

1 [Lunar New Year 2021]

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3 **Resolution celebrating 2021 as Year of the Ox, and recognizing February 12, 2021, as**
4 **the start of Lunar New Year 4719 in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, 2021 marks Lunar year 4719, the Year of the Ox, which begins on Friday,
7 February 12, 2021; and

8 WHEREAS, Celebrations for the Lunar New Year begin with the New Moon on the first
9 day of the new year and end on the full moon 15 days later; and

10 WHEREAS, The first Chinese New Year Parade took place in San Francisco's
11 Chinatown in 1885 with a 15-day celebration and a block-long golden dragon preceded by the
12 red pearl of potentiality; and

13 WHEREAS, In an effort to celebrate Chinatown and draw visitors to Chinese-owned
14 businesses, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce transformed the Chinese New Year
15 celebration into a Street Carnival at Portsmouth Square in 1953; and

16 WHEREAS, To further its efforts to promote Chinatown, the Chinese Chamber of
17 Commerce launched the first Miss Chinatown, U.S.A. beauty pageant in 1958 as part of the
18 New Year festivities; and

19 WHEREAS, The Chinese New Year parade draws larger crowd each year with
20 increase of marching units and floats, and that to date, San Francisco Chinese New Year
21 parade is the largest parade celebrating Chinese New Year in the United States; and,

22 WHEREAS, The celebration of Chinese New Year in San Francisco has become a
23 cultural significance and its grand parade is now a recognized civic pride event of our city; and

24 WHEREAS, The annual Chinese New Year parade and almost month-long festivities
25 has provided an economic boost to our local economy beyond Chinatown; and

1 WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year may be known as Chinese New Year, but it is also
2 celebrated as Solnal in Korean communities, with the Tet Festival by the Vietnamese, and as
3 Losar in Tibet; and

4 WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is a significant
5 holiday for Asian families to gather together, honor their ancestors, welcome the New Year
6 with hopes of prosperity and good health, and celebrate traditions and traditional foods; and

7 WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, Lunar New Year themes of family, health
8 and prosperity, and renewal are especially important, but it is critical that families celebrate in
9 new ways in order to protect the most vulnerable in our communities; and

10 WHEREAS, Due to COVID-19 health orders, all long standing of Lunar New Year
11 celebrations and festivities have been impacted and cancelled in 2021, the Year of the Ox;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
14 bids farewell to 2020, Year of the Rat, and commits to celebrate Asian families and Lunar
15 New Year Festivities in accordance of the City’s public health orders; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
17 Francisco wishes all families good luck, prosperity, and continued good health in the Year of
18 the Ox; and be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
20 Francisco celebrates 2021 as the Year of the Ox and recognizes February 12, 2021, as the
21 start of Lunar New Year 4719.