

1 [CEQA Findings in Connection with the California Academy of Sciences Project.]

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3 **Resolution affirming the Planning Commission's certification of the California**
4 **Academy of Sciences Final Environmental Impact and adopting environmental findings**
5 **(and a statement of overriding considerations) pursuant to the California**
6 **Environmental Quality Act, State Guidelines, and Administrative Code Chapter 31 in**
7 **connection with the California Academy of Sciences project.**

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9 WHEREAS, The California Academy of Sciences ("Academy") proposes a rebuilding
10 project at its existing location in Golden Gate Park (the "Project"); and,

11 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco ("City") has conducted a planning
12 and environmental review process for the proposed Project and provided public hearings
13 before the Recreation and Park and Planning Commissions; and,

14 WHEREAS, The actions listed in Attachment A (the "Actions"), attached hereto and
15 incorporated herein by reference, are part of a series of considerations in connection with
16 approval of the Project, as more particularly defined in Attachment A. A copy of said
17 Attachment is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____;
18 and,

19 WHEREAS, On March 15, 2003, the Planning Department ("Department") released for
20 public review and comment the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") (SCH No.
21 2002092097) for the Project; and,

22 WHEREAS, The Planning Commission held a duly noticed DEIR public hearing on
23 April 24, 2003; and,

24 WHEREAS, The Department prepared a Final Environmental Impact Report ("FEIR")
25 for the Project consisting of the DEIR, the comments received during the review periods, any

1 additional information that became available, and the Summary of Comments and
2 Responses, all as required by law; and,

3 WHEREAS, On July 10, 2003, the Planning Commission reviewed and considered the
4 FEIR and, by Motion No. _____, found that the contents of such report and the
5 procedures through which the FEIR was prepared, publicized and reviewed complied with the
6 provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the CEQA Guidelines (Title
7 14, California Code of Regulations §§ 15000 et seq.) and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco
8 Administrative Code. Said Motion is incorporated herein by reference and a copy is on file
9 with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____; and,

10 WHEREAS, By Motion No. _____, the Planning Commission (i) found that
11 the FEIR was adequate, accurate and objective, reflected the independent judgment and
12 analysis of the Planning Commission; (ii) found that the FEIR recognized significant
13 environmental impacts associated with the Project; (iii) determined that no significant new
14 information was added between public notice of the availability of the DEIR and certification of
15 the FEIR; and (iv) certified the completion of the FEIR for the Project in compliance with
16 CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code; and,

17 WHEREAS, The Planning and Recreation and Park Commissions took various actions
18 related to the Project, and in connection therewith adopted findings, as required by CEQA,
19 regarding the FEIR, alternatives and variants, mitigation measures and significant
20 environmental impacts analyzed in the FEIR, overriding considerations for approving the
21 Project, associated Actions listed in Attachment A, and a proposed mitigation monitoring
22 program. The Planning Commission action in Resolution No. _____ and the
23 Recreation and Park Commission action in Resolution No. _____ are incorporated
24 herein by reference. Copies of such resolutions are on file with the Clerk of the Board of
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1 Supervisors in File No. _____. Such materials are available to the public and this
2 Board of Supervisors for its review, consideration, and action; and,

3 WHEREAS, The FEIR files and other Project-related Department files are available for
4 review by this Board of Supervisors and the public. The Planning Department files are
5 available at 1660 Mission Street and the Recreation and Park Department files are available
6 at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, 501 Stanyan Avenue. Those files are part of the
7 record before this Board of Supervisors and are incorporated by reference herein; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reviewed and considered Planning
10 Commission Motion No. _____ certifying the FEIR, finds that the FEIR is adequate,
11 accurate, and objective, and reflects the independent judgment and analysis of this Board,
12 and hereby affirms the Planning Commission's certification of the FEIR; and,

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board of Supervisors finds on the basis of
14 substantial evidence in light of the whole record that: (1) modifications incorporated into the
15 Project and reflected in the Actions will not require important revisions to the FEIR due to the
16 involvement of new significant environmental effects or substantial increase in the severity of
17 previously identified significant effects; (2) no substantial changes have occurred with respect
18 to the circumstances under which the Project or the Actions were undertaken which would
19 require major revisions to the FEIR due to the involvement of new significant environmental
20 effects, or a substantial increase in the severity of effects identified in the FEIR; and (3) no
21 new information of substantial importance to the Project or the Actions has become available
22 since the Planning Commission action which would indicate (a) the Project or the Actions will
23 have significant effects not discussed in the FEIR; (b) significant environmental effects will be
24 substantially more severe; (c) mitigation measures or alternatives found not feasible which
25 would reduce one or more significant effects have become feasible; or (d) mitigation

1 measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those in the FEIR would
2 substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reviewed and considered the
4 FEIR and hereby adopts the Project Findings attached hereto as Attachment A, including a
5 statement of overriding considerations, and its Exhibits 1 (FEIR Mitigation Measures) and 2
6 (California Academy of Sciences Project Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program), and
7 incorporates the same herein by this reference.

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