

1 [Skateboarding Task Force]

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3 **Resolution establishing a Skateboarding Task Force that will provide policy**
4 **recommendation and advise the Board of Supervisors, Recreation and Park**
5 **Department, Police Department, San Francisco Unified School District, Port of San**
6 **Francisco and Youth Commission regarding skateboarding policies, issues and**
7 **activities, and serve as the official advisory body on skateboarding issues in the City**
8 **and County of San Francisco.**

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10 WHEREAS, Skateboarding is an activity that has provided constructive recreation and
11 efficient transportation for all persons, young and old, and,

12 WHEREAS, Due to the lack of available activities and facilities for recreation within San
13 Francisco geared towards youth, as well as the high air pollution rate and congested city
14 streets, it is imperative that the City support existing means of recreation that is constructive
15 and meaningful to the wellbeing of its citizens; and,

16 WHEREAS, San Francisco hailed as a primary municipality for skateboarding and
17 alternative sports, was twice home to the X Games, an alternative sporting event spotlighting
18 and publicizing the sports of skateboarding, in-line skating and BMX biking; and,

19 WHEREAS, Many San Franciscans in light of its notoriety partake in this activity daily,
20 pursuing skateboarding as a means of recreation and transportation; and,

21 WHEREAS, Despite its widespread popularity, skateboarding is currently prohibited on
22 San Francisco residential and business districts, pursuant to Section 100 of the San Francisco
23 Traffic Code and thus restrictions and penalties are instituted to those who utilize this means
24 of recreation and transportation; and,

25

1 WHEREAS, Throughout the last 5 years, hundreds of youth and adults have been
2 arrested, fined and had their skateboards confiscated due to their pursuit of skateboarding on
3 San Francisco streets; and,

4 WHEREAS, Despite general sentiments of concern and anger over public defacement
5 and dangerous behavior, many municipalities throughout the United States, including Portland
6 Oregon have retracted their prohibitions on skateboarding and embraced the act as a positive
7 means of transportation and recreation; and,

8 WHEREAS, In light of existing policies prohibiting skateboarding, on April 11, 2002, the
9 San Francisco Youth Commission held a hearing regarding existing policies and actions on
10 the part of city departments in addressing the act of skateboarding, and the need for
11 collaborative reform, and,

12 WHEREAS, This hearing was well attended by city representatives and youth, and the
13 general focus of this discussion was the need for collaboration and the establishment of a
14 public process in which city departments and the public can address existing policies and
15 work to bring resolution to concerns and issues resulting from these policies and actions; and,

16 WHEREAS, At this hearing representatives from city departments suggested and
17 supported the concept of establishing an advisory committee regarding skateboarding issues
18 in San Francisco, to provide for the ability for the community, youth and adults, as well as city
19 officials and departments to work collaboratively and develop concrete recommendations and
20 concepts so that these departments can develop strategic plans and establish efforts to make
21 San Francisco more “skateboarding friendly”; and,

22 WHEREAS, City departments and members of the community have been in
23 collaboration for many years to bring resolution to concerns and issues regarding the city’s
24 prohibition of skateboarding and its aggressive measures to prosecute violators of this law, as
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1 well as the acts of public defacement that skateboarders have attributed to in light of
2 inadequate skating facilities; and,

3 WHEREAS, Numerous departments and officials have expressed interest in working
4 with community stakeholders to address their concerns regarding policies and actions
5 affecting skateboarders, as well as provide for the ability for the community to directly become
6 engaged in the process of establishing new policies and activities regarding skateboarding,
7 including discussion regarding the existing prohibition and the establishment of more public
8 skating facilities in San Francisco; and,

9 WHEREAS, Although this interest in collaboration has yielded to reforms in the City's
10 skateboarding policies and actions, there is still a crucial need in light of the continued
11 enforcement of the existing prohibition, and the lack of effective change within the process, as
12 well as the lack of true community involvement within the civic process, to establish a more
13 formalized and representative voice to ensure the fair representation and involvement of all
14 stakeholders regarding this issue; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 does hereby establish a Skateboarding Task Force (hereinafter called "task force") that will
17 provide policy recommendations and advise the Board of Supervisors, Recreation and Park
18 Department, Police Department, San Francisco Unified School District, Port of San Francisco
19 and Youth Commission regarding skateboarding policies, issues and activities, and serve as
20 the official advisory body on skateboarding issues in the City and County of San Francisco;
21 and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force shall be subject to the mandates of the
23 Sunshine Ordinance and local open meeting laws; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force shall provide consistent policy
25 recommendation to these said departments, Board of Supervisors and Youth Commission

1 regarding issues relevant to skateboarding, in-line skating and BMX biking in the City and
2 County of San Francisco, and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the membership of this task force shall be comprised of:

4 One (1) ex-officio, voting representative of the Recreation and Park Department or
5 his/her designee, to serve a three-year term

6 One (1) ex-officio, voting representative of the Police Department or his/her designee,
7 to serve a three-year term

8 One (1) ex-officio, voting representative of the San Francisco Unified School District or
9 his/her designee, to serve a three-year term

10 One (1) ex-officio, voting representative of the Port of San Francisco or his/her
11 designee, to serve a three-year term

12 One (1) voting representative from the skateboarding community or possessing
13 previous knowledge of the sport for a period of 5 years, to be appointed by the Board of
14 Supervisors to serve a three-year term

15 One (1) voting representative from the in-line skating community or possessing
16 previous knowledge of the sport for a period of 5 years, to be appointed by the Board of
17 Supervisors to serve a three-year term

18 One (1) voting representative from the BMX or alternative biking community or
19 possessing previous knowledge of the sport for a period of 5 years, to be appointed by
20 the Board of Supervisors to serve a three-year term

21 One (1) voting representative, with expertise in skateboarding based businesses and
22 services, to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors to serve a three-year term

23 One (1) at-large voting representative of the business community, with expertise in
24 skateboarding prevention services or property management or insurance services, to
25 be appointed by the Board of Supervisors to serve a three-year term

1 One (1) at-large voting representative, with expertise in the real estate or legal fields, to
2 be appointed by the Board of Supervisors to serve a three-year term

3 Two (2) voting representatives of the youth community, of the ages of 12-23 years, with
4 expertise in skateboarding advocacy or skateboarding, in-line skating, or BMX or
5 alternative biking for the last 3 years, to be appointed by the Youth Commission to
6 serve a three-year term

7 Three (3) voting representatives of the youth community, of the ages of 12-23 years,
8 with expertise in skateboarding advocacy or skateboarding, in-line skating, or BMX or
9 alternative biking for the last 3 years, to be appointed by the Youth Commission to
10 serve a one year term; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the event a vacancy shall occur during the term of
12 office of any voting member, a successor shall be appointed to complete the unexpired term
13 of the office vacated in a manner similar to that which the member was initially appointed;
14 and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force will meet on a regular and consistent basis
16 in order to develop recommendations and advise the Board of Supervisors, appropriate city
17 departments and Youth Commission with regards to:

- 18 1. The creation and renovation of future and existing public skating facilities
19 within the City and County of San Francisco
- 20 2. Provide recommendations and advice to participating city departments and
21 the Board of Supervisors, in consultation with the Office of City Attorney,
22 regarding the amendment of existing city laws regarding skateboarding,
23 including Section 100 of the San Francisco Traffic Code and subsequent
24 codes of enforcement

- 1 3. Provide recommendations, advice and participate in the institution of a
- 2 temporary public skateboarding facility on Pier 24
- 3 4. Provide recommendations and oversee the implementation of
- 4 recommendations for the institution of capital improvement and
- 5 programmatic plans of skateboarding facilities and programs
- 6 5. Work with participating city departments to draft a strategic plan for all city
- 7 departments and the Board of Supervisors regarding skateboarding and
- 8 skateboarding programs and activities in San Francisco over a period of 10
- 9 years
- 10 6. Work with participating city departments to establish efforts for more public
- 11 participation and communication regarding skateboarding programs and
- 12 activities
- 13 7. Work in conjunction with the Police Department to reform its enforcement
- 14 procedures of Section 100 of the San Francisco Traffic Code
- 15 8. Provide recommendations regarding departmental budgets and proposed
- 16 concepts in which departments can allocate funds for specific skateboarding
- 17 based programs and activities, including the expansion of public skating
- 18 facilities.
- 19 9. Provide advice to participating departments regarding new programs and
- 20 services that they can provide in order to identify and provide for
- 21 skateboarding being recognized as a positive sport
- 22 10. Serve as the official advisory body regarding skateboarding issues and
- 23 activities in the City and County of San Francisco; and, be it
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- 25

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Office of the Legislative Analyst will provide
2 administrative and research support to this task force, in conjunction with youth leadership
3 development support by the Youth Commission; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force will be under the jurisdiction and authority
5 of the Board of Supervisors, and will abide by existing city law and its own by-laws; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force will be governed by a chairperson and
7 vice-chairperson, one of which must be above the age of 21 and the other must be under the
8 age of 21; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That members of this task force must undergo youth
10 development and leadership training in order to foster an egalitarian and just environment;
11 and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force should convene upon the passage of this
13 resolution and will sunset 3 years thereafter, unless extended by the Board of Supervisors,
14 and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force must present to the full Board of
16 Supervisors upon the end of each calendar year with a report of its findings and
17 recommendations; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this task force should report any of its findings and
19 recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, participating city departments and the Youth
20 Commission.