

1 [Street Cleanliness in San Francisco]

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3 **Resolution urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to address street**
4 **cleanliness in San Francisco.**
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6 WHEREAS, The Office of the Controller found that the Tenderloin, the Mission,
7 and Bayview Hunters Point had the highest street and sidewalk litter levels compared to
8 other neighborhoods between July 2023-June 2024; and

9 WHEREAS, Low-income people of color are more likely to live in these
10 neighborhoods; and

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco generates 5,000 tons of trash a day; and

12 WHEREAS, Trash, which is usually non-biodegradable, enters stormwater
13 systems. It has many detrimental effects, from waterlogging and flooding streets, to
14 increasing soil erosion, and making its way into the Bay and Pacific Ocean; and

15 WHEREAS, Data collected in 2020 by Bay Area cities showed that more than 4
16 million gallons of trash was sitting in region's creeks; and

17 WHEREAS, Broken glass was observed in 60% of evaluations conducted by the
18 Office of the Controller, indicating a high likelihood of seeing broken glass on a
19 commercial street and a danger to pedestrians; and

20 WHEREAS, South of Market and the Tenderloin reported the highest frequency
21 of needles on the streets, 11% and 7% respectively; and

22 WHEREAS, Most discarded needles end up in sewer systems that lead to the
23 San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean, harming wildlife and ecosystems; and

24 WHEREAS, In 2022, San Francisco Public Works selected the "Slim Silhouette"
25 trash can as the City's new trash can model. Designed to be the most rummage-

1 resistant and easiest to keep clean, it has yet to be implemented widely across the City;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The City's 311 complaint system skyrocketed from an average of
4 1,400 requests per month in 2018 to 10,550 monthly complaints in 2023; and

5 WHEREAS, The City's 311 sidewalk cleaning request system had over 20,000
6 requests for trash can maintenance last year in 2024; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2023, the Department of Public Works installed 1000+ sensors in
8 its trash cans, which generate a 311 complaint when cans are 80% full; and

9 WHEREAS, These sensors generated more than 70,000 complaints in 2024,
10 underscoring San Francisco's street cleanliness issues; and

11 WHEREAS, The presence of litter, broken glass, and needles on San Francisco
12 streets poses significant safety risks to children and youth who frequent these areas;
13 and therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, The San Francisco Youth Commission urges the addition of funding
15 and support for the implementation of Slim Silhouette trash cans throughout the city,
16 effectively curbing the amount of overflowing trash cans; and

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Board
18 of Supervisors to expand outreach efforts across San Francisco to educate citizens on
19 when to call 311, especially for reporting hazardous objects such as needles and
20 broken glass; and

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Board of Supervisors explore
22 strategies to expand the street sanitation workforce, ensuring that the City has the

- 1 manpower needed to address its street cleanliness challenges and creating a better
- 2 environment for citizens overall.