

1 [Establishing a Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee.]

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3 **Ordinance adding Article XXIV Sections 5.250 and 5.251 of the San Francisco**  
4 **Administrative Code establishing a Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee.**

5 Note: This entire Section is new.

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Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

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8 Section 1. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding  
9 Article XXIV, Sections 5.250 and 5.251, to read as follows:

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**Sec. 5.250. Findings; Establishment and Organization.**

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(a) The Board of Supervisors finds and declares that it is in the public interest to  
12 officially recognize walking as an important component of our transportation system, and as a  
13 key component to creating livable and suitable communities. Accordingly, the Board of  
14 Supervisors seeks to develop and implement focused policies that encourage pedestrian  
15 safety, education, and convenience in transportation and city planning.

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Over the past fifty years, many American cities, including San Francisco, have seen a  
17 dramatic shift away from pedestrian and public transportation toward a reliance on the private  
18 automobile for primary transportation. In that same time period, the City has seen a reduction  
19 of its public walkways, pedestrian right-of-ways, and valuable inner-city green spaces.

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In San Francisco, as throughout the world, the quality of urban life is being threatened  
21 by encroaching environmental actors. San Franciscans also suffer from increasing poor air  
22 quality, elevated noise levels, increased traffic congestion, longer trip times, and diminishing  
23 public space. These and other factors have led San Francisco to adopt a Transit-First policy  
24 favoring public transportation, bicycles, and pedestrian travel over the use of automobiles.

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1           The City's streetscape is similar to many cities and towns in Europe. Narrow streets  
2 and interesting destinations combine to make our streets conducive to walking. Encouraging  
3 pedestrian presence on our City's streets and sidewalks not only reduces our City's reliance  
4 on the automobile, but also helps create communities and neighborhoods that are deemed  
5 livable and desirable. Better pedestrian planning and policies will not only serve the  
6 approximately 10% of San Franciscans who walk to work on a regular basis, but also all  
7 visitors to and residents of San Francisco because each person is a pedestrian at some point  
8 in every trip they take.

9           San Francisco has an unusually high rate of pedestrian injuries for a city its size. In the  
10 past five years, nearly 5,000 pedestrians have been injured on city streets, and over 130  
11 people have been killed. Our seniors, youth, and citizens with disabilities are especially at risk  
12 for being injured and/or killed in a motor vehicle collision. Nationally, pedestrians account for  
13 only 13% of traffic fatalities and 2.2% of traffic injuries. However, in San Francisco, they  
14 account for more than half of the motor-vehicle related deaths and about one-third of the  
15 hospitalizations and have outnumbered or equaled car occupants in traffic fatalities in San  
16 Francisco in nine of the past ten years.

17           (b) There shall be established a Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee. This Advisory  
18 Committee, composed of concerned and informed residents, will provide a source of expertise  
19 on issues concerning pedestrian safety, convenience, ambiance, and planning.

20           The Advisory Committee shall consist of eleven voting members appointed by the  
21 Board of Supervisors. The member shall consist of representative from the following  
22 categories:

- 23           (1). Three (3) representatives from pedestrian safety organizations;  
24           (2) Two (2) representatives from senior or disability organizations;

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1 (3) One (1) representative from bicycle or other non-motorized wheeled personal  
2 transport organizations;

3 (4) One (1) representative from transit or environmental organizations;

4 (5) One (1) representative from child advocate or school support organizations;

5 (6) One representative from a public health organization;

6 (7) Two (2) at-large representatives.

7 (c) In addition to the eleven voting members, the following City departments shall  
8 select and send a non-voting representative to Advisory Committee meeting: the Department  
9 of Parking and Traffic, the Department of Public Health, the Municipal Railway, the  
10 Department of Public Works, the Planning Department, the Police Department, the Recreation  
11 and Parks Department, District Attorney's Office, and any other City departments whose work  
12 impacts pedestrians. All City departments, commissions, boards and agencies shall  
13 cooperate with the Advisory Committee in conducting its business. The Board of Supervisors  
14 also requests that the Transportation Authority, San Francisco Unified School District, the  
15 Redevelopment Agency, and the Golden Gate National Park Service assist in the work of the  
16 Advisory Committee.

17 (d) Advisory Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of  
18 Supervisors. In addition, an Advisory Committee member's term shall expire by operation of  
19 law upon the issuance by the clerk of the Committee a notification adopted by the Advisory  
20 Committee certifying that the member in question has three consecutive unexcused  
21 absences from meetings of the Advisory Committee.

22 (e) The term of each Advisory Committee member shall be two years; provided,  
23 however, that the member initially appointed shall, by lot, classify their terms so that half of the  
24 members will serve a one year term and half will serve a two year term. In the event a  
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1 vacancy occurs during the term of office of any member, a successor shall be appointed to  
2 complete the unexpired term of office vacated.

3 (f) At the initial meeting of the Advisory Committee, and annually thereafter, the  
4 members of the Advisory Committee shall select a Chair, and any other officers as deemed  
5 necessary by the Advisory Committee.

6 (g) The Advisory Committee shall establish rules for its own organization and  
7 procedures and shall meet when necessary as determined by the Advisory Committee. All  
8 meetings shall, except as provided by law, be open to the public.

9 (h) The Advisory Committee shall be supported by the Department of Parking and  
10 Traffic to the extent that funding and staff resources permit. The Department of Parking shall  
11 include in its proposed budget funds sufficient to cover the cost of mailing, reproduction and  
12 other activities needed to complete the work of the Advisory Committee. In addition, an  
13 interdepartmental report on pedestrian issues and current projects will be presented to the  
14 Advisory Committee on a monthly basis by staff from the Department of Parking and Traffic.

15 **Section 5.251. Duties of the Committee.**

16 (a) The Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee shall have the power and duty to:

17 (1) Create subcommittees as necessary;

18 (2) Make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and other City departments,  
19 commissions, boards and agencies in order to improve pedestrian safety and ambiance;

20 (3) Develop concepts and review policies and planning efforts regarding pedestrian  
21 improvements including, but not limited to, issues of safety, traffic calming, education, and  
22 sidewalk and crosswalk treatments;

23 (4) Make recommendations on funding opportunities and priorities to the Board of  
24 Supervisors, the Municipal Transportation Agency, Transportation Authority, and other  
25 departments, commissions, boards and agencies;

1 (5) Review and make recommendations on policies and programs related to  
2 pedestrians in the Transportation Element of the Master Plan of the City and County of San  
3 Francisco, and make recommendations on the goals and their implementation to the Planning  
4 Commission;

5 (6) Report to the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis, with quarterly appearances  
6 before the Board of Supervisors as needed, on statistics on pedestrian injury and fatality  
7 statistics, causes of pedestrian injuries and fatalities, recommendations for changes in  
8 policies, funding and enforcement, and other pertinent issues;

9 (7) Support the development of a Pedestrian Master Plan, in conjunction with city  
10 agencies and community input, which will offer a comprehensive review of the policies,  
11 procedures, practices and physical infrastructure of the City that affect pedestrians, and will  
12 also provide recommendations to make walking safer and more convenient through sidewalk  
13 improvements, new City policies, educational programs, promotional efforts and transit  
14 access.

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16 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
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