

1 [Celebrating the Opening of the New Portola Branch Library on February 28, 2009]

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3 **Resolution recognizing the Grand Opening of the new Portola Branch Library and**
4 **commending the community and the San Francisco Public Library team for their hard**
5 **work and commitment to San Francisco and the residents of the Portola district.**
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7 WHEREAS, The Branch Library Improvement Program (BLIP), funded by the bond
8 measure passed in November 2000 by the voters of San Francisco, calls for 16 branches to
9 be renovated, four leased facilities to be replaced with City-owned buildings, three branches
10 to be replaced with new buildings, and one new branch to be constructed in Mission Bay;
11 and,

12 WHEREAS, The Portola Branch has been located in leased facilities along San Bruno
13 Avenue since it was established in 1927; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2003, the City purchased a portion of the grounds of the Martin Luther
15 King, Jr. Middle School to build a new 6,300 square foot branch library; and

16 WHEREAS, The joint venture architecture firm Stoner Meek/Noll & Tam drew
17 inspiration from the form of books themselves as well as the rhythm and the scale of
18 traditional San Francisco neighborhood bay windows for the design of the new facility; and

19 WHEREAS, Highlights of the new branch include a view garden, an expanded
20 children's section, a designated teen space, a program room with afterhours access for
21 community gatherings, new furniture and shelving, an expanded collection of books, CDs,
22 DVDS and other materials, a prominent reading area, additional computers, Wi-Fi access to
23 the Internet, and more functional staff work spaces; and

24 WHEREAS, With the new teen space, expanded children's area, and community
25 program room, the branch will be able to better serve neighborhood schools including Martin

1 Luther King, Jr. Middle School, E.R. Taylor Elementary School, the San Francisco School and
2 Phillip & Sala Burton High School as well as accommodate school visits; and

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4 WHEREAS, Artist Dana Zed, under direction of the San Francisco Arts Commission,
5 created beautiful glass shutters reminiscent of the horticultural history of the Portola
6 neighborhood as the public art component ; and

7 WHEREAS, The new branch project has been a team effort between the San
8 Francisco Public Library staff and administrators, Department of Public Works Division of
9 Project Management and Bureau of Construction Management, Stoner Meek/Noll & Tam
10 architects, CLW Builders Inc, Library Commissioners, Friends of the San Francisco Public
11 Library, and members of the Portola community who raised funds and helped design the
12 branch to suit their neighborhood's needs; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors commends the San Francisco Public
14 Library, the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, the Portola Library Campaign
15 Committee, the Department of Public Works, members of the Portola community, and the
16 entire team that made this project so successful for their dedication and hard work; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors invites the public to join the
18 celebration of the dedication of the new Portola Branch Library on Saturday, February 28,
19 2009 at 1:00 pm at the branch, located at 380 Bacon Street at Goettingen Street.
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