File No. 140709

 Committee Item No._____

 Board Item No._____

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Completed Completed	by: John Carroll	Date June 19, 2014 Date

FILE NO. 140709

[Declaration of Intent - Explore Forming a Joint Powers Authority to Carry Out Local Mortgage Principal Reduction Programs]

RESOLUTION NO.

Resolution commending the City of Richmond for their work on creating a Local Principle Reduction Program and declaring San Francisco's intention to explore forming a Joint Powers Authority with Richmond to prevent foreclosures.

WHEREAS, Since the beginning of the housing crisis in 2007, more than four million families lost their homes to foreclosure leading to state and local governments facing crippling budget crises; and

WHEREAS, Analysis of 2010 U.S. Census data by the Pew Research Center found that between 2005 and the end of the recession in mid-2009, nationally the net worth of black households fell 53 percent, Hispanic households fell 66 percent, Asians households fell 54 percent, and White families—while also showing the effects of the housing crisis—suffered a smaller, 16 percent, decrease in household net worth; and

WHEREAS, The housing crisis has been attributed to the creation of a "dual mortgage market" that followed the impacts of bank redlining which, just as terribly, devastated the wealth of racial and ethnic communities who were steered or limited to subprime loans that disproportionately targeted minority – especially African American – borrowers and communities because of the lack of prime loans among even the highest-income minority borrowers; and

WHEREAS, Numerous studies, lawsuits and settlements have documented that, even controlling for income, African-American and Latino borrowers were significantly more likely to be sold high-cost, subprime loans than whites, despite the fact that as many as 50 percent of those borrowers qualified for prime loans; and

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WHEREAS, Racial inequity in lending actually increased with borrower income levels, and expanded the degree of neighborhood segregation because loans in these communities were more costly, and were frequently predatory, carried hidden fees and conditions or were marketed through deceptive practices like built-in rate adjustment features, making them unsustainable over the loan's lifespan; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of San Francisco homeowners whose loans were sold into private-label securitization trusts ("PLS loans"), which pooled these loans into trusts with many investors, are unable to access many of the foreclosure prevention programs available to other struggling homeowners; and

WHEREAS, PLS loans tend to be predatory loans, and an examination of these loans in San Francisco shows that 94 percent of the underwater PLS loans located in the City have some predatory feature in the terms of the original loan, such as adjustable rate mortgages, balloon mortgages, interest-only mortgages and negative amortizations; and

WHEREAS, PLS loans tend to be subject to pooling and servicing agreements that would require collective action by a large majority of security holders before the PLS loans may be modified or sold out of trusts; and

WHEREAS, Conducting such a collective action across most holders of the PLS loans historically has been difficult; and

WHEREAS, Approximately three hundred (300) underwater PLS loans were made on homes located in San Francisco, and these homes are particularly concentrated in San Francisco's historically Black, Latino, and Asian working class communities; and

WHEREAS, Three zip codes (94124, 94112, and 94134), each with over 80% people of color, have the highest numbers of homes with underwater PLS loans that could benefit from a Local Principal Reduction program:

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ZIP CODE	NO. OF HOMES	% BLACK	% LATINO	% ASIAN
94 1 24	100	35.8	25.1	27.5
94 1 12	85	3.5	30.2	47.9
94 1 34	52	10.2	17.4	55.8

and

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WHEREAS, The foreclosure prevention efforts that have been implemented thus far at the local, state, or federal levels are unable to help these homeowners with underwater PLS loans obtain loan modifications; and

WHEREAS, The City has an interest in reducing the number of foreclosures within the City to keep families in their homes and preserve the community and the City's property tax base; and

WHEREAS, The 2009 Report of the Mayor's Task Force on African American Out-Migration called for "urgent action" to reverse the "decline of middle to upper middle-income African-American households" and focus on "economic development opportunities, and housing and homeownership," going so far as to highlight that "the mortgage rejection rate for African-Americans is far above any other group, as one in every three applications by African-Americans in San Francisco is rejected," forcing many Black families into predatory PLS loans; and

WHEREAS, Cities and towns elsewhere in the country have considered implementing local programs ("Local Principal Reduction") to reset underwater mortgages by acquiring certain underwater mortgages for fair market value for the purpose of restructuring and modifying those loans by reducing the loan principal; and

WHEREAS, Cities implementing a Local Principal Reduction program may utilize their powers of eminent domain to acquire, restructure and/or modify the PLS loans located in the City to help prevent foreclosures and stabilize the City's housing market; and

Supervisors Avalos, Campos, Mar BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WHEREAS, Such Local Principal Reduction programs may help prevent foreclosures and stabilize the housing market in communities where they are implemented; and

WHEREAS, The City of Richmond, California, is seeking other California cities to join it in the formation of a Joint Powers Authority to implement Local Principal Reduction strategies; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco commends the City of Richmond, California for its leadership on developing Local Principle Reduction strategies to enable low and moderate income families to maintain the wealth they have invested in their homes; and

RESOLVED, That it is the intention of the Board of Supervisors to explore joining with the City of Richmond in the formation of a Joint Powers Authority for the purpose of implementing Local Principal Reduction and potentially other housing preservation strategies; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board recognizes the impacts and historic misuse of the power of eminent domain in San Francisco and the adopted policy in the Bayview Hunter's Point Redevelopment Plan (Section 1.4.5) that outlines express prohibitions and limitations on the use of eminent domain in the Bayview Hunters Point Redevelopment Project Area, and recognizes that, different from many prior uses of eminent domain, the San Francisco CARES program seeks to keep people in their homes and prevent displacement; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors asks City staff and the City Attorney to work with the City of Richmond to develop a mutually agreed-upon scope of appropriate activities for the proposed Joint Powers Authority and to draft a Joint Powers Authority agreement to be brought back to this Board for final consideration.

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Print Form **Introduction Form** By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor Time stamp or meeting date I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one): 1. For reference to Committee. An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment. \boxtimes 2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee. 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee. inquires" 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor Π Π 5. City Attorney request. from Committee. 6. Call File No. 7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion). 8. Substitute Legislation File No. 9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion). 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole. П \Box 11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following: Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission □ Ethics Commission \square Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative Sponsor(s): Supervisors Avalos, Campos, Mar Subject: Resolution - Declaring Intent to Explore Forming a Joint Powers Authority to Carry Out Local Mortgage Principal **Reduction** Programs The text is listed below or attached: Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

For Clerk's Use Only: