

1 [Pete Escovedo Day - August 2, 2025]

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3 **Resolution designating August 2, 2025, as “Pete Escovedo Day” in the City and County**
4 **of San Francisco; and celebrating the prolific work of the legendary percussionist and**
5 **visual artist in his 90th year, culminating in the closing ceremony of the exhibit**
6 **displaying his impact on Bay Area art and culture at the Mission Cultural Center for**
7 **Latino Arts.**

8
9 WHEREAS, Pete Escovedo grew up in the greater Bay Area, in a house that was filled
10 with music and songs in Spanish, compelling him to pick up drums while at school in Oakland,
11 California; and

12 WHEREAS, Pete Escovedo met the famous musician Tito Puente known as “El Rey de
13 los Timbales | The King of the Timbales,” who took Pete under his wing at an early age,
14 taught him, cheered him on and helped him become the musician he is today as a pioneer of
15 Latin Jazz, in which he is widely credited with breaking the barriers between Smooth Jazz,
16 Salsa, Latin Jazz and contemporary music; and

17 WHEREAS, After much practice and encouragement from family and friends, Pete and
18 his brother Coke formed the Escovedo Bros Latin Jazz Sextet, and the 14-24 piece Latin Big
19 band called Azteca, bringing Latin Jazz to the West Coast and eventually around the world;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Because of his growing exposure as a powerful drummer, Pete was
22 recognized by Santana, who asked the Escovedo brothers to go on tour with his band, which
23 led them to playing in venues from Oakland to Paris; and

24 WHEREAS, Pete was not only a musical visionary, he also has always had visual
25 artistic talent, and has been painting canvas after canvas with beautiful, bold colors, textures

1 and images that tell stories about his family, culture, identity, political and social justice
2 themes; and

3 WHEREAS, Pete Escovedo's art has earned global recognition in the contemporary art
4 world; and

5 WHEREAS, Just as his mother and father did with Pete and his siblings, Pete raised
6 his four children on music and art, which has led to more renown artists hailing from the Bay
7 Area, including famous singer-percussionists Sheila E., Peter Michael Escovedo III, Juan
8 Escovedo, and dancer/choreographer Zina Escovedo; and

9 WHEREAS, His music has been lauded throughout the music industry, including the
10 Latin Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2021 that he received together with his
11 daughter, Sheila E; and

12 WHEREAS, Pete grew up playing drums and creating music in the Mission District, and
13 for over four decades playing at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts (MCCLA) since its
14 founding in 1977 and has maintained his deep ties to the Center to this day; and

15 WHEREAS, He turned 90 years old this year, inspiring MCCLA to honor his lifelong
16 career and connection to the Mission and MCCLA, with a beautiful, multidisciplinary exhibit of
17 his music, art and memorabilia spanning his storied career; and

18 WHEREAS, MCCLA is hosting a closing celebration of the Pete Escovedo exhibit on
19 August 2, 2025, to honor the work of this magnificent Bay Area musician and visual artist;
20 now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors designates August 2, 2025,
22 as Pete Escovedo Day in the City and County of San Francisco.