[Resolution reaffirms the Board of Supervisors' support for the expeditious completion of the Mexican Museum Project at the Yerba Buena Garden site.]

Resolution reaffirming the Board of Supervisors’ support for the Mexican Museum project, and calling upon all parties, including the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, Millennium Partners, the San Francisco Arts Commission, and Fort Mason to support the expeditious completion of the project, including helping the Mexican Museum retain its lease with Fort Mason concurrent with and through the development, construction and actualization of the Mexican Museum project at the Yerba Buena Garden site.

WHEREAS, The Mexican Museum holds one of the most valuable Mexican Art collections in California and throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, Since 1982, the Mexican Art collection has been safely housed and exhibited at San Francisco’s Fort Mason Center; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has earmarked $18 million dollars for the construction of a permanent home for the Mexican Museum and its valuable and historic art collection; and

WHEREAS, In July of 2009, the City and County of San Francisco approved for the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency to issue an additional $4 million dollars in bonds from the $18 million in earmarked funds for the construction of the Mexican Museum’s new building; and

WHEREAS, The California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) has set aside $2.4 million for the Mexican Museum Capital Campaign project to build a new building to house the Mexican Museum’s cultural assets; and

Supervisors Campos, Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Chiu, Daly, Dufty, Mar, Maxwell, Mirkarimi
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WHEREAS, On August 4, 2009, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency unanimously approved $250,000 in pre-development funding for the Mexican Museum to build organizational capacity and engage in pre-development activities associated with the new building project; and

WHEREAS, On August 4, 2009, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency also unanimously voted to release $30,000 for the San Francisco Arts Commission to assist the Mexican museum as its fiscal agent for the expenditure of the $250,000 grant; and

WHEREAS, The Mexican Museum’s Board in 2008 voted for the Mexican Museum’s art collection to remain housed and exhibited to the public at Fort Mason Center until the building project at Yerba Buena Garden is built, avoiding financial costs of cataloging and transporting the art (estimated cost over $450,000) and avoiding the risk of damaging the art collection; and

WHEREAS, In July of 2008, the Mexican Museum entered into an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement with Millennium Partners to develop the Mexican Museum site at Yerba Buena Garden; and

WHEREAS, The Mexican Museum will provide many benefits to the City and County of San Francisco, including bringing tourists from around the state, the country and the globe, allowing all to enjoy indigenous art, and sharing in the rich culture and history of Latinos/as; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors and Mayor Gavin Newsom have previously expressed their support for the construction of a new home to house the over 12,000 art objects which make up the Mexican Museum collection; and

WHEREAS, Some members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors have expressed concerns about delays in the completion of the project and have expressed a desire to continue monitoring the project’s development, including, if necessary, holding a
special public hearing on the development and construction of a building for the Mexican Museum at its designated Yerba Buena site to ensure that the $18 million of earmarked public funds are fully and appropriately spent on the Mexican Museum project, including future operations; and to ensure that the $2.4 million CCHE grant is realized; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby reaffirms its support for the expeditious completion of the Mexican Museum project; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby supports the Mexican Museum remaining at the Fort Mason site to house the priceless art collection until the building project at Yerba Buena Garden is built, and therefore, calls upon Fort Mason to negotiate with the Mexican Museum Board an extension of their current lease; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco calls on the San Francisco Arts Commission and the Redevelopment Agency to assist the Mexican Museum in negotiating a renewal of the lease with Fort Mason in order to house and exhibit the collection; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco calls upon the San Francisco Arts Commission to expeditiously carry out its duties as fiscal agent for the expenditure of the $250,000 grant; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby calls on Millennium Partners to fulfill all of its promises and obligations to the Mexican Museum; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco calls upon all parties, including the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency,
Millennium Partners, and the San Francisco Arts Commission to work together with the Mexican Museum to ensure that all the required milestones set by the CCHE grant guidelines are met and the $2.4 million CCHE grant can be realized for the development and construction of the new Mexican Museum at the Yerba Buena Garden site.
Resolution reaffirming the Board of Supervisors' support for the Mexican Museum project, and calling upon all parties, including the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, Millennium Partners, the San Francisco Arts Commission, and Fort Mason to support the expeditious completion of the project, including helping the Mexican Museum retain its lease with Fort Mason concurrent with and through the development, construction and actualization of the Mexican Museum project at the Yerba Buena Garden site.

August 18, 2009 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED
Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell, Mirkarimi
Excused: 1 - Dufty
I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on August 18, 2009 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Cabildo
Clerk of the Board

8-27-09
Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom