

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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February 25, 2022

The Honorable Samuel K. Feng
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco
400 McAllister Street, Department 206
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Judge Feng:


The Board of Supervisors' Government Audit and Oversight Committee conducted a public hearing on February 3, 2022, to review the findings and recommendations of the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury report, entitled "Recycling Reality Check: What Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins," and prepare follow-up responses to Recommendation Nos. R1, R2, and R3.

On February 15, 2022, the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted Motion No. M22-019, responding to the Civil Grand Jury's request to provide a status update on the Board of Supervisor's responses.

By this message, the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is transmitting Motion No. M22-019 to your attention.

If you have any questions, please contact John Carroll, Government Audit and Oversight Committee Clerk, at (415) 554-4445, or via email to john.carroll@sfgov.org.

Sincerely,


Angela Carvillo
Clerk of the Board

jec:ams

c: Thomas Paulino, Office of the Mayor
Andres Power, Office of the Mayor
Sally Ma, Office of the Mayor
Anne Pearson, Office of the City Attorney
Ben Rosenfield, City Controller
Todd Rydstrom, Office of the Controller
Peg Stevenson, Office of the Controller
Tonia Lediju, Office of the Controller
Mark de la Rosa, Office of the Controller
Anatolia Lubos, San Francisco Grand Jury
Severin Campbell, Office of the Budget and
Legislative Analyst

Reuben Holober, Office of the Budget and Legislative
Analyst
Deborah Raphael, Director, Department of the
Environment
Joseph Sweiss, Department of the Environment
Charles Sheehan, Department of the Environment
Cara Gurney, Department of the Environment

1 [Follow-Up Board Response - Civil Grand Jury Report - A Recycling Reality Check: What
2 Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins]

3 **Motion responding to the Civil Grand Jury’s request to provide a status update on the**
4 **Board of Supervisors’ response to Recommendation No. R1, R2, and R3 contained in**
5 **the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “A Recycling Reality Check: What**
6 **Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins.”**

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8 WHEREAS, The 2019-2020 San Francisco Civil Grand Jury published a report, entitled
9 “A Recycling Reality Check: What Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling
10 Bins” (“Report”) on October 1, 2020; and

11 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors’ Government Audit and Oversight Committee
12 (“GAO”) conducted a public hearing to hear and respond to the Report on December 3, 2020;
13 and, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 588-20 on December 15, 2020,
14 reflecting the GAO responses to the Report; a copy of which is on file with the Clerk of the
15 Board of Supervisors in File No. 201126; and

16 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R1 states: “City government should establish a web
17 page (available on both Recology SF and the San Francisco Department of the Environment
18 sites) that summarizes the recent disposition of blue bin material. The website should be
19 updated not less than twice a year, with data for the preceding six months. Key trends should
20 be identified in simple language or graphical elements;” and

21 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2020, responded in
22 Resolution No. 588-20 that Recommendation No. R1 “has not been implemented but will be
23 implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and urges the San Francisco Department of the
24 Environment to prioritize timely and clear website communications on the trends of the
25 disposition of blue bin materials, in multiple languages;” and

1 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R2 states: “The existing mobile application related
2 to recycling (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.recology.android>) should be
3 updated to provide information that summarizes the recent disposition of blue bin material.
4 The information should be refreshed not less than twice a year, with data from the preceding
5 six months. Key trends should be identified in simple language or graphical elements;” and

6 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2020, responded in
7 Resolution No. 588-20 that Recommendation No. R2 “has not been implemented but will be
8 implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and urges the San Francisco Department of the
9 Environment to prioritize timely and clear mobile application updates on the trends of the
10 disposition of blue bin materials, in multiple languages;” and

11 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R3 states: “City government should enhance citizen
12 educational efforts on what *not* to place in the blue bins, so that the volume, quality, and
13 associated revenue from blue bin recycling can be increased, while decreasing the confusion
14 some citizens have on this topic;” and

15 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2020, responded in
16 Resolution No. 588-20 that Recommendation No. R3 “has not been implemented but will be
17 implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and urges the San Francisco Department of the
18 Environment to ensure these communications are available in multiple languages;” and

19 WHEREAS, The GAO Committee conducted an additional hearing on
20 February 3, 2022, to receive an update from City departments on Recommendation Nos. R1,
21 R2, and R3; now, therefore, be it

22 MOVED, That Recommendation No. R1 has been implemented as follows: Recology
23 and the Department of the Environment launched new webpages on July 1st 2021 detailing
24 the recent disposition of blue bin materials, available in English, Spanish, and Chinese
25 languages, with graphic elements summarizing trends; and, be it

1 FURTHER MOVED, That Recommendation No. R2 has been implemented as follows:
2 Recology updated their mobile application on July 1st 2021 provide information summarizing
3 the recent disposition of blue bin material, with key trends identified by graphic elements; and,
4 be it

5 FURTHER MOVED, That Recommendation No. R3 has been implemented as follows:
6 Recology and the Department of the Environment launched new web pages addressing “What
7 Not to Put in the Blue Bin” on July 1st 2021, and continue to provide multilingual virtual and in-
8 person outreach and education about proper separation of waste, compost, and recyclables.

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City and County of San Francisco

Tails

Motion: M22-019

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 201125

Date Passed: February 15, 2022

Motion responding to the Civil Grand Jury's request to provide a status update on the Board of Supervisors' response to Recommendation No. R1, R2, and R3 contained in the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled "A Recycling Reality Check: What Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins."

December 03, 2020 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - CONTINUED TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

February 03, 2022 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - PREPARED IN COMMITTEE AS A MOTION

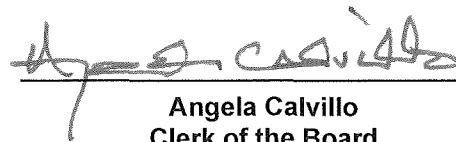
February 03, 2022 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - RECOMMENDED

February 15, 2022 Board of Supervisors - APPROVED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 201125

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was APPROVED on 2/15/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board