

1 [Possible Removal and Replacement of the Vaillancourt Fountain in Justin Herman Plaza.]

2

3 **Resolution urging the Recreation and Park Department and the Arts Commission, in**
4 **consultation with the City Attorney’s Office, the Port Commission and the Department**
5 **of Public Works, to consider the possible removal and replacement of the Vaillancourt**
6 **Fountain from Justin Herman Plaza with alternative works of art or public areas and to**
7 **explore possible funding sources for such removal and replacement.**

8

9 WHEREAS, The Vaillancourt Fountain at Justin Herman Plaza and Four Embarcadero
10 Center has was built in 1971 by French-Canadian sculptor Armand Vaillancourt on land
11 cleared for the Embarcadero Freeway and BART;

12 WHEREAS, The Fountain is built on the site of former hotels and bars in an area once
13 well populated by seamen and was designed to release thousands of gallons of water from its
14 openings;

15 WHEREAS, Although the Fountain originally operated in the manner in which the Artist
16 and community intended, the City has had to turn off the Fountain for an indefinite period of
17 time because the Fountain costs approximately \$200,000 a year to run and requires over a
18 \$100,000 of repairs before it can be turned back on;

19 WHEREAS, The City has been unable to raise sufficient funds to operate and repair
20 the Fountain;

21 WHEREAS; Since its installation in 1971, the Fountain has become an attractive
22 nuisance to the public and a risk to the public health and safety;

23 WHEREAS, Waterfront business owners have expressed concerns over the negative
24 impact that the Fountain is having in Justin Herman Plaza;

25

1 WHEREAS, the City is committed to notifying Mr. Vaillancourt and any interested arts
2 organizations of any potential alternative disposition of the Fountain; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby urges the Recreation and Park
4 Department and the Arts Commission, in consultation with the City Attorney's Office, the Port
5 Commission and the Department of Public Works, to consider the possible removal and
6 replacement of the Vaillancourt Fountain from Justin Herman Plaza with alternative works of
7 art or public areas and to explore possible funding sources for such removal and replacement.

8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25