

1 *[Support of Environment, Public Works Codes - Construction and Demolition Debris Recovery,*
2 *File Number: 201151]*

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4 **Resolution urging the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor to adopt File Number 201151, an**
5 **Ordinance amending the Environment and Public Works Codes to require permits for each debris**
6 **box or vehicle transporting mixed construction and demolition (C&D) debris; requiring facilities**
7 **receiving C&D debris from permitted boxes or vehicles to verify such permits along with other**
8 **facility registration requirements; and, increasing the required recovery rate from 65% to 75%**
9 **that full demolition projects must meet.**

10 WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco has a duty to promote safety, improve the
11 health of its citizens, and enhance and protect our City's natural environment; and

12 WHEREAS, San Francisco, along with 25 other cities, has committed to achieving a 15%
13 reduction in total waste generation and a 50% reduction in waste disposed by 2030; and,

14 WHEREAS, in 2006, San Francisco passed a first of its kind C&D Debris Recovery Ordinance
15 (No. 27-06) requiring that all debris removed from a permitted project be recycled, composted, and/or
16 reused; and,

17 WHEREAS, total solid waste sent to landfill and incineration was reduced by more than half from
18 2000 - 2012; and,

19 WHEREAS, in recent years, San Francisco's tonnage sent to landfill has increased most likely
20 due to changing consumption patterns, a growing population, and the City's development boom; and,

21 WHEREAS, about 1.5 million tons of C&D debris are generated annually, representing half of
22 all solid waste generation in San Francisco; and,

23 WHEREAS about 150,000 tons of C&D are disposed annually, representing a quarter of all
24 disposal from San Francisco; and,

1 WHEREAS, existing laws and regulations do not adequately cover the full spectrum of the C&D
2 ecosystem and gaps in the oversight of transporters results in significant C&D debris being illegally
3 landfilled or illegally dumped on the streets and properties of San Francisco; and,

4 WHEREAS, the City currently lacks the resources required to fully monitor and enforce
5 compliance for transporters, which represents the most challenging stage of C&D to regulate, given the
6 large number of transporters and their mobility; and,

7 WHEREAS, the lack of resources to track and enforce C&D debris underscores the need for a
8 new ordinance that will create a more robust transporter permit system covering all transporters; and,

9 WHEREAS, with a new transporter permit fee system, the city will receive the resources to
10 monitor and track transporters and ensure the full C&D system in the City is maximizing what we recycle
11 and recover, minimizing what we dispose of; and,

12 WHEREAS, this ordinance will create a healthier community by increasing recovery while
13 reducing illegal dumping or illegal disposal; and,

14 WHEREAS, to achieve the City’s zero waste commitments, the City must significantly increase
15 recovery of C&D debris; now, therefore, be it,

16 RESOLVED, that the Commission on the Environment urges the Board of Supervisors and the
17 Mayor to adopt File Number 201151, an ordinance to ensure proper handling and recovery of C&D
18 material, and thereby significantly reduce illegal disposal and dumping; and, be it,

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission on the Environment urges the Board of
20 Supervisors and the Mayor to continue to support policies that help San Francisco reach its goal of
21 becoming a Zero Waste City.

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23 I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Commission on the Environment at its
24 meeting on March 23, 2021.

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4 Katie Chansler, Commission Affairs Officer

5 Vote: 7 - 0

6 Ayes: Commissioners Ahn, Bermejo, Chu, Stephenson, Sullivan, Wald, and Wan

7 Noes: None

8 Absent: None