

1 [Intent to Prioritize Funding to Support Safe, Healthy Thriving Communities]

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3 **Resolution declaring the intent of the City and County of San Francisco to prioritize**  
4 **allocating available funds to support safe, healthy, thriving communities, including the**  
5 **maintenance of public trees, and commitment to supporting families with infants and**  
6 **toddlers.**

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8 WHEREAS, Maintenance of street trees and funding for San Francisco’s youngest  
9 children are policy areas that should be prioritized, but are often the first to be cut; and

10 WHEREAS, Over the last 30 years, the City has cut funding for street tree maintenance  
11 and sidewalk repairs; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 2011, the City began relinquishing the responsibility of tree  
13 maintenance to property owners, but many property owners are unaware of this responsibility  
14 and thereby, neglect maintaining the trees; and

15 WHEREAS, Trees should be pruned every 3 to 5 years, yet most street trees are  
16 pruned only every 12 to 15 years, so that trees and their limbs are at risk of falling and  
17 endangering people and property and tree roots create uneven, dangerous sidewalks; and

18 WHEREAS, Trees contribute to a higher quality of life for city residents by reducing  
19 pollution, creating natural habitats, mitigating noise pollution, improving physical and mental  
20 health, calming traffic; and

21 WHEREAS, On July 12, 2016, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution which  
22 prioritized that City College of San Francisco be free and accessible for, at minimum, all San  
23 Francisco residents and is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File 160597,  
24 which is hereby declared to be part of this resolution as if set forth fully herein; and

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1           WHEREAS, The cost of quality infant and toddler care is also a barrier to enrollment in  
2 other publicly funded universities, as well as a parent's ability to obtain and maintain  
3 employment; and

4           WHEREAS, In order to have access to 85% of the market the cost of infant care is  
5 \$29,160 a year or \$2430 per month; and

6           WHEREAS, Child care subsidies are a lifeline that enable parents to go to school,  
7 work, provide for their families and contribute to the economy; and

8           WHEREAS, 85% of brain development occurs in the first 3 years of life and quality  
9 early care and education prepares children for school, and contributes to their lifelong  
10 success; and

11           WHEREAS, In November 2014 The Children and Families First Initiative was  
12 overwhelmingly passed by 74.44% of the San Francisco voters; and

13           WHEREAS, Building on a decade of success of Preschool for All program, The  
14 Children and Families Initiative expanded the funding mandate from 4 year olds to include the  
15 development of a plan to ensure a seamless system that begins at birth; and

16           WHEREAS, The expanded mandate did not identify dedicated funds specifically for  
17 infants and toddlers; and

18           WHEREAS, Quality early care and education increases school success and graduation  
19 rates, reducing grade retention, and long-term costs of welfare and criminal justice; and

20           WHEREAS, Nearly 21% of children in San Francisco are under the age of 3; and

21           WHEREAS, In June 2016, 48% (1703) of low income children on the SF3C waitlist for  
22 subsidies were infants and toddlers; and

23           WHEREAS, Research has shown that public investment in early care and education  
24 has a 17% return on investment; and

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1           WHEREAS, When parents have safe, nurturing quality child care for their children, they  
2 have the ability to work and attend school, supporting their families and contributing to the  
3 City’s economy; and

4           WHEREAS, Healthy communities are holistically defined and include the ability to  
5 provide for their families, and live in thriving environments where public spaces are cared for;  
6 now, therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors shall take back the responsibility of  
8 maintaining street trees by securing the funding needed to effect the proposal, estimated to be  
9 up to \$11,000,000 a year; and, be it

10          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors shall support funding needed to  
11 support San Francisco families with infants and toddlers to obtain quality early care and  
12 education in order for families to attend school, trainings, or work estimated to be up to  
13 \$10,000,000 per year; and, be it

14          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funding allocated for these purposes shall be  
15 prioritized in the following order; revenue to support for Free City College, maintenance of  
16 street trees, and funding for infant and toddler supports; and, be it

17          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funding allocated for this purpose shall be contingent  
18 upon new revenue in the City’s General Fund that is above projected estimates for FY2016-  
19 2017 to be found in sources such as the City’s real estate transfer tax.