

1 [Lunar New Year 2023]

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3 **Resolution celebrating 2023 as Year of the Rabbit and recognizing January 22, 2023, as**
4 **the start of Lunar New Year 4721 in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, 2023 marks Lunar year 4721, the Year of the Rabbit, which begins on
7 Saturday, January 22, 2023; 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 crowds each year with
20 increased marching units and floats, and is, to date, the largest parade celebrating Chinese
21 New Year in the United States; and

22 WHEREAS, The celebration of Chinese New Year in San Francisco has become a
23 culturally significant civic pride event for our city; and

24 WHEREAS, The annual Chinese New Year parade and nearly month-long festivities
25 that now include a Flower Market Fair, Choy Sun Doe, Basketball Jamboree, and a

1 Chinatown YMCA Run, in addition to the Community Street Fair, have provided an economic
2 boost to our local economy beyond Chinatown; and

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

6 WHEREAS, The Lunar New Year is a significant holiday for Asian families to gather
7 together, honor their ancestors, welcome the New Year with hopes of prosperity and good
8 health, and celebrate traditions and traditional foods; and

9 WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, Lunar New Year themes of family, health
10 and prosperity, renewal, and togetherness are especially important and families have found
11 new ways to celebrate in order to protect the most vulnerable in our communities; and

12 WHEREAS, The rabbit is the luckiest of the 12 Chinese zodiac, and represent the
13 ability to navigate life quickly and thoughtfully while allowing for moments of reflection, rest
14 and renewal; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 bids farewell to 2022, Year of the Tiger, and commits to celebrate Asian families and Lunar
17 New Year Festivities in accordance with the City's public health orders; and, be it

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

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
22 Francisco celebrates 2023 as the Year of the Rabbit and recognizes January 22, 2023, as the
23 start of Lunar New Year 4721.

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