

1 [Commendation]

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3 **Resolution commending Helen Sause upon her retirement from the San Francisco**
4 **Redevelopment Agency and for her numerous contributions to the City and County of**
5 **San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, Helen Sause began her career with the San Francisco Redevelopment
8 Agency in 1968 as Assistant to the Director; and

9 WHEREAS, Over the next thirty years, Ms. Sause was promoted to positions within the
10 Agency of increasing responsibility, including Agency Secretary, Project Director for the Yerba
11 Buena Redevelopment Project Area and most recently, Deputy Executive Director for
12 Programs and Project Management, and,

13 WHEREAS, As Project Director for the Yerba Buena Center, Ms. Sause, with
14 immeasurable energy, determination and persistence, was directly responsible for promoting
15 over \$2.5 billion of development, including over \$150 million of public improvements; and,

16 WHERAS, It is also in this capacity that Ms. Sause accommodated the Yerba Buena
17 Project Area to enormous changes in uses, including the insertion of the Moscone Center, the
18 design of the Yerba Buena Gardens Esplanade, the negotiation of the construction of
19 numerous social and cultural institutions, such as two major museums, a theater, an ice
20 skating rink, the Children’s Place, a bowling alley, the Metreon complex, five first class hotels,
21 and more than a thousand units of affordable housing and an equivalent number of marker
22 rate housing units;

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Sause’s achievements with the Yerba Buena Center Project resulted
24 in the presentation of numerous awards from organizations such as the National Association
25 of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, the International Downtown Association, the

1 Lambda Alpha, an international real estate and development organization, as well as assisting
2 in the creation of the theater in Yerba Buena Gardens which is the first and only building in
3 San Francisco to receive the American Institute of Architects Award of Merit; and,

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Sause has been the driving force behind the activation, support and
5 funding for the Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena through ensuring the ongoing financial
6 support of the Center by building a substantial portion of its financing into the surrounding real
7 estate market to encouraging the participation in the affairs of the Center by the City's leading
8 citizens and ensuring the Center's numerous cultural and community affairs; and,

9 WHEREAS, During her service as Deputy Executive Director for Programs and Project
10 Management, Ms. Sause oversaw all development activities in the Agency's six active
11 redevelopment areas and the redevelopment plan development activities in its six survey
12 areas; and,

13 WHEREAS, In this capacity, she provided leadership to the Agency's project managers
14 and negotiated complex deals with developers, financial institutions and various funding
15 agencies and resolved complex issues between the Agency and its contractors, private
16 developers, community groups and City officials; and,

17 WHEREAS, Ms. Sause is an active participant in numerous environmental and social
18 organizations, including serving as founding director of the Yerba Buena Alliance, Chair of
19 Episcopal Homes Foundation, a board member of the San Francisco Development Fund, a
20 member and past president of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment
21 Officials, vice chair of the Alameda Base Re-Use Advisory Committee, a member of the
22 Alameda Citizens' Housing Corporation, the Urban Land Institute and the San Francisco
23 Planning and Urban Research Association; and,

24 WHEREAS, Through her service to the Redevelopment Agency and her involvement in
25 numerous social organizations, Ms. Sause has not only ensured the improvement of the

1 Agency's policies and activities, but also the wellbeing of all citizens in the City and County of
2 San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
4 does hereby commend Helen Sause upon her retirement from the San Francisco
5 Redevelopment Agency and for her numerous contributions to the City and County of San
6 Francisco; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors wishes Ms. Sause every
8 success in her future endeavors.

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