

1 [Urging Plan Approval - Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation -
2 How Weird Street Faire Admission Fee]

3 **Resolution urging the Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation**
4 **to approve a proposed plan to allow the How Weird Street Faire to charge an admission**
5 **fee.**

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7 WHEREAS, How Weird Street Faire has been a much-loved showcase of electronic
8 music, fashion, art, performance, food, unique vendors and creativity for the last 20 years; and

9 WHEREAS, How Weird Street Faire takes place along 2nd Street between Clementina
10 Street and Minna Street and along Howard Street between New Montgomery Street and 1st
11 Street in a primarily commercial area; and

12 WHEREAS, How Weird Street Faire provides an economic boost to businesses in the
13 vicinity of the faire which is especially important as many businesses are currently trying to
14 recover from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

15 WHEREAS, How Weird Street Faire is classified as a full cost-recovery event and is
16 required to reimburse the City for all police, fire, public works, and other expenses related to
17 the event; and

18 WHEREAS, Non-profit organizations and small businesses are struggling to operate in
19 the City due to the high cost of labor, permitting, and services; and

20 WHEREAS, How Weird Street Faire is produced by World Peace Through Technology,
21 a non-profit organization that re-invests all event proceeds into the production of future events
22 and donates the remaining proceeds to other non-profit organizations; and

23 WHEREAS, How Weird Street Faire has in the past been a free event dependent upon
24 attendee donations for a large portion of its budget; and

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1 WHEREAS, Receipts from donations have not provided sufficient revenue to make
2 necessary improvements to the staffing and public security elements of the event; and

3 WHEREAS, The site of the How Weird Street Faire is approaching full capacity
4 attendance but expanding the site is not possible due to permitting and residential access
5 points; and

6 WHEREAS, An admission-based event would help moderate attendance and provide
7 additional revenue for event improvements, public safety, and community donations; and

8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) made an initial
9 recommendation for an admission fee for the dual purpose of crowd control and to provide
10 funding for increased public safety measures; and

11 WHEREAS, The organizers of the How Weird Street Faire have worked with SFPD and
12 staff from the Interdepartmental Staff Committee on Traffic and Transportation (“ISCOTT”) on
13 all of their plans for the event, including the proposal to charge admission; and

14 WHEREAS, In order to charge admission, How Weird Street Faire will close the
15 sidewalks at each entry gate and event side streets, but will allow for public access through a
16 lane marked "local access" at each entry gate; and

17 WHEREAS, In the spirit of accessibility, no one will be turned away from How Weird
18 Street Faire for lack of funds; and

19 WHEREAS, How Weird Street Faire organizers will submit an access plan to allow free
20 access to affected residents, employees, and business patrons; and

21 WHEREAS, Approval of this access plan will be a requirement of their ISCOTT permit;
22 now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
24 urges ISCOTT to approve the application including the plan to allow for gated admission and
25 a modest admission charge for the How Weird Street Faire.