

1 [Pedestrian Countdown Signals.]

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3 **Resolution urging the Department of Parking and Traffic and the San Francisco County**
4 **Transportation Authority to work in collaboration in order to secure new funding**
5 **streams necessary to jointly contribute toward the long-term safety gains by installing**
6 **pedestrian countdown signals at the remaining 500 signalized intersections in the City**
7 **and County San Francisco.**

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9 WHEREAS, Since June 2002, the Department of Parking and Traffic (“DPT”) and sister
10 departments have been installing traffic and pedestrian signals citywide to the more energy-
11 efficient LED versions; and

12 WHEREAS, As of October 2002, crews from the Public Utilities Commission and the
13 Department of Public Works had installed a total of 2, 682 countdown units at 44
14 intersections; and,

15 WHEREAS, An evaluation conducted by the DPT suggests that the countdown signals
16 reduce the percentage of pedestrians caught still crossing on the red; and,

17 WHEREAS, Switching on countdown devices continues to be a high priority for DPT,
18 and detailed retiming plans have been prepared for about half of the intersections slated for
19 countdown devices by its Traffic Engineering Division; and,

20 WHEREAS, DPT expects to continue to turn on at least 10 intersections weekly and to
21 have about 550 intersections with operational countdown features by late 2003; and,

22 WHEREAS, The first locations to be turned on included those with the “pedestrian
23 scramble” as well as a few other locations where crossing time is a major public safety
24 concern; and,

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1 WHEREAS, The basic cost for devices and installation labor is slightly over \$1.1
2 million, including an individual cost of \$250 for a pedestrian countdown signal, and installation
3 labor about \$27 per signal, which does not include the required retiming program
4 administration; and,

5 WHEREAS, This installation program was funded by a California Energy Commission
6 loan and sales tax revenues provided by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority;
7 and,

8 WHEREAS, Although this project is scheduled for completion in 2003, an additional
9 500 signalized intersections in San Francisco will still lack pedestrian signals; now, therefore,
10 be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
12 does hereby urge the Department of Parking and Traffic and the San Francisco County
13 Transportation Authority to work in collaboration in order to secure new funding streams
14 necessary to jointly contribute toward the long-term safety gains by installing pedestrian
15 countdown signals at the remaining 500 signalized intersections in the City and County San
16 Francisco.

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