

1 [Declaring the Intent to Waive Fee for Major Encroachment Permit - Goettingen Street Steps  
2 of Wisdom Stairway]

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3 **Resolution of intent to waive the Major Encroachment Permit fee and ongoing fees for**  
4 **the Goettingen Street Steps of Wisdom Stairway.**

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6 WHEREAS, The Goettingen Street Stairway, are located by 255 Dwight Street and 700  
7 Goettingen Street, at the corner of Dwight and Goettingen Streets, in the Portola  
8 neighborhood; and

9 WHEREAS, The Goettingen Street Stairway is used as a recreational pathway, and  
10 provides an access point to many public, commercial, and faith institutions such as the Portola  
11 Public Library, Phillip Burton High School, Church for All Nations, and is one of the only  
12 throughways for pedestrians to catch the 8 bus line, and links the Visitacion Valley and  
13 Portola neighborhoods; and

14 WHEREAS, The Goettingen Neighborhood Group plans to create a collaborative public  
15 arts installation on the Goettingen Street Stairway called the Steps of Wisdom project; and

16 WHEREAS, A community art installation would enhance the pedestrian experience on  
17 the Goettingen Street Stairs by making a more attractive passage with art and landscaping  
18 celebrating the natural history and diverse demographic in the Portola neighborhood; and

19 WHEREAS, In the past two years, there have been several muggings and physical  
20 assaults on the stairway, and the Goettingen Neighborhood Group is aiming to mitigate these  
21 safety concerns with the Steps of Wisdom project that would include added lighting at night;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, The Goettingen Neighborhood Group is partnering with local artist Phillip  
24 Hua, and collaborating with local residents, garden members to complete this project; and

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1           WHEREAS, The Goettingen Neighborhood Group submitted an application for a Major  
2 Encroachment Permit to install the project, (Permit No. 21ME-00020); and

3           WHEREAS, Pursuant to Public Works Code, Section 786, the proposed Major  
4 Encroachment Permit must be approved by the Board of Supervisors; and

5           WHEREAS, The Goettingen Neighborhood Group has already received funding from  
6 the Community Challenge Grant program to help fulfill its vision of the Steps of Wisdom  
7 project at the Goetteingen Street Stairway that would include illuminating and beautifying this  
8 pedestrian walkway, and is fundraising for the cost of the Steps of Wisdom; and

9           WHEREAS, The Goettingen Neighborhood Group has already commenced community  
10 clean up, beautification with native plants and benches, litter and graffiti abatement in the  
11 area, started a nighttime volunteer buddy system to help with safety in the area, created a  
12 project mockup of the Goettingen Steps of Wisdom, and has put a considerable amount of  
13 work to beautify this City property for the use of all neighbors, their work on the Goettingen  
14 Steps of Wisdom cannot continue if the Board does not waive the fees now and on an  
15 ongoing basis, and the City and Portola neighborhood will receive much more benefit than  
16 cost at the waiving of this fee; now, therefore, be it

17           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors states its intention to waive the Major  
18 Encroachment Permit fees associated with Permit No. 21ME-00020; and, be it

19           FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors urges Public Works to review the  
20 project associated with Major Encroachment Permit No. 21ME-00020.

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