

1 [Addressing West Portal Traffic Safety Changes]

2 **Resolution supporting plans and highlighting concerns for a *Welcoming West***
3 ***Portal* which includes safety and community space improvements.**

4 WHEREAS, Recent traffic incidents, specifically the tragic accident on March
5 16th at West Portal Avenue and Ulloa Street that resulted in the deaths of two children,
6 have highlighted an urgent need for enhanced traffic safety measures; and

7 WHEREAS, These incidents are indicative of broader traffic and public safety
8 issues within the West Portal community; and

9 WHEREAS, Motor vehicle collisions are the second-leading cause of death for
10 young people behind firearms, making the crash on March 16th part of a larger pattern
11 of traffic-related violence; and

12 WHEREAS, Young people from schools within the area are some of the most
13 frequent users of the West Portal corridor and utilize MUNI, the West Portal Library, and
14 other local resources on the weekends and after school; and

15 WHEREAS, The initial proposal draft includes the creation of transit only lanes,
16 protected community space, and only allowing right turns on certain streets to reduce
17 the amount of risk for pedestrians; and

18 WHEREAS, 40% of traffic deaths in San Francisco occur after drivers make left
19 turns; the proposal would remove two left turns and reduce the risk of collisions; and

20 WHEREAS, There is substantial community support for continued improvements
21 in traffic safety and public spaces, particularly in areas frequented by pedestrians and
22 cyclists; and

1 WHEREAS, Many businesses have expressed concern over the decrease in
2 private vehicle traffic that would result from the proposed changes; and

3 WHEREAS, Local community members, including staff at West Portal
4 Elementary School, have noted that the proposed changes could impact school drop-
5 offs and pickups, among other potential unforeseen traffic disruptions; and

6 WHEREAS, The current survey that the SFMTA released to the public is
7 convoluted and does not adequately give place for community members to fully
8 understand and provide feedback on the proposal; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED that the San Francisco Youth Commission supports the
10 development and implementation of safety and community space improvements in the
11 West Portal area; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Francisco Youth Commission supports the
13 addition of more bicycle parking facilities to promote safer and more sustainable
14 transportation options; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the
16 inclusion of community and business input in the planning process to ensure that the
17 improvements meet the various needs of the West Portal community; and be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Francisco Youth Commission recommends
19 careful consideration of traffic flow changes to avoid negatively impacting school drop-
20 offs and pickups; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission asks the
22 SFMTA to revamp the community input survey to be more easily understandable, with
23 the focus on the proposed improvements to the intersection; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
2 Mayor, the Board of Supervisors, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency,
3 and the District 7 Youth Council.