

1 [Accept and expend federal grant funds for the preservation and restoration of the Old Mint.]

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3 **Resolution authorizing the Mayor’s Office of Economic Development to accept and**
4 **expend a federal grant in the amount of \$498,900 for the Preservation and Restoration**
5 **of the Old Mint.**

6 WHEREAS, The Federal Government owns that certain property located in the City of
7 San Francisco, bounded by Fifth, Jessie, Mint and Mission Streets commonly known as the
8 Old U.S. Mint (the “Old Mint”), but has long since ceased use and operation of the Old Mint
9 and has declared the Old Mint surplus to its needs; and,

10 WHEREAS, The Old Mint played a pivotal role in the financial history of the United
11 States and is considered one of the last major Greek Revival buildings in the country
12 associated with federal architecture; as such the Old Mint occupies a prominent position in the
13 historical, architectural, and economic development of San Francisco and the nation and was
14 designated as a National Historic Landmark on July 4, 1961 and included on the National
15 Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966; and,

16 WHEREAS, Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a letter of intent between the
17 Federal General Services Administration (“GSA”) and the City, GSA and the City have agreed
18 to the terms for the conveyance of ownership of the Old Mint, including a quit claim deed with
19 covenants requiring the City or any subsequent owners to comply with the Secretary of
20 Interior’s Standards for historic preservation in any alteration or rehabilitation of the Old Mint,
21 and to obtain the approval of the State’s Historic Preservation Officer (“SHPO”) regarding
22 such alterations at various stages in the design and construction process; and a
23 Programmatic Agreement that, among other things, sets forth a coherent process for securing
24 SHPO’s approvals under the deed and resolving disputes; and,

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1 WHEREAS, As part of its due diligence related to the possible transfer of the Old Mint,
2 and in order to verify that that reuse of the Old Mint under the agreed-upon historic
3 preservation covenants is financially feasible, City staff hopes to identify an acceptable
4 development plan for the Old Mint through a public competitive Request for Proposals (“RFP”)
5 process before seeking Board of Supervisors approval of a transfer of title; and,

6 WHEREAS, The Mayor has established a blue ribbon task force (the “Old Mint Task
7 Force”) to (i) solicit public comment regarding the Old Mint, (ii) help craft the form and content
8 of the RFP, (iii) evaluate responses to the RFP, and (iv) make recommendations regarding
9 the conveyance and development of the Old Mint to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors;
10 and,

11 WHEREAS, In order to complete the City’s due diligence review of the Old Mint and to
12 support the efforts of the Old Mint Task Force, including the Old Mint Task Force’s evaluation
13 of responses to the RFP, certain historic preservation and economic development consultant
14 services are needed; and,

15 WHEREAS, In order to minimize costs and liabilities associated with ownership of the
16 Old Mint prior to its development, certain maintenance and security services will need to
17 be provided to the Old Mint; and,

18 WHEREAS, In order to pay for such consultant, maintenance and security costs
19 without burdening the City’s General Fund, the City has secured a grant from the Community
20 Planning and Development division of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
21 Development in the amount of \$498,900 (the “Grant”) for the following purposes related to the
22 preservation and rehabilitation of the Old Mint, (i) preparation of a Historic Structures Report,
23 (ii) review of responses to the RFP for consistency with the Secretary of Interior’s Standards
24 for Historic Preservation by an expert historic preservation consultant, (iii) economic and
25 market analysis of the feasibility of developing the Old Mint, and (iv) operations, maintenance

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2 and security costs associated with ownership of the Old Mint prior to development; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors does hereby authorize the Mayor's Office
5 of Economic Development to accept and expend the Grant for the purposes described in this
6 Resolution, and to execute all documents required therefor.

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8 Recommended:

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Leamon Abrams
Director
Mayor's Office of Economic Development

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13 Approved:

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Edward Harrington
Controller

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