

FILE NO. 071660

RESOLUTION NO.

1 [Comprehensive Package to Support Film Production in San Francisco.]

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3 **Resolution directing City departments, and urging other public entities, to cooperate**
4 **with the Film Commission to streamline film permitting procedures, to adopt a single**
5 **Use Agreement and a single insurance policy for film productions, and to create**
6 **consistent fee structures.**

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8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Film Commission was created by City ordinance in
9 October 1988 to 1) develop, recognize, and promote film activities in the City, 2) explore and
10 promote long-term goals for film-making as a major emphasis of the City's economic and
11 cultural base, and 3) encourage the recognition of film arts as an art form with widespread
12 economic benefits to the City; and

13 WHEREAS, It is the goal of the City and County of San Francisco to increase film and
14 television production in the City; and

15 WHEREAS, Film production has the potential to generate substantial revenue from
16 payroll expenditures, equipment purchases, hotel room rentals, catering services, restaurant
17 meals, and purchase of other items and services; and

18 WHEREAS, Production-related expenditures in the City are estimated at \$ 1 million per
19 television episode, \$39 million per mid-range film production, and \$63 million per large film
20 production; and

21 WHEREAS, Film production generates an average of 61 FTE direct jobs and 184 FTE
22 indirect jobs for a mid-range feature film, and an average of 100 direct FTE jobs and 300 FTE
23 indirect jobs for a large budget feature; and

24 WHEREAS, Film productions are viewed worldwide and stimulate tourism, the City's
25 primary economic driver; and

1 WHEREAS, Chapter 57.4 of the Administrative Code designates the Executive Director
2 of the Film Commission as the sole liaison between film companies and the various City
3 departments; and

4 WHEREAS, It is cumbersome, labor intensive, and costly for film productions to apply
5 to numerous City departments and other public agencies for permits and use agreements
6 necessary for filming in the City, and each department and agency has a different process,
7 agreement, form, and fee structure; and

8 WHEREAS, It is cumbersome and inefficient for film productions to generate separate
9 insurance certificates for numerous City departments when the insurance requirements
10 imposed by the Film Commission cover all City departments; and

11 WHEREAS, fees charged by City departments should not exceed the amount
12 necessary to recover the cost of City services provided and the rental of City property or
13 equipment; and

14 WHEREAS, In his Executive Order dated September 15, 2004, Mayor Newsom
15 expressed support for charging reasonable fees for filming in the City, for cooperation
16 between the Film Commission and other City departments, and for requiring City departments
17 to keep the Film Commission apprised of all activities related to film production in the City;
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Metropolitan Transit Authority,
20 the Recreation and Park Department, the Port of San Francisco, the Fine Arts Departments,
21 the Asian Art Museum, the San Francisco Convention Facilities, the War Memorial Performing
22 Arts Center, and the Police Department to cooperate with the Film Commission, and urges the
23 San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and the Treasure Island Redevelopment Authority

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1 ("TIDA") to cooperate with the Film Commission, to streamline the film permitting process in
2 the City; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this cooperation should include an effort to develop a
4 form of agreement that can be used, with minor modifications where necessary, by the Film
5 Commission, by City departments and by TIDA and the Redevelopment Agency to authorize
6 filming on City property, TIDA property, or Redevelopment Agency property; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this cooperation should include an initiative to ensure
8 that all fees charged to film productions are reasonable, appropriate, are designed only to
9 recover the City's or other public entity's costs, and will support the Film Commission's goal of
10 increasing film production in the City; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That this cooperation shall include discussion among the Film
12 Commission, the Port of San Francisco, and the Recreation and Park Department about
13 increasing the Film Commission's role in negotiating, drafting, and facilitating, but not
14 approving, film permits for Recreation and Park and Port Property; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That City Departments' cooperation with the Film Commission
16 shall include working with the City's Risk Manager to create a single and unified set of
17 insurance requirements, to be modified where necessary, that will apply to all film production
18 activities in the City; and be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Film Commission,
20 other relevant City departments, and other public agencies to undertake their cooperative
21 efforts as soon as possible, with the goal of developing procedures for streamlining the film
22 permitting process in San Francisco by ~~April 1, 2008~~ June 15, 2008; and be it

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1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Film Commission shall report back to the Board of
2 Supervisors regarding the progress made on the new procedures by ~~April 15, 2008~~ June 15,
3 2008.

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