

1 [Urging Public Works and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to Preserve
2 Ghost Bikes as Memorials and in Support of Vision Zero]

3 **Resolution urging Public Works and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation**
4 **Agency (SFMTA) to work with the Bicycle Advisory Committee, other appropriate**
5 **departments, and advocates to create a plan and procedures permitting Ghost Bikes or**
6 **other appropriate memorials at locations in and around San Francisco to raise**
7 **awareness of safety, and to memorialize those killed on San Francisco streets.**

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9 WHEREAS, Bicycling and walking are key modes of the City of San Francisco’s
10 “Transit First Policy”, adopted in 1973, and established in the City Charter, Section. 8A.115,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, “The Climate Action Plan” calls on San Francisco to “increase bicycling
13 and walking as an alternative to driving;” and

14 WHEREAS, The 2009 San Francisco Bicycle Plan declares, “An increase in bicycling is
15 a critical component to improving the future health and prosperity of San Francisco. With
16 limited public investment, the City can improve conditions for bicycling in order to help achieve
17 numerous important goals, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving energy,
18 improving the health, and physical fitness of residents, mitigating the negative effects of traffic
19 congestion, improving air quality, providing affordable transportation alternatives, and creating
20 more livable neighborhoods;” and

21 WHEREAS, The Bicycle Advisory Committee is charged by Administrative Code,
22 Article XIV, Section 5.132 with promoting cycling in the City; and

23 WHEREAS, More than 20 cyclists have been killed in traffic in San Francisco since
24 2005, including four cyclists killed in 2015, and two to date in 2016; and

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1 WHEREAS, To serve as a stark reminder of tragic bicyclist deaths, advocates and
2 friends and relatives of the deceased have created makeshift memorials or “Ghost Bikes”
3 consisting of bicycles painted white at the locations of fatalities involving cyclists; and

4 WHEREAS, Every Ghost Bike serves as a reminder to the entire community that safety
5 is not to be taken for granted, that we all have a duty to participate in safety regardless of our
6 choice of means of transportation, and that the consequences of crashes are sometimes the
7 tragic loss of life; and

8 WHEREAS, A similar resolution was passed unanimously by the Bicycle Advisory
9 Committee on October 24, 2016; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors supports the Bicycle Advisory Committee’s
11 recommendation that an immediate moratorium on the removal of any “Ghost Bike” placed
12 anywhere within the confines of the City and County of San Francisco for at least one year,
13 providing that such “Ghost Bike” is not in violation of any local ordinances that involve public
14 safety, i.e.: no “Ghost Bike” may block egress by pedestrians, wheelchair users, city and
15 county workers, including first responders and privately employed delivery persons, block any
16 roadway, or present any other public safety or health hazard; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, Public Works and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation
18 Agency, (SFMTA), work with the Bicycle Advisory Committee, San Francisco Bay Area
19 Families for Safe Streets, and any other appropriate City agency or advocacy organization
20 deemed necessary, to draft an ordinance for permitting those who wish to place a “Ghost
21 Bike” or other appropriate memorial at locations in and around San Francisco; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, Within one year’s time, or by October 23, 2017, that the
23 Bicycle Advisory Committee, with the full support of Public Works and SFMTA, and/or any
24 other appropriate City agency of department, jointly report to the Board of Supervisors, said

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1 recommendations for an ordinance for the permitted placement of “Ghost Bikes” or other
2 memorials by citizens who wishes to do so.

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