

1 [Accept-Expend Federal Grant Funds.]

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3 **Resolution authorizing the San Francisco Fire Department to retroactively accept and**  
4 **expend a grant in the amount of \$297,030 from the Federal Emergency Management**  
5 **Agency (FEMA) to develop and implement an Advanced Driver Training Program for its**  
6 **uniformed employees.**

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8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) uniformed employees  
9 respond to approximately 100,000 incidents per year; and,

10 WHEREAS, Responding in a timely and safe manner is critical to saving lives and  
11 minimizing property loss; and,

12 WHEREAS, The SFFD uniformed employees provide service for approximately  
13 798,680 San Francisco residents within a response area of 47.5 miles, where the registered  
14 vehicle density was 9,914 vehicles per square mile in 2006. The population grows to roughly  
15 1.2 million people on weekdays, bringing approximately 35,400 additional vehicles onto City  
16 streets; and,

17 WHEREAS, On any given day SFFD apparatus, consisting of 42 engine companies,  
18 19 truck companies, 26 ambulances, two rescue squads and specialized units for Hazmat,  
19 Special Operations and Cliff/Surf Rescue, can travel along 1,088 miles of roadway including  
20 one-way streets, dead ends, narrow alleyways and streets with an incline as great as 31.5%.  
21 There are approximately 7,200 intersections within the SFFD's response area, with only 1,148  
22 of those intersections having signals; and,

23 WHEREAS, As a result of the City's challenging topography, dense population, and  
24 automobile, bicycle and pedestrian traffic, the SFFD has experienced financial losses due to

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1 accidents involving responding emergency vehicles, as well as employee lost time and direct  
2 medical costs; and,

3 WHEREAS, The SFFD offers a 40-hour Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC)  
4 for its newly hired uniformed personnel during the recruit-training program, but has not been  
5 able to provide any routine, on-going driver training, competency testing or defensive driver  
6 training for employees who have passed probation; and,

7 WHEREAS, The SFFD applied for and was awarded a FEMA grant in the amount of  
8 \$297,030 to develop and implement an Advanced Driver Training Program using a driving  
9 simulator. The SFFD believes such a Training Program will complement and enhance hands-  
10 on vehicle operation by providing simulated but realistic fire and EMS driving experiences and  
11 training for appropriate driver reactions to potentially dangerous traffic situations and roadway  
12 conditions, and that the training will increase the interoperability of all responding units and  
13 provide for better control of intersections during Code 3 calls; and,

14 WHEREAS, The grant requires the City to provide matching funds of 20 percent, or  
15 \$74,257, and the SFFD has identified those funds in its current budget; and,

16 WHEREAS, The grant requires to the City to expend the grant funds by no later than  
17 November 25, 2009, unless the SFFD applies for and FEMA approves an extension of the  
18 grant period; and,

19 WHEREAS, The SFFD proposes to maximize the use of the grant funds on program  
20 expenditures by not including indirect costs in the grant budget; and,

21 WHEREAS, The grant does not require any amendment to the Annual Salary  
22 Ordinance; and,

23 WHEREAS, The Fire Commission recommended approval of this grant at its meeting  
24 on January 22, 2009; now, therefore, be it

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1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the SFFD to retroactively  
2 accept and expend grant funds in the amount of \$297,030 from FEMA; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funds received must be expended no later than  
4 November 25, 2009, unless an extension is granted by FEMA; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby waives inclusion of  
6 indirect costs in the grant budget; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief of the San Francisco Fire Department is hereby  
8 authorized and empowered to execute, deliver, and perform, in the name of the City and  
9 County of San Francisco, all applications, contracts, agreements, amendments, and payment  
10 requests necessary to secure the FEMA grant funds and implement the purposes specified in  
11 the grant application.

12 Recommended:

Approved:

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15 Joanne M. Hayes-White  
Chief of Department

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Gavin Newsom  
Mayor

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19 Benjamin Rosenfield  
Controller