

1 [Polk Street Bicycle Lane.]

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3 **Resolution establishing contra flow bicycle lanes on the east side of Polk Street from**
4 **Market Street to McAllister Street.**

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6 WHEREAS, It is a goal of the City and County of San Francisco to provide a safe and
7 continuous bicycle network to destinations throughout the City; and

8 WHEREAS, There is a worsening physical inactivity and obesity crisis in the United
9 States, with looming impacts on disease rates and health care costs; and,

10 WHEREAS, Bicycling and walking as part of an every day routine are simple and easy
11 ways to exercise and reduce the risk of heart attacks, stroke, and diabetes; and,

12 WHEREAS, Global climate change is a real and looming threat to our economy, our
13 public health and our environment; and,

14 WHEREAS, The transportation sector is the fastest growing source of carbon dioxide
15 emissions in the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, Establishing bicycle lanes throughout the City have increased bicycle
17 mode share on those streets by an average of 50%, benefiting cyclists by providing dedicated
18 roadway space, motorists by relieving congestion, and San Francisco residents in general by
19 improving safety on City streets, and reducing air pollution including greenhouse gas
20 emissions; and

21 WHEREAS, the Department of Parking and Traffic, in collaboration with the San
22 Francisco Bicycle Coalition and San Francisco County Transportation Authority, has recently
23 undertaken an unprecedented community planning process to update San Francisco's Bicycle
24 Plan; and

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1 WHEREAS, A series of high priority projects were identified from input received by the
2 public and the establishment of a contra-flow lane on Polk Street is identified as one of these
3 top tier projects; and

4 WHEREAS, The existing bicycle lanes on Polk Street between McAllister Street and
5 Post Street have increased bicycling by more than 40%; and

6 WHEREAS, City Hall and existing Polk Street bicycle lanes are difficult to access from
7 Market Street by bicycle, because of a one-way restriction on the southern end of Polk Street;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Contra-flow bicycle lanes are in use in many jurisdictions, including San
10 Francisco's Presidio, Santa Cruz, Eugene, Oregon, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Madison,
11 Wisconsin; and

12 WHEREAS, The provision of contra-flow lanes where there has been a history of
13 sidewalk or wrong way bicycle riding has improved safety and reduced conflicts between
14 bicycles and motor vehicles; and

15 WHEREAS, This plan is in accordance with the San Francisco General Plan, and will
16 improve safety and accessibility for bicyclists as well as pedestrians, autos, and transit
17 vehicles; now therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco in
19 accordance with the provisions of the California Vehicle Code and the San Francisco Traffic
20 Code, hereby authorizes the following regulation governing the establishment of bicycle lanes
21 on Polk Street:

22 BICYCLE LANE – ESTABLISH

23 Polk Street, east side from Market Street to McAllister Street

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