

1 [Directing the Department of Public Works to limit the scope of revetment work at Ocean
2 Beach south of Sloat Boulevard and urging the re-establishment of a long-term planning
3 process for Ocean Beach erosion.]

4 **Resolution directing the Department of Public Works to limit the scope of revetment**
5 **work at Ocean Beach south of Sloat Boulevard and analyze the feasibility of**
6 **repurposing existing concrete and rock revetment, and urging the re-establishment of**
7 **a long-term planning process for addressing erosion Ocean Beach that includes**
8 **removing any new rock revetment when it is safe to do so.**
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10 WHEREAS, The severe storms of January 2010 caused extensive erosion at Ocean
11 Beach south of Sloat Boulevard, leading to the possible endangerment of the Lake Merced
12 Wastewater Tunnel located below the Great Highway, and

13 WHEREAS, On January 26, 2010 the Board of Supervisors concurred with the Mayor's
14 proclamation of a local emergency, effective through February 2, 2010, and in the actions
15 taken by the Mayor and the City to meet the emergency; and

16 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has been aware of the erosion of
17 Ocean Beach south of Sloat Boulevard since at least 1995; and

18 WHEREAS, Resolution 698-99 concurred with a similar declaration of emergency
19 caused by the erosion of sand dunes at Ocean Beach; and

20 WHEREAS, Resolution 698-99 prohibited the expenditure of funds on the use of hard
21 structures, such as rock revetment or seawalls, to stabilize conditions at Ocean Beach, and
22 called for the long-term planning process at Ocean Beach to consider the removal of
23 revetment rocks; and
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1 WHEREAS, Resolution 1087-99 directed the Department of Public Works to develop
2 long-term solutions to protect the City's infrastructure while preserving natural resources and
3 recreational opportunities at Ocean Beach; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2002, the San Francisco Commission on the Environment passed
5 resolution 001-02-COE, which urged the removal of eroded infrastructure at Ocean Beach by
6 cleaning remaining hazards around Sloat Boulevard including underwater piers and rubble on
7 the beach that has migrated from the cliff face; and

8 WHEREAS, Hard structure solutions to coastal erosion, such as sea walls or rock
9 revetment, typically lead to erosion of the beach in front of the structure and cause deflection
10 of the wave energy from the revetment area to adjacent beach area, causing further
11 increases in erosion; and

12 WHEREAS, An alternative to armoring the coast with hard structures is managed
13 retreat, which involves moving coastal infrastructure inland and allowing erosion to take place
14 in a way that allows for seasonal fluctuation in the width of the beach and the preservation of
15 the coastal ecosystem; and

16 WHEREAS, A long-term plan of managed retreat at Ocean Beach would help preserve
17 the significant recreational and natural resources for the citizens of San Francisco as well as
18 coastal ecosystem; and

19 WHEREAS, A significant amount of concrete and rock revetment from previous
20 emergency work currently exists on Ocean Beach just North of the area of critical need, which
21 could possibly be used to armor the area of critical need; now

22 FURTHER RESOLVED That Board of Supervisors directs the Department of Public
23 Works to limit the scope of revetment work to address the emergency at Ocean Beach south
24 of Sloat Boulevard to the area needed for the short-term protection of the Lake Merced
25 Wastewater Tunnel and the Great Highway; and be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED That the Board of Supervisors directs the Department of
2 Public Works to analyze the feasibility of repurposing existing concrete and rock revetment
3 from nearby previous emergency work to armor the current area of critical need, in order to
4 minimize the amount of new hard structures that will be added to the beach, as well as
5 potentially mitigate the effects of previous emergency work; and be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED That the Board of Supervisors urges a comprehensive
7 planning process be re-established to develop long-term solutions to the erosion problems at
8 Ocean Beach, including the Department of Public Works, the California Coastal Commission,
9 the National Parks Service, the Army Corps of Engineers, and all interested neighbors and
10 members of the public; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges that any
12 long-term solution to the erosion problems at Ocean Beach include removal of any new rock
13 revetment placed on Ocean Beach when safe to do so.
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