

1 [Accept and Expend Grant - Retroactive - California Department of Transportation Sustainable
2 Transportation Planning Grant - SoMa Under Freeway Park - \$626,000]

3 **Resolution retroactively authorizing the Department of Public Works to accept and
4 expend a grant in the amount of \$626,000 from the California Department of
5 Transportation Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for a performance period
6 from November 4, 2024, through June 30, 2027, to fund the planning of the South of
7 Market (SoMa) Under Freeway Park; and authorizing Public Works to execute all
8 required documents for the project, as defined herein.**

9
10 WHEREAS, The South of Market (“SoMa”) neighborhood faces significant challenges,
11 including limited pedestrian and cycling routes, a lack of green space, seasonal flooding, and
12 air pollution, which disproportionately impacts the health of the community, as identified in
13 San Francisco's Heating and Air Quality Resilience Study; and

14 WHEREAS, The SoMa Under Freeway Park project (“Project”) seeks to rectify these
15 challenges by exploring the potential of underutilized land between 4th and 6th Streets, and
16 Harrison and Bryant Streets, by addressing flooding, expanding the urban tree canopy,
17 improving transportation safety, and creating green spaces for recreation; and

18 WHEREAS, The Project is part of the broader Central SoMa Area Plan of 2018 and
19 builds upon the Department of Public Works’ (“Department”) recent successes, such as
20 launching and operating the San Francisco Street Tree Nursery at 5th and Harrison Streets,
21 and the SoMa Under Freeway Park aims to provide long-term environmental and community
22 benefits; and

23 WHEREAS, On July 9, 2024, the California Department of Transportation (“Caltrans” or
24 “Grantor”) awarded Public Works a grant of \$626,000 through the Fiscal Year 2024-25

1 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for Climate Adaptation to cover the
2 planning phase of the Project (“SoMa Park Planning Phase”); and

3 WHEREAS, The Department will provide \$40,467 in matching funds and in-kind
4 services valued at \$40,638 for the SoMa Park Planning Phase covered by this grant award;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Indirect costs for the SoMa Park Planning Phase, estimated at \$236,710
7 are included in the scope of the project in accordance with the California Department of
8 Transportation's grant requirements and the amount is consistent with the Department's
9 approved Indirect Cost Rate; and

10 WHEREAS, The grant funds will be used exclusively for the planning phase of the
11 SoMa Under Freeway Park project, including site analysis, community engagement, and
12 concept design; and

13 WHEREAS, The grant work is scheduled to begin no earlier than April 2025, and all
14 work must be completed by June 30, 2027; and

15 WHEREAS, On April 19, 2025, the Director of Public Works issued Order No. 211643
16 (the “Order”) recommending that the Board of Supervisors approve the acceptance of the
17 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for Climate Adaptation for the SoMa Park
18 Planning Phase, make the certifications required by the State of California as a condition of
19 awarding the grant, and authorize the Department to enter into the Grant Agreement on behalf
20 of the City and to authorize the Department and the Clerk of the Board to take further actions
21 as may be deemed necessary by the Grantor before the City may accept and expend the
22 grant funds; said Order is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 250635
23 and is incorporated herein by reference; and

24 WHEREAS, The funding provided by this grant is for the development of the project's
25 design and for support for design development, and in no way constitutes or implies public

1 agency approval of the project as that term is used in relation to the California Environmental
2 Quality Act (CEQA) (§ 21002) and Guidelines (§ 15004), the City shall not approve the project
3 until it has adopted a Negative Declaration, a Mitigated Negative Declaration, or a final
4 Environmental Impact Report, or has determined that the project is exempt from CEQA, and
5 has complied with the Department of Public Works procedures (including 10-05-01 Quality-
6 Assurance-Quality-Control-Plan) that constitute Public Works's "program for monitoring or
7 reporting on...the measures it has imposed to mitigate or avoid significant environmental
8 effects" (CEQA Guidelines § 15097); now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors accepts the Department's
10 recommendations in the Order and authorizes the Department to accept and expend
11 \$626,000 from the California Department of Transportation Sustainable Transportation
12 Planning Grant for the planning of the Project; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of Public Works or the Director's designee is
14 authorized to execute all documents necessary for the administration of the grant and to take
15 further actions in accordance with the State's requirements, including but not limited to
16 executing any pertinent agreements and amendments; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That within 30 days of the grant agreement being executed by
18 all parties, San Francisco Public Works shall provide the final agreement to the Clerk of the
19 Board for inclusion in File No. 250635.

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3 Approved: /s/

Recommended:

4 Mayor

/s/

5 Carla Short

6 Director of Public Works

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8 Approved: /s/

9 Greg Wagner

10 Controller

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