

1 [Tom Nolan Day - August 2, 2022]

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3 **Resolution declaring August 2, 2022, as Tom Nolan Day in the City and County of San**  
4 **Francisco in recognition of Tom Nolan’s lifetime of exemplary public service and on the**  
5 **occasion of his well-deserved retirement.**

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7 WHEREAS, Tom Nolan’s extraordinary career in public service began with his election  
8 to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in 1984, making him one of the first openly gay  
9 elected officials in the United States, where he served until 1993, including as the first openly  
10 gay President of a county Board of Supervisors in California; and

11 WHEREAS, Tom championed efforts to acquire the 52-mile rail corridor between San  
12 Francisco and San Jose, and from 1987 to 1992 served as the first Chair of the newly formed  
13 Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, earning him the nickname “Father of Caltrain”; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1994, Tom moved to San Francisco to become the Executive Director  
15 of Project Open Hand, a non-profit organization providing food delivery service to people living  
16 with HIV/AIDS, a role in which he served for 17 years, during which time he nearly doubled  
17 the organization’s reach to include service for people living with other chronic illnesses; and

18 WHEREAS, Tom served on the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency’s  
19 Board of Directors from 2006 to 2017, including as Chair after 2009, in which role he  
20 spearheaded bold initiatives like Free Muni for seniors, youth, and people with disabilities,  
21 launching new Muni routes, and making San Francisco the first city in California to adopt a  
22 Vision Zero commitment to ending traffic fatalities; and

23 WHEREAS, In 2012, Tom joined the Department of Aging and Adult Services, now the  
24 Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS), as the agency’s LGBTQ Programs  
25 Manager; and

1           WHEREAS, Tom coordinated the efforts of the LGBT Aging Task Force, which in 2014  
2 issued the report “LGBT Aging at the Golden Gate” that laid out a series of recommendations  
3 addressing the unique challenges of the older adult LGBTQ community; and

4           WHEREAS, Under Tom’s leadership, DAS has implemented a series of LGBTQ  
5 programs including the LGBTQ Care Navigation Program, LGBT Dementia Care Project,  
6 LGBTQ Financial Literacy Program and Housing Subsidy Program, and partnered with Open  
7 House to develop over 100 units of LGBTQ-affirming affordable housing; and

8           WHEREAS, In 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Tom joined former  
9 members of the LGBT Aging Task Force to convene a regular working group focused on  
10 meeting the unique needs of LGBTQ seniors during the pandemic; and

11           WHEREAS, Tom’s service to the LGBTQ community has been recognized by  
12 organizations including the Curry Senior Center, Positive Resource Center (PRC), National  
13 AIDS Memorial Grove, and Richmond/Ermet Aid Foundation;

14           WHEREAS, Tom has received the American Public Transit Association’s Outstanding  
15 Public Transportation Board Member Award, the KQED Community Hero Award, the  
16 California Transportation Foundation’s Person of the Year Award, and a host of other  
17 accolades, including a plaque honoring his achievements at the Castro Muni station; and

18           WHEREAS, Tom’s service to the City and County will be concluding on August 2,  
19 2022, with his well-earned retirement; now, therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, That in celebration and appreciation of Tom’s outstanding  
21 accomplishments and lifetime of exemplary public service, the Board of Supervisors does  
22 hereby declare August 2, 2022, to be Tom Nolan Day in the City and County of San  
23 Francisco.