

1 [Affirm certification of the final environmental impact report for the Golden Gate Park
2 Concourse Authority Projects.]

3

4 **Motion affirming the Planning Commission certification of the final environmental**
5 **impact report for the Golden Gate Park Concourse Authority Projects.**

6

7 WHEREAS, The Golden Gate Park Concourse Authority, project sponsor for an
8 underground parking facility on part of Assessor’s Block 1700, Lot 1 within Golden Gate Park
9 (Phase I), related surface improvements to the Golden Gate Park Music Concourse area, an
10 underground through street (Phase II), and various transportation improvement measures
11 (collectively, the “Projects”) submitted its application for environmental review of the Projects
12 to the San Francisco Planning Department (the “Department”); and

13 WHEREAS, The Department created City Planning File No. 2001.9115E, subsequently
14 determined that an environmental impact report was required for the Projects, and provided
15 public notice of that determination by publication in a newspaper of general circulation on May
16 18, 2002; and

17 WHEREAS, On December 14, 2002, the Department published a draft environmental
18 impact report (the “DEIR”) and provided notice of the availability of the document for public
19 review and comment. A copy of said document is on file with the Clerk of the Board of
20 Supervisors in File No. 031481 and is incorporated by reference herein; and

21 WHEREAS, On January 23, 2003, the Planning Commission (the “Commission”) held a
22 duly noticed public hearing on the DEIR; and

23 WHEREAS, On January 28, 2003, the 50-day public comment period on the DEIR
24 ended; and

25

1 WHEREAS, On July 3, 2003, the Department published a "Draft Summary of
2 Comments and Responses" on the DEIR and distributed such document to the Commission
3 and to all parties who commented on the DEIR. A copy of said document is on file with the
4 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 031481 and is incorporated by reference herein;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Prior to publication of the Draft Summary of Comments and Responses,
7 the Project Sponsor's Executive Director notified the Planning Department that the preferred
8 project as analyzed in the DEIR had been revised. The revised project, identified and
9 analyzed in the DEIR as Alternative B, consists only of Phase I, the underground parking
10 facility, and the transportation improvement measures (the "GGPCA Preferred Alternative").
11 Phase II, the underground through street, is not part of the GGPCA Preferred Alternative; and

12 WHEREAS, On July 17 and 24, 2003, the Commission, at a duly noticed public
13 hearing, considered the certification of the final environmental impact report (the "FEIR"),
14 which consists of the DEIR, the Draft Summary of Comments and Responses, and related
15 documents; and

16 WHEREAS, On July 24, 2003, in Motion No. 16620, the Commission certified the FEIR
17 finding that the contents of the FEIR and the procedures through which it was prepared,
18 publicized, and reviewed complied with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality
19 Act (Cal. Public Resources Code sections 21000 et seq., hereinafter "CEQA"), the State
20 CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code of Regulations Title 14, sections 15000 et seq., hereinafter
21 "CEQA Guidelines") and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code ("Chapter 31");
22 and

23 WHEREAS, By said Motion No. 16620, the Commission found the FEIR reflected its
24 independent judgment and analysis and was adequate, accurate, and objective, and certified
25 the FEIR in compliance with CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31. Said

1 Motion is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 031481 and is incorporated by
2 reference herein; and

3 WHEREAS, By separate letters to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors dated August
4 13, 2003, Stephen L. Willis and the Alliance for Golden Gate Park filed timely appeals of the
5 FEIR certification to the Board of Supervisors; and

6 WHEREAS, On September 16, 2003, this Board held a duly notice public hearing to
7 consider the appeal of the FEIR certification; and

8 WHEREAS, This Board has reviewed and considered the FEIR and heard testimony
9 and received public comment regarding the adequacy of this document; and

10 WHEREAS, The FEIR files and all correspondence and other documents have been
11 made available for review by this Board and the public. These files are available for public
12 review by appointment at the Planning Department offices at 1660 Mission Street and are
13 made part of the record before this Board by reference herein; and

14 WHEREAS, Since the Planning Commission action on the FEIR, there is no new
15 information of significance that would require a substantial revision to the FEIR and
16 necessitate recirculation of said document pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15088.5; now,
17 therefore, be it

18 MOVED, That based on substantial evidence in light of the whole record, this Board of
19 Supervisors finds that : 1) the FEIR reflects its independent judgment and analysis and is
20 adequate, accurate, and objective; 2) the FEIR's conclusions are correct; and 3) the findings
21 contained in the Planning Commission certification are correct; and this Board hereby affirms
22 the decision of the Planning Commission in its Motion No. 16620 to certify the FEIR in
23 compliance with CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31.

24
25