

1 [Board Response - Civil Grand Jury Report - A Recycling Reality Check: What Actually
2 Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins]

3 **Resolution responding to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings**
4 **and recommendations contained in the 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “A**
5 **Recycling Reality Check: What Actually Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue**
6 **Recycling Bins;” and urging the Mayor to cause the implementation of accepted**
7 **findings and recommendations through her department heads and through the**
8 **development of the annual budget.**

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10 WHEREAS, Under California Penal Code, Section 933 et seq., the Board of
11 Supervisors must respond, within 90 days of receipt, to the Presiding Judge of the Superior
12 Court on the findings and recommendations contained in Civil Grand Jury Reports; and

13 WHEREAS, In accordance with California Penal Code, Section 933.05(c), if a finding or
14 recommendation of the Civil Grand Jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a
15 county agency or a department headed by an elected officer, the agency or department head
16 and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if requested by the Civil Grand Jury, but the
17 response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only budgetary or personnel matters over
18 which it has some decision making authority; and

19 WHEREAS, Under San Francisco Administrative Code, Section 2.10(a), the Board of
20 Supervisors must conduct a public hearing by a committee to consider a final report of the
21 findings and recommendations submitted, and notify the current foreperson and immediate
22 past foreperson of the civil grand jury when such hearing is scheduled; and

23 WHEREAS, In accordance with San Francisco Administrative Code, Section 2.10(b),
24 the Controller must report to the Board of Supervisors on the implementation of

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1 recommendations that pertain to fiscal matters that were considered at a public hearing held
2 by a Board of Supervisors Committee; and

3 WHEREAS, The 2019-2020 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “A Recycling Reality
4 Check: What Happens to Things We Put in Our Blue Recycling Bins” (“Report”) is on file with
5 the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 201125, which is hereby declared to be a
6 part of this Resolution as if set forth fully herein; and

7 WHEREAS, The Civil Grand Jury has requested that the Board of Supervisors respond
8 to Finding Nos. F1, F2, and F3, as well as Recommendation Nos. R1, R2, and R3, contained
9 in the subject Report; and

10 WHEREAS, Finding No. F1 states: “San Francisco Department of the Environment and
11 Recology are to be commended for their commitment to maximizing the effectiveness of their
12 recycling efforts. San Francisco sets a positive, powerful example for how a commitment to
13 recycling can pay off in the form of reduced landfill use;” and

14 WHEREAS, Finding No. F2 states: “San Francisco Department of the Environment and
15 Recology do not provide a sufficient amount of timely information to the public related to the
16 disposition of material placed in the blue bins;” and

17 WHEREAS, Finding No. F3 states: “While significant efforts are being made by the San
18 Francisco Department of the Environment and Recology, many residents still struggle to
19 understand what belongs in the blue bins and what does not;” and

20 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R1 states: “City government should establish a web
21 page (available on both Recology SF and the San Francisco Department of the Environment
22 sites) that summarizes the recent disposition of blue bin material. The website should be
23 updated not less than twice a year, with data for the preceding six months. Key trends should
24 be identified in simple language or graphical elements;” and

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1 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R2 states: “The existing mobile application related
2 to recycling (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.recology.android>) should be
3 updated to provide information that summarizes the recent disposition of blue bin material.
4 The information should be refreshed not less than twice a year, with data from the preceding
5 six months. Key trends should be identified in simple language or graphical elements;” and

6 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R3 states: “City government should enhance citizen
7 educational efforts on what *not* to place in the blue bins, so that the volume, quality, and
8 associated revenue from blue bin recycling can be increased, while decreasing the confusion
9 some citizens have on this topic;” and

10 WHEREAS, In accordance with California Penal Code, Section 933.05(c), the Board of
11 Supervisors must respond, within 90 days of receipt, to the Presiding Judge of the Superior
12 Court on Finding Nos. F1, F2, and F3, as well as Recommendation Nos. R1, R2, and R3,
13 contained in the subject Report; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports to the Presiding Judge of the
15 Superior Court that they agree with Finding No. F1; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports to the Presiding Judge
17 of the Superior Court that they agree with Finding No. F2; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports to the Presiding Judge
19 of the Superior Court that they agree with Finding No. F3; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
21 No. R1 has not been implemented but will be implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and
22 urges the San Francisco Department of the Environment to prioritize timely and clear website
23 communications on the trends of the disposition of blue bin materials, in multiple languages;
24 and, be it

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1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
2 No. R2 has not been implemented but will be implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and
3 urges the San Francisco Department of the Environment to prioritize timely and clear mobile
4 application updates on the trends of the disposition of blue bin materials, in multiple
5 languages; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
7 No. R3 has not been implemented but will be implemented no later than July 1, 2021, and
8 urges the San Francisco Department of the Environment to ensure these communications are
9 available in multiple languages; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor to cause the
11 implementation of the accepted findings and recommendations through her department heads
12 and through the development of the annual budget.

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