BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Request for Review of Municipal Transportation Agency Decision

AK

REQUESTOR NAME:

End Poverty Tows Coalition

REQUESTOR ADDRESS:		TELEPHONE:	
330 Ellis Street		(415) 674-6162	
San francisco, CA 94102		EMAIL:	
		ebinder@glide.org	
		, , ,	
DECISION BEING REQUEST	ED FOR REVIEW		
Decision Authorized by:	Type of Decision Being Requested for Review:		
Municipal Transportation Agency	☐ Installing or Removing a Stop Sign		
Board of Directors	☐ Creating or Eliminating a Preferential Parking Zone		
☐ Director of Transportation	☐ Creating or Eliminating a parking Meter Zone		
☐ City Traffic Engineer	☑ Adopting a Limitation on t	he Time Period for Parked Vehicle	
	☐ Creating or Eliminating a	Class III Bikeway or Bike Route	
	☐ Creating a Pilot/Temporary Program - for all of the above - or Continuing or Substantially Modifying a Pilot/Temporary Program on a Permanent Basis		
	☐ Creating or Substantially Modifying a Private Transportation Program (that may create/eliminate preferential parking zone)		
	Implementation of a Bus Rapid Transit project that authorizes preferential access for any part of the street to any vehicle that is not a Municipal Railway, taxi, authorized emergency, or Golden Gate Transit vehicle.		
Required for Filing a Request	for Review (including t	his form):	
☐ Five (5) Members of the Board of Supe	ervisors' signatures:		
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Copy of the Municipal Transportation A	gency's Decision, dated (do not	submit supporting MTA documents)	
Supporting Documentation on the Requ	uest for Review		
3 \$250 Appeal Fee (payable to the Clerk	of the Board of Supervisors)		
☐ Fee Waiver Form (if applicable)			

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SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCYOCT 29 PM 1: 45

RESOLUTION No. 241001-116

WHEREAS, The Mayor seeks to address and mitigate the acute public health and safety hazards associated with the long-term parking of Recreational Large Vehicles, defined to include camp trailers, fifth-wheel travel trailers, house cars, trailer coaches, mobilehomes, and recreational vehicles, on San Francisco's streets including fires, human waste, illegal dumping of trash, ADA complaints about blocked sidewalks and localized air pollution that have been widely documented; and,

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors has reviewed the Guidelines for Applying the Restriction on Overnight Parking by Recreational Large Vehicles; and,

WHEREAS, Long-term parking of Recreational Large Vehicles on city streets impacts traffic and circulation and often presents public health and safety hazards; and,

WHEREAS, The Mayor's Office engaged implementing agencies from the City and County of San Francisco, to vet and prepare the proposed action; and,

WHEREAS, The proposed Overnight Recreational Large Vehicle Parking Citation and Removal project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); CEQA provides an exemption from environmental review for the reduction or elimination of minimum parking requirements or institution of parking maximums, removal or restriction of parking, or implementation of transportation demand management requirements or programs, as defined in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 21080.25(b)(9); and,

WHEREAS, On September 5, 2024, the Planning Department determined (Case Number 2024-007667ENV) that the proposed Overnight Recreational Large Vehicle Parking Citation and Removal project is statutorily exempt from environmental review under Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 21080.25(b)(9); and,

WHEREAS, The proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by the S. F. Administrative Code Chapter 31; and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors, and may be found in the records of the Planning Department by Case Number at https://sfplanning.org/environmental-review-documents or 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400 in San Francisco, and are incorporated herein by reference, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors approves the Resolution amending Transportation Code Division II to establish a new definition for Recreational Large Vehicle to include camp trailers, fifth-wheel travel trailers,

house cars, trailer coaches, mobilehomes, and recreational vehicles; establish the existing Division I violation for overnight parking restrictions (12 a.m. to 6 a.m.) of Recreational Large Vehicles citywide under certain conditions; remove the requirement that the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors designate each location where the restriction is established; authorize the Director of Transportation to install signage to effectuate the restriction and to permit removal of a Recreational Large Vehicle for a violation as authorized in Division I; authorize the Director of Transportation to issue rules and regulations to govern the location of signage authorizing removal; provide that the amendments expire April 1, 2026; and make technical and clarifying corrections; and be it further

RESOLVED, That prior to posting signs to enforce the restriction in an area, the Director shall make a written finding that such vehicles parked in the area have resulted in, or are likely to result in, impacts to traffic and circulation, public health and safety, or both; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors directs staff to collect data on the traffic and circulation, and public health and safety challenges presented by Recreational Large Vehicles, as well as on all enforcement activity, and report back to this Board 18 months from now; and be if further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors directs staff to identify cases for exemptions and as necessary, create a permit program that would exempt Recreational Large Vehicles with valid permits from these restrictions for short durations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That with adoption, to the extent that other SFMTA towing policies regarding Recreational Large Vehicles conflict with this resolution, this Resolution takes precedence; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors urges the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) staff and the Healthy Streets Operations Center (HSOC) staff to consider offering permanent housing solutions, in addition to services, whenever possible and consistent with other priorities, to occupants lodging in Recreational Large Vehicles; and be if further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors directs the Director to work with City agencies to evaluate reasonable accommodation requests from individuals with disabilities living in Recreational Large Vehicles.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of October 1, 2024.

Secretary to the Board of Directors

San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

RECEIVED SOARD OF SUPERVISORS SAN FRANCISCO

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End Poverty Tows utilizing Transportation Code Section 10.1, to appeal the decision made on October 1, 2024 to pass San Francisco Municipal Transportation Resolution 241001-116.

The reasons for the appeal are as follows:

1) Unfair Punishment

The decision to change punishment for parking in a "no overnight large vehicle parking" zone from a ticket to a tow creates dire economic hardship for impoverished individuals and families who cannot afford the fees. There are discount programs for towing fees, but they are one-time discounts. If a person has already used the discount or if they are towed twice under the new policy, they will no longer be able to access discounts and they will lose their vehicle (home) forever. Excessive tow fees create a two-tiered justice system where those who can afford to pay escape the system, while those who are too poor to pay suffer significant punishment including loss of their largest asset and shelter.

2) Insufficient Protections

The stated protections for those residing in vehicles are insufficient and ill advised. The resolution states that those vehicles where the SFMTA suspects are inhabited would be offered shelter, and would be towed if they refuse. There are not enough shelter beds for those who are sleeping in parks, on sidewalks, and small vehicles. There are 200 individuals and over 500 families on shelter waitlists who are in dire circumstances. Individuals and families inhabiting RV's should not be given access to shelter in front of those who are in worse situations. In addition, for many who inhabit RVs, shelter may very well be an inappropriate placement, from disability access issues, to other access issues such as inability to place households together and include pets.

3) RV living is a symptom of structural inequities

Wages and income have not kept up with rising rents and cost of living. This has led to many people being forced to live in recreational vehicles. The loss of those vehicles will increase the number of people on the streets and those competing for shelter beds. A third of the people who are unhoused in San Francisco live in vehicular homes —towing their homes will simply push even more people onto the streets.

4) Loss of Democratic Process

Currently, the SFMTA Board holds the power to determine which streets should have signage around towing— which requires public meetings so that the public can have a say in these decisions. This resolution strips the public of this level of transparency and provides the Department of Transportation (DOT) Director with full control over deciding where overnight parking signage is placed.

5) Lack of Safe Parking and RV Park

There has not been any **proactive** measures to serve vehicularly housed people, and instead this policy takes a criminalization approach. San Francisco does not have the infrastructure to specifically support households residing in RV's. There are no RV parks inside SF to refer people to, and the one current safe parking site has limited capacity to about 33 RV's due to lack of electricity. While RV's represent a growing segment of the unhoused community, the homeless system is not set up to serve this population yet, and very few qualify for housing.

6) San Francisco's Unhoused Families Will Be Hit Hardest

This resolution will most impact the over 500 unhoused families in San Francisco who are waiting for shelter and the approximately 120 families living in RVs with their children. Stability for homeless children is essential to avoid adverse childhood events, to guard against negative impact on attaining educational and development goals. This resolution will force families on waitlists for shelter to wait longer and further destabilize the families in RV's.

7) This move will hit woman especially hard

Many people who have experienced Domestic Violence and other forms of gender based violence have been forced to use RV's as a form of shelter. Domestic Violence shelters have large turn away rates and a significant proportion of women experiencing homelessness on our streets are survivors of Domestic Violence. A <u>DHSH report</u> by Safe Housing Community found survivors do not feel safe in the Coordinated Entry access points or in city funded shelters, and do not do well in the Coordinated Entry system (the primary entry point for homeless housing). Women on the street fall victim to sexual assault at alarming rates. The loss of an RV for this community has devastating consequences in terms of safety.

8) There are solutions to address the issue

Instead of towing family homes, the City must uphold its commitment to provide families already living out of their vehicles safe long term parking slots and a clear pathway to permanent housing. This includes filling the over 700 vacant permanent housing units.

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COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS SAN FRANCISCO 280 TURK STREET, 2ND FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

11-7644/3210

10/25/2024

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

Clerk of the Board of Supervisers

**250.00

TWO SIGNATURES REQUIRED

Clerk of the Board of Supervisers

VOID IF NOT CASHED WITHIN SIX MONTHS

MEMO

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COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS SAN FRANCISCO

10/25/2024

Clerk of the Board of Supervisers

Date 10/25/2024 **Type** Bill

Reference

Original Amount 250.00

Balance Due 250.00

Payment 250.00

Check Amount

250.00

SFFCU Checking 003

TIT

250.00

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