Resolution urging the Board of Supervisors to advance the Potrero Yard Modernization Project towards selection of a joint development partner, and urging the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to push for dedicated units of supportive housing for Transitional Aged Youth experiencing homelessness in the aforementioned project.

WHEREAS, The Potrero Yard Modernization Project is a plan to renovate the Potrero Muni Yard, which houses the 5/5R, 6, 14, 22, and 30/30S lines, replacing it with a facility that will be all indoors and will include three floors for bus storage and maintenance, as well as space for the training department; and

WHEREAS, The Project will increase the storage capacity from around 146 buses to 215 buses and provide better, modern bus lifts; and

WHEREAS, Housing will be implemented above the new transit facility, with approximately 525-575 units, aiming for 50 percent of the units to be affordable; and

WHEREAS, With modern maintenance facilities, Muni will be able to maintain its vehicles in better condition, allowing for more reliable service on routes such as the 14, 30, and the 49; and

WHEREAS, A newly modernized and renovated yard would allow more room for vehicles, also allowing more vehicles to be on busier lines during certain times, which would mean better service for youth who rely on transit to get to work or school; and

WHEREAS, A larger yard means more room for vehicles, allowing for a fleet expansion meaning supporting more youth through transit; and

WHEREAS, New vehicles that are electric don’t contribute to pollution and climate change and are more environmentally friendly; and
WHEREAS, The new building is anticipated to provide housing units for Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) experiencing homelessness or affordable housing units for TAY; and
WHEREAS, The new buildings would also provide spaces for services, departments, and organizations to offer supportive services and access points for youth and TAY experiencing homelessness; and
WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) has released a Request For Qualifications as of August 21, 2020, and a Request For Proposals (RFP) envisioned to be released in early 2021; and
WHEREAS, However, legislation that authorizes the best value procurement process is delayed at the Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee, which could result in the delay of RFP selection; and
WHEREAS, The Youth Commission should act on this because failure to move this project forward could jeopardize substantial benefits to youth, in the form of affordable and supportive housing opportunities, as well as a more reliable and sustainable transit system; and
WHEREAS, This project aligns with the Youth Commission’s Housing and Land Use Committee’s priorities on Transportation and Housing as set forth in the Youth Commission’s Budget and Priorities Reports; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the Board of Supervisors to support and approve File No. 200947, to allow the SFMTA to select a joint development partner for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project, ensuring that the partner selected will seek to provide the maximum level of affordability that can be obtained in the entitlements process, including benefits for underserved youth and TAY; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the SFMTA to seek to include dedicated units of supportive housing for TAY experiencing homelessness in discussions with developers in the RFP process.

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Nora Hylton, Chair
Adopted on December 7, 2020
2020-2021 San Francisco Youth Commission