

1 [Public Defender’s “MAGIC” (Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities)
2 Programs in the Bayview and Fillmore/Western Addition Neighborhoods]

3 **Resolution authorizing the Public Defender’s “MAGIC” (Mobilization for Adolescent**
4 **Growth in our Communities) Programs in the Bayview and Fillmore/Western Addition**
5 **Neighborhoods, and expressing the Board of Supervisors’ continued support for those**
6 **programs.**

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8 WHEREAS, The Public Defender’s Office, under the leadership of Jeff Adachi,
9 recognized a need to focus on youth and community building in order to prevent young people
10 from being clients of the Public Defender; and

11 WHEREAS, Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities program
12 (“MAGIC”) was therefore co-founded in 2004 by the Public Defender’s Office and leaders of
13 Bayview Hunters Point community-based organizations (“CBOs”) to address and improve the
14 quality of life of Bayview Hunters Point children, youth, and families; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2006 MAGIC expanded to serve the Fillmore District and Western
16 Addition communities, forming Mo’MAGIC, with B’MAGIC serving Bayview-Hunters Point
17 (together, the “MAGIC Programs”); and

18 WHEREAS, San Francisco communities like the Bayview and Fillmore/Western
19 Addition, historically Black neighborhoods, have experienced massive outmigration,
20 sometimes leaving behind those most vulnerable and disadvantaged; and

21 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs’ current target populations are children, young
22 people up to age 24, and their families, with a particular prioritization on the Black community
23 and low-income families; and

24 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs partner with CBOs to work to reduce juvenile
25 contact with the juvenile and criminal justice system and develop community resources; and

1 WHEREAS, Following a collective impact model, the MAGIC Programs operate as
2 “backbone support organization[s],” identifying gaps in the system and empowering
3 community partners to address their needs; and

4 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs’ network is not only comprised of local CBOs but
5 also representatives from schools, District Supervisor offices, City departments, faith-based
6 organizations, neighborhood associations, and members of the public; and

7 WHEREAS, Beyond resource matching and assistance, the MAGIC Programs
8 successfully facilitate conversation and collaboration amongst service providers, youth and
9 their families, and community residents; and

10 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs bring together service providers to plan year-round
11 events with the goals of building strong community bonds, disrupting the school-to-prison
12 pipeline and decreasing violence in the community; and

13 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs expand their reach and bolster their ties in the
14 community and together work with over 60 CBOs and serve over 6,000 children, youth, and
15 their families annually; and

16 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs have created significant and lasting opportunities
17 for youth to grow, thrive, and succeed by holding trainings and workshops alongside
18 community building events and resource sharing programs like resource guides, backpack
19 giveaway events; literacy-based programs and events, and youth development programs; and

20 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs work to build the service capacity of CBOs,
21 schools, parents and guardians, and youth through resource mobilization, building social
22 capital, and facilitating community building opportunities; and

23 WHEREAS, Many of these communities served by the MAGIC Programs, particularly
24 Bayview Hunters Point, have a disproportionate number of youths who are held within San
25 Francisco’s juvenile detention facility; and

1 WHEREAS, According to Our Children Our Families, Juvenile Probation Department
2 (JPD) referrals in San Francisco are disproportionately higher among Black and Latinx youth;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, According to JPD, in 2018, although less than 6% of San Franciscans
5 were Black, Black youth made up 55% of all JPD referrals, and although 15% of San
6 Francisco youth are Latinx, Latinx youth made up 28% of all JPD referrals; and

7 WHEREAS, According to the 2020 JPD Annual Report, approximately 17% of youth
8 referrals were from Bayview Hunters Point and approximately 9% from Western Addition,
9 most of the referrals were from Bayview Hunters Point; and

10 WHEREAS, According to the 2020 JPD Annual Report, approximately 57% of referrals
11 were AA/Black and 28% Latinx; and

12 WHEREAS, The community engagement work that the MAGIC Programs conduct as
13 community conveners is an essential counterpart to the work done by the Public Defender's
14 Office and has helped contribute to taking the office beyond a courtroom advocate to a
15 community partner in the fight for juvenile justice; and

16 WHEREAS, This kind of prevention work is critical in conjunction with the juvenile
17 justice work done by the Public Defender's Office because it is disrupting the systems of
18 inequality and barriers that keep young people from becoming thriving adults; and

19 WHEREAS, Studies show that early prevention work helps to close the school-to-
20 prison pipeline and research from the Justice Policy Institute has shown that effective
21 community-based programming can reduce recidivism by up to 22%, keeping youth and
22 communities safer; and

23 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs' work, in partnership with CBOs, leads to
24 diminishing youth interaction with the juvenile justice system; and

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1 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs' work has been recognized by the Brennan Center
2 for Justice as a best practice in modeling community partnership to address systemic
3 problems; and

4 WHEREAS, While MAGIC was co-founded in partnership with CBOs, the MAGIC
5 Programs are exclusively run and operated by the Public Defender's Office; and

6 WHEREAS, Each MAGIC program has three dedicated permanent full-time staff
7 members made up of a Director, Program Coordinator and Program & Outreach Assistant;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, All six staff members are City and County employees under the Office of
10 the Public Defender, members of the SEIU 1021 Union, and working for the City while working
11 on the Magic Programs; and

12 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs have accomplished extensive feats since their
13 inception, including: facilitating over 600 cross-organization meetings focused on violence
14 prevention, workforce development, education and health, distributing culturally relevant
15 books to over 6,000 pre-K to 2nd grade students, and providing essential education tools such
16 as backpacks and school supplies to over 45,000 k-12 grade students; and

17 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs pilot and create youth leadership and development
18 opportunities such as Bayview Youth Summit, Community Safety Initiatives, and the Mentor
19 Series which is now adopted under the City's Opportunities for All program; and

20 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs, as a unique blend of community and Public
21 Defender's Office-level advocacy, have been successful in creating platforms for collaboration
22 amongst youth networks as well as addressing service gaps and needs in the neighborhoods
23 they serve; and

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1 WHEREAS, Additionally, MAGIC Programs provide critical resources to community
2 members such as job and internship opportunities, community-based training workshops, and
3 educational field trips; and

4 WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs are critical to supporting and empowering the
5 Bayview Hunters Point and Fillmore/Western Addition communities; and

6 WHEREAS, Charter, Section 1.101 provides that all rights and powers of the City and
7 County that are not vested in another officer or entity by the Charter shall be exercised by the
8 Board of Supervisors; and

9 WHEREAS, The Charter does not vest in the Public Defender the right to create and
10 run community-partnership programs like the MAGIC Programs; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Public Defender’s Office to
12 continue operating the MAGIC Programs as described in this resolution in the Bayview and
13 Fillmore/Western Addition neighborhoods, as a unique and critically important community
14 extension of the Public Defender’s Office.

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