

1 [Ezra Rapport Day - October 18, 2016]

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3 **Resolution declaring October 18, 2016, as Ezra Rapport Day in the City and County of**
4 **San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Ezra Rapport is retiring from the Association of Bay Area Governments
7 (ABAG) after eight years of service; first as Deputy Director and then as Executive Director
8 starting in 2010; his 30 plus years of experience with local and California state government,
9 and the City of New Orleans demonstrates his outstanding commitment to public service at all
10 levels of government; and

11 WHEREAS, In his role as ABAG's Executive Director, Ezra Rapport has been a
12 visionary leader in the evolution of ABAG's planning efforts to encompass post disaster
13 recovery and resilience, climate change adaptation, and the region's first sustainable
14 communities strategy; and

15 WHEREAS, As a source of innovation and energy during the challenging times, he led
16 many tasks at ABAG, including developing a solid regional planning framework for the Bay
17 Area's future growth in housing, jobs, and population; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Rapport oversaw teams working on energy efficiency, clean water
19 supply, disaster resilience, risk management, local finance, trail management, open space,
20 economic development, infrastructure expansion, and many other important regional issues;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Ezra Rapport was instrumental in guiding ABAG as the region's Council of
23 Governments through the adoption of the first Plan Bay Area in 2013 and has advanced
24 collaboration among the Bay Area's counties, cities and towns, and regional stakeholders.
25 Throughout the 2013 process and again during the revision process which is leading to the

1 adoption of Plan Bay Area 2040, Ezra Rapport has championed the role of San Francisco in
2 leading the region in creating jobs and housing near transit to assist in lowering greenhouse
3 gas (GHG) emissions; and

4 WHEREAS, At ABAG, Ezra Rapport’s extensive experience with disaster recovery and
5 preparedness, led to additional regional efforts by the ABAG Resilience Program and
6 specifically, more coordination with the City and County of San Francisco; and

7 WHEREAS, Prior to ABAG, Ezra served as the Chief Operating and Development
8 Officer for the City of New Orleans and led recovery operations after Hurricane Katrina and
9 subsequent flooding; and

10 WHEREAS, As Assistant to the City Attorney and Deputy City Manager for the City of
11 Oakland, Ezra Rapport was directly involved in the recovery efforts in 1989 after the Loma
12 Prieta Earthquake and the Oakland-Berkeley Hills firestorm in 1991; and

13 WHEREAS, As principal consultant for the California Senate Select Committee on Bay
14 Area Transportation and as a policy consultant for a five-agency working group examining a
15 Regional Rail Master Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area; Ezra Rapport provided leadership
16 in securing the passage of a regional funding measure for transportation (Regional Measure
17 2); and

18 WHEREAS, This resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in funding over the years for
19 transit infrastructure in San Francisco; i.e., the Transbay Terminal among other projects,
20 which would not have occurred, had the Measure not passed; and

21 WHEREAS, Whenever a new ABAG Executive Board member was appointed by San
22 Francisco’s Mayor or Board of Supervisors, Ezra Rapport would provide the newest San
23 Francisco Executive Board member with an extensive briefing on the work of ABAG, the
24 region’s Council of Governments, and how the various programs ABAG offered could benefit
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1 San Francisco's residents, major employers, small businesses, and various stakeholders;
2 and,

3 WHEREAS, Ezra Rapport's extensive academic achievements include a Bachelor of
4 Arts degree in History from the State University of New York at Buffalo, a Master of City and
5 Regional Planning from the University of California at Berkeley, and a Juris Doctor from
6 Hastings College of Law, San Francisco. Rapport is a long-time resident of the Bay Area and
7 resides in Oakland with his wife and children; and

8 WHEREAS, Ezra Rapport's has advanced collaboration among the Bay Area's
9 counties, cities and towns and region while recognizing the importance of San Francisco;
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
12 commends and congratulates Ezra Rapport and the Association of Bay Area Governments on
13 the occasion of his retirement and years of service to the San Francisco Bay Area; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
15 Francisco declares October 18, 2016, Ezra Rapport Day in the City and County of San
16 Francisco.

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