

1 [Supporting Fire-Displaced Residents with Extended Aid, Case Management, and Stronger  
2 Language Access]

3 **Resolution urging the City of San Francisco to strengthen fire displacement response  
4 systems and prevent newly displaced residents from becoming homeless.**

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6 WHEREAS, San Francisco has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and dignity  
7 of all residents, especially during times of crisis when families are displaced, traumatized, and  
8 at risk of becoming unhoused; and

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10 WHEREAS, On December 12, 2025, a three-alarm fire at 50 Golden Gate Avenue  
11 displaced all residents of the building, in which 66 of the 78 residential units were occupied at  
12 the time of the fire, representing 142 residents, including families with young children, seniors,  
13 and tenants with limited English proficiency, forcing them from their homes; and

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15 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Human Services Agency (SFHSA), in coordination with  
16 the American Red Cross and other city departments, responded by establishing an  
17 evacuation center, coordinating emergency transportation, placing residents in hotels, and  
18 administering the temporary assistance for displaced persons (TADP) program; and

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20 WHEREAS, SFHSA staff provided bilingual support and interpretation, hosted  
21 information sessions, opened a local assistance center, assisted residents with temporary  
22 assistance for displaced persons applications, and extended hotel stays beyond standard  
23 timelines in recognition of the scale of the displacement; and

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25 WHEREAS, Despite these actions, many displaced residents remain in crisis due to  
ongoing housing shortages, expiring temporary assistance, and systemic barriers beyond the  
scope of emergency response; and

WHEREAS, The scale and duration of displacement have left many residents facing  
continued instability, as those impacted note the one-week duration of temporary assistance

1 programs is insufficient to secure housing in San Francisco's constrained rental market,  
2 leaving households at risk when assistance sunsets; and

3 WHEREAS, Residents with limited english proficiency continue to face significant  
4 barriers navigating displacement services, even when interpretation is available,  
5 demonstrating that language access must be sustained, proactive, and integrated across all  
6 stages of recovery, not limited to emergency response settings; and highlighting the limits of  
7 episodic interpretation when residents are navigating complex, multi-step recovery systems;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Existing displacement response systems leave many displaced residents  
10 in the "missing middle," excluding households from rental assistance due to rigid asset  
11 thresholds that do not reflect actual access to liquid resources; and

12 WHEREAS, These exclusions persist even when residents lack the means to secure  
13 housing in a constrained rental market, forcing displaced residents to rely on resident-led  
14 housing searches without sufficient staffing, case management, or program flexibility to  
15 address the realities of long-term displacement following a major fire; and

16 WHEREAS, The temporary assistance for displaced persons asset thresholds set  
17 minimums at \$30,000 for single-person households and \$60,000 for family households, which  
18 are significantly lower than comparable state medical assistance standards such as Medi-Cal,  
19 where current countable asset limits are \$130,000 for a single person and increase by  
20 \$65,000 for each additional household member, underscoring the need to update local  
21 thresholds to better align with residents' financial realities and ensure access to housing  
22 support; and

23 WHEREAS, Disaster recovery efforts that allow families to fall closer to homelessness  
24 fail to meet the fundamental goals of recovery; now, therefore, be it

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1           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors calls on the Mayor to allocate additional  
2    emergency and ongoing funding to the San Francisco Human Services Agency to expand  
3    staffing dedicated to fire displacement response, including case managers who can provide  
4    individualized and continuous support to displaced households; and

5           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges SFHSA, in coordination with the office of  
6    Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs, to continue and strengthen language access  
7    services, as outlined in the language access ordinance, for all meetings, written  
8    communications, outreach, and application processes related to displacement and recovery;  
9    and

10          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board calls for the expansion and increased flexibility  
11    of the Temporary Assistance for Displaced Persons program, including a 1-2 week extension  
12    of assistance beyond the standard timeline and adjustments to the asset thresholds from  
13    \$30,000 to \$130,000 for single-person households and adding \$65,000 for each additional  
14    household member in alignment with Medi-Cal 2026 thresholds; and

15          FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board affirms that disaster response must be rooted  
16    in equity, transparency, and compassion, ensuring that no family displaced by fire is left  
17    without shelter, support, or a clear path to permanent housing.

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