

1 [Declaring Van Ness Avenue and Geary Boulevard Bus Rapid Transits as San Francisco's
2 Top Federal Small Starts Funding Priority]

3 **Resolution declaring Van Ness Avenue Bus Rapid Transit and Geary Boulevard**
4 **Bus Rapid Transit as San Francisco's top priority for Federal Small Starts Funding**

5 WHEREAS, the Proposition K local transportation sales tax Expenditure Plan,
6 approved by San Francisco voters in 2003, identifies Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on Van
7 Ness Avenue and Geary Boulevard as signature investments; and

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9 WHEREAS, the 2004 San Francisco Countywide Transportation Plan identifies a
10 network of BRT routes, including one on Van Ness Avenue and one on Geary
11 Boulevard, as the preferred transportation investment alternative to meet long range
12 transportation needs through 2030; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2001, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, in adopting
14 Resolution 3434, the Regional Transit Expansion Policy, identified \$600,000 for a study
15 of BRT feasibility on Geary Boulevard; and

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17 WHEREAS, with the support of each project's Citizens Advisory Committee, the
18 San Francisco County Transportation Authority (Authority) Board and the San Francisco
19 Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) Board adopted the Van Ness Avenue BRT
20 Feasibility Study and the Geary BRT Feasibility Study, in 2006 and 2007 respectively;
21 and

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23 WHEREAS, the Feasibility Studies found that BRT is feasible on Van Ness
24 Avenue and Geary Boulevard and recommended proceeding with the next steps in
25 environmental review and project development; and

1 WHEREAS, the Authority appropriated \$1,950,000 in Proposition K to support
2 environmental studies and preliminary engineering of Van Ness Avenue BRT, in January
3 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, the Authority applied for, and the Federal Transit Administration
5 (FTA) granted entry into Project Development for the Van Ness Avenue BRT project in
6 December 2007; and

7 WHEREAS, the FTA rated Van Ness Avenue BRT "high" for cost-effectiveness
8 and "medium-high" overall as a Small Starts candidate project; making Van Ness BRT
9 the highest ranked BRT project in the country for Small Starts funding; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Authority appropriated \$2,308,000 in Prop K to support
12 environmental studies and preliminary engineering of Geary Boulevard BRT in June
13 2008, and intends to seek entry into Project Development for the Geary BRT project in
14 August 2009; and

15 WHEREAS, the Authority and SFMTA have signed Memoranda Of Understanding
16 (MOU) in August 2008, and October 2008, establishing the Van Ness Avenue BRT and
17 Geary Boulevard BRT projects as shared agency priorities for near-term development;
18 and
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20 WHEREAS, On September 24, 2008, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission
21 (MTC) added the Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit project to the Regional Transit Expansion
22 Policy (MTC Resolution 3434), which sets regional priorities for transportation funds, and
23 named the project as one of two regional priorities for federal Small Starts Funds; and
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1 WHEREAS, On April 22, 2009, the MTC Metropolitan Transportation Commission
2 adopted Transportation 2035, the new Regional Transportation Plan for the Bay Area,
3 which includes both the Van Ness and Geary Bus Rapid Transit projects in the financially
4 constrained project list and positions both projects very favorably to receive state and
5 federal funds; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Authority hereby declares Van Ness Avenue BRT and
7 Geary Boulevard BRT as San Francisco's top priority for Small Starts funding, and urges the
8 Authority and the MTA to vigorously pursue Small Starts funding for final design and
9 implementation of these projects, and to advocate for these projects at the regional, state, and
10 federal levels.
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