

1 [Grant Agreement - Urban Alchemy - Emergency Shelter - Not to Exceed \$18,736,820]

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3 **Resolution approving a grant agreement between Urban Alchemy and the Department**
4 **of Homelessness and Supportive Housing for emergency shelter operations and**
5 **support services serving approximately 250 adults experiencing homelessness at the**
6 **property located at 711 Post Street, for a total term of February 1, 2022, through June**
7 **30, 2024, for a total not to exceed amount of \$18,736,820 pursuant to Charter, Section**
8 **9.118(b); affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California**
9 **Environmental Quality Act; and making findings of consistency with General Plan, and**
10 **the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

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12 WHEREAS, The Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing’s (“HSH”) mission is to prevent homelessness when possible and to make homelessness a rare, brief, and one-time experience in San Francisco through the provision of coordinated, compassionate, and high-quality services; and

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17 WHEREAS, With the enactment of Resolution No. 319-18 in October 2018, the Board of Supervisors and Mayor Breed declared a shelter crisis and affirmed San Francisco’s commitment to combatting homelessness and creating or augmenting a continuum of shelter and service options for those experiencing homelessness; and

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21 WHEREAS, According to the 2019 Point in Time Count, there were approximately 8,000 people experiencing homelessness in San Francisco, 64% of whom were unsheltered; and

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24 WHEREAS, As part of the Mayor’s Homelessness Recovery Plan that was announced in June 2020, the City is committed to expanding shelter services, specifically

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1 semi and non-congregate shelter options to build off the success of the Shelter-in-Place
2 Hotel Program; and

3 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors approved using Proposition C (2018)
4 (Gross Receipts Tax for Homelessness Services) (“Prop C”), passed by San Francisco
5 voters in November 2018, to fund the Our City, Our Home (“OCOH”) Fund, in order to
6 expand and be complementary to existing funding and strategic efforts to prevent and end
7 homelessness for San Francisco residents, including shelter programming; and

8 WHEREAS, The non-profit provider Urban Alchemy has extensive experience in
9 operating various shelter program models including Shelter-in-Place Hotels, Safe Sleep
10 and Vehicle Triage Centers and has operated a successful community ambassador
11 program in some of most impacted neighborhoods in the City; and

12 WHEREAS, Urban Alchemy will lease a building at 711 Post (“the Property”)
13 which includes 123 units with a mix of rooms ranging from singles to quad units, bathrooms
14 and showers on each floor, community lounges, lobby and front desk, elevator, office
15 space, basement and storage, and a commercial kitchen and dining space; and

16 WHEREAS, This grant agreement with Urban Alchemy offers a unique
17 opportunity to open a new semi-congregate shelter that would initially serve approximately
18 250 adults experiencing homelessness with 24/7 onsite support services; and

19 WHEREAS, Urban Alchemy will provide guests at the program with a variety of
20 shelter support services including: intake and orientation; connection to HSH’s Coordinated
21 Entry Adult Access Points to engage in Problem Solving and Coordinated Entry
22 assessments; and referrals and coordination to other services including benefits advocacy
23 and assistance, mental health, behavioral health and treatment, in-home support services,
24 employment and job-related services, document readiness support and organized onsite
25 activities; and

1 WHEREAS, The City and Urban Alchemy are committed to being good neighbors
2 and, in addition to a Good Neighbor Policy, the contract includes dedicated Urban Alchemy
3 staff that will provide ambassador services in the area; and

4 WHEREAS, The Department of Building Inspection (DBI) reviewed this semi-
5 congregate shelter program at 711 Post Street and determined this proposed use complies
6 with Administrative Code Chapter 41, the Residential Hotel Unit Conversion and Demolition
7 Ordinance , a copy of said DBI compliance letter is on file with the Clerk of the Board in
8 File No. 211306; and

9 WHEREAS, The Planning Department, by letter dated December 7, 2021,
10 (“Planning Letter”) found that the proposed temporary shelter program at the Property is
11 not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) under the terms of recent
12 changes to California law set forth in Assembly Bill 101, California Government Code,
13 Sections 65660 - 56668, and a copy of said Planning Letter is on file with the Clerk of the
14 Board in File No. 211306; and

15 WHEREAS, The Planning Department, by letter dated no later than January 5,
16 2022, (“General Plan Findings Letter”) found that the proposed temporary shelter program
17 at the Property is consistent with the General Plan and the eight priority policies of Planning
18 Code, Section 101.1 (“General Plan Findings”), and a copy of said General Plan Findings
19 Letter is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 211306; and

20 WHEREAS, This grant agreement requires Board of Supervisors approval under
21 Section 9.118(b) of the San Francisco Charter; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby approves the original grant
23 agreement with Urban Alchemy from February 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024, in the total not
24 to exceed amount of \$18,736,820; and, be it

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1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Department of
2 Homelessness and Supportive Housing to enter into any amendments or modifications to the
3 grant, prior to its final execution by all parties, that the Department determines, in consultation
4 with the City Attorney, are in the best interest of the City, do not otherwise materially increase
5 the obligations or liabilities of the City, are necessary or advisable to effectuate the purposes
6 of the grant, and are in compliance with all applicable laws; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors affirms the Planning Department's
8 CEQA Determination and General Plan Findings, for the same reasons as set forth in the
9 Planning Letter and General Plan Findings Letter, and hereby incorporates such findings by
10 reference as though fully set forth in this Resolution; and, be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That within 30 days of the grant being executed by all parties,
12 the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing shall submit to the Clerk of the
13 Board of Supervisors a completely executed copy for inclusion File No. 211306.

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RECOMMENDED:

_____/s/_____
Shireen McSpadden
Homelessness and Supportive Housing
Executive Director