

1 [Transportation Equity - Free Muni for All Youth]

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3 **Resolution urging the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board to**
4 **include the Free Muni For All Youth fare proposal in its FY 2020-2021 and FY 2021-22**
5 **budgets.**

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7 WHEREAS, Public transit is the most efficient and equitable way for large numbers of
8 people to travel to access opportunities and resources in a dense urban area; and

9 WHEREAS, Over 60 percent of San Francisco high schoolers take public transit to
10 school; and

11 WHEREAS, The Youth Commission has previously advocated for the establishment of
12 the Free Muni for Youth Program (FMFY) within the San Francisco Municipal Transportation
13 Agency (SFMTA); and

14 WHEREAS, The FMFY program suffers from a complex application process and is not
15 widely known, particularly for people with limited English proficiency and people who do not
16 have easy access to the SFMTA offices at 1 South Van Ness Ave. and/or internet facilities,
17 who are disproportionately Black, Indigenous and/or people of color; and

18 WHEREAS, The Youth Commission has previously urged the SFMTA to distribute the
19 FMFY pass through SFUSD, allowing youth to utilize the FMFY program without having to
20 apply (YC File No. 1920-AL-09); and

21 WHEREAS, The SFMTA had proposed in its original budget to roll out Free Muni for All
22 Youth (FMFAY), which would eliminate the nominal fare for youth up to age 19 (with provision
23 for a future expansion of FMFAY to Transitional Age Youth) without an application; and

24 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in far less transit ridership and a
25 worsening economy which has decimated the SFMTA's revenues; and

1 WHEREAS, This has entailed a worsening financial outlook for the SFMTA, rendering
2 budget cuts necessary; and

3 WHEREAS, In the most recent budget passed unanimously by the SFMTA Board of
4 Directors on June 30, 2020, which was crafted in response to Board of Supervisors opposition
5 to fare hikes on the adult non-discounted fares, the FMFAY program was cut from the
6 proposed budget; and

7 WHEREAS, The Youth Commission advocates for equitable transit options, especially
8 for underserved populations who do not have many other options and who are
9 disproportionately affected by harmfully punitive fare enforcement, as further detailed in YC
10 File No. 1920-AL-09, a Youth Commission resolution on fare evasions inclusivity and
11 accessibility and the Muni Youth Lifeline Discount Fast Pass Program; and

12 WHEREAS, The SFMTA would offset a part of the cost of FMFAY by the correlated
13 elimination of bureaucratic and administrative costs needed to process the current application-
14 based FMFY program; now, therefore, be it

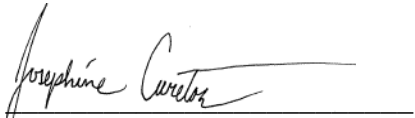
15 RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the SFMTA to include the FMFAY fare
16 option in its FY 2020-2021 and FY 2021-2022 budgets; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the SFMTA to work with
18 the SFUSD to increase the visibility of the existing FMFY program, particularly for people with
19 limited English proficiency and Black and Indigenous people and people of color; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the SFMTA and Board of
21 Supervisors to work with local, state and federal officials to diversify the SFMTA's funding
22 stream so that fare increases and unspecified general fund transfers do not affect the
23 agency's budget.

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Josephine Cureton, Chair
Adopted on July 20, 2020
2019-2020 San Francisco Youth Commission