

1 [Public Works Week - May 22 through May 26, 2023]

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3 **Resolution commending the dedicated workforce of San Francisco Public Works and**
4 **declaring May 22 through May 26, 2023, as Public Works Week in the City and County**
5 **of San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, It is the mission of San Francisco Public Works to improve the quality of
8 life in San Francisco by providing outstanding public service and partnering with the
9 community; and

10 WHEREAS, Public Works' motto, #LoveOurCity, means that as a team of 1,400 staff
11 and as a 24/7 operation with a diverse portfolio of responsibilities, Public Works touches every
12 neighborhood in San Francisco; the workers design and manage construction of civic
13 buildings, landscapes and streets; clean, maintain and inspect the public right of way; care for
14 and expand the urban forest; pave streets and build curb ramps; repair bridges and public
15 stairways; repair and maintain civic buildings; and train people for jobs; and

16 WHEREAS, During the past year, not only did Public Works staff continue its
17 day-to-day design, field and maintenance work, but Public Works also delivered significant
18 achievements, including the completion of two community-driven projects located in the
19 Bayview – the Southeast Community Center and the Southeast Family Health Center – as
20 well as the Castro Mission Health Center, all of which were designed and/or managed by
21 Public Works architects, landscape architects, project managers and construction managers;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Public Works recently received a national award from Metal Architecture's
24 Judges' Award for the Public Works-designed and construction-managed Bayview SAFE
25 Navigation Center, an innovative homeless shelter; and

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco hosted the national American Society of Landscape
2 Architects annual conference in November 2022, which gave our Bureau of Landscape
3 Architecture the opportunity to showcase its work and initiatives to a national audience
4 through multiple sessions and tours, including on best practices to keep an urban forest
5 thriving amid climate change and the City’s bond-funded parks and playground in North
6 Beach and Chinatown; and

7 WHEREAS, Public Works’ urban forestry, building repair and pothole crews
8 successfully and skillfully responded around the clock to a variety of extraordinary challenges,
9 including three months of pounding winter rain and windstorms that resulted in significant tree
10 and street damage and a barge collision with the historic Third Street Bridge; and

11 WHEREAS, Public Works’ inspectors and street cleaning crews were on at the ready
12 as the City recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic and hosted its typically large roster of
13 parades, attended by tens of thousands of residents and visitors, including Lunar New Year,
14 Carnival, Pride, Bay to Breakers and, in 2022, the Warriors NBA Championship celebration;
15 street cleaning crews and inspectors prepped parade routes and removed tons of confetti,
16 trash and other debris – leaving City streets sparkling just hours after these huge events
17 wrapped up; and

18 WHEREAS, Public Works initiated new programs this year to help the City recover
19 from the COVID-19 pandemic, including a street vending permit system with corresponding
20 enforcement, an opt-in, free graffiti removal program for private property owners in
21 neighborhood commercial corridors, and the installation at Embarcadero Plaza of the first of
22 25 next-generation public toilets in San Francisco; and

23 WHEREAS, After a hiatus during the pandemic, Public Works’ monthly Love our City:
24 Neighborhood Beautification Day events resumed and continues as a robust collaboration
25

1 among neighborhood volunteers, community groups and Public Works employees to clean
2 and green in every supervisorial district, including the special Arbor Day workday in March in
3 the South of Market district, where 117 new street trees were planted; and

4 WHEREAS, As part of Public Works' Racial Equity Initiative, the department published
5 an in-house researched and written history of the department, "Inspecting our Foundation: A
6 Reexamination of Public Works' History through a Racial Equity Lens," which is available on
7 the sfpublicworks.org website; and

8 WHEREAS, Public Works Week is a time when San Francisco Public Works
9 demonstrates what "public works" means by celebrating accomplishments and milestones and
10 hosting activities that reinforce partnerships with San Francisco residents, businesses,
11 community organizations and volunteers; and

12 WHEREAS, During Public Works Week, San Francisco honors the professional and
13 committed Public Works employees who model the best in public service through their
14 steadfastness and professional expertise in stewarding public buildings, landscapes and the
15 public right of way; and

16 WHEREAS, A highlight of Public Works Week is the department's annual Employee
17 Recognition Awards, held this year on May 23, where excellence is honored and recognized
18 within the department; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby declares May 22 through May 26,
20 2023, as Public Works Week in San Francisco and commends the tried-and-true staff of San
21 Francisco Public Works; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges San Francisco residents,
23 neighborhood associations, community nonprofits and merchant organizations to continue to
24 work in collaboration with Public Works to enhance the quality of life in San Francisco.

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