

1 [Kate Herrmann Stacy Day - October 29, 2021]

2

3 **Resolution declaring October 29, 2021, as Kate Herrmann Stacy Day in the City and**  
4 **County of San Francisco, in recognition of her many years of outstanding service in**  
5 **the City Attorney’s Office and her well-deserved retirement.**

6

7 WHEREAS, In March 1989, Kate Stacy joined the City Attorney’s Office as a lawyer on  
8 its Land Use Team, after graduating in 1985 from the University of Chicago Law School and  
9 after practicing real estate and land use law with the Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison law firm;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, For over 32 years, Kate has advised on, defended, or otherwise assisted  
12 in projects resulting in thousands of affordable housing units, resilient water infrastructure,  
13 revitalized parks and museums, and music and sports events and facilities; and

14 WHEREAS, During that time – from before the Loma Prieta earthquake through the  
15 COVID-19 pandemic – Kate’s broad knowledge of environmental and land use law has  
16 earned her the respect of City clients, colleagues, and City allies and adversaries, alike; and

17 WHEREAS, Beginning in 1999 and for several years thereafter, Kate advised the Fine  
18 Arts Museums of San Francisco in its efforts to build a new, state-of-the art facility for the De  
19 Young Museum, including playing a central role in the successful defense of a CEQA  
20 challenge; and

21 WHEREAS, As General Counsel for the Planning Department, Kate advised five  
22 different Planning Directors, five Zoning Administrators, and four Environmental Review  
23 Officers, providing outstanding legal advice on countless permits, environmental review,  
24 enforcement, and other planning-related matters, at all hours of the day and night, with  
25 unflappable calm, stellar recall and clarity, razor-sharp analysis, and genuine creativity; and

1           WHEREAS, In her role as General Counsel to the Planning Commission, Kate has  
2 artfully guided the Commission through its evaluation of dense CEQA determinations and  
3 complex land use approvals, and provided steady, reliable counsel to the Commission and  
4 staff on a wide range of legal issues; and

5           WHEREAS, When the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission sought approval for  
6 its over-\$4-billion Water System Improvement Program to improve its 100-year-old water  
7 system running through six counties, Kate masterfully advised on CEQA issues to creatively  
8 overcome the concerns raised by every major environmental organization in the state; and

9           WHEREAS, By any objective standard, Kate has aided in the development of important  
10 land use policies in San Francisco, such as innovative affordable housing programs, by  
11 providing sound advice to the Board of Supervisors, Mayor’s Office, and Planning  
12 Commission about hundreds of ordinances, resolutions, initiative ordinances, and Charter  
13 amendments; and

14           WHEREAS, As housing has become an increasingly critical issue across California,  
15 Kate has been an invaluable resource to the Planning Commission and other City  
16 departments in demystifying a wide range of ever-changing State housing and land use laws  
17 in San Francisco; and

18           WHEREAS, As the Land Use Team leader since 2007, and self-described “CEQA  
19 nerd,” Kate has been indefatigable in her care for her team, and went above and beyond to  
20 make every one of the Deputy City Attorneys and staff members on that team feel seen,  
21 known, respected, well fed, and professionally challenged; and

22           WHEREAS, Kate Stacy’s “big honkin’ minivan” (BHM) never missed a Land Use team  
23 party, clocking many Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) along the way, all while never allowing the  
24 Land Use Team’s VMT to rise to a significant impact under CEQA since she always filled up  
25 the BHM with lots of team members, driving the VMT per capita down; and

1           WHEREAS, The Planning Department has determined that despite the great loss to  
2 the City, the actions contemplated in this Resolution do not constitute a project under CEQA;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors and the City are immeasurably better for Kate's  
5 service; and

6           WHEREAS, Kate's service to the City will be ending on October 29, 2021, with her  
7 retirement, which, though richly deserved, will be lamented by this Board and others in City  
8 government she has so faithfully served; now, therefore, be it

9           RESOLVED, That in celebration of Kate's outstanding accomplishments and  
10 contributions to the City and County of San Francisco, the Board of Supervisors does hereby  
11 declare October 29, 2021, to be Kate Herrmann Stacy Day in San Francisco.