

1 [Authorizing Construction of an Observation Wheel Structure in Golden Gate Park]

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3 **Resolution retroactively approving, pursuant to Charter, Section 4.113, construction of**
4 **an observation wheel structure in Golden Gate Park for a term starting February 28,**
5 **2020, and lasting for one year following the current permit expiration term, until**
6 **February 7, 2022, with full removal required by March 15, 2022.**

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8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (RPD) maintains and
9 operates real property in the City and County of San Francisco (City) bounded by Fulton,
10 Stanyan, Lincoln and the Great Highway known as "Golden Gate Park"; and

11 WHEREAS, As part of the Golden Gate Park 150th Anniversary celebration, on
12 December 19, 2019, the Recreation and Park Commission approved a permit for a temporary
13 installation of a structure, namely an observation wheel (the "Wheel"), on the eastern side of
14 the Music Concourse area located beyond the Music Concourse Bowl Drive behind the
15 Francis Scott Key monument and bordering Music Concourse Drive (Resolution No. 1912-
16 011), and RPD entered into a Permit dated February 28, 2020 (the "Permit") with SkyStar
17 Wheel, LLC (the "Operator") for installation of the structure; and

18 WHEREAS, On January 15, 2020, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed and
19 approved with conditions a Certificate of Appropriateness Application (Motion No. 0407) for
20 the one-year installation of an observation wheel in the Music Concourse to commemorate the
21 150th Anniversary of Golden Gate Park; and

22 WHEREAS, The wheel was expected to open on April 4, 2020, however, when the City
23 issued a Shelter-in-Place Order on March 17, 2020, construction for the wheel halted as soon
24 as the structure was stabilized, and the wheel did not begin operations until October 21, 2020;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, The Permit includes an operational term ending February 7, 2021,
2 requiring full removal of the Wheel by March 15, 2021, including removal of support structures
3 and the top eight feet of the foundation support piers, and full restoration of the site; and

4 WHEREAS, San Francisco Charter, Section 4.113 provides, in pertinent part, that no
5 structure shall be erected, enlarged or expanded in Golden Gate Park or Union Square Park
6 unless such action has been approved by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Supervisors;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission and Recreation and Park
9 Commission are contemplating an extension of the term of the contract for construction of the
10 structure and operation of the Wheel, acknowledging the disruption and delayed opening
11 caused by the March 17, 2020, Shelter-in-Place Order; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors adopts and incorporates by reference
13 herein the CEQA findings adopted in Historic Preservation Commission Motion No. 0407, and
14 further finds that that there have been no substantial changes proposed for the project and no
15 substantial changes in the project circumstances; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby retroactively approves
17 construction of the operation wheel structure in Golden Gate Park to the start date of the
18 Permit, February 28, 2020, and approves the extension of the term of that Permit by one year
19 to February 7, 2022, with full removal of the structure and full restoration of the site by March
20 15, 2022, pursuant to the conditions and specifications set forth in Recreation and Park
21 Commission Resolution No. 1912-011 and Historic Preservation Commission Motion No.
22 0407.