

1 [Recreation and Parks Month - July 2017]

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3 **Resolution proclaiming July 2017 as Recreation and Parks Month in the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities
7 throughout this country, including the City and County of San Francisco; and

8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department is proud to provide
9 opportunities for all of our diverse and unique residents and visitors to gather, play, learn,
10 relax, and enjoy nature throughout the City; and

11 WHEREAS, Our parks and recreation centers are vitally important to establishing and
12 maintaining the quality of life in our City and neighborhoods, ensuring the health of all San
13 Franciscan's, and contributing to the economic and environmental vitality of our community
14 and region; and

15 WHEREAS, Parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid
16 in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services, and also improve
17 the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

18 WHEREAS, San Francisco's parks and recreation programs contribute greatly to the
19 city's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base,
20 increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

21 WHEREAS, In 2007 the Recreation and Parks Commission established a scholarship
22 program in an effort to ensure that San Francisco residents are not denied the benefits of
23 public recreation due to the inability to pay, allowing everyone the opportunity to take part in
24 public recreational programs and classes, which foster human development, promote health
25 and wellness and increase cultural unity; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2016 over \$1,000,000 was given out in scholarships to 7,004 residents
2 registered in San Francisco Recreation and Parks programming; and

3 WHEREAS, Parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-
4 being of our community; and

5 WHEREAS, Parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect
6 groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative
7 buffers to development, support and nurture San Francisco's incredible bio-diversity and
8 ecological history, and protect habitat for wildlife; and

9 WHEREAS, Our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our
10 community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate
11 outdoors; and

12 WHEREAS, 2016 was one of the most active and successful years with over 59,000
13 people registered, 4,147 classes and programs offered, 475 summer camps, and almost
14 78,000 hours of recreation programming; and

15 WHEREAS, We are proud that our public parks were rated in the top three of the 40
16 largest U.S. cities in the Trust for Public Lands 2017 ParkScore Project, citing San Francisco's
17 unparalleled park access; and

18 WHEREAS, We are incredibly proud that San Francisco became the first city in the
19 U.S. where 100 percent of residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park; now, therefore, be
20 it

21 RESOLVED, That the Members of the Board of Supervisors recognize the tremendous
22 benefits derived from parks and recreation resources in our City and proclaim July 2017 as
23 Recreation and Parks Month in the City and County of San Francisco.