

1 [Clean Ferries]

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3 **Resolution urging the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and all other**  
4 **ferry operators to pursue cleaner marine technologies, adopt diesel emissions**  
5 **reduction strategies, and develop alternative fuel and ferry design demonstration**  
6 **projects; further urging the Bay Area Water Transit Authority (BAWTA) to establish a**  
7 **cleaner marine technology committee to seek financing for and develop a natural gas**  
8 **demonstration vessel and an alternative fuel ferry plan.**

9  
10 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco is committed to promoting a transit  
11 first policy, to reducing air and water pollution and to combating global climate change; and

12 WHEREAS, On July 10th, 1999 the EPA re-designated the San Francisco Bay Area  
13 from maintenance to non-attainment for the Federal one-hour ozone standard; and,

14 WHEREAS, The EPA recently proposed stricter emission standards to reduce diesel  
15 emissions; and,

16 WHEREAS, The California Air Resources Board recently adopted a set of regulations  
17 to reduce air pollution from the most populated areas of the State; and,

18 WHEREAS, Alternative fuels and fuel cells in combination with emissions reduction  
19 technology advances may protect municipalities from future regular gas price spikes, and/or  
20 offer significant emissions reductions; and,

21 WHEREAS, Various universities, agencies, and other research organizations are  
22 studying new advances in marine propulsion technology for potential use on certain routes to  
23 demonstrate the viability of low and zero emission technology for marine vessels; and,

24 WHEREAS, The successful use of fuel cells, solar, and wind technology in prototype  
25 vessels indicates that these technologies hold promise for ferries on certain routes; and,

1           WHEREAS, One Australian company has developed an ultra low emissions solar,  
2 wind, electricity, and natural gas powered prototype and designs for boats with one hundred  
3 to one thousand passengers, that may be suitable for shorter routes in San Francisco Bay;  
4 and,

5           WHEREAS, The California Air Resources Board estimates that diesel powered vessels  
6 (includes all types of vessels) account for 71 percent of all mobile source sulfur emissions in  
7 the San Francisco Bay Area Basin; and,

8           WHEREAS, Diesel particulate matter was declared to be a Toxic Air Contaminant by  
9 the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and diesel exhaust has been listed as a known  
10 Carcinogen under California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act (Prop 65)  
11 since 1990; and,

12           WHEREAS, Diesel particulate matter is a health risk, with particular concern for stroke,  
13 lung cancer, asthma and other respiratory illness; and,

14           WHEREAS, In California Senate Resolution No. 19 (1997), the State of California  
15 authorized the Bay Area Council to form a Blue Ribbon Task Force to report on the viability of  
16 expanded water transit on San Francisco Bay to relieve traffic congestion in the nine Bay  
17 Area Counties; and,

18           WHEREAS, Chapter 1011 of the Statutes of 1999 creates the San Francisco Bay Area  
19 Water Transit Authority (BAWTA) to prepare and adopt a San Francisco Bay area water  
20 transit implementation and operations plan and to implement such plan upon approval by the  
21 Legislature; and,

22           WHEREAS, Chapter 1011 of the Statutes of 1999 requires the BAWTA to include in  
23 the implementation and operations plan a feasibility analysis and proposal for the use of new  
24 technologies and alternative fuels in marine engines and ground transportation intermodal  
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1 services, to the extent feasible, to minimize air emission and water pollution impacts from the  
2 system operations; and,

3 WHEREAS, Chapter 656 of the Statutes of 2000 (SB 1662) appropriated funds from  
4 the State's Public Transportation Account to the BAWTA to fund the environmental impact  
5 reports and design functions specified in Chapter 1011 of the Statutes of 1999; and,

6 WHEREAS, Chapter 1011 of the Statutes of 1999 requires the BAWTA to complete a  
7 systemwide regional programmatic environmental impact report (EIR) and study of the  
8 implementation and operations plan, which must include an independent evaluation  
9 conducted by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to assess the air quality impacts  
10 of the complete water transit system in comparison to the transport of the same number of  
11 people over the same distance by motor vehicles and other modes of transportation; and,

12 WHEREAS, Chapter 1011, Statutes of 1999 requires the BAWTA to work with the  
13 environmental agencies and representatives of environmental organizations on the  
14 Authority's Technical Advisory Committee in the development of a clean marine ferry system  
15 for San Francisco Bay; and,

16 WHEREAS, Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) is conducting a study for  
17 the purposes of improving alternative access and evaluating improved water access; and  
18 expanding ferry service; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges existing ferry  
20 operators on San Francisco Bay and BAWTA to actively pursue cleaner marine technologies  
21 and adopt a diesel emissions reduction strategy; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board declares it City policy to actively work with  
23 ferry operators in identifying and supporting financing opportunities in the public and private  
24 sector for clean marine technology; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Bay Area Water Transit Authority  
2 and other vessel operators to provide the Commission with annual reports of its emissions  
3 reduction strategy including current emission levels and projected emission reductions for  
4 existing and proposed new ferries operating in San Francisco Bay; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Golden Gate National Recreation  
6 Area and all other ferry operators to work with federal, state, regional and local public  
7 agencies to identify, support and develop demonstration projects to test the feasibility of  
8 alternative fuel and ferry design projects; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Bay Area Water Transit Authority to  
10 immediately establish an adequately staffed Cleaner Marine Technology Committee  
11 consisting of representatives serving on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco,  
12 regulatory agencies, the passenger vessel industry, ferry passengers, alternative fuels  
13 consultants, and environmental organizations, to seek financing for and develop a natural gas  
14 demonstration vessel as soon as possible, with Coast Guard approvals, for the purpose of  
15 assessing the feasibility, performance and potential of alternative fuels as called for in  
16 Chapter 1011 of the Statutes of 1999; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That Board requests the aforementioned Cleaner Marine  
18 Technology Committee and staff develop an alternative fuel ferry plan; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Bay Area Water Transit Authority to  
20 complete and assess a natural gas ferry demonstration project, as part of an alternative fuel  
21 demonstration project conducted in alliance or collaboration with an existing passenger  
22 vessel operator, prior to submitting an implementation and operation plan to the California  
23 legislature; and, be it

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FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board asks that copies of this legislation be forwarded to the following parties: the BAWTA, the San Francisco Port, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and the San Francisco Commission on the Environment.



# City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Tails Resolution

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**File Number:** 010163

**Date Passed:**

Resolution urging the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and all other ferry operators to pursue cleaner marine technologies, adopt diesel emissions reduction strategies, and develop alternative fuel and ferry design demonstration projects; further urging the Bay Area Water Transit Authority (BAWTA) to establish a cleaner marine technology committee to seek financing for and develop a natural gas demonstration vessel and an alternative fuel ferry plan.

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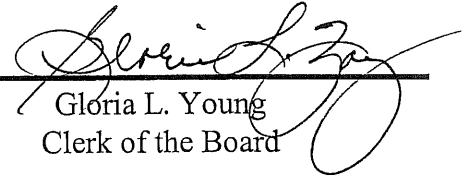
March 5, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick,  
Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval

Absent: 1 - Yee

File No. 010163

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was **ADOPTED** on March 5, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

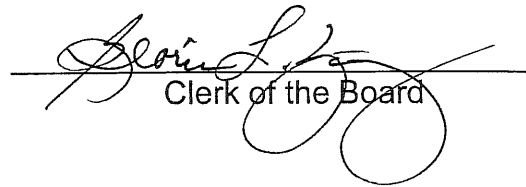
  
Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.

March 16, 2001

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter.

  
Clerk of the Board

File No.  
010163