

1 [Utility Undergrounding Task Force]

2 **Resolution creating a Utility Undergrounding Task Force to advise the City and County**
3 **of San Francisco concerning the future of utility undergrounding in San Francisco and**
4 **to complete its work by September 1, 2005.**
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6 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has an extensive program to
7 remove overhead utility poles and replace them with underground facilities; and

8 WHEREAS, In July 1997, the Board of Supervisors approved an agreement between
9 the City and Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (“PG&E”) that, among other things, required the City
10 to establish by legislation 42 miles of underground utility districts; and,

11 WHEREAS, By December 1999, the City had legislated 42 miles of underground utility
12 districts; and

13 WHEREAS, Except for major capital improvement projects such as Third Street and
14 Octavia Boulevard, the City has not legislated any additional underground utility districts since
15 December 1999; and

16 WHEREAS, While the July 1997 agreement required PG&E to complete
17 undergrounding the 42 miles of legislated underground utility districts by January 1, 2002,
18 PG&E now expects to complete the project by December 2006 at the earliest; and

19 WHEREAS, Since December 1999, many San Franciscans have expressed interest in
20 having their neighborhoods designated as underground utility districts; and

21 WHEREAS, Due to the costs of completing the undergrounding in the 42 miles of
22 legislated underground districts, resources for the next phase of utility undergrounding may be
23 limited; and
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1 WHEREAS, As PG&E nears completion of the undergrounding in the 42 miles of
2 legislated underground utility districts, the City may be in a position to legislate additional
3 underground districts; and

4 WHEREAS, Members of the general public and residents of San Francisco have a
5 strong interest in utility undergrounding projects and policies; and now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
7 establishes a Utility Undergrounding Task Force consisting of twenty (20) members who will
8 represent the following officials and groups: each Supervisor shall designate one (1) member
9 from his or her district; the Mayor shall designate four (4) members; the Director of Public
10 Works shall designate one (1) member; the General Manager of the Public Utilities
11 Commission shall designate one (1) member; PG&E may designate one (1) member; SBC
12 Communications, Inc. may designate one (1) member; Comcast may designate one (1)
13 member, and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Utility Undergrounding Task Force shall provide the
15 City with input on: (1) improving procedures for legislating underground utility districts in the
16 future; (2) determining the best method for allocating the resources that are available for utility
17 undergrounding; (3) seeking ways to increase the resources available for utility
18 undergrounding; (4) studying ways to reduce the cost of utility undergrounding; (5)
19 coordination of utility undergrounding with other streetscape projects, utility projects or any
20 other project where undergrounding could simultaneously undertaken; (6) consideration of
21 alternative methods such as the creation of parking benefit districts or community benefit
22 districts; and (7) any other matters that the Utility Undergrounding Task Force shall deem
23 appropriate; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the City
25 Administrator's Office to provide support for the Utility Undergrounding Task Force; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Task Force may begin meeting once quorum is reached;
2 and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the appointment of members to the Utility
4 Undergrounding Task Force shall automatically expire on September 1, 2005.

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