

1 [Bikes on Muni Metro]

2 **Resolution urging the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA)**
3 **to repeal its policy of prohibiting non-folding bicycles on Muni Metro light rail**
4 **services and allow full-sized bicycles to be transported on Muni Metro trains.**

5 WHEREAS, The SFMTA operates Muni, San Francisco’s public transit service
6 which includes several light rail lines commonly known as “Muni Metro”; and

7 WHEREAS, Muni Metro provides fast and frequent service to many San
8 Francisco neighborhoods including service through tunnels under some of San
9 Francisco’s steepest hills including Twin Peaks and Buena Vista Heights; and

10 WHEREAS, Bike network routes comparable to Muni Metro routes are highly
11 inadequate; for example, Portola Drive’s bike lanes which parallel the Twin Peaks Metro
12 Tunnel are on a steep grade and offer no physical protection from 35-mile-per-hour
13 traffic, and Kirkham Slow Street which parallels the N Judah Metro route was removed
14 in late 2022; and

15 WHEREAS, Allowing bicycles on public transit has many benefits including
16 increasing public transit accessibility and ridership by providing a convenient way to get
17 to and from public transit, in addition to expanding access for cyclists who may not be
18 able to cycle for their entire trip due to distance or elevation; and

19 WHEREAS, Muni Metro currently only permits folding bicycles which severely
20 limits its accessibility to people biking; and

21 WHEREAS, Muni Metro’s bike policy is an industry outlier with every other bay
22 area rail transit operator, including Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), Sonoma Marin Area

1 Rail Transit (SMART), Capitol Corridor, Caltrain, and Altamont Corridor Express (ACE),
2 which all allow full-size bikes onboard; and

3 WHEREAS, Throughout the United States, rail transit operators with similar
4 operating conditions including those underground stations such as Seattle Link Light
5 Rail, crowding such as the New York City Subway, and high floor trains such as Denver
6 RTD all have policies that allow full-size bikes onboard; and

7 WHEREAS, Calgary CTrain which operates the same model light rail vehicles as
8 Muni Metro allowed bikes on its trains at off-peak times, and as of May 2022 expanded
9 bicycle access to all hours of service even as ridership reached pre-pandemic levels;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Overcrowding is typically cited as a reason against allowing full-
12 sized bicycles on Muni Metro, however according to SFMTA director Jeffery Tumlin,
13 Muni Metro ridership recovery has lagged compared to bus ridership following the
14 COVID-19 pandemic with some lines such as the J Church seeing only 55% of pre-
15 pandemic ridership, freeing space for bicycles; now therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the 2022-2023 Youth Commission of the City and County of
17 San Francisco calls on the SFMTA to repeal its policy of prohibiting full-size bicycles
18 from being brought on the Muni Metro system and allow full-sized bicycles on Muni
19 Metro trains when in the rider and operator's best judgment, there is sufficient space to
20 safely accommodate them.