

[Resolution Urging MTA to approve temporary “Street Closure to Vehicular Traffic” on O’Farrell St. between Steiner and Fillmore for Farmers’ Market]

Resolution urging the Municipal Transportation Authority to enact temporary “Street Closure to Vehicular Traffic” regulations on O’Farrell Street between Steiner Street and Fillmore Street from 7 A.M. to 2 P.M. on every Saturday between April 26, 2008 and November 22, 2008.

WHEREAS, Over the last five years the Fillmore Farmers’ Market drew an average of 1,000 customers to each market, drawing over 28,000 shoppers to the Fillmore District in 2007; and,

WHEREAS, Studies show that low-income communities and communities of color such as the Fillmore suffer from the lack of access to healthy food including fresh produce; and,

WHEREAS, Farmers’ markets are one means to address the lack of access to healthy, nutritious food, including fresh and organic fruits and vegetables at reasonable prices; and,

WHEREAS, Fast food outlets and corner stores are often a primary local food source available to residents in the community; and,

WHEREAS, Fast food and food commonly purchased at corner stores is typically high in fat content; and,

WHEREAS, High fat diets are associated with an increased risk of obesity, heart disease, diabetes mellitus, some types of cancer, and other health problems; and,

WHEREAS, The Fillmore Saturday Farmers’ Market accepts EBT (food stamps), Senior and WIC coupons, ensuring that the market is accessible to lower income shoppers; and,

1 WHEREAS, Farmers' markets provide an opportunity for consumers to interact directly
2 with the people in the region who grow the food and for farmers to learn more about what
3 their customers want; and,

4 WHEREAS, Food sold and purchased at farmers' markets travels a shorter distance
5 from field to table than most food in the grocery store thus saving fuel and helping to protect
6 the environment; and,

7 WHEREAS, The Sustainability Plan for the City and County of San Francisco, adopted
8 by the Board of Supervisors in 1997, lists access to nutritious, affordable, and safe food as a
9 principal goal; and,

10 WHEREAS, The Sustainability Plan identifies creating farmers' markets in every
11 neighborhood in San Francisco as a long-term objective; and,

12 WHEREAS, The Fillmore Farmers' Market provides residents with access to fruits and
13 vegetables that will help Fillmore families meet their nutritional needs; and,

14 WHEREAS, San Francisco Traffic Code sections 803, 804, 805, and 807 sets forth the
15 procedure for temporary street closures; now, therefore, be it
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17 RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors urges the MTA to approve a temporary "Street
18 Closure to Vehicular Traffic" regulation on O'Farrell Street between Steiner Street and
19 Fillmore Street from 7 A.M. to 2 P.M. on every Saturday between April 26, 2008 and
20 November 22, 2008.
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