Resolution requesting the Municipal Transportation Agency to work with other city agencies to develop a timeline and funding plan for a comprehensive planning process on Masonic Avenue from Geary Boulevard to Haight Street including traffic calming and pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements.

WHEREAS Masonic Avenue is a residential street connecting several of San Francisco's neighborhoods including the Haight, North of the Panhandle, and the Anza Vista neighborhoods, and

WHEREAS, there are numerous schools surrounding the corridor including preschool, elementary, high school, and university campuses whose students, faculty and staff use Masonic Avenue and need safe routes to school, and

WHEREAS, the current design of Masonic Avenue poses multiple dangers to pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers using the street, and

WHEREAS, these dangerous conditions include double right turn lanes and wide intersections, as well as the notorious Fell-Masonic intersection, which is rated among the top five locations for bicycle/automobile collisions in the city, and

WHEREAS, Masonic Avenue is also notorious for speeding and documented traffic violations; the Masonic-Turk intersection is rated #3 in the city for red-light running, and

WHEREAS, Masonic Avenue’s multiple lane change configurations and peak period tow away parking zones create dangerous conditions for all the streets users, and

WHEREAS, Masonic Avenue is part of the citywide bicycle route network, designated as Bicycle Route 55, yet its high traffic speeds and lack of bicycle facilities cause cyclists to use the sidewalk in lieu of traveling legally in the roadway; and
WHEREAS, The Transit-First Policy of Section 16.102 of the San Francisco City Charter requires that, "[d]ecisions regarding the use of limited public street and sidewalk space shall encourage the use of public rights of way by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit, and shall strive to reduce traffic and improve public health and safety"; and

WHEREAS, Fix Masonic, an advocacy group that formed around this issue, has held numerous community meetings, presented to neighborhood groups, organized a volunteer crossing guard program at the notorious Fell-Masonic intersection, and has member representatives from the Safety Network, Senior Action Network, North of the Panhandle Neighborhood Association (NOPNA), Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council (HANC), San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, Livable City, Walk SF, Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee, local schools, and others; and

WHEREAS, the Fix Masonic advocacy group has collected more than 500 signatures on a Municipal Transportation Agency traffic calming request form from neighborhood stakeholders requesting traffic calming and pedestrian and bicycle improvements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Municipal Transportation Agency to work with other city agencies, including the Planning Department, Department of Public Works, and San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA), to develop a funding plan and timeline for a comprehensive planning process to address stakeholders' concerns on Masonic Avenue from Geary Boulevard to Haight Street to make it a true "complete street" which serves its residents and all modes of transportation safely, efficiently, and gracefully; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that MTA work with the SFCTA to identify funding for the comprehensive planning process in the SFCTA's next Proposition K five year update or through other appropriate sources; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED that the MTA is requested to prepare a report for the Board of Supervisors within 90 days of the passage of this resolution outlining a scope of work and cost estimate for this comprehensive planning process; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the MTA is requested to work with the SFCTA to identify and include a funding request for capital funding for improvements designated by the aforementioned planning process in the SFCTA’s next Proposition K five year update or through other appropriate sources.
Resolution requesting the Municipal Transportation Agency to work with other city agencies to develop a timeline and funding plan for a comprehensive planning process on Masonic Avenue from Geary Boulevard to Haight Street including traffic calming and pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements.

February 12, 2008  Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Chu, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Maxwell, Mirkarimi, Peskin

Absent: 2 - McGoldrick, Sandoval

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on February 12, 2008 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Capiello
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom