

1 [Relief for Small Businesses Impacted by the Islais Creek Bridge Replacement Project]

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3 **Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to establish a Small Business**
4 **Relief Fund for merchants affected by the Islais Creek Bridge Replacement Project**
5 **along the Third Street corridor.**

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7 WHEREAS, The Islais Creek Bridge on Third Street, a critical corridor for transit,
8 pedestrians, and commerce, is set to undergo full demolition and reconstruction beginning as
9 early as January 2027, with construction expected to last up to three years; and

10 WHEREAS, This bridge replacement will result in the full closure of Third Street
11 between Marin Street and Cargo Way, cutting off direct vehicle, pedestrian, and light-rail
12 access through this essential economic and transit corridor for an extended period; and

13 WHEREAS, The Islais Creek Bridge, originally built as a bascule drawbridge over 70
14 years ago, has not opened in over 15 years, is structurally deteriorating and seismically
15 vulnerable, and must be replaced to ensure public safety and long-term climate resilience;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The project is part of the broader Islais Creek Adaptation Strategy, which
18 seeks to address sea level rise, seismic upgrades, and mobility improvements in a region that
19 has historically experienced underinvestment, industrial pollution, and disproportionate climate
20 risks; and

22 WHEREAS, Small businesses in Bayview-Hunters Point and adjacent neighborhoods
23 rely heavily on foot traffic, local transit access, and street visibility from Third Street to
24 maintain their customer base and revenue; and

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1 WHEREAS, The Third Street Bayview corridor in particular is home to many long-
2 standing small businesses that are essential to the cultural and economic fabric of the
3 neighborhood; and

4 WHEREAS, The anticipated disruption to Muni's T-Third line service, which will be
5 replaced with shuttle buses during construction, along with detours and reduced access, will
6 significantly harm the visibility, accessibility, and economic viability of businesses along the
7 corridor, increasing the risk of layoffs, closures, and permanent displacement; and

8 WHEREAS, Merchants in the area have raised ongoing concerns about the lack of
9 clear mitigation plans, community engagement, or support strategies from the City as they
10 brace for the impact of construction; and

11 WHEREAS, The economic and racial inequities faced by businesses in southeastern
12 San Francisco are well-documented, and the City has a responsibility to proactively mitigate
13 harm caused by its public infrastructure projects, especially in historically marginalized
14 communities; and

15 WHEREAS, The bridge replacement is a critical public safety and climate resilience
16 project, but must be implemented with equitable safeguards to protect working-class
17 neighborhoods from unintended economic displacement; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
20 urges the Mayor, the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, the Controller's Office,
21 and the SFMTA to establish a targeted Small Business Relief Fund for the Third Street
22 corridor to mitigate the impacts of the Islais Creek Bridge Replacement Project; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this relief program should include, but not be limited to,
2 direct financial assistance, rent support, fee waivers, marketing assistance, technical support,
3 and dedicated culturally competent outreach to impacted merchant corridors; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor to prioritize
5 funding for this relief in upcoming fiscal cycles, and to coordinate with all relevant City
6 departments to ensure implementation before construction begins; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City shall commit to working with local merchants,
8 community stakeholders, and neighborhood associations along Third Street to identify needs
9 and track outcomes throughout the life of the project.

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