

1 [Support Senate Bill 915.]

2 **Resolution supporting Senate Bill 915, approving the Water Transit Authority's**  
3 **Implementation and Operations Plan and supporting allocation of new bridge toll**  
4 **revenue for the Port of San Francisco's downtown ferry facilities.**

5 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Authority ("WTA"), a regional  
6 transit agency created by the California Legislature, completed its ten year plan for developing  
7 a system of ferry routes, terminals and landslide connections through enhancements to  
8 existing ferry services and addition of new routes; and

9 WHEREAS, As required by its enabling legislation, the WTA submitted its  
10 Implementation and Operations Plan (IOP) to the California Legislature on December 12,  
11 2002; and

12 WHEREAS, The WTA's plan recommends developing a regional ferry transportation  
13 network that provides cost-effective and environmentally responsible transit options between  
14 San Francisco and other locations within the Bay Area; and

15 WHEREAS, The WTA is recommending the development of seven to eight new ferry  
16 routes around the Bay and an expansion of existing ferry routes connecting to San Francisco;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The WTA has conducted a program environmental review based on  
19 extensive technical studies to evaluate impacts of the proposed system expansion to air,  
20 water and natural resources; and

21 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 915 mandates that the WTA's vessels be ten times cleaner  
22 than today's fleet, having 85% lower emissions than the Environmental Protective Agency's  
23 2007 guidelines for diesel engines; and,

24 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 915 also requires the WTA to dedicate at least one new vessel  
25 to test the use of biodiesel fuel (B20); and,

1           WHEREAS, The Port of San Francisco has just completed Phase I of its ferry terminal  
2 improvements adjacent to the newly renovated Ferry Building with \$16 million in State and  
3 Federal grants; and,

4           WHEREAS, The WTA's proposed regional ferry expansion compels the need for the  
5 Port of San Francisco to find funding to implement the second phase of its Downtown Ferry  
6 Terminal improvements; and,

7           WHEREAS, Improvements to the Port of San Francisco's ferry facilities supports the  
8 City's economic development objectives by providing convenient transit connections for its  
9 employers and residents; and

10           WHEREAS, Expanded ferry service will support the Port's maritime mission and will  
11 provide visitors and customers to San Francisco's waterfront business and recreational areas;  
12 and,

13           WHEREAS, Senate Bill 916, proposes a one-dollar increase to tolls to State owned  
14 bridges to fund transit enhancement projects and recommends a \$20 million allocation for  
15 expansion of the Port of San Francisco's Downtown Ferry Terminal; and,

16           WHEREAS, The toll expenditure plan set forth in Senate Bill 916 for transit projects,  
17 including Transbay Terminal and MUNI, will be approved by the voters in March 2004 after  
18 approval by the Legislature; now, therefore, be it

19           RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports: Senate Bill 915,  
20 approving the Water Transit Authority's Implementation and Operations Plan; and be it

21           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco supports the allocation of  
22 funding in Senate Bill 916 for improvements to the Port of San Francisco's Downtown Ferry  
23 facilities to accommodate the region's expanded system and for the long-term enhancement  
24 of San Francisco's Central Waterfront.  
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