



**City and County of San Francisco  
YOUTH COMMISSION  
Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee**

**MINUTES**

**Monday, October 27, 2025  
5:00pm**

**IN-PERSON MEETING  
City Hall, Room 270  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,  
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Committee Membership includes:

Aayna Shah (D3), Harper Fortgang (D8), Natalie Liu (D11), Ava Oram (MYR), Ayan Azad (MYR).

**Present:** Aanya Shah, Harper Fortgang, Natalie Liu, Ava Oram, Ayan Azad.

**Absent:** None.

**Tardy:** None.

The San Francisco Youth Commission's Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee met in-person with remote viewing, on October 27, 2025, with Interim Chair Shah presiding.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance**

Interim Chair Shah called the meeting to order at 5:08pm.

On the call of the roll:

Roll Call Attendance: 5 present.

Aayna Shah (D3) - present  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - present  
Natalie Liu (D11) - present  
Ava Oram (MYR) - present

Ayan Azad (MYR) - present

A quorum of the Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee membership was present.

**2. Communications** (Informational)

Joshua Rudy Ochoa, Community Partnership Specialist of the SFYC, shared communications and meeting announcements with Commissioners.

**3. Approval of Agenda** (Action)

Commissioner Oram, seconded by Commissioner Fortgang, motioned to approve the October 27, 2025 Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee meeting agenda. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes.

Aayna Shah (D3) - aye  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye  
Natalie Liu (D11) - aye  
Ava Oram (MYR) - aye  
Ayan Azad (MYR) - aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

**4. Approval of Minutes** (Action)

a. June 9, 2025 (Packet Materials)

Commissioner Fortgang, seconded by Commissioner Oram, motioned to approve the June 9, 2025 Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee meeting minutes. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes.

Aayna Shah (D3) - aye  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye  
Natalie Liu (D11) - aye  
Ava Oram (MYR) - aye  
Ayan Azad (MYR) - aye

Action: Minutes Approved.

## 5. General Public Comment

No public comment.

## 6. Committee Leadership Elections (Action)

- a. Chair of the HRT Committee
  - i. Nominations
  - ii. Speeches (2 mins)
  - iii. Election

Commissioner Oram nominated Commissioner Fortgang for HRT Committee Chair, and Fortgang accepted and read their speech. Motion to elect the HRT Committee Chair. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes.

Aayna Shah (D3) - Fortgang  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - Fortgang  
Natalie Liu (D11) - Fortgang  
Ava Oram (MYR) - Fortgang  
Ayan Azad (MYR) - Fortgang

Action: Commissioner Fortgang elected HRT Committee Chair.

- b. Vice Chair of the HRT Committee
  - i. Nominations
  - ii. Speeches (2 mins)
  - iii. Election

Commissioner Fortgang nominated Commissioner Oram for HRT Committee Vice Chair, and Oram accepted and read their speech. Motion to elect the HRT Committee Vice Chair. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes.

Aayna Shah (D3) - Oram  
Harper Fortgang (D8) - Oram  
Natalie Liu (D11) - Oram  
Ava Oram (MYR) - Oram  
Ayan Azad (MYR) - Oram

Action: Commissioner Oram elected HRT Committee Vice Chair.

## **7. Committee Business** (Discussion/Action)

- a. HRT 2024/2025 Recap Presentation
- b. HRT 2025/2026 Goal-Setting and Legislative Priorities
- c. CBO Outreach Assignments and Emails

Specialist Ochoa gave a presentation on HRT priorities, goal-setting, and doing outreach assignments. Ochoa also mentioned that the committee would focus on the actions of last year's HRT Committee at the November 10th meeting, along with the resolution and research training.

As for legislative priorities:

Commissioner Shah wants to prioritize affordable housing, community safety through building housing, increasing the frequency of school trippers, and safety on public transit.

Commissioner Fortgang wants to prioritize supporting climate efforts, electrification of buildings, installing EV chargers, prevent further cuts to climate change initiatives out of the Environmental Department's budget, upzoning, Family Zoning Plan, SFUSD climate action day, climate literacy, youth access to gardening, and youth climate programs.

Commissioner Liu wants to prioritize funding for recreational parks and resources for youth, and protecting tenants and small businesses from upzoning displacement.

Commissioner Oram wants to prioritize funding public transit and address the fiscal cliff, the Free Muni for All Youth program, safe bike lanes, expand transit routes near schools, and accessibility to Presidio National Park.

Commissioner Azad wants to prioritize expanding free transit to youth for BART, and expanding youth sports access.

## **8. Roll Call, Introductions, and Announcements** (Informational)

*Roll call for introduction of resolutions, requests for hearings, letters of inquiry, reports on their Commission-related activities, and announcements.*

- a. Presenters: Commissioner Shah, Commissioner Fortgang, Commissioner Liu, Commissioner Oram, Commissioner Azad.

Commissioner Shah will be talking to the District 3 Youth Council regarding the Family Zoning Plan.

Commissioner Fortgang met with the District 8 Office on their priorities as it relates to housing and climate.

Commissioner Liu is open to talking about any HRT-related priorities with the District 11 Office.

Commissioner Oram is working on a resolution to increase access to Narcan across schools in San Francisco.


Commissioner Azad is interested in working on a resolution on some of the issues we discussed today.

- b. Expectations for Next Committee Meeting
  - i. Resolution & Research Skills Development Training
  - ii. Other Agenda Items

No additional agenda items for the next committee meeting at this time.

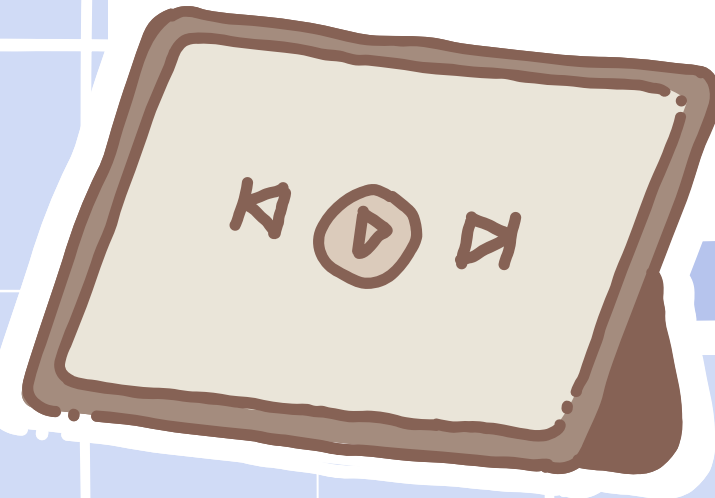
## **9. Adjournment**

There being no further business on the agenda, the Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee adjourned at 6:11pm.



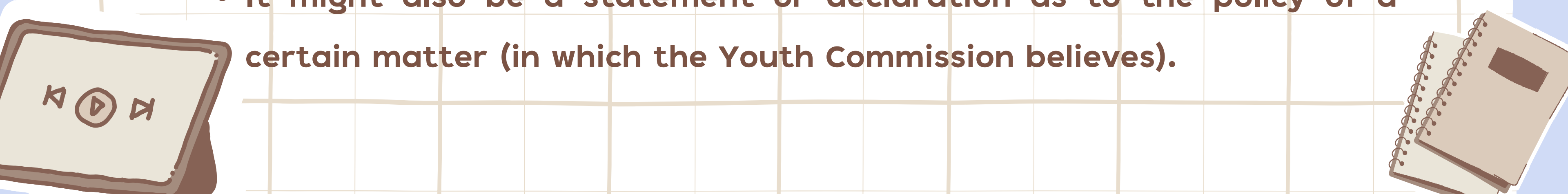
**Resolution**  
**Writing + Research**

**Youth Commission Staff**





# What is a "resolution"?

- Formal statement of a problem, situation, or issue
  - Suggestions and arguments about how to fix that problem or situation.
  - Non-binding statements of policy and/or statements that urge another legislative body or official to take a certain action
  - A description of a problem or situation that is then followed by a suggestion as to how to correct it.
  - It might also be a statement or declaration as to the policy of a certain matter (in which the Youth Commission believes).
- 

What is the issue?

Why is this an issue?

What are the anecdotes?

What is the research?

Preamble - Whereas Clauses

Resolution

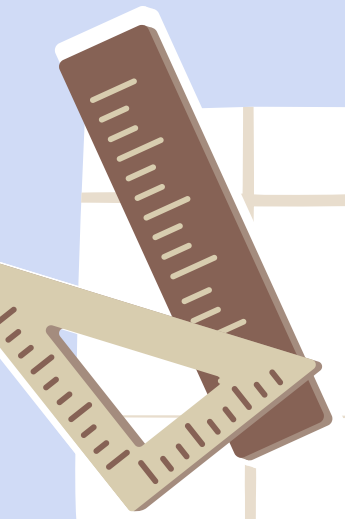
Logistics

Proposals - Resolved Clauses

Who are the sponsors?

When and where are you introducing?

What are the solutions?







# Preamble

## "WHEREAS" CLAUSES



### Format

- The first word of the statement after "WHEREAS" must be capitalized
- The "WHEREAS" clause is only one sentence
- The clause ends with a semicolon and the word "and"
- The LAST clause ends with a semicolon and "now, therefore, be it"
- Example: "WHEREAS, The SF Standard reported an uptick of youth violence incidences throughout San Francisco in the months of summer break; and"

- What is the issue?
- Why is this an issue for San Francisco youth/youth in your district?
- What is the research and data?
- What are the anecdotes from youth and the community?



# Research and Sources

## The Problems with Checklists

### AUTHORSHIP

- Is there an **author**?
- Can you tell whether the author is knowledgeable and credible?

Authorship of a website can be complex (single, multiple, corporate, single-sourced, public, or unrestricted).

### SPONSORSHIP

- Who, if anyone, sponsors the site?
- What does the URL tell you? The **URL ending** often specifies the type of group hosting the site: [.com](#), [.edu](#), [.org](#), [.gov](#), [.net](#), [.mil](#), [.uk](#), etc.

Encourages the use of superficial qualifications, such as degrees (M.D., Ph.D.), to determine credibility.

Leads students to assume that sponsorship (and its biases) is transparent.

### PURPOSE & AUDIENCE

- Why was the site created: To argue a position? To sell a product? To inform readers?
- Who is the site's intended **audience**?

Not all domains are regulated and can be unreliable for determining sponsorship.

This list limits, rather than broadens, the possible (multiple) purposes of a site.

### CURRENCY

- How **current** is the site?
- How current are the site's links? If many of the links no longer work, the site may be too dated for your purposes.

May be multiple and not self-evident to students.

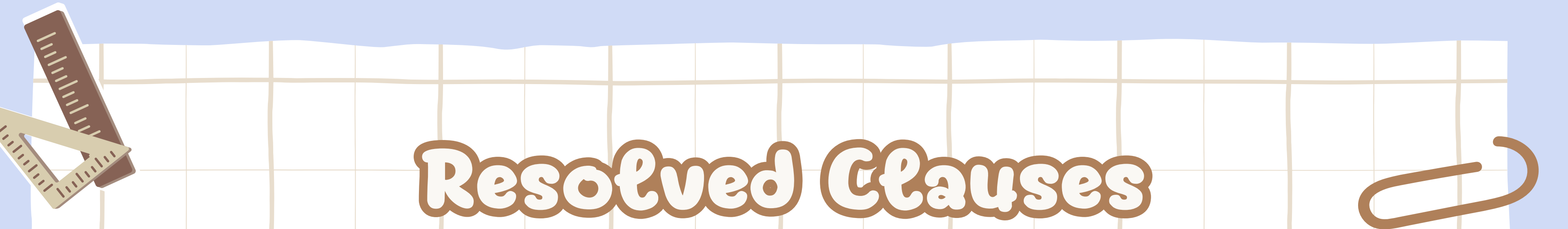
How current a site needs to be will vary by the type of site.

## Recommended

- Always double-check your sources!
- Cite your sources!
- How current is the source?
- If it's from a news article, figuring out if it's an opinion versus a data point
- Is this a credible source?
- Try to avoid opinion pieces and social media posts (varies in different situations)
- If you don't know the credibility or how to make a footnote, comment the source in the document and ask staff

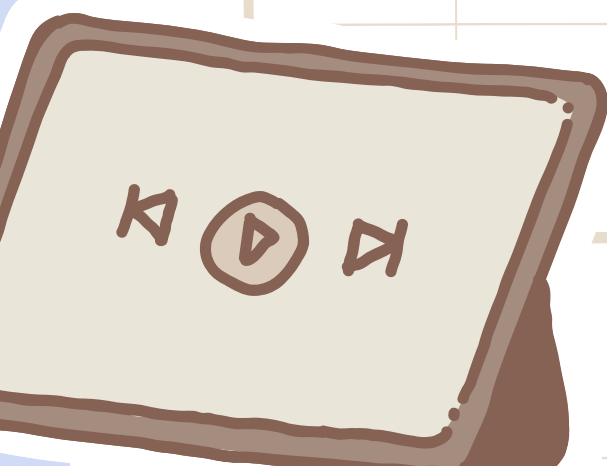
REF: Hacker, Diane. *A Pocket Style Manual*. 5th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2008. ISBN: 0-312-45275-6.





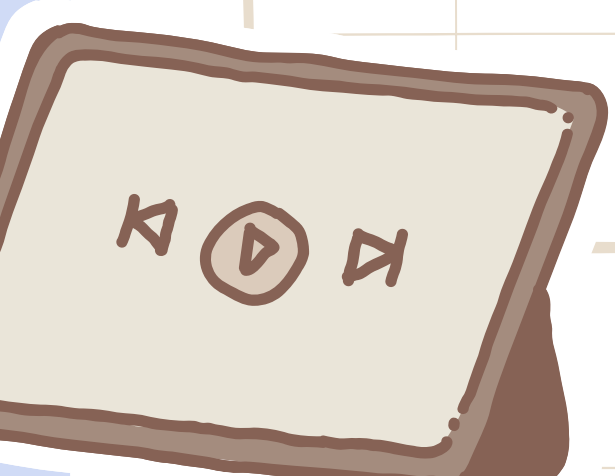

# Resolved Clauses

- **What are the proposed solutions?**
- **Who are you targeting? Is it the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, SFUSD, and/or Department?**





# Logistics

- **Who are the main authors?**
  - **How urgent is this resolution? When and where will you introduce the legislation?**
- 
- 



1 [The Plain English Description, Using New Title Format, Using Initial Upper Case  
2 Letters, Typed in Exactly 12 pt Spacing, Arial 12 pt, no More than 125  
3 Characters/Spaces in Brackets [ ], Should Clearly State The Purpose of the Legislation  
4 as the Legal Title Sometimes Does Not State the Reason]  
5 Resolution approving using new legal title format, using upper/lower case letters,  
6 Arial 12 pt, exactly 24 pt spacing, bold, begins with word "Resolution" followed  
7 by word ending in "ing" (a gerund, i.e., approving), ends with period. Note: only  
8 legal title is in bold.

9 WHEREAS, The first letter of the first word of the statement following the  
10 "WHEREAS," is capitalized and rest of text is in upper and lower case; and  
11 WHEREAS, Use this same format for each "WHEREAS" statement of fact; and  
12 WHEREAS, If reference is made to related materials (agreement, exhibit, map,  
13 etc.), do not use the word "attached." Use the following wording: on file with the Clerk of  
14 the Board of Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_\_, which is hereby declared to be a part of  
15 this resolution as if set forth fully herein; and  
16 WHEREAS, The last "WHEREAS," statement ends with: ; now, therefore, be it  
17 RESOLVED, That the first letter of the first word following the "RESOLVED," is  
18 capitalized and rest of text is in upper and lower case; and, be it  
19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the first letter of the first word following "FURTHER  
20 RESOLVED," is capitalized and rest of text is in upper and lower case; and, be it  
21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the last "FURTHER RESOLVED" statement ends  
22 with a period.  
23

# Format

- DO NOT WORRY about the margins
- Short Title
- Long Title
- Preamble
- Proposals





1 WHEREAS, According to the Human Service Agency's (HSA) website,  
2 participants of the Congregate Meal and Home-Delivered Meal programs had lower  
3 food insecurity rates, showing the importance of providing more food services; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2023 Human Service Agency's (HSA) website, only 2.5% of San  
5 Francisco's local funds went to food programs; and

6 WHEREAS, From 2022 to 2023 CalFresh funding from the FY 2021-2022 and  
7 2022-2023 City and County of San Francisco decreased from \$79.5 million to where it  
8 currently is, at \$71.2 million; and

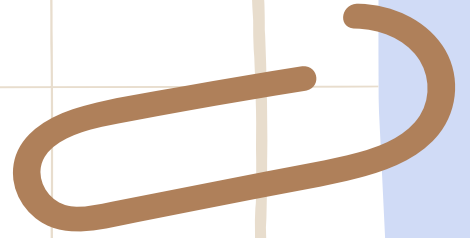
9 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission has addressed Food  
10 Insecurity previously in their 2023-2024 Budget and Policy Priorities Report by  
11 recommending the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to increase funding and outreach,  
12 create a food policy office, and provide more culturally relevant food in SFUSD schools;  
13 and

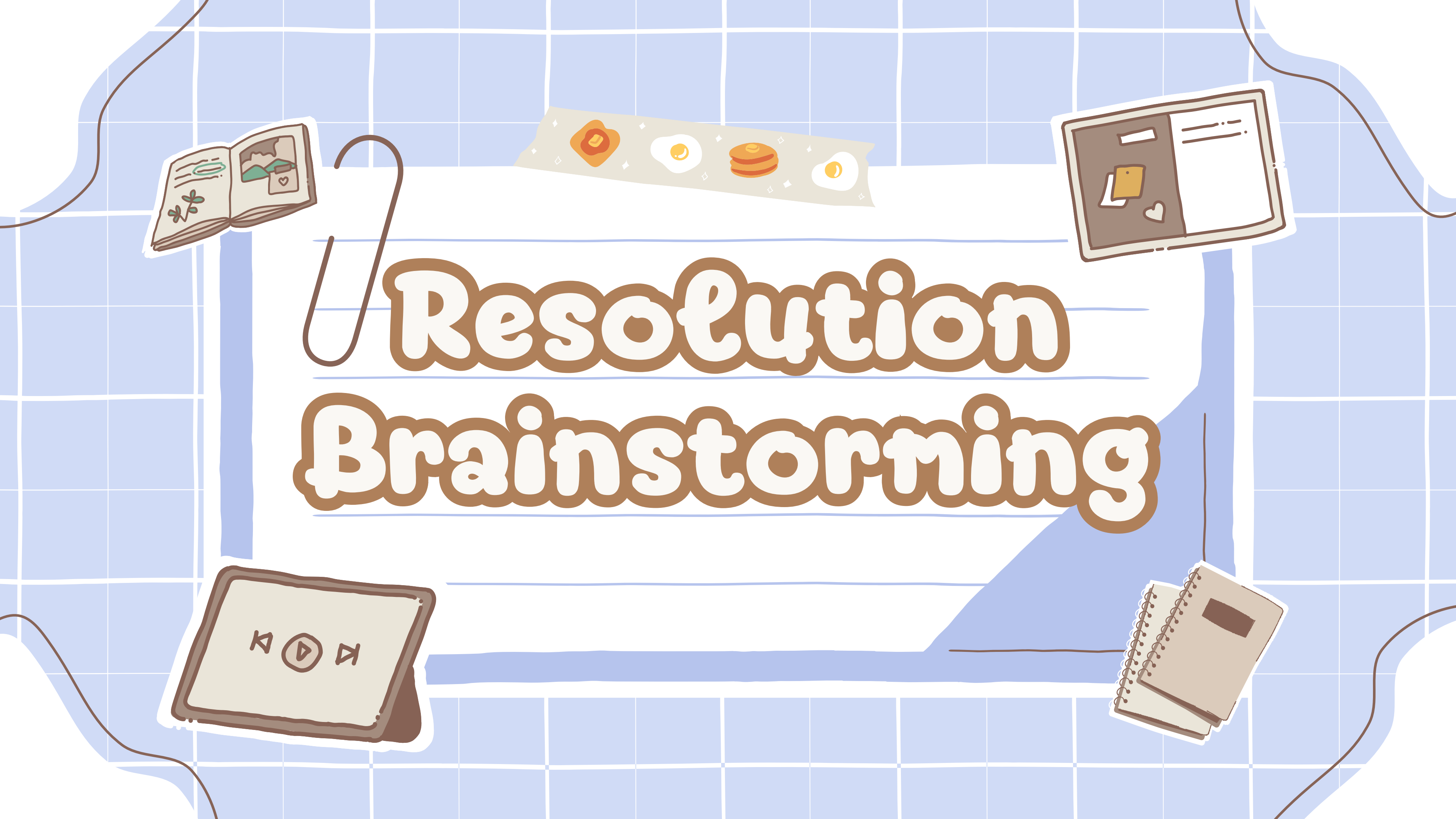
14 RESOLVED, The Youth Commission urges the addition of more funding and  
15 support into the Human Services Agency (HSA) to continue to provide further funding  
16 for their Meal Support Program, Community Centered Grocery Access, grocery  
17 vouchers, and other related programs that combat food insecurity for youth; and be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Board of Supervisors adopt these  
19 recommendations, understand the pressing urgency that food insecurity has for youth  
20 across San Francisco, and provide it with the appropriate funding and allocation of the  
21 budget.

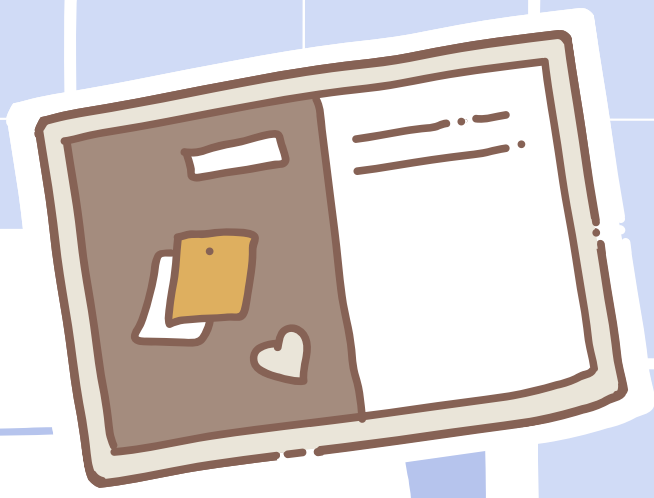
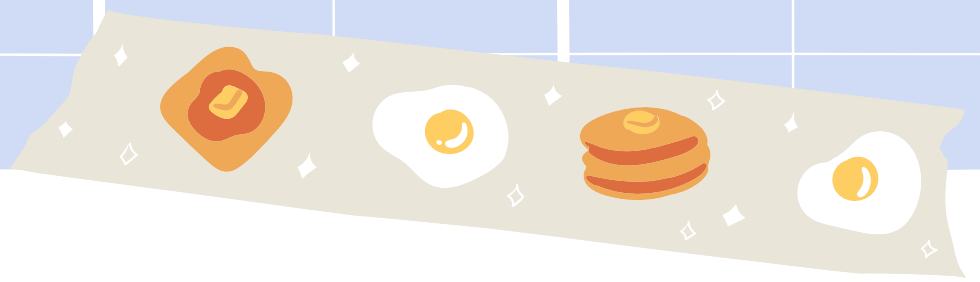
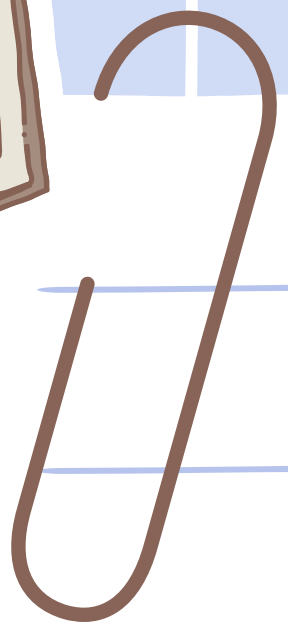
22  
23

Example



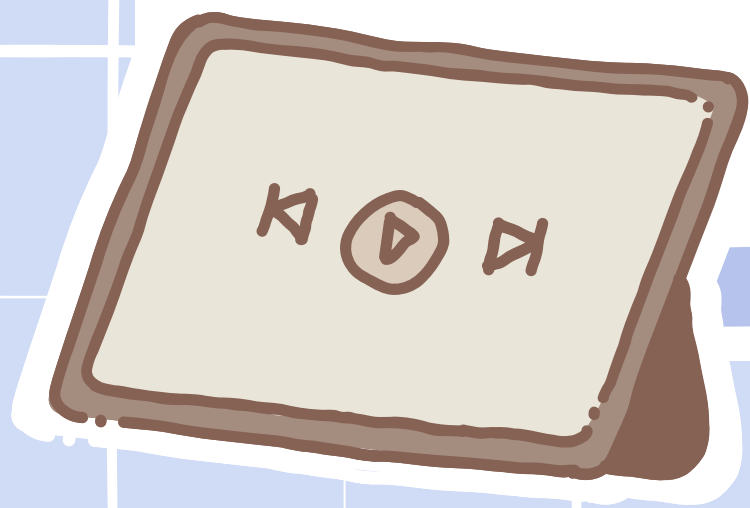
A graphic with a light blue grid background and a white central area. The title "Resolution Brainstorming" is written in a large, rounded, brown-outlined font. The text is flanked by various icons: a paperclip on the left, a notebook with a drawing on the top left, a strip of paper with food icons (pancake, egg, waffle, egg) at the top, a corkboard with a notepad and heart on the top right, a remote control with play/pause buttons on the bottom left, and a spiral notebook on the bottom right.

# Resolution Brainstorming



# Thank You!

Questions?





FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO.

1 [The Plain English Description, Using New Title Format, Using Initial Upper Case Letters,  
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7 **ending in "ing" (a gerund, i.e., approving), ends with period. Note: only legal title is in**  
8 **bold.**

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13 do not use the word "attached." Use the following wording: on file with the Clerk of the Board  
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19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the first letter of the first word following "FURTHER  
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21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the last "FURTHER RESOLVED" statement ends with a  
period.

1 [Speed Limit Infrastructure]

2 **Resolution urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to urge the San Francisco**  
3 **Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) to implement lower speed limits to**  
4 **Alemany Boulevard and parts of 19th Avenue and Junipero Serra to reduce the**  
5 **risk of pedestrian-vehicle collisions.**

6 WHEREAS, Speeding is the leading cause of car accidents in San Francisco,  
7 accounting for 28% of collisions; and

8 WHEREAS, 2024 was a deadly year in San Francisco, in regards to street  
9 safety, as a total of 41 vehicle related deaths occurred as a result of collisions; and

10 WHEREAS, Under California Assembly Bill No. 43, San Francisco has the power  
11 to lower speed limits on certain streets; and

12 WHEREAS, The bill states that streets classified as safety corridors where fatal  
13 crashes are concentrated, also known as the High Injury Network in San Francisco, can  
14 have their speed limits lowered by 5 MPH; and

15 WHEREAS, Speed management is a core aspect of San Francisco's Vision Zero  
16 plan, a city-wide commitment to end traffic deaths; and

17 WHEREAS, The Youth Commission has previously advocated for lower speed  
18 limits and other pedestrian safety infrastructure, most recently in the FY 2024-2025  
19 Budget Policy and Priority Report; and

20 WHEREAS, Studies done by SFMTA and WalkSF have shown that compared to  
21 the 20% chance of survival someone has being struck by a vehicle traveling 40 mph, a  
22 person has a 90% chance of survival being struck by a vehicle going 20 mph; and

1 WHEREAS, SFMTA has also found that reducing speed limits by just 5 MPH can  
2 make a large difference in someone's chance of survival in an accident, reducing the  
3 risk of injury and fatalities by 8-15% and 10-30%, respectively; and

4 WHEREAS, According to studies done by the San Francisco Chronicle, youth  
5 and elderly people make up 31.3% and 10.2% of the Oceanview, Merced,  
6 Ingleside, and Excelsior neighborhoods, making street safety in that area particularly  
7 imperative; and

8 WHEREAS, Alemany Boulevard has proven to be one of the most dangerous  
9 streets in the city, with a speed limit of 35 MPH and a history of fatal accidents; and

10 WHEREAS, Alemany Boulevard is on the high injury network, the 12% of streets  
11 in San Francisco where 68% of traffic fatalities occur; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2024, a 76-year-old man was hit and killed on the Alemany and  
13 Rousseau intersection in the Excelsior; and

14 WHEREAS, After the fatal crash, community groups, like Walk SF and San  
15 Francisco Bay Area Families for Safe Streets, have advocated for lower speed limits on  
16 that intersection and the whole boulevard to prevent future collisions; and

17 WHEREAS, The intersection of Alemany Boulevard and Brotherhood Way, which  
18 also transitions into two residential streets, Orizaba Avenue and Sagamore Street, is  
19 particularly dangerous; and

20 WHEREAS, The nature of the street, as it is near a freeway, has no stoplight at  
21 the intersection, and has three travel lanes, combined with its 35 MPH speed limit  
22 makes it incredibly risky for pedestrians; and

1           WHEREAS, While there are crosswalks for pedestrians at this intersection, the  
2 high speed limit and the fact that there are no pedestrian signals, makes crossing the  
3 street difficult; and

4           WHEREAS, The intersection runs parallel to the M line and provides access to  
5 the Oceanview neighborhood; and

6           WHEREAS, There is an existing SFMTA project set to be implemented in 2026  
7 that installs pedestrian signals at the intersection's crosswalks, but reducing the speed  
8 limit on the street could be even more efficient in reducing the risk of vehicle collisions;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, The intersection of 19th Avenue and Junipero Serra Boulevard is  
11 highly traveled and fast moving, as it includes a transition from a 65 MPH highway to  
12 the entrances of two residential neighborhoods, Oceanview and Parkmerced, and the  
13 San Francisco State University campus; and

14           WHEREAS, The intersection itself has a speed limit of 35 MPH; and

15           WHEREAS, The street has 7 travel lanes and a slip lane connecting the highway  
16 and 19th Avenue, with no signal; and

17           WHEREAS, In 2020, a 21-year-old student was struck by a vehicle at the  
18 intersection and sent to the hospital with critical injuries; and

19           WHEREAS, Between 2014 and 2018, 15 injury crashes occurred at this  
20 intersection; and

21           WHEREAS, Drivers often get confused at this intersection, posing a threat to  
22 pedestrians who have to cross three different crosswalks to get to the other side of the  
23 intersection and for MUNI riders getting off the M train and 28 bus; and

1           WHEREAS, The stretch of 19th Avenue passing in front of San Francisco State  
2 University, from Holloway to Junipero Serra has seen 60 injured, 7 of whom were  
3 pedestrians or bicyclists and youth or elderly; therefore be it

4           RESOLVED, The Youth Commission believes reducing speed limits on these  
5 streets will decrease the risk of pedestrian-vehicle collisions and will make San  
6 Francisco streets safer overall; and be it

7           FURTHER RESOLVED, The Youth Commission believes that the  
8 implementation of speed cameras at more intersections should be considered; and

9           FURTHER RESOLVED, The Youth Commission strongly urges the Mayor and  
10 Board of Supervisors to urge the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency  
11 (SFMTA) to decrease the existing speed limits of 35 MPH on the intersection of 19th  
12 Avenue and Junipero Serra and Alemany Boulevard and Brotherhood Way, by at least  
13 5 MPH.

1 [SFUSD-Wide Climate Action Day]

2 **Resolution in Support of a San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)-wide**  
3 **Climate Action Day to Expand Youth Climate Literacy and Action.**

4 WHEREAS, Climate change threatens San Francisco youth in the short- and  
5 long-term; and

6 WHEREAS, San Francisco is already experiencing heightened intensity and  
7 frequency of extreme weather events exacerbated by higher global temperatures,  
8 including heat waves, air pollution from wildfires, and flooding<sup>1</sup>; and

9 WHEREAS, Young people are particularly vulnerable to the physical and mental  
10 health effects of climate change such as heat stroke, lung disease, respiratory  
11 infections, and climate anxiety<sup>2</sup>; and

12 WHEREAS, SFUSD aims to graduate students who are prepared “to thrive in the  
13 21st century” and learning about the causes and threats of climate change and  
14 strategies to take action is critical for preparing students to face one of the biggest  
15 threats to young people in the 21st century<sup>3</sup>; and

16 WHEREAS, Understanding the relationship between humans and the  
17 environment equips youth with the knowledge and tools to address climate change and  
18 environmental justice issues in their communities; and

19 WHEREAS, While SFUSD has implemented environmental science initiatives  
20 across grade levels, including environmental-focused Career, Technical, and

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<sup>1</sup> David Ackerly et al., “California’s Fourth Climate Change Assessment: San Francisco Bay Area Region Report” (University of California, Berkeley, 2018).

<sup>2</sup> “Climate Change and Children’s Health | US EPA,” US EPA, January 14, 2025.

<sup>3</sup> San Francisco Unified School District, “SFUSD Vision 2025: Reimagining Public Education in San Francisco for a New Generation,” June 2014.

1 Educational Pathways at six high schools, these efforts must be expanded to ensure  
2 that all students graduate as climate-literate citizens<sup>4</sup>; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2024-2025, the Youth Commission conducted a survey about  
4 climate education with over 400 responses in which SFUSD students expressed interest  
5 in climate curriculum that extends to subjects beyond science and explores climate  
6 change beyond classrooms through interactive field trips and internships; and

7 WHEREAS, The Youth Commission has consistently supported climate efforts in  
8 their annual Budget & Policy Priority Report, most recently writing recommendations to  
9 expand electrification, climate resilience, and climate literacy in the 2025-2026/2026-  
10 2027 Budget & Policy Priority Report with input from the San Francisco Environmental  
11 Department (SFE) and SFUSD climate educators<sup>5</sup>; and

12 WHEREAS, The primary long-term recommendation in the recent Budget &  
13 Policy Report is to create a district-wide day of climate action, building on SFE's annual  
14 Climate Action Youth Summit; and

15 WHEREAS, On April 18, 2025, SFE held their second Climate Action Youth  
16 Summit that brought together 3,000 attendees themed around "Climate Action Across  
17 Careers" with student and adult-led showcases highlighting the range of careers that  
18 connect to climate action<sup>6</sup>; and

19 WHEREAS, This year's summit featured double the number of youth-led action  
20 projects, including students at Jefferson Elementary School who audited 85 pounds of

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<sup>4</sup> "SFUSD Teaches Environmental Literacy and Climate Justice to All K-12 Students | SFUSD," SFUSD, April 15, 2022.

<sup>5</sup> "San Francisco Youth Commission 2024-2025 Budget & Policy Priorities: Fiscal Year 2024-2025 | 2026-2027," March 3, 2025.

<sup>6</sup> "Second Annual Climate Action Youth Summit Champions Climate Action in Every Career," SF Environment, April 18, 2025.

1 trash, students from the ACCESS program who led interactive waste-sorting stations,  
2 and students from SOTA who led a sustainable fashion show<sup>7</sup>; and

3 WHEREAS, Establishing a district-wide day of climate action would further  
4 expand the impact of this summit by enabling all SFUSD students to participate in  
5 climate action as a part of their regular school day; and

6 WHEREAS, Other cities are exploring similar ways to expand climate literacy,  
7 including New York City, which holds four annual district-wide climate action days where  
8 every school engages in climate-related field trips, lessons, and community action  
9 projects<sup>8</sup>; and

10 WHEREAS, This year's district-wide climate action days in New York City themed  
11 around waste, energy, health, and water were a major success with teachers reporting  
12 over 170 impact stories, including Green Careers guest speakers, beach clean-ups,  
13 creation of rainwater capture systems, sorting of cafeteria waste, environmental  
14 documentary screenings, and a climate action STEAM fair – with many of these actions  
15 led by students for other students<sup>9</sup>; and

16 WHEREAS, The SFUSD district-wide day of climate action would be developed  
17 by SFUSD students, teachers, SFE, and the San Francisco Youth Commission; and  
18 therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission strongly supports the  
20 creation of a City-wide youth climate action day that involves all SFUSD schools across

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<sup>7</sup> Catherine O'Connor, Mary. Sorting out plastic waste at a San Francisco school," KALW, January 27, 2025; "Second Annual Climate Action Youth Summit Champions Climate Action in Every Career," SF Environment, April 18, 2025.

<sup>8</sup> "Climate Action Days," NYC Public Schools.

<sup>9</sup> "Climate Action Hub," Office of Energy & Sustainability: NYC Public Schools Sustainability Hub.



1 grades to participate in activities such as field trips, community action, guest speakers,  
2 etc. that encourage climate literacy; and therefore be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the  
4 Mayor and Board of Supervisors to urge SFUSD and SFE to support a district-wide  
5 climate action day; and therefore be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission staff shall  
7 transmit copies of this resolution to the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, SFE, San  
8 Francisco Commission on the Environment, and the San Francisco Board of Education.

1 [California Public Transit Funding]

2 **Motion to Request for \$2 Billion From the State Legislature in New Funding to**  
3 **Save and Improve Public Transit in the San Francisco Bay Area.**

4 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission (SFYC) is committed to  
5 representing the interests, perspectives, and needs of youth in San Francisco and  
6 ensuring their voices are amplified in public policy decision-making spaces; and

7 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission has consistently advocated  
8 for improving public transit access, expanding transit reliability, and protecting critical  
9 programs that support youth, low-income people, and marginalized communities; and

10 WHEREAS, California's largest and most productive transit systems continue to  
11 face a severe and imminent operating deficit with nearly all agencies; and

12 WHEREAS, The operating deficit can have negative effects for youth accessing  
13 public transit in San Francisco by potentially losing access to Free Muni for Youth  
14 Program, minimizing the School Tripper Program, and cutting key service lines; and  
15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission hereby urges the Board  
17 of Supervisors and Mayor to urge the California State Legislature to approve the \$2  
18 billion request in new funding to save and improve public transit in the San Francisco  
19 Bay Area and California.

20

1 **[California Public Transit Funding]**

2

3 **Supplemental Information:**

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5 See attached document: [Letter of Support]

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Youth Commission  
City Hall ~ Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



(415) 554-6446  
(415) 554-6140 FAX

The Honorable Mike McGuire  
President Pro Tem  
1021 O Street, Ste 8518  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas  
Speaker  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Ste 8330

Senator Scott Wiener  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Ste 8620  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Laura Richardson  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Ste #7340  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel  
California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249

March 17, 2025

Re: Request for \$2 billion in new funding to save and improve public transit

Dear Speaker Rivas, Pro Tem McGuire, Senator Wiener, Senator Richardson, Assemblymember Gabriel, and Assemblymember Bennett:

Public transit is the backbone of our state's economy, and essential for California to meet its climate and air quality commitments while making our state more affordable. Unfortunately, many transit agencies across the state continue to face dire fiscal challenges, and any cuts and closures will disproportionately impact essential workers, people of color, and working-class families.

Youth in San Francisco and across the Bay Area heavily depend on public transit to get to and from school. Currently, the San Francisco Unified School District and other educational institutions do not provide bus service for all; many students depend solely on public transportation to get to school. If the deficit continues to grow without being addressed, youth in San Francisco risk having their transit program completely removed from the operating budget in the next fiscal year. Additionally, 52% of students attending the San Francisco Unified School



District are low-income and will not be able to afford any new transit fare increases if they were implemented. Public transit for youth is a lifeline. It needs to be protected and ensured.

The San Francisco Youth Commission respectfully and urgently requests \$2 billion in new flexible funding for public transit over two years beginning in fiscal year 2025-2026 to help local transit operators address shortfalls and deliver capital projects while they simultaneously work towards more sustainable revenue sources.

Unfortunately, while many transportation agencies work toward new local funding solutions, they continue to face significant fiscal pressures from the lingering and ongoing effects of the pandemic on local and regional economies, concerns about transit riders' and operators' safety, maintenance costs, modernization projects, replacement, expansion, as well as rising operating and capital costs.

Additionally, local agencies have been unevenly affected because each has a budget composed of a different mix of revenue sources. Some agencies, especially those that were largely self-supporting pre-pandemic, continue to suffer the most, including the San Francisco Muni, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), AC Transit, and Caltrain, among others. Multiple public transit agencies are running out of time, and are likely to hit their fiscal cliffs before 2028.

The largest and most productive operators in the state have the most acute operating shortfalls. Muni, BART, AC Transit, and Caltrain- account for more than 80% of the Bay Area's transit ridership and nearly a third of all ridership in the state. Given the extensive makeup of California's transit ridership, their vulnerability jeopardizes the state's ability to reduce climate pollution and improve equity and affordability.

Despite certain agencies having severe income shortfalls, almost all agencies have significant needs for operating funding. Additional expenses to improve cleanliness and safety, such as enhanced cleanings, fare inspectors, and crisis intervention specialists come from agencies' operating budgets. In the Bay Area, public transit is relied upon for getting to and from work, with more than 800,000 jobs within walking distance of a BART station. Additionally, over 70% of all BART trips start or end in BART.

California has ambitious goals that depend on high-quality public transit across the state. To achieve those goals, public transit will need more funding. Thank you for considering our request

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and for once again recognizing the critical role of public transit in California, now and in the future. For all these reasons, we urge you to provide \$2 billion in new flexible funding for public transit over 2 years beginning in the fiscal year 2025-2026.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Fong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jason Fong  
Chair, San Francisco Youth Commission 2024/2025