FILE NO. 261110 RESOLUTION NO. **590-26**

[Centennial Anniversary - Dahlia, Official Flower of the City and County of San Francisco]

Resolution commemorating the 100th anniversary of the dahlia as the official flower of the City and County of San Francisco; and honoring the San Francisco Flower Market and the Dahlia Society of California.

WHEREAS, On October 4, 1926, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco unanimously adopted a resolution designating the dahlia as the official flower of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The 1926 resolution described the dahlia as "the very symbol of San Francisco life and of the spirit of her people," and recognized its versatility, its beauty, and its infinite variety of color and form; and

WHEREAS, The dahlia is native to the mountainous regions of Mexico and Guatemala where it was valued by indigenous communities and was carried to Europe, where it was transformed from a simple wildflower into a cosmopolitan beauty, a journey that mirrors San Francisco's own history as a city shaped by immigrants from around the world; and

WHEREAS, The dahlia thrives in San Francisco's cool summers and moist coastal air, and dahlias have been grown in Golden Gate Park and in gardens throughout the City for well over a century; and

WHEREAS, In the early 20th century, commercial dahlia growers operated in the western neighborhoods of San Francisco, then largely open dunes, and San Francisco gardeners earned an international reputation for developing and cultivating exceptional dahlia varieties; and

WHEREAS, The Dahlia Society of California, founded in San Francisco in 1917, is a chapter of the American Dahlia Society and has promoted the cultivation and appreciation of the dahlia for more than a century; and

WHEREAS, The Dahlia Society of California has hosted its annual Dahlia Show, free and open to the public, since 1917, interrupted only by wartime and pandemic years, and the show now welcomes thousands of visitors each year to the San Francisco County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park; and

WHEREAS, Volunteers of the Dahlia Society of California, in partnership with the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, plant and maintain the Dahlia Dell east of the Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park, where hundreds of named varieties are grown each season for the enjoyment of residents and visitors at no cost; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Flower Market was established in 1912, and grew via the hard work of immigrant flower growers bringing their crops into San Francisco to sell to local florists; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Flower Market's story is rooted in the immigrant experience, with Japanese American growers being central to that history, alongside Italian and Chinese growers who helped build Northern California's flower trade; and

WHEREAS, Following years of negotiations, planning and community preparation, the San Francisco Flower Market (SFFM) opened the doors to its new home in Potrero Hill on January 2, 2025, and operating as a non-profit social enterprise dedicated to education and the preservation of the agricultural cultivation of flowers and the time-honored art of floral design; and

WHEREAS, In 2026, the SFFM received the Society of American Florists' Century Award, recognizing more than 100 years of service to the floral industry; and

WHEREAS, Head of the Flower Market Tenants Association and Bay Area grower, Louie Figone, began growing Dahlias in 1997, in Half Moon Bay, south of San Francisco, and his nursery's story is another example of a flower business adapting its production and finding a versatile and resilient crop that could carry the family legacy forward; and

WHEREAS, The SFFM is a regional wholesale hub that provides thousands of jobs throughout the Bay Area, from trained truck drivers to floral artists and designers, as flowers from growers like Figone move through the Flower Market into the hands of mom-and-pop flower stands, florists, event producers, artists and designers; now, therefore; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby recognizes and celebrates the 100th anniversary of the designation of the dahlia as the official flower of San Francisco; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors honors the Dahlia Society of California and its volunteers for more than a century of service in cultivating, preserving, and sharing the City's official flower; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors recognizes the Dahlia Dell in Golden Gate Park as a living civic landmark and thanks the Recreation and Park Department and its staff for their partnership in its care; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors encourages all San Franciscans to visit the San Francisco Flower Market on Potrero Hill and the Dahlia Dell in Golden Gate Park, and to take part in the Dahlia Society's events as the City marks this centennial milestone; and, be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors is committed to supporting the long-term viability of the San Francisco Flower Market in its new location on Potrero Hill and sustaining all of the thousands of jobs that it creates.

City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
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File Number: 261110 **Date Passed:** October 20, 2026

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October 20, 2026 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Chan, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Sauter, Sherrill, Walton and Wong
Excused: 2 - Chen and Melgar

File No. 261110

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 10/20/2026 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Daniel Lurie
Mayor

10/30/2026

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

10/30/2026

Date