

1 [Conditionally Reversing the Categorical Exemption Determination - SFMTA Page Street
2 Bikeway Improvements Pilot Project]

3 **Motion conditionally reversing the determination by the Planning Department that the**
4 **San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Page Street Bikeway Improvements**
5 **Pilot Project is categorically exempt from further environmental review, subject to the**
6 **adoption of written findings of the Board in support of this determination.**

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8 WHEREAS, On October 31, 2019, the Planning Department issued a California
9 Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) Categorical Exemption Determination for the proposed
10 San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Page Street Bikeway Improvements Pilot
11 Project (“Project”) under CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and Administrative Code, Chapter 31;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Project would involve a 12-month pilot to study the effects of several
14 traffic circulation changes to the area bound by Fell Street to the north; Market, Gough, and
15 Otis Streets to the south; Fillmore Street to the West; and Gough Street to the East.
16 Construction associated with the project would primarily include re-striping travel lanes and
17 the addition of signage; and

18 WHEREAS, The Planning Department, pursuant to Title 14 of the CEQA Guidelines
19 (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15300-15333),
20 issued a categorical exemption for the Project on October 31, 2019, finding that the Project is
21 exempt from CEQA under Section 15306 of the CEQA Guidelines, or a Class 6 categorical
22 exemption; and

23 WHEREAS, A Class 6 Categorical Exemption applies to Information Collection,
24 consisting of “basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource
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1 evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental
2 resource consists of basic data collection;” and

3 WHEREAS, The Guidelines state that these projects “may be strictly for information
4 gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not
5 yet approved, adopted, or funded;” and

6 WHEREAS, On November 19, 2019, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation
7 Agency held a public hearing and approved Resolution No. 191119-142 for the Project; and

8 WHEREAS, On December 19, 2019, Mary Miles, on behalf of the Coalition for
9 Adequate Review (“Appellant”) filed an appeal with the Office of the Clerk of the Board of
10 Supervisors of the categorical exemption determination for the Page Street Bikeway
11 Improvements Pilot Project; and

12 WHEREAS, By memorandum to the Clerk of the Board dated December 23, 2019, the
13 Planning Department’s Deputy Environmental Review Officer determined that the appeal was
14 timely filed; and

15 WHEREAS, On February 4, 2020 this Board held a duly noticed public hearing to
16 consider the appeal of the exemption determination filed by Appellant; and

17 WHEREAS, In reviewing the appeal of the exemption determination, this Board
18 reviewed and considered the exemption determination, the appeal letter, the responses to the
19 appeal documents that the Planning Department and the San Francisco Municipal
20 Transportation Agency prepared, the other written records before the Board of Supervisors
21 and all of the public testimony made in support of and opposed to the exemption
22 determination appeal; and

23 WHEREAS, Following the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Supervisors
24 conditionally reversed the exemption determination subject to the adoption of written findings
25 of the Board in support of such determination based on the written record before the Board of

1 Supervisors as well as all of the testimony at the public hearing in support of and opposed to
2 the appeal; and

3 WHEREAS, The written record and oral testimony in support of and opposed to the
4 appeal and deliberation of the oral and written testimony at the public hearing before the
5 Board of Supervisors by all parties and the public in support of and opposed to the appeal of
6 the exemption determination is in the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors File No. 191309, and
7 is incorporated in this motion as though set forth in its entirety; now, therefore, be it

8 MOVED, That this Board of Supervisors conditionally reverses the determination by the
9 Planning Department that the project is exempt from environmental review, subject to the
10 adoption of written findings of the Board in support of this determination.

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