

1 [Urging the Implementation of Recommendations in the October 2020 Economic Recovery
2 Task Force Report - Bridge the Digital Divide]

3 **Resolution urging the implementation of three recommendations in the October 2020**
4 **Economic Recovery Task Force Report that the City provide high-quality computers to**
5 **vulnerable populations; bridge the digital divide with affordable connectivity and**
6 **internet service; and build the technology capacity of new users, small businesses,**
7 **and non-profits; and urging the Department of Technology to review the City's efforts**
8 **over the past 20 years to close the digital divide, and provide the Board with a written**
9 **estimate of the cost of implementing the three recommendations.**

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11 WHEREAS, In October 2020, the City and County of San Francisco produced the
12 Economic Recovery Taskforce Report ("Report"); and

13 WHEREAS, Section 5.4 of the Report recommends the City provide high-quality
14 computers to vulnerable populations and identified the Department of Technology (DT) and
15 MOHCD as the departments that should develop a program to facilitate the donation of high-
16 quality computers and related technology that local companies no longer need to be
17 distributed to individuals in need; and the program would develop a platform, standards, and
18 distribution process for donate computers; and

19 WHEREAS, Section 5.5 of the Report recommends the City bridge the digital divide
20 with affordable connectivity and internet service and recommended that the Department of
21 Technology should extend existing efforts to install fiber to very low, low, and moderate-
22 income households at public housing and affordable locations; this would include dedicated
23 annual funding to support the maximum feasible level of expansion on an annual basis; and

24 WHEREAS, Section 5.5 of the Report recommends that Public Works and the
25 Department of Technology create an interagency working group to consider ways to lower the

1 cost of fiber installation, including streamlining the permit process, to bring affordable
2 connectivity to low-income households regardless of where they live in San Francisco; and

3 WHEREAS, Section 5.5 of the Report recommends that the Department of
4 Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) expand existing efforts to deliver high-speed
5 internet services at project based Permanent Supportive Housing sites; and

6 WHEREAS, Section 5.6 of the Report recommends the City build technology capacity
7 of new users, small businesses, and non-profits and identified MOHCD with MOHCD serving
8 as the lead partner with digital literacy nonprofits to provide technology assistance for the new
9 technology users, small business, and nonprofits citywide; including by telephone; and

10 WHEREAS, For over 20 years, the City has held hearings and produced countless
11 reports on the digital divide; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
13 urges the City to implement the recommendations in Sections 5.4, 5.5, and 5.6 of the October
14 2020 Economic Recovery Taskforce Report; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Department of
16 Technology to provide the Board by June 1, 2021 with a written estimate of the cost of
17 implementing the recommendations made in Sections 5.4, 5.5, and 5.6; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Department of
19 Technology to provide the Board by June 1, 2021 with a review of efforts put forth by the City
20 to close the digital divide over the last 20 years.