

1 [Proposed Contemporary Art Museum]

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Resolution supporting the location of the proposed Contemporary Art Museum in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, In 2006, San Francisco hosted 15.8 million visitors who spent \$7.8 billion during their stay or \$21 million a day, making tourism one of San Francisco’s most important industries; and,

WHEREAS, Visitor dollars spent here generated over \$473 million in taxes and fees that support the City’s general budget, health and safety, arts and cultural organizations, recreational facilities and low-income housing and also supported about 68,650 jobs in hospitality and tourism industries (about \$1.8 in local payroll); and,

WHEREAS, Visitors to San Francisco frequent many cultural destinations including, but not limited to, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Contemporary Jewish Museum, the Museum of African Diaspora, the Cartoon Art Museum, the Museum of Craft and Folk Art, the Yerba Center for the Arts Gallery, the Asian Art Museum, the San Francisco de Young Art Museum, the California Academy of Sciences, Steinhart Aquarium and Planetarium and the Japanese Tea Gardens; and,

WHEREAS, Since the adoption of the budget in July 2008, the City’s economic outlook has significantly worsened, particularly since the onset of the global financial market upheavals that began in September 2008; and,

WHEREAS, On June 9, 2008, the Presidio Trust released a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement outlining various alternatives for a Contemporary Art Museum in the Presidio; and,

1 WHEREAS, Don and Doris Fisher proposed to build the Contemporary Art Museum in
2 the Presidio to display their collection of contemporary modern art to the public; and,

3 WHEREAS, The Fishers began collecting contemporary Western art in 1969 and in
4 1993, *ARTnews* Magazine declared Fisher one of the top ten art collectors in the world, with
5 comprehensive, career-spanning works by Andy Warhol, Alexander Calder and Roy
6 Lichtenstein, Ellsworth Kelly, Gerhard Richter, Anselm Kiefer, Chuck Close, and Claes
7 Oldenburg; and,

8 WHEREAS, The Presidio Trust continues to evaluate the proposals for the
9 Contemporary Art Museum under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to
10 protect the National Historic Landmark District; and,

11 WHEREAS, An appropriate location in the Presidio for the Contemporary Art Museum
12 may be more difficult than originally conceived; and,

13 WHEREAS, The Contemporary Art Museum, funded by Don and Doris Fisher, would
14 make a remarkable and valuable contribution to the cultural experience of San Francisco and
15 would be yet another reason for tourists to visit San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors believe that the Fisher Art collection would
17 be a valuable public addition to the civic well-being of San Francisco and urges that the City
18 work with the Fisher family to evaluate alternative locations for the museum within the City,
19 including both existing buildings and potential sites for a new building, under the jurisdiction of
20 the Port Commission and other City departments such as Recreation and Park, and by
21 assessing properties accessible to public transit; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors understands and comprehends
23 the magnitude of the contribution that the Fisher art collection would have on the cultural
24 landscape of the City and County of San Francisco and the impact it would have on tourist
25 revenue and other key general fund revenue sources.