

FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO.

1 [Supporting the Central Subway Project and Replacement Housing Obligation]

2

3 **Resolution supporting the Central Subway, replacement of all demolished rent**
4 **controlled units, and a provision of permanent relocation package for displaced**
5 **tenants.**

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7 WHEREAS, The Central Subway, Phase 2 of the Third Street Light Rail Project, will
8 complete a transit link connecting the southeastern sector of the City to the heart of San
9 Francisco's retail and financial centers and Chinatown; and

10 WHEREAS, The project will serve a low-income, transit dependent population and
11 provide access to jobs and services within the corridor, which is projected to see a 26 percent
12 increase in population and a 61 percent increase in employment; and

13 WHEREAS, 54 percent of the current residents in the entire Third Street corridor and
14 68 percent in the Central Subway segment do not own a vehicle; and

15 WHEREAS, The Central Subway is integral to the region's transportation future and will
16 improve connections between Caltrain, BART and Muni Metro; and

17 WHEREAS, This project will provide significant community benefits including shorter
18 commute times, reduced traffic congestion and cleaner air for residents, workers and visitors
19 alike; and

20 WHEREAS, The completed Central Subway alignment is projected to significantly
21 increase ridership and reduce trip times from the beginning to the end of the alignment from
22 20 to 7 minutes; and

23 WHEREAS, By 2030, the Third Street Light Rail, which includes the Central Subway,
24 will have a 20 percent higher ridership level than the N Judah, which is Muni's most active line
25 at present, and

1 WHEREAS, This project will create over 30,000 jobs over the course of its construction
2 and beyond according to job projection formulas developed by the American Public
3 Transportation Association, and

4 WHEREAS, The project will require the demolition of rent controlled housing stock and
5 displacement of 19 low-income households from Chinatown, and

6 WHEREAS, The Chinatown Area Plan in Policy 3.1 expressly states “Chinatown's
7 6,500 housing units, with their moderate rent are a virtually irreplaceable housing resource.
8 The protection already provided to residential hotel units (two thirds of Chinatown's housing)
9 needs to be extended to apartment units as well. Demolition should be allowed only if that is
10 the only way to protect public safety or for a specific use in which there is a high degree of
11 community need. Low cost housing removed by new development should be replaced on a
12 unit for unit basis and adequate relocation assistance for all displaced persons should be
13 assured”; and

14 WHEREAS, It is in the City’s best interest to require the project to provide a relocation
15 package for the displaced households that will provide them with the opportunity to reside
16 permanently in San Francisco in or near Chinatown, now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports the expeditious completion of all
18 requirements necessary to enter into a Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit
19 Administration for the Central Subway project; and be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisor supports a project that will
21 replace all demolished rent controlled units on a one for one basis at affordable levels and
22 that provides relocation packages to all displaced households consistent with the federal
23 Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 and the
24 approve Central Subway Relocation Impact Study and Last Resort Housing Plan that provide
25 them with the opportunity to remain permanently in or near San Francisco’s Chinatown.