

1 [Accept and Expend Grant - San Francisco Downtown Development Corporation - Powell  
2 Street Improvement Project - \$14,500,000]

3 **Resolution authorizing the Department of Public Works to accept and expend a grant in**  
4 **the amount of up to \$14,500,000 from the San Francisco Downtown Development**  
5 **Corporation, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, to fund the Powell Street**  
6 **Improvement Project; approving the associated grant agreement pursuant to Charter,**  
7 **Section 9.118(a), effective upon approval of the Resolution and upon execution of the**  
8 **grant agreement through June 30, 2029; and affirming the Planning Department’s**  
9 **determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

10  
11 WHEREAS, Since 2025, the Office of the Mayor, the Office of Economic and  
12 Workforce Development, the Department of Public Works (the “Department”), and other City  
13 departments have discussed, generated, and collaborated on strategies and concepts  
14 intended to revitalize San Francisco neighborhoods including the three-block corridor of  
15 Powell Street between Market and Geary Streets (the “Project Location”) for the wellbeing of  
16 San Francisco’s diverse community; and

17 WHEREAS, The City desires to design and complete a streetscape and pedestrian  
18 improvement project at the Project Location that will include pedestrian improvements,  
19 circulation improvements, streetscape surface and landscape enhancements including a  
20 large-scale programmable LED light installation above the cable car turnaround at Market  
21 Street, utility and infrastructure modifications, traffic signal and street lighting modifications,  
22 and cable car stop and loading zone modifications as further described in the Grant  
23 Agreement on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 260514 and  
24 incorporated herein by reference (the “Powell Street Improvement Project”); and

1           WHEREAS, On February 26, 2026, following a competitive contracting process, the  
2 Public Works Commission adopted Resolution No. 2026-0019, awarding a contract to Clark  
3 Construction Group California, LP, for an amount not to exceed \$1,047,819 to perform pre-  
4 construction services including cost estimation, constructability reviews, non-intrusive site  
5 investigations, subcontractor pre-qualification, and preliminary design services pertaining to  
6 potential Powell Street Improvement Project concepts consisting of pedestrian and  
7 streetscape improvements, including streetscape renovations, widened sidewalks, and a  
8 programmable LED catenary light installation; and

9           WHEREAS, On March 12, 2026, the Public Works Commission adopted Resolution  
10 No. 2026-0020, awarding a contract to Field Operations, LLC for an amount not to exceed  
11 \$5,000,000 for professional engineering services in connection with the design of potential  
12 Powell Street Improvement Project concepts; and

13           WHEREAS, On July 28, 2010, the Planning Department prepared and published for  
14 public review the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the San Francisco Better Streets  
15 Plan (Case No. 2007.1238E or “BSP”), which included adoption of a set of citywide  
16 streetscape and pedestrian goals, objectives, policies, and design guidelines, as well as future  
17 strategies to improve the San Francisco pedestrian realm including sidewalks, crosswalks,  
18 and portions of the roadway and the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the BSP was  
19 available for public comment; and

20           WHEREAS, On September 17, 2010, the Planning Department adopted the Final  
21 Mitigated Negative Declaration (the “FMND”) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality  
22 Act (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) (“CEQA”) and determined  
23 that, with the adoption of the mitigation measures contained in the Mitigation Monitoring and  
24 Reporting Program associated with the BSP (“MMRP”), there is no substantial evidence that  
25 the BSP would have a significant effect on the environment based on Sections 15064

1 (Determining Significant Effect), 15065 (Mandatory Findings of Significance), and 15070  
2 (Decision to Prepare a Negative Declaration) of the CEQA Guidelines (14 California Code of  
3 Regulations, Sections 15000 et seq.) and the reasons documented in the FMND; and

4 WHEREAS, On October 28, 2010, the Planning Commission, in Resolution No. 18211  
5 (“Planning Commission Resolution”), adopted findings under CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines,  
6 and Chapter 31 of the Administrative Code (“CEQA Findings”), and adopted the MMRP; and

7 WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 310-10, in which the Board of Supervisors adopted the  
8 CEQA Findings and the BSP, became effective on January 16, 2011; and

9 WHEREAS, On April 23, 2026, the Planning Department issued a determination  
10 (“CEQA Determination”) concluding that the Project is within the scope of the FMND and, with  
11 the adoption of the mitigation measures contained in the MMRP, no supplemental  
12 environmental review or additional documentation is required; and

13 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Downtown Development Corporation, a California  
14 nonprofit public benefit corporation (the “DCC”), was founded in 2025 with the purpose of  
15 revitalizing San Francisco, including its downtown area, and ensuring its residents and visitors  
16 have a safe, clean, dynamic, economically vibrant, and innovative place to live, work, play,  
17 and conduct business; and

18 WHEREAS, The DDC works in close coordination with the City and business, labor,  
19 and civic leaders with the goal of transforming downtown into a thriving destination that drives  
20 economic growth and strengthens San Francisco’s cultural fabric; and

21 WHEREAS, The DDC proposes to provide a grant raised from third-party philanthropic  
22 contributions of up to \$14,500,000 (the “Grant”) for the Powell Street Improvement Project  
23 according to the terms and conditions set forth in the Grant Agreement; and

24 WHEREAS, The Department has determined that no indirect costs will be charged to  
25 the Grant; and

1           WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the FMND, the  
2 Planning Commission Resolution, the CEQA Findings, and the CEQA Determination, and the  
3 preceding documents are on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 260514  
4 and incorporated herein by reference; now, therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the FMND  
6 and record as a whole and finds that the FMND is adequate for its use as the decision-making  
7 body for the approval of the Grant Agreement and the Department's acceptance and  
8 expenditure of the Grant for the Powell Street Improvement Project and incorporates the  
9 CEQA Findings set forth in the Planning Commission Resolution by this reference as though  
10 set forth in this Resolution; and, be it

11          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors finds that since the FMND was  
12 finalized, there have been no substantial changes to the BSP and no substantial changes in  
13 the circumstances pertaining to the BSP that would require major revisions to the FMND due  
14 to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or an increase in the severity of  
15 previously identified significant impacts, and there is no new information of substantial  
16 importance that would change the conclusions set forth in the FMND; and, be it

17          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors finds that the Project would not  
18 cause new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of impacts identified  
19 and analyzed in the FMND, and that the actions approved herein would not necessitate  
20 implementation of additional or considerably different mitigation measures than those  
21 identified in the FMND; and, be it

22          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors adopts as its own the Planning  
23 Department's determination in the CEQA Determination that there is no substantial evidence  
24 that the Project could have a significant effect on the environment; and be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors, pursuant to Charter, Section  
2 9.118(a), hereby approves the Grant Agreement with the DDC, in an amount of up to  
3 \$14,500,000 and authorizes the Director of Public Works or the Director's designee to execute  
4 the Grant Agreement and accept and expend the Grant of up to \$14,500,000 for the Powell  
5 Street Improvement Project; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby waives inclusion of  
7 indirect costs in the Grant budget; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of Public Works or the Director's designee is  
9 authorized to execute all other documents associated with the Grant Agreement as may be  
10 necessary to implement the intent of this Resolution as determined by the City Attorney; and,  
11 be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That within 30 days of the Grant Agreement being executed  
13 by all parties, Public Works shall provide the final agreement to the Clerk of the Board for  
14 inclusion in File No. 260514.

15 APPROVED:

APPROVED:

16 By: /s/ Sophia Kittler for  
17 Mayor Daniel Lurie

/s/ Jocelyn Quintos  
18 Greg Wagner, Controller

19 RECOMMENDED:

20 /S/  
21 Carla Short, Director  
22 San Francisco Public Works

23 4898-5654-0840, v. 1