

1 [Follow-Up Board Response - Civil Grand Jury Report - A Recycling Reality Check: What  
2 Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins]

3 **Motion responding to the Civil Grand Jury’s request to provide a status update on the**  
4 **Board of Supervisors’ response to Recommendation No. R1, R2, and R3 contained in**  
5 **the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “A Recycling Reality Check: What**  
6 **Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins.”**

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8 WHEREAS, The 2019-2020 San Francisco Civil Grand Jury published a report, entitled  
9 “A Recycling Reality Check: What Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling  
10 Bins” (“Report”) on October 1, 2020; and

11 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors’ Government Audit and Oversight Committee  
12 (“GAO”) conducted a public hearing to hear and respond to the Report on December 3, 2020;  
13 and, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 588-20 on December 15, 2020,  
14 reflecting the GAO responses to the Report; a copy of which is on file with the Clerk of the  
15 Board of Supervisors in File No. 201126; and

16 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R1 states: “City government should establish a web  
17 page (available on both Recology SF and the San Francisco Department of the Environment  
18 sites) that summarizes the recent disposition of blue bin material. The website should be  
19 updated not less than twice a year, with data for the preceding six months. Key trends should  
20 be identified in simple language or graphical elements;” and

21 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2020, responded in  
22 Resolution No. 588-20 that Recommendation No. R1 “has not been implemented but will be  
23 implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and urges the San Francisco Department of the  
24 Environment to prioritize timely and clear website communications on the trends of the  
25 disposition of blue bin materials, in multiple languages;” and

1           WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R2 states: “The existing mobile application related  
2 to recycling (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.recology.android>) should be  
3 updated to provide information that summarizes the recent disposition of blue bin material.  
4 The information should be refreshed not less than twice a year, with data from the preceding  
5 six months. Key trends should be identified in simple language or graphical elements;” and

6           WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2020, responded in  
7 Resolution No. 588-20 that Recommendation No. R2 “has not been implemented but will be  
8 implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and urges the San Francisco Department of the  
9 Environment to prioritize timely and clear mobile application updates on the trends of the  
10 disposition of blue bin materials, in multiple languages;” and

11           WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R3 states: “City government should enhance citizen  
12 educational efforts on what *not* to place in the blue bins, so that the volume, quality, and  
13 associated revenue from blue bin recycling can be increased, while decreasing the confusion  
14 some citizens have on this topic;” and

15           WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2020, responded in  
16 Resolution No. 588-20 that Recommendation No. R3 “has not been implemented but will be  
17 implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and urges the San Francisco Department of the  
18 Environment to ensure these communications are available in multiple languages;” and

19           WHEREAS, The GAO Committee conducted an additional hearing on  
20 February 3, 2022, to receive an update from City departments on Recommendation Nos. R1,  
21 R2, and R3; now, therefore, be it

22           MOVED, That Recommendation No. R1 has been implemented as follows: Recology  
23 and the Department of the Environment launched new webpages on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 detailing  
24 the recent disposition of blue bin materials, available in English, Spanish, and Chinese  
25 languages, with graphic elements summarizing trends; and, be it

1           FURTHER MOVED, That Recommendation No. R2 has been implemented as follows:  
2   Recology updated their mobile application on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 provide information summarizing  
3   the recent disposition of blue bin material, with key trends identified by graphic elements; and,  
4   be it

5           FURTHER MOVED, That Recommendation No. R3 has been implemented as follows:  
6   Recology and the Department of the Environment launched new web pages addressing “What  
7   Not to Put in the Blue Bin” on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021, and continue to provide multilingual virtual and in-  
8   person outreach and education about proper separation of waste, compost, and recyclables.

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City and County of San Francisco

Tails

Motion: M22-019

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

**File Number:** 201125

**Date Passed:** February 15, 2022

Motion responding to the Civil Grand Jury's request to provide a status update on the Board of Supervisors' response to Recommendation No. R1, R2, and R3 contained in the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled "A Recycling Reality Check: What Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins."

December 03, 2020 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - CONTINUED TO CALL OF THE CHAIR

February 03, 2022 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - PREPARED IN COMMITTEE AS A MOTION

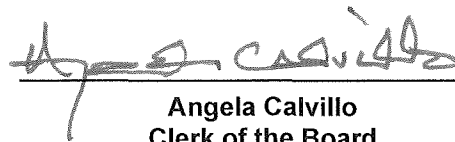
February 03, 2022 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - RECOMMENDED

February 15, 2022 Board of Supervisors - APPROVED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 201125

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was APPROVED on 2/15/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

  
Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board