

1 [Committee of the Whole - City Preparations in Response to the COVID-19 Health Emergency
2 - March 17, 2020]

3 **Motion directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to schedule a Committee of the**
4 **Whole hearing on March 17, 2020, for the Members of the Board of Supervisors to**
5 **convene and for Departments to report regarding city preparations in response to the**
6 **COVID-19 health emergency.**

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8 WHEREAS, Coronavirus first appeared in December 2019 and has spread to more
9 than 100 countries, with over 106,000 cases currently identified worldwide; and

10 WHEREAS, On Tuesday February 25, Mayor London Breed declared a state of
11 emergency to ramp up the city’s efforts to prepare for and respond to local cases of
12 coronavirus; and

13 WHEREAS, On Friday, March 6, 2020, the San Francisco Health Officer issued a
14 Declaration of Local Health Emergency under California Health and Safety Code, Section
15 101080; and,

16 WHEREAS, The Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code, Sections 54950-
17 54963, referred to as the “Brown Act”) guarantees public access to meetings of California
18 local legislative bodies and prohibits any majority of the Board of Supervisors as a whole or of
19 a majority of members of any Committee of the Board of Supervisors from engaging in
20 discussion of city business without public notice; and

21 WHEREAS, In order to comply with the Brown Act, the Board has been prevented from
22 convening to discuss matters with regard to this public health emergency, and Supervisors
23 have had to individually contact department staff; and

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1 WHEREAS, Recognizing that individual Supervisors are closely connected with the
2 constituents in their districts and are able to provide information about specific needs that
3 must be reflected in the emergency response planning; and

4 WHEREAS, In order to work collectively and collaboratively as a City, and for all eleven
5 Supervisors to hear and weigh in on preparations to ensure efficient, united, non-duplicative,
6 and urgent response preparations; now, therefore, be it

7 MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors convene to sit as a Committee of the Whole on
8 Tuesday, March 17, 2020, for the Members of the Board of Supervisors to discuss
9 preparations in response to the COVID-19 health emergency and requesting the Mayor's
10 Office, Department of Emergency Management, Department of Public Health, Office of
11 Economic and Workforce Development, Department of Human Resources, Department of
12 Homelessness and Supportive Housing, and Disability and Aging Services to report.

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