

FILE NO. 080202

RESOLUTION NO.

69-08

1 [Policy Regarding Bay Infill at San Francisco International Airport]

2  
3 **Resolution establishing policy on bay infill for runway expansion at San Francisco**  
4 **International Airport.**

5  
6 WHEREAS, San Francisco Bay is the greatest natural treasure of the City and County  
7 of San Francisco; and,

8 WHEREAS, The bay has been reduced in size by one-third from landfill, diking and  
9 shoreline development, and its health is threatened by pollution and landfill; and,

10 WHEREAS, The San Francisco International Airport (SFO) terminated its airfield  
11 reconfiguration plan and withdrew requests for the Board of Supervisors to authorize funding  
12 for the plan in 2003 because of overwhelming environmental, engineering and financial  
13 challenges associated with extending runways further into San Francisco Bay; and,

14 WHEREAS, Plans by SFO to extend runways further into San Francisco Bay on Bay fill  
15 were estimated in 2000 to cost as much as \$10 billion;

16 WHEREAS, SFO already carries \$3.9 billion in debt from other capital projects and  
17 spends nearly half of its annual operating budget on interest payments for that debt; and,

18 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Airport Commission approved resolution 08-0012 on  
19 January 22, 2008, recognizing that its plan to increase airfield capacity through runway  
20 reconfiguration into the San Francisco Bay has been eliminated as an option due to cost and  
21 environmental constraints, and resolving "that this Commission acknowledges that to  
22 reconfigure runways or build new runways is not an option." and,

23 WHEREAS, Chapter 29 of San Francisco's Administrative Code specifies that no  
24 project of any city agency whose estimated cost exceeds twenty-five million dollars  
25 (\$25,000,000.00) total, of which in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) will be paid

1 from public monies, may be evaluated under the California Environmental Quality Act until the  
2 Board of Supervisors makes an affirmative determination that the plan for implementing and  
3 undertaking that project is fiscally feasible and responsible, and no such determination has  
4 been made by the Board for any project to reconfigure or construct new runways at SFO; and,

5 WHEREAS, San Francisco voters in November 2001, demonstrated their strong  
6 objections to placing more fill in the San Francisco Bay for runways or other projects by  
7 approving Proposition D by a margin of 75% to 25%, amending the Charter of the City and  
8 County of San Francisco to require a citywide vote to approve any project that would require  
9 100 acres or more of fill in San Francisco Bay; and,

10 WHEREAS, San Francisco International Airport has achieved notable success in  
11 reducing flight delays and managing congestion without building runways farther into San  
12 Francisco Bay by deploying radar and air traffic control technology, employing more efficient  
13 flight approaches during reduced visibility conditions, and encouraging airlines to upgrade  
14 aircraft to deliver passengers more efficiently on larger planes without increasing the number  
15 of flights; and,

16 WHEREAS, Several U.S. airports, including SFO, are employing or seeking to employ  
17 more effective market mechanisms to manage congestion and reduce delays, including peak  
18 pricing, slot controls, demand management, flight schedule modification and regional  
19 coordinating with other airports; and,

20 WHEREAS, Additional radar and air traffic control technologies are being researched  
21 and developed that may safely provide additional cost-effective congestion management and  
22 delay reduction benefits at San Francisco International Airport in the future without adverse  
23 impacts to San Francisco Bay; and,

24 WHEREAS, The Bay Area Regional Airports Planning Committee, comprised of  
25 representatives from Bay Area airports, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the

1 Association of Bay Area Governments, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and  
2 Development Commission, is in the process of preparing an updated Regional Airports  
3 System Plan that studies ways to improve Bay Area airport service through institutional,  
4 planning and technological improvements, including influencing airline service decisions,  
5 establishing a regional airports authority or other collaborative arrangement, demand  
6 management for delay reduction, reconfiguration of regional airspace for improved efficiency,  
7 expediting deployment of air traffic control technologies, improving use of general aviation  
8 airports as relievers, improving surface access to and between airports, and legislative and  
9 regulatory changes to facilitate congestion management and capacity improvements; now,  
10 therefore, be it,

11 RESOLVED, That it is the policy of the City and County of San Francisco that no  
12 additional fill should be placed in San Francisco Bay for new or reconfigured runways at San  
13 Francisco International Airport; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That San Francisco International Airport should pursue  
15 additional congestion management, delay reduction, and service improvements through  
16 deployment of enhanced technology; implementation of more efficient operational procedures,  
17 and regional collaboration and cooperation; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Federal Aviation Administration should encourage  
19 San Francisco International Airport's efforts to manage congestion and reduce flight delays  
20 without construction of new or reconfigured runways on additional fill in San Francisco Bay, by  
21 expediting consideration of applications to waive such regulations and procedures as may be  
22 justified to accomplish that goal, and by recommending to Congress changes in regulations  
23 and procedures as may be necessary to accomplish that goal; and, be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the United states Congress should encourage San  
25 Francisco International Airport's efforts to manage congestion and reduce flight delays without

1 construction of new or reconfigured runways on additional fill in San Francisco Bay by  
2 approving such legislative changes in regulations and procedures as may be necessary to  
3 accomplish that goal; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That representatives of the City and County of San Francisco  
5 participating in the Regional Airport Planning Committee, including representatives from San  
6 Francisco International Airport, should advocate in that forum for an updated Regional  
7 Airports System Plan that promotes congestion management, delay reduction, and service  
8 improvements through deployment of enhanced technology, implementation of more efficient  
9 operational procedures, and regional collaboration and cooperation, and does not recommend  
10 additional fill in San Francisco Bay; and, be it

11 FUTHER RESOLVED, That Bay Area airports and cities should emulate San Francisco  
12 International Airport's commitment to avoid additional fill in San Francisco Bay; and, be it

13 FUTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall communicate this resolution to  
14 the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, California State Secretary of  
15 Transportation, and the Chair of the Regional Airports Planning Committee.



# City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Tails Resolution

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**File Number:** 080202

**Date Passed:**

Resolution establishing policy on bay infill for runway expansion at San Francisco International Airport.

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February 12, 2008 Board of Supervisors — AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE  
BEARING SAME TITLE

Ayes: 9 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Maxwell, Mirkarimi,  
Peskin

Absent: 2 - McGoldrick, Sandoval

February 12, 2008 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 9 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Maxwell, Mirkarimi,  
Peskin

Absent: 2 - McGoldrick, Sandoval

File No. 080202

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on February 12, 2008 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



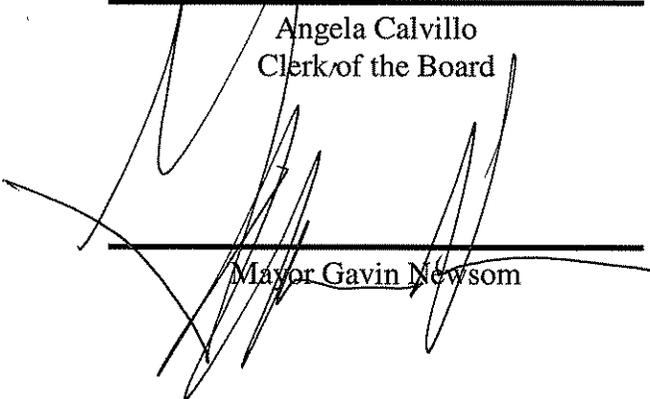
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Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

2.15.08

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Date Approved



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Mayor Gavin Newsom