SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. 200721-069

WHEREAS, On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency of international concern; on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency for the United States; and, on February 25, 2020, San Francisco Mayor London Breed, issued a Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency within the City in response to the pandemic (COVID-19 Emergency), and,

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued guidance to local and state jurisdictions and determined that the virus presents a serious public health threat, requiring coordination among state and local departments to ensure readiness for potential health threats associated with the virus; and,

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Emergency Management, and other City partners have been working successfully to implement CDC guidelines, but now require additional tools and resources to protect the public health given the current state of the epidemic and the need for a sustained response; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, San Francisco's Health Officer issued a Public Health Order requiring that residents remain in place, with the only exception being for essential needs which significantly impacted San Francisco's multimodal transportation system, and required the SFMTA to reduce transit service per the COVID-19 Muni Core Service Plan, and on May 28, 2020, the Mayor released a plan and timeline, informed by the Economic Recovery Task Force, to safely reopen San Francisco; and,

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, in response to the COVID-19 Emergency and the City's reopening timeline, developed a Transportation Recovery Plan (TRP) that serves as a framework for temporary improvements to the multimodal transportation system; and,

WHEREAS, The Slow Streets Program, a component of the TRP, would install temporary barricades and signage at designated intersections on the additional corridors to provide more space for socially distant essential travel by bicycling or walking, and exercise; and,

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transit Agency has proposed temporary road closures to through traffic as part of the Slow Streets Program and, under Vehicle Code Section 21101(e) finds that such temporary road closures to through traffic are necessary for the safety and protection of persons who are using the street under the Program during the COVID-19 Emergency; and,

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency is committed to making San Francisco a Transit First city that prioritizes non-private automobile transportation; and,

WHEREAS, The following corridors are proposed for closure to through traffic and for inclusion in the Slow Streets Program:

- 1. 20th Street from San Bruno to Pennsylvania,
- 2. Arkansas from 23rd to 17th streets,
- 3. Arlington from Roanoke to Randall,
- 4. Cabrillo Street from 23rd to 45th avenues,
- 5. Cayuga from Naglee to Rousseau,
- 6. Clay from Arguello to Steiner,
- 7. Duncan from Diamond Heights to Tiffany,
- 8. Farallones from Orizaba to San Jose,
- 9. Heart from Ridgewood to Baden,
- 10. Holly Park Circle,
- 11. Mariposa from Texas to Mississippi,
- 12. Minnesota from Mariposa to 22nd Street,
- 13. Noe from 23rd Street to Duboce,
- 14. Pacific from Steiner to Gough,
- 15. Pierce from Hayes to Duboce, and
- 16. Tompkins from Andover to Peralta; and,

WHEREAS, The temporary improvements of the Slow Streets program shall include a thorough and transparent evaluation process to determine the effectiveness of the changes, including soliciting stakeholder feedback, collecting and analyzing safety and performance data, and posting evaluation results on the SFMTA website; and,

WHEREAS, The proposed traffic modifications will be temporary in nature and will expire 120 days after the termination or expiration of the COVID-19 Emergency; and,

WHEREAS, The proposed additional Slow Streets is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); CEQA provides a statutory exemption from environmental review for emergency projects pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15269; CEQA provides a categorical exemption for operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails, and similar facilities pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15301; and,

WHEREAS, On July 1, 2020, the Planning Department determined (Case Number 2020-0006251ENV) that the proposed additional Slow Streets project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15269 and categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15301; and,

WHEREAS, The proposed action is the Approval Action as defined by the S.F. Administrative Code Chapter 31; and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors and may be found in the records of the Planning Department at 1650 Mission Street in San Francisco, and is incorporated herein by reference; and,

RESOLVED, That the SFMTA Board approves the temporary traffic modifications listed above to restrict through-traffic, including designating additional corridors as Slow Streets to create more space for socially distanced walking and biking during the COVID-19 pandemic as referenced in the Proclamation of the Mayor Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency dated February 25, 2020 (COVID-19 Emergency); and be it further

RESOLVED, That all actions approved herein, are to be in effect temporarily during the COVID-19 emergency referenced in the Proclamation of the Mayor Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency dated February 25, 2020 and shall expire 120 days after the termination or expiration of such proclamation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That SFMTA staff shall report to the SFMTA Board of Directors prior to the 120 days after the conclusion of the COVID-19 Emergency, including evaluation findings and recommendations regarding the approved traffic modifications.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of July 21, 2020.

Secretary to the Board of Directors

San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency