Resolution adding the commemorative street name “Vicki Mar Lane” to the 100 Block of Turk Street in recognition of transgender performer and activist Vicki Marlane and her lasting legacy in the Tenderloin and throughout San Francisco.

WHEREAS, Vicki Marlane began her illustrious 50 year stage performance career as a carnival performer, culminating with a portrayal of her sensational role as The Girl with the Liquid Spine in the documentary “Forever’s Going To Start Tonight”; and
WHEREAS, Vicki Marlane pioneered transgender inclusion and is widely considered to have built unity within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community in San Francisco at a time when drag queens were not even allowed into San Francisco gay bars; and
WHEREAS, Vicki Marlane fearlessly modeled transgender and transsexual empowerment and provided mentorship to up-and-coming female impersonators during the 1960’s, at a time when the Compton’s Cafeteria riot exposed police brutality and persecution of the transgender community; and
WHEREAS, Vicki Marlane became an iconic signature act at Aunt Charlie’s Lounge on the 100 block of Turk Street, where she began staging her drag revue “Girls Just Wanna Have Fun” in 1998; and
WHEREAS, The long-running drag revue evolved into a cornerstone of Aunt Charlie’s Lounge’s Friday and Saturday programming as “The Hot Boxxx Girls”; and
WHEREAS, Vicki Marlane was designated Grand Marshal of the 2003 San Francisco Pride Parade and used the experience as a platform to speak about the transphobia she experienced in her first Pride Parade in the early 1960’s; and
WHEREAS, Vicki Marlane was awarded the San Francisco Bay Guardian’s “Best Drag Queen” in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Marlane’s death from AIDS-related health complications on July 5th, 2011 at the age of 76 left a huge void in the Tenderloin and transgender community that struggled and celebrated with her for almost six decades; and

WHEREAS, The Vicki Marlane Memorial Campaign has done extensive community outreach in the Tenderloin and throughout San Francisco, including launching a petition campaign to rename the 100 block of Turk Street “Vicki Mar Lane” that has elicited thousands of responses; and

WHEREAS, Designating the 100 block of Turk Street will be the first time in San Francisco history that a street is named after a transgender activist; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, There shall be an honorary naming of “Vicki Mar Lane” in recognition of Vicki Marlane’s valued contributions to the City of San Francisco and the community of the Tenderloin; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the Municipal Transportation Agency to erect street signs indicating both the honorary and the existing names of the street, either on a single sign or on separate signs, with the honorary name “Vicki Mar Lane” in smaller letters, and the existing name “Turk Street” in larger letters above or beneath the honorary name; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Public Works is directed to add the honorary street name to its official list of Commemorative Street Names in accordance with Public Works Code 789 et seq.
Resolution adding the commemorative street name "Vicki Mar Lane" to the 100 Block of Turk Street in recognition of transgender performer and activist Vicki Marlane and her lasting legacy in the Tenderloin and throughout San Francisco.

April 14, 2014 Land Use and Economic Development Committee - RECOMMENDED.

April 22, 2014 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/22/2014 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board