

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 Second Street between  
10 Clementina Street and Minna Street and along Howard Street between New Montgomery  
11 Street and First 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.