

1 [Fair Housing Month - April 2024]

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3 **Resolution recognizing and commemorating April 2024 as Fair Housing month and**
4 **reaffirming San Francisco’s commitment to fair housing.**

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6 WHEREAS, The passage of the Fair Housing Act, signed into law by President Lyndon
7 B. Johnson on April 11th, 1968; and

8 WHEREAS, This legislation was necessary to combat the racial discrimination and
9 oppression of marginalized groups which has infected American housing practices since
10 before the nation’s inception; and

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco has not ever been immune to these moral failings; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco passed the Cubic Air Ordinance in 1870 in order to
13 eliminate an adequate housing supply for Chinese residents, and in doing so, San Francisco
14 laid the foundation for the exclusionary zoning policies that would thereafter come to define
15 planning practices in the city and throughout the country; and

16 WHEREAS, Segregations in San Francisco and across the country would wield
17 redlining and racial covenants to preserve the homogeneity of their neighbors until the
18 passage of the Fair Housing Act in 1968 put a de jure end to these tactics; and

19 WHEREAS, The Fair Housing Act was signed by President Johnson to combat
20 discrimination concerning the sale, rental, and financing of housing based on race, religion,
21 and national origin; and

22 WHEREAS, In 1972 sex was added as a protective category to this Act, in addition to
23 disability and familial status in 1988; and

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1 WHEREAS, While these pieces of legislation were of unequivocal importance, cities in
2 the U.S. (United States) still struggles to address the spatial legacy of systemic racism; and
3 systematic inequities; and

4 WHEREAS, High resource areas offer the potential for superior economic, educational,
5 and health outcomes, marginalized peoples in our city have too often found themselves
6 historically excluded from these places; and

7 WHEREAS, Our rents are almost 100% higher than the national average and median
8 rents in the Bay Area more than doubled over the first several decades of the 21st century;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, To proactively combat inequities of this ilk, the state of California codified
11 the Obama administration’s Fair Housing reform which mandated the affirmative furthering of
12 Fair Housing; as a result, all state and local public agencies must “facilitate deliberate action
13 to explicitly address, combat, and relieve disparities resulting from past patterns of
14 segregation to foster more inclusive communities;” and

15 WHEREAS, Additionally, the California legislature passed Assembly Bill 686
16 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) in April 2020, a new law which builds upon
17 existing fair housing protections to require housing elements include policies to combat
18 patterns of segregation to foster more inclusive communities; and

19 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Planning Department’s commitment to Fair Housing is
20 reflected in the sixth cycle housing element through various policies and objectives; and

21 WHEREAS, The Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development is currently
22 starting an analysis of impediments to fair housing as part of their 5-year Consolidated plan
23 process; and

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1 WHEREAS, San Francisco has not only a moral but a legal obligation to provide
2 adequate “housing opportunities for all persons regardless of race, religion, sex, marital
3 status, ancestry, national origin, color, familial status, or disability;” and

4 WHEREAS, It is therefore vital that San Francisco remain ever-vigilant against policies
5 that preserve historical inequities and ever-tenacious in its pursuit of justice; now, therefore,
6 be it

7 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco recognizes April 2024, as Fair
8 Housing Month and reaffirms its commitment to affirmatively furthering fair housing; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco recognizes “Fair
10 Housing Month” as a time to reflect on that progress which we have made against residential
11 discrimination and look forward to ensure ongoing progress.

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