

1 [Free MUNI Fast Pass for Youth]

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3 **Resolution urging government agencies to work together to develop a free MUNI**  
4 **Fast Pass for San Francisco youth.**

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6 WHEREAS, Thousands of youth rely on MUNI to get to school, work, internships,  
7 and after-school programs; and

8 WHEREAS, Youth, families and community organizations across San Francisco  
9 are increasingly concerned with rising transit costs and a deepening economic crisis; and

10 WHEREAS, The SFMTA increased the cost of the Youth Fast Pass by 110  
11 percent between July 2009 and July 2011, from \$10 to \$21; and

12 WHEREAS, Recognizing the financial burden this placed on families, the Youth  
13 Commission passed Resolution No. 09-10-AL08 on February 1, 2010 and the Board of  
14 Supervisors passed Resolution No. 100408 (introduced by Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi) on  
15 April 6, 2010 urging the SFMTA to create a Youth Lifeline pass, a discount Youth Fast  
16 Pass for low-income youth in San Francisco's public school system; and

17 WHEREAS, The SFMTA Board of Directors allocated \$1.4 million annually in its  
18 two-year budget for FY 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 to sell 12,000 discounted youth  
19 passes to low-income youth; and

20 WHEREAS, In March 2011, the Board of Supervisors encouraged and the SFMTA  
21 Board of Directors authorized the distribution of the Youth Lifeline pass free-of-charge  
22 during the last three months of FY 2010-2011 given administrative barriers to taking  
23 payment for discounted passes; and

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1           WHEREAS, The SFUSD successfully distributed 12,000 Youth Lifeline passes to  
2 low-income youth free-of-charge during April, May and June 2011 with the coordinated  
3 outreach efforts of dozens of community groups across San Francisco; and

4           WHEREAS, The demand for the Youth Lifeline pass far exceeded the limited  
5 supply; and

6           WHEREAS, Administrative challenges to selling the Youth Lifeline pass as a  
7 discounted pass continue to exist; and

8           WHEREAS, In December 2010, the Board of Education approved a three-year  
9 plan to reduce SFUSD's 44 school buses serving 59 elementary and middle schools to 25  
10 school buses, starting in August 2011, to address state budget cuts; and

11           WHEREAS, Thousands of elementary school and middle school students will now  
12 have to find their own way to travel to school; and

13           WHEREAS, Youth, families and community groups have been urging City officials  
14 to develop a Fast Pass free-of-charge to all San Francisco youth in order to alleviate the  
15 economic burden of high transit costs on families; help children get to school and access  
16 afterschool programs; build a new generation of transit riders that will sustain the system  
17 long-term; and reduce carbon emissions by helping families choose environmentally-  
18 friendly transit options; and

19           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission unanimously passed  
20 Resolution 1112-AL-01 on September 19, 2011 urging various City agencies to work  
21 together to create a plan to make MUNI free for young San Franciscans; and

22           WHEREAS, The Budget and Legislative Analyst studied the cost-benefits of  
23 providing access to Muni free-of-charge by San Francisco youth, and estimates a 4.6  
24 percent increase in overall Muni ridership and a cost of \$6.4 million in lost fare revenues,  
25 and \$900,000 in Clipper fees, maintenance and operations costs; and

1           WHEREAS, Families, youth, community groups and members of the Board of  
2 Supervisors are exploring a three-year pilot program funded through a multi-agency  
3 effort, using a combination of efficiencies in MUNI, contributions from several different  
4 agencies, and private funds; and

5           WHEREAS, The SFMTA has the opportunity to increase agency efficiencies to  
6 invest in the pilot, as well as service improvements for all transit riders. Efficiencies  
7 include curbing overtime (SFMTA exceeded its original overtime budget by \$18 million in  
8 FY 10-11, and runs more overtime than any other City department); reducing its work  
9 orders to other departments (totaling \$66 million in FY 10-11); and implementing the  
10 Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP); and

11           WHEREAS, The pilot would help City agencies understand youth ridership  
12 patterns and where additional resources need to be invested, while developing a long-  
13 term, sustainable source of funding; now, therefore be it

14           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
15 Francisco urges the SFMTA, SFUSD, the San Francisco County Transportation Authority  
16 (SFCTA), and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to work collaboratively  
17 with community groups to design, secure funding for and launch a program with a clear  
18 timeline that provides access to Muni free-of-charge to San Francisco youth; and, be it

19           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
20 Francisco urges the SFMTA to increase agency efficiencies to invest in youth riders and  
21 overall service improvements by curbing overtime, increasing work order accountability  
22 and implementing the Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP); and, be it

23           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the  
24 Board of Supervisors send a copy of this resolution to Mayor Ed Lee, SFMTA Director Ed  
25 Reiskin, the SFMTA Board of Directors, SFUSD Superintendent Carlos Garcia, the San

1 Francisco Board of Education, SFCTA Director Jose Luis Moscovitch, and MTC Director  
2 Steve Heminger.

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