

1 [In-Person Meetings of the San Francisco Youth Commission]

2 **Resolution requesting the Office of the Mayor allows the San Francisco Youth**
3 **Commission to hold formal Full Commission and Committee meetings in person,**
4 **as was the case before the COVID-19 pandemic.**

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6 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Youth Commission (hereunto referred to as the
7 “Youth Commission”) is the voice for young people, and their needs, in the City and
8 County of San Francisco; and,

9 WHEREAS, the Youth Commission derives its authority directly from the San
10 Francisco Charter (SEC. 4.122-SEC 4.125), which was approved by voters in 1995 with
11 59.10% of the vote; and,

12 WHEREAS, SEC. 4.124 specifies the following duties and functions for the Youth
13 Commission:

14 *(a) Identify the concerns and needs of the children*
15 *and youth of San Francisco; examine existing social,*
16 *economic, educational, and recreational programs for children*
17 *and youth; develop and propose plans that support or improve*
18 *such programs; and make recommendations thereon to the*
19 *Mayor and Board of Supervisors.*

20 *(b) Identify the unmet needs of San Francisco's*
21 *children and youth through personal contact with these young*
22 *people, school officials, church leaders, and others; and hold*

1 *public forums in which both youth and adults are encouraged*
2 *to participate.*

3 (c) *Elicit the interest, support, and mutual*
4 *cooperation of private groups (such as fraternal orders,*
5 *service clubs, associations, churches, businesses, and youth*
6 *organizations) and City-wide neighborhood planning*
7 *collaborative efforts for children, youth and families that*
8 *initiate and sponsor recommendations that address the social,*
9 *economic, educational, and recreational needs of children*
10 *and youth in San Francisco. Advise the Board of Supervisors*
11 *and Mayor about how such recommendations could be*
12 *coordinated in the community to eliminate duplication in cost*
13 *and effort.*

14 (d) *Advise about available sources of*
15 *governmental and private funding for youth programs.*

16 (e) *Submit recommendations to the Mayor and*
17 *Board of Supervisors about juvenile crime prevention, job*
18 *opportunities for youth, recreational activities for teenagers,*
19 *opportunities for effective participation by youth in the*
20 *governmental process, and changes in City and County*
21 *regulations that are necessary to improve the social,*

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1 *economic, educational, and recreational advantages of*
2 *children and youth.*

3 *(f) Respond to requests for comment and*
4 *recommendation on matters referred to the Commission by*
5 *officers, departments, agencies, boards, commissions and*
6 *advisory committees of the City and County.*

7 *(g) Report to the Board of Supervisors the activities,*
8 *goals, and accomplishments of the Commission by July 1 of*
9 *each calendar year, effective July 1, 1997.*

10 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent local public health
11 emergency resulted in all Commissions, Boards, and Task Forces of San Francisco
12 meeting virtually to ensure the safety of Commissioners/Board Members/Task Force
13 Members, staff, and members of the public; and,

14 WHEREAS, on February 10, 2022, San Francisco Mayor London Breed issued a
15 supplemental to the COVID-19 State of Emergency Declaration allowing most
16 Commissions, Boards, and Task Forces to resume in-person meeting; and,

17 WHEREAS, Mayor London Breed did not include the Youth Commission in this
18 directive and has yet to allow the Youth Commission to meet in-person; and,

19 WHEREAS, the Youth Commission has not met in-person since March 2, 2020,
20 making all meetings, including Committee meetings, virtual; and,

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1 WHEREAS, the inability to meet in-person limits the potential of the Commission
2 and constrains the work of the Commission from fulfilling its Chartered duties in
3 representing and advocating for youth in San Francisco; and,

4 WHEREAS, the Youth Commission has held and attended at least 30 successful
5 in-person events while following all applicable public health orders and recommendations
6 such as community builders, community fairs, community celebrations, office hours,
7 forums, info sessions, and more; and,

8 WHEREAS, in-person events create better environments and build community, as
9 everyone is inclined to learn and participate; and,

10 WHEREAS, in-person meetings would increase and encourage the participation
11 of all Commissioners; and,

12 WHEREAS, Youth Commission staff and Commissioners have been discussing
13 and preparing to meet safely in person since Spring of 2021; and,

14 WHEREAS, Youth Commission staff have been coordinating with the Clerk of the
15 Board of Supervisors, City Attorney’s Office, and Board of Supervisors to prepare and
16 begin meeting in person; and,

17 WHEREAS, this welcoming environment and increased participation of all
18 Commissioners would empower the Commission to do its best work in advocating for the
19 youth of San Francisco,

20 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2022-2023 Youth Commission of the
21 City and County of San Francisco, in order to fulfill our Chartered duties for youth in San
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1 Francisco, formally requests that Mayor London Breed allows the Commission to meet in
2 person, as it did before the COVID-19 public health emergency, and;

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2022-2023 Youth Commission of the City
4 and County of San Francisco requests the Board of Supervisors publicly support the
5 Youth Commission’s request to return to in-person meetings, as it did before the COVID-
6 19 public health emergency, so that Commissioners may fulfill their Chartered
7 responsibility.

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