 21, 2023 at the age of 96; and,

WHEREAS, Tony Bennett’s “I Left My Heart in San Francisco” has not only immortalized the city’s charm, but also captured the hearts of people worldwide; and,

WHEREAS, The song’s timeless lyrics and melody have been synonymous with the essence of San Francisco where cable cars climb “halfway to the stars” making it a fitting tribute to dedicate a cable car to Tony Bennett; and,

WHEREAS, San Francisco’s cable cars have been a mode of transportation for just over 150 years, a cultural icon that represents the city’s rich history and unique character, and the city honors two icons by dedicating a car to Tony Bennett for his iconic song; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett passed away on July 31, 2023 at the age of 96; and,

WHEREAS, On the morning of February 14, 2024, SFMTA leaders joined Tony Bennett’s widow Susan Benedetto, Mayor London Breed, Market Street Railway, and others for the ceremonial dedication of Cable Car No. 53 at the Fairmont Hotel where Tony Bennett first performed his famous song in 1961; and,

WHEREAS, Cable Car #53 has been transformed with new tributes to Tony Bennett thanks to the craft and skill by our SFMTA staff who took this moment to heart and sprang into action to put the vehicle into service and carry the spirit of Tony Bennett; and,

WHEREAS, On April 23, 2024, the SFMTA determined that the Dedication of Cable Car No.53 to Tony Bennett is not a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15060(c) and 15378(b) because the action would not result in direct or a reasonable foreseeable indirect physical change to the environment; and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors and is incorporated herein by reference; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors confirms the dedication of Cable Car #53 to the legacy of Tony Bennett who was ambassador for San Francisco and cable cars with his song, “I Left My Heart in San Francisco.”

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of August 6, 2024.



Secretary to the Board of Directors
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency