

1 RESOLUTION NO. 001-04-UFC  
2 [Urban Forestry Ordinance Revisions]

3  
4 **Resolution urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to direct the Department of**  
5 **Environment and Urban Forest Council to draft and submit appropriate legislative**  
6 **amendments to strengthen the City's Landmark Tree Program.**

7  
8 WHEREAS, trees beautify, add natural character, and provide a connection with nature  
9 in the midst of an urban setting; and,

10 WHEREAS, trees provide educational opportunities for adults and children to learn  
11  
12 about nature; and,

13 WHEREAS, trees reduce stormwater runoff, replenish groundwater, aid in energy  
14 conservation, improve air quality, increase property values and provide wildlife habitat; and

15 WHEREAS, older, more mature trees provide the above mentioned benefits  
16 more effectively than younger, newly planted trees; and,

17 WHEREAS, older, mature trees with historic, economic, visual or cultural significance  
18 to a municipality can be designated as "landmark" trees; which is not to say that younger trees  
19 are insignificant or may not someday themselves be designated as a landmark tree; and

20 WHEREAS, landmark trees contribute to local heritage; and,

21 WHEREAS, landmark trees are often older trees or trees of exceptional  
22 adaptability; and,

23 WHEREAS, landmark trees have a special significance to the community; and,

24 WHEREAS, landmark trees have an especially prominent and beautiful visual impact;  
25 and,

1 WHEREAS, several trees in San Francisco have been designated as "significant" and  
2 should be addressed as a part of any landmark tree program; and,

3 WHEREAS, the most effective landmark tree ordinances establish comprehensive and  
4 enforceable guidelines for protecting all mature trees that do not present public hazards; and,

5 WHEREAS, landmark tree ordinances in other cities, such as in Palo Alto, Fremont,  
6 Davis and Pasadena have had success in preserving mature trees; and,

7 WHEREAS, San Francisco's current tree ordinance acknowledges landmark trees  
8 (Article 16, section 810); and,

9 WHEREAS, San Francisco's existing landmark tree ordinance can be strengthened  
10 through a more comprehensive designation process, increased community awareness, and  
11 enforcement,

12 Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the Urban Forest Council encourages the  
13 Board of Supervisors to recognize the importance of trees, especially mature trees, in an  
14 urban environment; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Urban Forest Council recommends that the Board of  
16 Supervisors direct the Department of Environment and Urban Forest Council to propose  
17 amendments to the Landmark Tree Preservation Ordinance for consideration by San  
18 Francisco's Mayor and Board of Supervisors. The Department of the Environment and the  
19 Urban Forest Council shall consult with the Department of Public Works, other City  
20 departments and the public in drafting these amendments.

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22 *I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Urban Forest Council at its regular  
meeting on April 14, 2004*

23   
24 *AH for Emily Rogers*

25 Emily D. Rogers  
Commission Secretary

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*VOTE: APPROVED*

*Ayes:* Carolyn Blair, Jose Campos, Juan Carrasco, Bonnie Fisher, Steve Griswold, Jane Herman, Terry Milne, An Marie Rodgers, Michael J. Sullivan and Francesca Vietor

*Noes:* NONE

*Absent:* Kelly Cornell, Dr. Larry Costello, Dhaya Lakshminarayanan, Milton Marks III, and Paul Sacamano

