[Behested Payment Waiver - Economic Revitalization Efforts]

Resolution authorizing a six-month waiver of the City's Behested Payments Ordinance for the Mayor, members of the Mayor's Office, and the Executive Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development to solicit donations from nonprofits, private organizations, grantmakers, foundations, and other persons and entities for the purpose of supporting the continued economic revitalization of San Francisco, pursuant to Section 3.620(f) of the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code.

WHEREAS, San Francisco has a beautiful and historic downtown area that has long been a connective hub for business, culture, and innovation; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco's downtown area is vital to the City's overall health and vibrancy – many residents work, transact business, or live in the area, and it remains a popular destination for both domestic and international visitors; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco and its downtown area have faced unprecedented challenges resulting in part from the Covid-19 pandemic, including a rise in homelessness, the closure of businesses, an increased number of residents living in or near poverty, a lack of affordable housing, and residents relocating out of the City; and

WHEREAS, While the City has in place numerous policies and initiatives aimed at encouraging a thriving economy in the downtown area and beyond, more resources are urgently needed to make sure the downtown area can be clean, safe, and thriving; and

WHEREAS, The City is aware of various charitable public benefit corporations, such as the San Francisco Downtown Development Corporation, that aim to help revitalize San Francisco and specifically its downtown area, to ensure that residents, businesses, and

visitors have a safe, clean, dynamic, economically vibrant, and innovative place to live, work, 2 play, and conduct business; and

WHEREAS, These nonprofit entities generally intend to accomplish this mission by making the City safer and more welcoming for residents and visitors, ensuring and maintaining clean public spaces, increasing foot traffic for local businesses, enhancing cultural and arts programming, using financial resources to support local businesses and projects, and researching and implementing other measures aimed at revitalizing the City and its downtown area, including projects in partnership with the City and projects that may become owned or maintained by the City; and

WHEREAS, These nonprofit entities are fundraising for these efforts, and the City is generally supportive of these efforts and their potential; and

WHEREAS, In the past, the City has collaborated with other nonprofit organizations, private entities, grantmakers, foundations, and other entities, including through contracts or grants or permits; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors has previously waived the Behested Payments Ordinance under Section 3.620(f) to enable the Mayor and relevant officials to support the continued economic revitalization of San Francisco including the downtown area, and the Mayor and relevant officials have committed to transparency and accountability by complying with all applicable reporting requirements; and

WHEREAS, More than 40 million dollars have been pledged to support downtown revitalization through the San Francisco Downtown Development Corporation's private fundraising efforts; and

WHEREAS, This waiver will likewise serve the public interest and does not create an appearance of impropriety; now, therefore, be it

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1	RESOLVED, That under Section 3.620(f) of the Campaign and Governmental Conduct
2	Code, the Board of Supervisors hereby approves the waiver of the Behested Payments
3	Ordinance for six months authorizing the Mayor; the Mayor's Chief of Staff; the Deputy Chief
4	of Staff; the Director of Communications & Public Affairs; the Chief of Protocol; the Director of
5	Strategic Partnerships; and the Policy Chiefs (Health, Homelessness & Family Services,
6	Housing & Economic Development, Infrastructure, Climate & Mobility, and Public Safety), the
7	Executive Director of the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), and
8	each of their direct reports, to solicit donations from private individuals and organizations to
9	support the continued economic revitalization of San Francisco including the downtown area;
10	and, be it
11	FURTHER RESOLVED, That this waiver shall expire six months after the effective date
12	of this Resolution; and, be it
13	FURTHER RESOLVED, That this waiver continues to be subject to the City's rules and
14	policies governing transparency and disclosure, including annual reporting to the Board of
15	Supervisors and other applicable requirements.
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