

1 [Resolution to authorize the City and County of San Francisco’s application to host the United
2 Nations’ World Environment Day 2005, and to work in collaboration with SF Environment as
3 host for the event.]

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4 **Resolution authorizing San Francisco to apply to host United Nations’ World**
5 **Environment Day celebrations in 2005 and, if selected, designating SF Environment to**
6 **work with other City departments to coordinate a host committee that will ensure the**
7 **programmatic, financial, and educational success of the event.**

7

8 WHEREAS, World Environment Day was established by the United Nations to raise
9 environmental awareness and to encourage action to protect the environment; and,

10 WHEREAS, The founders hoped that World Environment Day would be a rallying point
11 for stimulating global awareness of the environment; and,

12 WHEREAS, World Environment Day is observed annually in over 100 countries with
13 street rallies, bicycle parades, green concerts, essay competitions in schools, tree planting,
14 and recycling and clean-up campaigns; and,

15 WHEREAS, Since its inception in 1974, World Environment Day has been celebrated
16 in a different city each year; however, a North American city is yet to host the international
17 celebrations; and,

18 WHEREAS, San Francisco, the birthplace of the United Nations and a national leader
19 in environmental policy, would be the perfect venue for World Environment Day in 2005, the
20 60th anniversary of the charter signing; and,

21 WHEREAS, United States President Franklin Delano Roosevelt proposed that after
22 the signing of the U.N. charter, the delegates celebrate in Muir Woods with a ceremony,
23 during which it was emphasized, “a love of nature is common among men of all nations”; and,

24 WHEREAS, San Francisco is on the cutting edge of progressive policy to protect the
25 environment for current and future generations; and,

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco is the first city in the United States to put the Precautionary
2 Principle into effect; which requires that if a practice poses a threat to human health or the
3 environment, the City and County of San Francisco will use the best available science to
4 identify cost-effective alternatives; and,

5 WHEREAS, The City aggressively pursues energy conservation and efficiency and the
6 City's Power Savers program is the first municipal program in the United States to be honored
7 with the Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Award; and,

8 WHEREAS, The City has introduced a Resource-Efficient Building Ordinance that will
9 require all new City construction projects to be built to the Leadership in Energy and
10 Environmental Design silver standard for building construction; and,

11 WHEREAS, The City continues to be at the forefront of clean-air programs and in
12 2001, passed the Healthy Air and Smog Prevention Ordinance mandating all vehicles
13 purchased by the City to be low-emission vehicles, and has an extensive public transportation
14 system to reduce the use of private vehicles; and,

15 WHEREAS, The City established a new urban forestry council to promote a healthy
16 and sustainable urban forest that benefits all San Franciscans; and,

17 WHEREAS, The City's recycling efforts exceed state mandates; it is the first major
18 U.S. city to make a strong commitment of diverting waste from the City's landfills and
19 achieving a zero waste goal by 2020; and,

20 WHEREAS, The City has established a groundbreaking integrated pest management
21 program and has cut its use of the most toxic pesticides by 50%; and,

22 WHEREAS, World Environment Day is a multi-media event and the City is an
23 international hub with major journalists and broadcasters ready to report on the environment
24 via television, radio, print, and electronic media; and,

25

1 WHEREAS, The City, internationally known for its diversity, rich landscape, and
2 historic landmarks, is a popular travel destination for many people and would provide a
3 unique setting for World Environment Day celebrations; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco formally apply to the United
5 Nations Environment Programme to host the June 5th, 2005 World Environment Day; and, be
6 it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That should San Francisco be chosen to host the 2005 WED,
8 the SF Department of Environment in coordination with other city departments will bring
9 together a “WED Host Committee” to ensure the programmatic, funding, and logistical
10 success of the event; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That should San Francisco be chosen to host the 2005 WED,
12 San Francisco would commit to hosting a broad range of educational and informative events
13 to highlight issues relating to the local, national, and global environment; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That in conjunction with World Environment Day, the City and
15 County of San Francisco also recognizes the 60th Anniversary of the founding of the United
16 Nations; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That should San Francisco be chosen to host the 2005 WED,
18 the City and County of San Francisco will request the attendance of the UN Secretary-
19 General Kofi Annan and UNEP Executive Director Klaus Toepfer, and key Federal, State, and
20 non-profit environmentalists.