

1 [Supporting a Reparations Plan and Advisory Committee]

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3 **Resolution supporting a reparations plan that will comprehensively address the**
4 **inequities that exist in the African American community as a result of slavery’s legacy**
5 **of systemic oppression and creation of an advisory committee for the African**
6 **American community.**

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8 WHEREAS, African Americans were enslaved in the United States from 1619 to 1865,
9 when slavery officially ended with the ratification of the 13th Amendment; and

10 WHEREAS, The trauma of slavery has remained throughout generations for the
11 African American community and exists today; and

12 WHEREAS, The legacy of slavery continues to manifest in education disparities for the
13 African American community; schools with majority African American students suffer from
14 fewer material resources, advanced classes, experienced teachers, and school counselors,
15 and lower completion rates, ultimately leading to lower acceptance rates at top universities;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, only 26% of African American students met state
18 standards in the 2015-2016 school year, compared with 85.4% of white students; and

19 WHEREAS, The legacy of slavery continues to manifest in housing disparities for the
20 African American community; and

21 WHEREAS, From 1934 to 1968, the Federal Housing Administration carried out a
22 policy of “redlining,” refusing to back loans for African Americans; this forced African
23 Americans to live in poor, under-resourced neighborhoods and strongly hindered wealth
24 accumulation among African Americans; and

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1 WHEREAS, Because of low property value in previously redlined areas, landlords and
2 investors have specifically targeted these areas for redevelopment and gentrification; as a
3 result, to clear these areas for redevelopment, redlined areas in San Francisco are more
4 affected by foreclosures on high-interest loans and no-fault evictions via recent laws like the
5 Ellis Act than non-redlined areas in San Francisco; for example, folks living in Bayview
6 Hunters Point, with a zip code of 94124, a predominantly African American neighborhood and
7 previously redlined neighborhood, are 5 times more likely to face foreclosures than folks living
8 in the Marina, with a zip code of 94129, a predominantly white neighborhood and not
9 previously redlined; and

10 WHEREAS, The legacy of slavery continues to manifest in overcriminalization of the
11 African American community; and

12 WHEREAS, African Americans in San Francisco are 7.7 times more likely than white
13 San Franciscans to be arrested; once arrested, African Americans are more likely to be
14 convicted, and once convicted, they are more likely to experience lengthy prison sentences;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, these disparities have led to African Americans making
17 up 41% of those arrested, 43% of those booked into jail, 38% of cases filed by the Office of
18 the District Attorney, and 39% of new convictions despite making up only 6% of San
19 Francisco's population; and

20 WHEREAS, The legacy of slavery continues to manifest in health disparities for the
21 African American community; African American neighborhoods consistently have fewer
22 healthy food options than white neighborhoods; this, in combination with predatory advertising
23 by unhealthy food and drink companies, has led to African Americans having higher rates of
24 diabetes, obesity, heart disease, and tooth decay among other disparities in cancer rates and
25 mental health diseases; and

1 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, African Americans are 6.7 times more likely to be
2 hospitalized by diabetes, 3 times more likely to have high blood pressure, 7 times more likely
3 to have tuberculosis, and have an average life expectancy of ten fewer years than white San
4 Franciscans; and

5 WHEREAS, Reparations are a financial recompense for African Americans whose
6 ancestors provided free labor for hundreds of years and lived through the Jim Crow era; the
7 enslavement and overall persecution of African Americans in the United States has enriched
8 the United States and created disparities in income, wealth, and education between blacks
9 and whites; reparations are needed to reduce these current-day legacies of slavery and Jim
10 Crow; and

11 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has previously acknowledged the
12 wrongs of history towards African Americans in 2006 through Chapter 12Y: The San
13 Francisco Slavery Disclosure Ordinance, which requires insurance companies, financial
14 services firms, and textile companies, either directly or through their parent entities,
15 subsidiaries, predecessors in interest, or otherwise engaged in slavery or the slave trade to
16 disclose their history; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors will create an advisory
18 committee housed under the San Francisco Human Rights Commission to create a
19 reparations plan that will comprehensively address the inequities that exist in the African
20 American community as a result slavery's legacy of systemic oppression; this committee will
21 be the first of its kind; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this reparations advisory committee will include input
23 from the African American community on prioritizing reparations addressing education,
24 housing, violence prevention, workforce development, economic opportunities, financial
25 stability, small businesses, transportation, health disparities, food insecurity, and

1 overcriminalization to achieve a comprehensive and true reparations plan to alleviate the
2 residue of oppression from slavery that continues to plague the African American community
3 in San Francisco.

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