

1 [Accept and expend grants in accordance with the California Secretary of State VOTE Grant  
2 Program]

3 **Resolution authorizing the San Francisco Department of Elections to accept and**  
4 **expend grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$249,998.41 for improving accessibility**  
5 **to and participation in the election process for individuals with disabilities in**  
6 **accordance with the California Secretary of State’s VOTE Grant Program.**

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8 WHEREAS, The California Secretary of State has been awarded grant funds from the  
9 United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and  
10 Families, Administration on Developmental Disabilities, Voting Access for Individuals with  
11 Disabilities (VOTE) under Section 261 of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA); and,

12 WHEREAS, The California Secretary of State has been delegated the responsibility to  
13 oversee the VOTE Grant process to distribute the funds to counties through the competitive  
14 VOTE Grant Program; and,

15 WHEREAS, The California Secretary of State has developed the VOTE Grant Program  
16 to assist counties in increasing accessibility to voting such as assessing accessibility to polling  
17 places and voting areas, obtaining materials and equipment to provide the same opportunity  
18 for access and participation (including privacy and independence) to individuals with  
19 disabilities as for other voters, to train elections officials and poll workers on how to best  
20 promote access and participation of individuals with disabilities, and to provide individuals with  
21 disabilities with information about the accessibility of polling places and voting; and,

22 WHEREAS, The Department of Elections prepared an Accessibility Program Plan that  
23 described its proposed use of grant funds that included a timeline for completion and detailed  
24 costs for each activity and associated category, and the Department of Elections consulted  
25 with representatives from the Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the

1 Independent Living Resource Center and as well as considered feedback from poll workers  
2 when considering its application; and,

3 WHEREAS, The Department of Elections' application for the VOTE Grant Program  
4 funds has been accepted by the California Secretary of State and the entire amount  
5 requested by the Department was granted; and,

6 WHEREAS, The Department of Elections must provide the Secretary of State with  
7 detailed invoices prior to receiving reimbursement of funds expended in the course of the  
8 VOTE Grant Program; and,

9 WHEREAS, The Department of Elections agrees to provide the Secretary of State with  
10 a summary report on the Department's activities following each election which includes the  
11 amount of funding expended, assessments and metrics of the quality of the activities and  
12 materials, and public comment including community groups; and,

13 WHEREAS, The anticipated grant start date is January 4, 2010; and

14 WHEREAS, The grant terms prohibit including indirect costs in the grant budget; now,  
15 be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Department of Elections is hereby authorized to accept and  
17 expend grants under the California Secretary of State's VOTE Grant Program in an amount  
18 not to exceed \$249,998.41 to improve accessibility to and participation in the elections  
19 process for individuals with the full range of disabilities; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby waives inclusion of  
21 indirect costs in the grant budget; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director of Elections is authorized to enter into an  
23 agreement with the California Secretary of State on behalf of the City and County of San  
24 Francisco for the acceptance and expenditure of these funds granted under Section 261 of  
25 the Help America Vote Act.

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RECOMMENDED:

APPROVED:

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John Arntz  
Director of Elections

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Mayor

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Controller