

1 [Accept and Expend Grant - Union Square Alliance - Union Square Plaza - \$300,000]

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3 **Resolution authorizing the Recreation and Park Department to accept an in-kind grant**
4 **from the Union Square Alliance valued at approximately \$300,000 for sound system**
5 **improvements at the Union Square Plaza stage, effective upon approval of this**
6 **Resolution through notice of substantial completion.**

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8 WHEREAS, The City, through the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) operates
9 and maintains certain real property that is commonly referred to as Union Square Plaza
10 (Plaza); and

11 WHEREAS, The Union Square Alliance was established in 1999 to elevate the Union
12 Square Plaza and surrounding district as a welcoming destination for the public, visitors and
13 businesses; and

14 WHEREAS, The Union Square Plaza and stage is a gathering space for visitors to
15 experience live performances, cultural celebrations, arts installations, events and
16 programming; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2023 and 2024, Union Square Alliance, in partnership with the City of
18 San Francisco, presented SF Live, a series of large and small-scale concerts that were
19 attended by thousands of people; since early 2025, the City has planned to activate the Plaza
20 on a daily basis, including musical events using the stage several times per week; and

21 WHEREAS, Portable sound systems are required to be brought in for programming,
22 often at a considerable cost to event sponsors at the Plaza, a new sound system would
23 streamline and make programming more cost efficient and accessible to support a wide range
24 of small to midsize performances and events, these improvements will both dramatically

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1 enhance the Plaza as a performance space and make it far more accessible and welcoming
2 to artists to better connect with their live audiences and event producers; and

3 WHEREAS, The Union Square Alliance with funding from the Office of Economic and
4 Workforce Development proposes to provide RPD an in-kind grant for two 20-foot metal pillars
5 to be installed on either side of the stage, with an estimated value of approximately \$300,000
6 (the Grant), the pillars would allow for permanent and temporary sound speakers and related
7 equipment to be installed on the pillars; and

8 WHEREAS, RPD will own the pillars upon completion, and intends to issue the Union
9 Square Alliance a permit for them to install the sound system components onto the pillars, and
10 to operate the sound system for authorized events during a permit term, not to exceed nine
11 years; and

12 WHEREAS, The Grant terms prohibit including indirect costs in the grant budget; and

13 WHEREAS, The Grant will not require amending the Annual Salary Ordinance; and

14 WHEREAS, On July 17, 2025, the Recreation and Park Commission, by
15 Resolution No. 2507-009, recommended that the Board of Supervisors authorize the
16 Recreation and Park Department to accept and expend the Grant; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors approves the Grant and authorizes the
18 Recreation and Park Department General Manager to accept the Grant; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby waives inclusion of
20 indirect costs in the grant budget; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Recreation and
22 Park Department General Manager to enter into any modifications and amendments to the
23 Grant including accepting and expending funds and in kind services that increase the total
24 Grant value by up to 10% above the estimate stated in this Resolution, provided that the
25 Recreation and Park General Manager determines, in consultation with the City Attorney, that

1 any such modifications are in the best interests of the City, do not materially increase the
2 obligations or liabilities of the City, are necessary or advisable to effectuate the purposes of
3 the Grant or this Resolution, and are in compliance with all applicable laws, including the
4 City's Charter.

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6 Recommended:

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8 /s/ Sarah Madland on behalf of _____
9 Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager
10 Recreation and Park Department

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13 Approved:

Approved:

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15 /s/ _____
16 Mayor

/s/ _____
Controller

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