

1 [Accept and Expend Gift - Park Wi-Fi Project - \$608,000]

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3 **Resolution authorizing the Department of Technology to accept and expend a**
4 **gift of \$608,000 in cash from San Francisco Citizens Initiative for Technology and**
5 **Innovation in order to provide free, wireless Internet access to the public in**
6 **certain parks and recreational facilities in San Francisco, and making**
7 **environmental findings.**

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9 WHEREAS, The provision of free wireless Internet service (“Wi-Fi”) in parks is a
10 growing trend throughout the United States. City parks in New York, Seattle, Dallas,
11 and Fresno, State park systems in California, Minnesota, and Texas, and national
12 parks including Yellowstone National Park and the National Mall all provide free Wi-Fi
13 as a user amenity. Access to free Wi-Fi at these sites enhances park visitors’
14 experiences by enabling them to access online information about the park destinations
15 and their features, as well as access real time weather and traffic information; and

16 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco (“City”) seeks to enhance
17 broadband Internet access to its residents and visitors; and

18 WHEREAS, Consistent with this trend and the City’s goals, the Department of
19 Technology (“DT”) and the Recreation and Park Department (“RPD”) have developed a
20 project to provide free Wi-Fi service in certain San Francisco parks, recreation centers,
21 and open spaces under the jurisdiction of the Recreation and Park Commission to any
22 person in the vicinity with a compatible Wi-Fi device (the “Park Wi-Fi Project”); and

23 WHEREAS, Under the Park Wi-Fi Project, DT intends to install, operate, and
24 maintain for at least two years a Wi-Fi network serving thirty-one RPD parks, recreation
25 centers, and plazas. Towards that end, DT intends to install small communication

1 devices both within and on existing park buildings and structures and on streetlight
2 poles owned by the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”), as more fully described in the
3 Gift Agreement between the City and SF Citi; and

4 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Citizens Initiative for Technology and Innovation
5 (“SF Citi”), a non-profit corporation that organizes the technology community around
6 civic action in San Francisco, seeks to donate to the City \$608,000 in cash for DT to
7 use for the Park Wi-Fi Project (“Gift”); and

8 WHEREAS, SF Citi will receive all of the funds for the Gift from Google Inc.,
9 which is one of the member companies of SF Citi; and

10 WHEREAS, DT has agreed to expend the funds received from SF Citi to
11 implement the Park Wi-Fi Project, subject to the Board of Supervisors’ approval of this
12 resolution; and

13 WHEREAS, Following receipt of the Gift, DT and RPD intend to enter into an
14 interdepartmental memorandum of understanding setting forth the terms and
15 conditions for DT’s use of RPD’s property for the Park Wi-Fi Project, and DT and the
16 PUC intend to enter into an interdepartmental memorandum of understanding setting
17 forth the terms and conditions for DT’s use of the PUC’s streetlight poles for the Park
18 Wi-Fi Project; and

19 WHEREAS, The Risk Manager has approved the requirement that the City hold
20 SF Citi and Google harmless from and against all third party claims, liabilities,
21 expenses, costs, liens and judgments relating to accidents, injuries, loss or damage of
22 or to any person or property arising from the negligent, intentional, or willful acts or
23 omissions of the City related to the City’s construction, operation, and maintenance of
24 the Park Wi-Fi Project; and

25 WHEREAS, On November 21, 2013, the Planning Department issued a notice of

1 exemption determination, finding the proposed project, including all actions described
2 in this Resolution, exempt from further environmental review under Section 15303(d) of
3 the CEQA Guidelines, which determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board in
4 Board File No. _____; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Department of
6 Technology to accept the Gift from SF Citi of \$608,000 in cash and to expend the funds
7 to implement the Wi-Fi Project as more fully described herein; and, be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors finds that the use of City
9 parks and open spaces for the Park Wi-Fi Project is consistent with and supportive of a
10 recreational purpose in accordance with Charter Section 4.113, because the proposed
11 use: (1) will occupy an insubstantial portion of the City's parks and open spaces; (2)
12 will not substantially impair or interfere with the use and enjoyment of the parks and
13 open spaces for recreational purposes, because of the proposed locations and small
14 dimensions of the communications devices to be installed; (3) will enhance park
15 visitors' use and enjoyment of the parks by allowing users to access important
16 information while visiting parks such as information about park features and amenities,
17 directions, public transit, and parking, and useful real time information such as weather
18 and traffic conditions; and (4) will help bridge the digital divide by providing broadband
19 access at recreation centers that serve the City's youth and senior citizens; and, be it
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1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors affirms the Planning
2 Department's determination that the proposed project is exempt from environmental
3 review.

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6 Recommended:

Approved: _____

7 Mayor

8 _____
9 Department Head

Approved: _____

10 Controller