Resolution establishing a Pedestrian Safety and Street Resurfacing Working Group to review existing and projected capital needs related to the backlog of pedestrian safety, disability access, bicycle safety, street resurfacing and school area safety projects; establishing the membership, staffing and scope of work for the Working Group; and establishing August 1, 2001 as the date the Working Group will provide its recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the San Francisco County Transportation Authority regarding existing and potential funding sources, including a potential General Obligation bond issue, that are most appropriate to meet these capital needs.

WHEREAS, Over the last decade San Francisco has experienced a significant increase in congestion conditions on City streets; and

WHEREAS, Over the same period, as a result of increased street congestion, the number of accidents and fatalities involving pedestrians and bicyclists has registered an alarming increase; and

WHEREAS, People with disabilities and seniors are particularly vulnerable to these unsafe or inaccessible conditions; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the recommendations of the San Francisco County Transportation Authority's (Authority) Strategic Analysis Report (SAR) No: 97-3, a Traffic Calming Working Group was created to help develop a policy for the implementation of measures tending to the improvement of pedestrian safety conditions in the neighborhoods, and establishing a pilot study in Bernal Heights; and
WHEREAS, The Working Group has developed a number of specific recommendations for improving pedestrian safety and bicycle safety conditions, including a list of the neediest corridors in the city; and

WHEREAS, The latest Infrastructure Assessment Report, prepared by the Department of Public Works in December of 1999, identified a backlog of over $140 million in street resurfacing, curb ramp construction, sidewalk repair, and street structure repair needs in San Francisco and more recent estimates indicate that the backlog has increased; and

WHEREAS, It behooves the City to identify funding sources and proceed with the maintenance and rehabilitation needs identified above, to avoid the need for complete reconstruction later, at seven times the cost of rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, Current transportation revenues, including the local half-cent sales tax for transportation, are insufficient to address the backlog, and it is anticipated that, at the current pace, Proposition B revenues for the above purposes will be depleted in 2007; and

WHEREAS, It is clear that the pace of repair of city streets, including pedestrian safety programs such as the Department of Parking and Traffic’s Livable Streets and School Area Safety programs, is slowed down by lack of availability of funds, and that considerable progress could be made in preventing unnecessary pedestrian and bicyclists’ deaths and injuries if additional funding was made available in the short and medium term; and

WHEREAS, It is critical, in order to ensure the success of any approach to the issue of pedestrian and bicycle safety that the approach be sensitive to the particular character and accessibility needs and desires of the affected neighborhoods; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors finds it urgent to address the issue of the condition of City streets and the impact of street and sidewalk design on pedestrian and bicyclists’ safety and disability access; and be it further
RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby establishes the Pedestrian Safety and Street Resurfacing Working Group (Pedestrian Working Group) to advise the Board and the Authority; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Pedestrian Working Group shall consist of 11 members, each a resident of one of San Francisco’s 11 districts, appointed directly by their respective Supervisor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Pedestrian Working Group, with staffing from the Authority and in consultation with the Department of Parking and Traffic, the Department of Public Works and the Mayor’s Office on Disability, shall be responsible for the following scope of work:

1. Analyzing the adequacy of current funding sources to address the pedestrian safety, disability access, street resurfacing and school area safety backlog of potential projects;
2. Analyzing the potential for new revenue sources to address this backlog, including but not limited to Proposition B reauthorization, vehicle license fees and a potential pedestrian safety and street resurfacing impact development fee;
3. Estimating the extent to which street resurfacing costs are likely to increase if the backlog of projects is not addressed;
4. Defining the parameters of a potential General Obligation bond issue to address the backlog that cannot be met or is unlikely to be met by existing or potential revenue sources; and
5. Performing outreach to identified constituencies who would be affected by such a bond issue to solicit their input, including, but not limited to, seniors, the disability community, alternative transportation advocates, commercial and residential property owners, parents and school administrators, and neighborhood groups; and be it further
RESOLVED, That the Pedestrian Working Group shall present to the Board of Supervisors and the Authority Board its preliminary conclusions by August 1, 2001.
Resolution establishing a Pedestrian Safety and Street Resurfacing Working Group to review existing and projected capital needs related to the backlog of pedestrian safety, disability access, bicycle safety, street resurfacing and school area safety projects; establishing the membership, staffing and scope of work for the Working Group; and establishing August 1, 2001 as the date the Working Group will provide its recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the San Francisco County Transportation Authority regarding existing and potential funding sources, including a potential General Obligation bond issue, that are most appropriate to meet these capital needs.

July 9, 2001  Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Newsom, Peskin, Sandoval, Yee
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on July 9, 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.