Motion adopting findings related to the appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of Conditional Use Application No. 2005.0698C (which allowed the establishment of a mortgage brokerage as a business or professional service (Guarantee Mortgage), in a vacant ground floor commercial space approximately 2,318 gross square feet in the West Portal Avenue Neighborhood Commercial District and 26-X Height and Bulk District) for property located at 80 West Portal (Lot 008, in Assessor's Block 2931).

The appellant Kenneth D. Kruszka, representing the Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association, filed a timely appeal on November 1, 2005, protesting the approval by the Planning Commission of an application for a conditional use authorization (Conditional Use Application No. 2005.0698C, approved by Planning Commission Motion No. 17117 dated October 6, 2005), pursuant to Planning Code Section 729.53, to allow the establishment of a mortgage brokerage as a business or professional service (Guarantee Mortgage), in a vacant ground floor commercial space approximately 2,318 gross square feet in the West Portal Avenue Neighborhood Commercial District and 26-X Height and Bulk District) for property located at 80 West Portal (Lot 008, in Assessor's Block 2931).

The public hearing before the Board of Supervisors on said appeal was scheduled for November 22, 2005, and was continued to December 6, 2005. On December 6, 2005, the Board conducted a duly noticed hearing on the appeal from the Planning Commission's approval referred to in the first paragraph of this motion. The project sponsor did not appear nor did any person appear on behalf of the project sponsor. Following the conclusion of the public hearing on December 6, the Board disapproved the decision of the Planning Commission (Planning Commission Motion No. 17117), and denied the issuance of requested
Conditional Use Application No. 2005.0698C.

In reviewing the appeal of the approval of the requested conditional use authorization, this Board reviewed and considered the written record before the Board and all of the public comments made in support of and opposed to the appeal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby adopts as its own and incorporates by reference herein, as though fully set forth, the findings made by the Planning Commission in its Motion No. 17117, dated October 6, 2005, except as indicated below.

FURTHER MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors took notice that the proposed Conditional Use was determined by the Planning Department to be categorically exempt from the environmental review process under the provisions of the California Administrative Code. The Board finds that there have been no substantial Project changes, no substantial changes in Project circumstances, and no new information of substantial importance that would change the conclusions set forth in the Certificate of Exemption/Exclusion from Environmental Review finding that the proposed Project is exempt/excluded from environmental review.

FURTHER MOVED, That at the public hearing on this appeal members of the public testified, primarily, that there was no need for another financial institution, financial type service or mortgage brokerage in this neighborhood, that the Project was not desirable for the neighborhood and that the use of this "showplace frontage" space for the proposed use is inconsistent with other uses in the area and therefore detrimental to the neighborhood.

FURTHER MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors finds that Finding 7 made by the Planning Commission was incorrect and without substantiation because there are already a large number of financial institutions in this neighborhood. Evidence introduced during the hearing demonstrates that there are four mortgage brokerages within four blocks of the project site and twenty financial institutions within .7 miles of the area. This Project is
therefore not necessary or desirable for this neighborhood.

FURTHER MOVED, That, on balance, the Project, as proposed, is inconsistent with the Priority Policies of Planning Code Section 101.1 in that the Project will not enhance the neighborhood character and diversity of the neighborhood.

FURTHER MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors, after carefully balancing the competing public and private interests, disapproved the decision of the Planning Commission by its Motion No. 17117, dated October 6, 2005, and denied the issuance of Conditional Use Application No. 2005.0698C on property located at 80 West Portal Avenue.

Clerk of the Board
Motion adopting findings related to the appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of Conditional Use Application No. 2005.0698C (which allowed the establishment of a mortgage brokerage as a business or professional service (Guarantee Mortgage), in a vacant ground floor commercial space approximately 2,318 gross square feet in the West Portal Avenue Neighborhood Commercial District and 26-X Height an Bulk District) for property located at 80 West Portal (Lot 008, in Assessor's Block 2931).

January 4, 2006  Board of Supervisors — REFERRED: Board of Supervisors
January 10, 2006  Board of Supervisors — APPROVED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval
Excused: 1 - Alioto-Pier
I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was APPROVED on January 10, 2006 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board