

File No. 200429

Committee Item No. _____

Board Item No. 21

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: _____
Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date: _____
Date: May 5, 2020

Cmte Board

- Motion
- Resolution
- Ordinance
- Legislative Digest
- Budget and Legislative Analyst Report
- Youth Commission Report
- Introduction Form
- Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report
- MOU
- Grant Information Form
- Grant Budget
- Subcontract Budget
- Contract/Agreement
- Form 126 – Ethics Commission
- Award Letter
- Application
- Public Correspondence

OTHER

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Prepared by: Lisa Lew
Prepared by: _____

Date: May 1, 2020
Date: _____

1 [Urging the Mayor and City Departments to Develop a Plan to Address High Levels of COVID-
2 19 Cases in the Latinx Community]

3 **Resolution urging Mayor London N. Breed, the Department of Public Health, the Human**
4 **Services Agency, and the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to**
5 **adopt five specific actions to help reduce the number of COVID-19 cases in the Mission**
6 **District and within the Latinx community, including an extensive education and**
7 **outreach effort, a robust basic-needs security program, the development of a rapid**
8 **response system for confirmed cases, increased testing capacity in the neighborhood,**
9 **and a plan to relocate unhoused Mission residents and those living in congregate**
10 **settings who are vulnerable to hotel rooms where they can safely isolate.**

11
12 WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel virus that has been
13 rapidly spreading worldwide; and

14 WHEREAS, The virus, which was originally detected in December 2019, has reached
15 pandemic proportions with more than 3,000,000 confirmed cases that have resulted in over
16 200,000 deaths around the world; and

17 WHEREAS, On Monday, March 16, 2020, Mayor London Breed announced a public
18 health order requiring all San Francisco residents to shelter in place to slow the spread of
19 novel coronavirus in the community, requiring all businesses to cease operations except for
20 those deemed essential businesses, and directing people experiencing symptoms to isolate
21 and self-quarantine; and

22 WHEREAS, As of Tuesday, April 28, 2020, the San Francisco Department of Public
23 Health (DPH) has reported at least 1,468 confirmed cases in San Francisco, resulting in 23
24 deaths; and

25

1 WHEREAS, Of the 1,468 cases, DPH reports that 32% of cases are identified as
2 Latinx, yet the Latinx community comprises only 15% of the City’s total population; and

3 WHEREAS, Area code 94110, where the Mission District is located, a historically
4 Latinx neighborhood, has 182 positive cases, the highest number of positive COVID-19 cases
5 of any area code in San Francisco; and

6 WHEREAS, Current economic and social conditions, coupled with the extreme cost of
7 living in San Francisco has forced many Latinx people, particularly newly arrived immigrants,
8 into congregate living settings, often where multiple families share one or two rooms, thus
9 unable to safely isolate, quarantine, and practice prescribed social distancing measures; and

10 WHEREAS, Large numbers of immigrant and Latinx people work in essential industries
11 such as food cultivation and production, in retail selling essential goods like food and
12 hardware supplies, and in transportation, and are unable to shelter in place, increasing odds
13 of exposure; and

14 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to nearly 280,000 immigrants, who comprise
15 nearly 36% of the City’s population with an estimated 35% of the city’s immigrant population
16 being undocumented; and

17 WHEREAS, Immigrants are woven into the fabric of San Francisco, they are our
18 friends, family members, and neighbors, they open businesses, work in our shops and touch
19 the lives of every San Franciscan every single day; and

20 WHEREAS, The current White House Administration has made it a central focus to
21 restrict the rights of immigrants and their access to COVID-19 relief, and has created a
22 climate of fear and distrust where immigrants question whether they should seek assistance
23 and medical care; and

24 WHEREAS, Amid a global health pandemic, the inclusion of immigrants is critical to
25 “flattening the curve,” according to public health guidance that indicates that the health and

1 well-being of every member of the community is necessary to ensure the health of the entire
2 country; and

3 WHEREAS, Like all Americans impacted by this public health crisis, immigrants also
4 have an urgent need for health care, economic relief, food assistance, housing security, and
5 inclusion in all COVID-19 response and recovery efforts in cities, states, and nationally; and

6 WHEREAS, San Francisco is a Sanctuary city, in acknowledgement of the
7 contributions immigrants make to our city and in affirmation of the fact that all humans
8 deserve to live free from persecution, uncertainty, and terror; and

9 WHEREAS, San Francisco created Healthy San Francisco to ensure that all residents,
10 regardless of immigration status, have full access to health care, to express that not only does
11 everyone deserve to live free but also deserves health care; and

12 WHEREAS, Patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 have been discharged
13 into congregate settings where they are unable to isolate and risk exposing family members
14 and all other residents; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
16 urges Mayor London Breed to direct the Department of Public Health, Human Services
17 Agency, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing and any other relevant city
18 departments to develop a five-point plan to address the disparate impacts of the COVID-19
19 public health crisis in the Mission District and within the Latinx community; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this plan include, at minimum, the following components:
21 a communications and outreach program specifically tailored to reach the Mission District and
22 the Latinx community, which includes adequate translation and culturally competent
23 messaging that explains proper social distancing protocols, and clarifies that city resources
24 are available regardless of legal status and that there are no “public charge” consequences to
25 accessing services; a robust food & basic-needs security program that uses gift cards and

1 other financial assistance tools to allow for flexible purchase at local markets and shops to
2 support families financially impacted by COVID-19; a rapid referral and response system to
3 monitor and assist COVID-19 positive patients and their families in being able to properly
4 quarantine and isolate as quickly and safely possible; increasing COVID-19 testing capacity in
5 the Mission by providing trusted community clinics and healthcare providers that serve this
6 neighborhood with additional testing and personal protective equipment; a commitment to
7 prioritize community members of the Mission District who are seniors, have chronic health
8 conditions, are unhoused or otherwise vulnerable, and who cannot properly shelter in place
9 due to their present living circumstances for hotel rooms where they can safely isolate or
10 quarantine.

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Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

Ronen

Subject:

Resolution Urging the Mayor and City Departments to Develop a Plan to Address High Levels of COVID-19 Cases in the Latinx Community

The text is listed:

See attached resolution

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: /s/ Hillary Ronen