

1 [Conditionally Reversing the Final Environmental Impact Report Certification - Significant  
2 Natural Resource Areas Management Plan]

3 **Motion conditionally reversing the Planning Commission’s certification of the Final**  
4 **Environmental Impact Report prepared for the proposed Significant Natural Resource**  
5 **Areas Management Plan, subject to the adoption of written findings of the Board in**  
6 **support of this determination.**

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8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department (SFRPD) developed  
9 the Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP), formerly referred to as the Significant  
10 Natural Resource Areas Management Plan (SNRAMP), which addresses 31 Natural Areas in  
11 San Francisco, scattered mostly throughout the central and southern portions of San  
12 Francisco, and the Sharp Park Natural Area in Pacifica; and

13 WHEREAS, These Natural Areas range in size from less than one acre to almost 400  
14 acres, support sensitive plant and animal species and habitats, and are used as recreational  
15 open spaces by residents and visitors; and

16 WHEREAS, The stated purpose of the NRMP is to provide for long-term management  
17 of the Natural Areas through natural resource protection, habitat restoration, trail and access  
18 improvements, other capital projects, and maintenance activities over the next 20 years; and

19 WHEREAS, The activities planned for the Natural Areas can generally be divided  
20 between routine maintenance and programmatic projects, and also include the proposed  
21 restoration of Sharp Park (referred to as the “Sharp Park Laguna Salada Restoration Project”)  
22 in Pacifica; and

23 WHEREAS, The Planning Department sent a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an  
24 Environmental Impact Report and Initial Study to more than 2,400 interested parties on  
25 April 22, 2009; and

1           WHEREAS, The Draft EIR for the proposed Project was first published on  
2 August 31, 2011, and circulated to local, state, and federal agencies and to interested  
3 organizations and individuals for a 45-day public review period that was later extended for two  
4 weeks by the San Francisco Planning Commission, resulting in a 61-day public review period  
5 that began August 31, 2011, and continued through October 31, 2011; and

6           WHEREAS, The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Draft EIR on  
7 October 6, 2011; and

8           WHEREAS, A second public review comment period, during which written comments  
9 were once again invited, was provided from April 27, 2012, to June 11, 2012, for a total of an  
10 additional 46 days; and

11           WHEREAS, The Planning Department prepared a Responses to Comments document  
12 (RTC), responding to all comments received orally at the public hearings and in writing, and  
13 published the RTC on November 16, 2016; and

14           WHEREAS, Following publication of the RTC, the Recreation and Parks Department  
15 proposed modifications to the Project Description with respect to proposed actions at the  
16 Sharp Park Natural Area with the intent of emphasizing the preferred use of soil spoils for  
17 habitat restoration purposes and identifying the other disposal sites required for excess spoils  
18 as equal disposal options, and on December 15, 2016, the Planning Department issued an  
19 Errata to the EIR, analyzing the proposed modifications to the Project Description and finding  
20 that they would not result in any new significant environmental impacts or substantially  
21 increase the severity of a significant impact identified in the Draft EIR, and no new mitigation  
22 measures would be necessary, and that these modifications to the project description and  
23 additional revisions to the EIR, do not change any of the conclusions in the Draft EIR and do  
24 not constitute significant new information that requires recirculation of the Draft EIR; and  
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1           WHEREAS, On December 15, 2016, the Planning Commission, by Motion No. 19825,  
2 certified a Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the proposed Project under the  
3 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.,  
4 the CEQA Guidelines, 14 California Code of Regulations, Section 15000 et seq., and San  
5 Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 31, finding that the Final EIR reflects the independent  
6 judgment and analysis of the City and County of San Francisco, that it is adequate, accurate  
7 and objective, and contains no significant revisions to the Draft EIR; and

8           WHEREAS, By letter to the Clerk of the Board, received by the Clerk's Office on  
9 January 5, 2017, Dee Seligman, Rupa Bose, and Tom Borden, of the San Francisco Forest  
10 Alliance, appealed the Final EIR certification, and by letter to the Clerk of the Board, received  
11 by the Clerk's Office on January 17, 2017, Brent Plater of the Wild Equity Institute, on behalf  
12 of the Sierra Club's San Francisco Bay Chapter, the National Parks Conservation Association,  
13 Golden Gate Audubon Society, and the Sequoia Audubon Society, appealed the Final EIR  
14 certification, (together, "Appellants"); and

15           WHEREAS, The Planning Department's Environmental Review Officer, by  
16 memorandum to the Clerk of the Board dated January 10, 2017, determined that the appeals  
17 had been timely filed; and

18           WHEREAS, On February 28, 2017, this Board held a duly noticed public hearing to  
19 consider the appeal of the Final EIR certification filed by Appellants and, following the public  
20 hearing, conditionally reversed the Final EIR certification, subject to the adoption of written  
21 findings in support of such determination; and

22           WHEREAS, In reviewing the appeal of the Final EIR certification, this Board reviewed  
23 and considered the Final EIR, including the Draft EIR and the RTC, the appeal letters, the  
24 responses to the appeal documents that the Planning Department prepared, the other written  
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1 records before the Board of Supervisors and all of the public testimony made in support of  
2 and opposed to the appeal; and

3 WHEREAS, Following the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Supervisors  
4 conditionally reversed the Planning Commission's certification of the Final EIR, subject to the  
5 adoption of written findings of the Board in support of such determination, based on the  
6 written record before the Board of Supervisors as well as all of the testimony at the public  
7 hearing in support of and opposed to the appeal; and

8 WHEREAS, The written record and oral testimony in support of and opposed to the  
9 appeal and deliberation of the oral and written testimony at the public hearing before the  
10 Board of Supervisors by all parties and the public in support of and opposed to the appeal of  
11 the Infill Determination is in the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors File No. 170044 and is  
12 incorporated in this motion as though set forth in its entirety; now, therefore, be it

13 MOVED, That this Board of Supervisors conditionally reverses the certification of the  
14 Final EIR by the Planning Commission, subject to the adoption of written findings of the Board  
15 in support of this determination.

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