



San Francisco Public Works
General – Director’s Office
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San Francisco, CA 94103
(628) 271-3160 www.SFPublicWorks.org

Public Works Order No: 207042

REQUESTING AND RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVE A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE AND EXPENDITURE OF \$5,000,000 OF GENERAL FUND GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS AND ENHANCEMENTS TO THE JAPANTOWN PEACE PLAZA AT THE BUCHANAN CENTER MALL; MAKE CERTAIN CERTIFICATIONS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE FUNDS; AND AUTHORIZE PUBLIC WORKS TO EXPEND SUCH FUNDS FOR THIS PROJECT FOR THE PROJECT PERIOD OF MAY 2022 TO MARCH 2026

WHEREAS, On or about September 23, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom approved the California Budget Act of 2021, which included an allocation of \$5,000,000 for local assistance to the City and County of San Francisco (“Grantee”) for the planning, design, and construction of improvements to the Peace Plaza at Buchanan Mall (“project”), a culturally significant public plaza in the heart of San Francisco’s Japantown district; and

WHEREAS, The General Fund Specified Development and Acquisition Grant is administered by the state of California’s Natural Resources Agency, which restores, protects and manages the state’s natural, historical and cultural resources for current and future generations by using creative approaches and solutions based on science, collaboration and respect for all the communities and interests involved; and

WHEREAS, The project would focus on three main priorities: 1) enhancing accessibility of the mall for seniors and people with disabilities and limited mobility, 2) rehabilitating the existing Ruth Asawa fountains, and 3) supporting the business community by embellishing the sense of cultural authenticity and enhancing the commercial edges of the mall; and

WHEREAS, Following Grantee’s completion of the planning, community outreach, and design phases, the Project may include repaving the side walkways, planting trees, landscaping with culturally relevant plants, and/or enhancing the existing public art, including fountains, cobblestone river, and the Torii gate, with new, complementary public art; encouraging businesses to provide outdoor seating and displays along the storefronts; and utilizing new energy- and water-efficient technologies to light the plaza and maintain the fountains; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works (“Department”) and the Planning Department, have developed a project budget and has reviewed the Grant Agreement provided by the California Natural Resources Agency (“Grant Agreement,” attached as Exhibit 1); and

WHEREAS, The Director of the Department has reviewed the Project Information Form (attached as Exhibit 2), the Grant Agreement, the California Natural Resources Agency’s Procedural Guide for General Fund Specified Development and Acquisition Grant Projects (“Procedural Guide,” attached as Exhibit 3), and the Grant Information Form (attached as Exhibit 4) (together the “Grant Documents”); and

WHEREAS, To satisfy the requirements of Administrative Code Section 10.170-1, the Department shall transmit this Order to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors along with the following documents: (1) the Proposed Resolution, signed by the Department, the Mayor or the Mayor’s designee, and the Controller (attached as Exhibit 5); (2) the Project Information Form; (3) the Grant Information Form; (4) the draft grant application (attached as Exhibit 6); (4) Senate Bill No. 170 (Budget Act of 2021, attached as Exhibit 7) in lieu of a letter of intent; (5) the California Natural Resources Agency’s Procedural Guide for General Fund Specified Development and Acquisition Grant Projects (“Procedural Guide,” attached as Exhibit 3); (6) the Grant Agreement; and (7) a cover letter to the Clerk of the Board substantially conforming to the specifications of the Clerk of the Board (attached as Exhibit 8, together with Exhibits 1 through 7 the “Legislative Package”); and

WHEREAS, The Department has reviewed the contents of the Legislative Package and the Grantor’s requirements, including the requirements in the Resolution that the City: 1) approve the acceptance of a general fund allocation for local assistance for the project; 2) certify that the Department understands the assurances and certification in the Project Information Form, 3) certify that the Department will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project or will enter into an agreement with another entity to perform said operation and maintenance; 4) certify that the Department will comply with the provisions of Section 1771.5 of the California Labor Code; 5) has reviewed and understands the General Provisions contained in the Project Agreement shown in the Procedural Guide; and 6) appoint a designated staff position to conduct all negotiations and execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, the Project Information Form, agreements, payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the project; therefore, it is hereby:

DETERMINED, That the Department: 1) recommends that the Board of Supervisors (“Board”) approve the acceptance of a general fund allocation for local assistance for the project; 2) certifies that the Department understands the assurances and certification in the Project Information Form, 3) recommends that the Board certify that the Department will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project or will enter into an agreement with another entity to perform said operation and maintenance; 4) certifies that the Department will comply with the provisions of Section 1771.5 of the California Labor Code; 5) has reviewed and understands the General Provisions contained in the

Project Agreement shown in the Procedural Guide; 6) recommends that the Board certify that the project would comply with any laws and regulation including, but not limited to, the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, disabled access laws, environmental laws and, that prior to commencement of construction, all applicable licenses and permits will have been obtained; and 7) recommends that the Board appoint the project manager for the project as the City’s agent to conduct all negotiations and execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, the Project Information Form, agreements, payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the project, conditioned upon the Board’s approval of the Proposed Resolution; and, therefore it is hereby:

REQUESTED and RECOMMENDED, That the Board of Supervisors approve the Proposed Resolution, make the certifications required by the State of California as condition of awarding the grant, and authorize the Department of Public Works to enter into the Grant Agreement on behalf of the City, and to authorize the Department and the Clerk of the Board to take further actions, as may be deemed necessary by the Grantor before the City may accept and expend the grant funds for the project, as set forth in the Legislative Package.

It is so ordered.

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DocuSigned by:
Calvin Short

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Interim Director of Public Works