

1 [Urging the Municipal Transportation Agency to Ensure Further Compliance With Private
2 Scooter Permit Conditions]

3 **Resolution urging the Municipal Transportation Agency to phase expansion of its**
4 **Powered Scooter Permit Program, pending the actual and equitable installation of bike**
5 **racks; further the demonstration of permittees’ ability to comply with labor,**
6 **sustainability, community outreach, equitable access, and other requirements, as**
7 **defined herein; and consider a publicly provided alternative.**

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9 WHEREAS, As part of its Vision Zero strategy, the City and County of San Francisco
10 (“the City”) has an imperative to reduce vehicle miles traveled and to encourage mode shift to
11 more sustainable and equitable travel choices, as a means of improving safety, health activity
12 and air quality; and

13 WHEREAS, Private transit providers have amassed extraordinary venture capital under
14 the auspice of filling gaps in the City’s existing multi-modal transportation network, while
15 shifting residents away from public transit modes and contributing to an increase in vehicle
16 miles traveled, vehicular congestion, and collisions involving pedestrians, bicyclists, and other
17 non-automobile drivers; and

18 WHEREAS, In April 2018, private transit companies Bird and Lime placed thousands of
19 e-scooters in the City’s public rights of way, in disregard of the City’s existing public health
20 and safety regulations; and

21 WHEREAS, In May 2018, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously
22 approved an Ordinance (Board File No. 180214) to establish a permit requirement for the
23 authorized deployment of unattended e-scooters on San Francisco’s public rights of way; and
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1 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA)
2 subsequently developed a permit application and permit conditions for a “pilot” program, and
3 issued two permits to companies Scoot and Skip, at 625 and 800 scooters, respectively; and

4 WHEREAS, Subsequent to the implementation of the permit program, the City
5 observed a sharp decrease in the number of complaints received, indicative in part of
6 confidence in the City’s ability to effectively regulate the over-concentration of scooters in any
7 particular geographic region and to temper concerns about other real and perceived harms
8 associated with the private deployment of thousands of scooters across San Francisco; and

9 WHEREAS, The SFMTA’s Powered Scooter Share Mid-Pilot Evaluation revealed that
10 while permittees had successfully mitigated some negative impacts, that they had also faced
11 challenges and performed poorly relative to ensuring equitable access to low-income
12 residents and groups who have historically lacked access to mobility benefits, to ensure
13 adequate worker protections and environmental sustainability, and to further the City’s Vision
14 Zero goals; and

15 WHEREAS, In spite of the fair-to-poor performance of scooter proprietors in the City’s
16 pilot program, the SFMTA on September 25, 2019, nevertheless announced plans to issue
17 permits for the deployment of 4,000 and up to 10,000 scooters on the City’s streets – an
18 almost tenfold increase in the existing number of scooters on San Francisco streets – to four
19 companies, including one who has sued the City for denying its previous application, two who
20 have received cease-and-desist letters from the City for non-compliance with City regulations,
21 and others that have contributed to a spike in vehicular congestion in San Francisco over the
22 last decade; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
24 urges the San Francisco Municipal Transportation to phase-in deployment of its anticipated
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1 4,000 scooters following an informational hearing at the SFMTA Board of Directors to discuss
2 the issues raised herein; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges SFMTA to work with
4 labor groups around a labor harmony provision for each permit, and include as a condition of
5 any issued permits that all employees are direct hires of the permittees, the number of
6 employees, the number of independent contractors, if any, and compensation packages for
7 review by the Agency; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges SFMTA to compel
9 disclosure of the number of scooters and scooter parts that end up in the City's waste stream,
10 including the type and number of scooter parts that end up in landfill, the percentage of those
11 parts that are recycled, the average lifespan of each permittee's scooters, and the disposition
12 of their batteries; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges SFMTA should develop
14 an outreach model for utilization by permittees and potential permittees to perform community
15 outreach to groups and individuals, including solicitation of community preference relative to
16 excluding scooters from geographic areas and high-injury corridors from operator Service
17 Areas, and fully recover costs for the development of the model and any staff time contributed
18 to advancing the community outreach process; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges SFMTA to develop and
20 analyze potential public alternatives to a privately-financed scooter system, including a
21 "scooter share" model and low- or no-interest and/or revolving loans for purchase of scooters
22 by individual users, and assessment of the financialization of private scooter providers; and be
23 it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges SFMTA to condition
2 expansion to 4,000 scooters and any further expansion on the actual, equitable and
3 commensurate installation of bike racks, at the expense of permittees; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges SFMTA to develop a
5 complaint database to facilitate effective and thorough response to community concerns, and
6 to develop a system for enforcing against illegal use of scooters and violation of non-
7 compliance with permit conditions.

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