Resolution retroactively authorizing the Mayor's Office of Housing Opportunity, Partnerships and Engagement to accept and expend a grant in the amount of $2,925,000 from the San Francisco Interfaith Council for the purpose of renovating and opening the San Francisco Navigation Center and assisting with supportive housing exits for a one-year term for the period of January 26, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

WHEREAS, The 2013 Homeless Count identified 6,436 individuals who are homeless in the City and County of San Francisco, including 3,400 individuals living on the street; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Interfaith Council (SFIC) has worked in partnership with San Francisco City Government since the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake to provide emergency shelter services, especially in the Winter months; for homeless persons; and

WHEREAS, SFIC received a donation in December, 2014 of $2,925,000 for the purpose of supporting new, innovative efforts by the City and County of San Francisco to assist individuals who have lived on our streets or in encampments for long periods of time; and

WHEREAS, Many of these individuals have lived on our streets or in isolated encampments for years because existing emergency shelters do not (1) have the capacity to accommodate possessions, (2) allow couples to stay together or (3) allow pets, that are not registered service animals, to be close to their owners; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco's Emergency Shelters are generally 97% occupied, limiting capacity for exits for those individuals who have become stuck living on our streets or in encampments; and
WHEREAS, Mayor Edwin M. Lee, in conjunction with his Office of HOPE and other City Departments developed a new concept, called the SF Navigation Center, to help individuals, couples and encampments exit chronic street homelessness by removing barriers that often prevent individuals from accessing temporary housing: providing accessible storage, allowing couples to remain together, pets to stay with their owners and embracing a low-threshold approach emphasizing respect and flexibility, with no metal detectors, curfews or limitations when guests have meals, showers or do laundry; and

WHEREAS, On January 26, 2015, SFIC signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Mayor's Office of HOPE specifying the purposes for this donation to immediately renovate and open a facility for the SF Navigation Center and to support the City's efforts to secure additional permanent housing for guests of the Center; and

WHEREAS, The goals of SFIC and the Mayor's Office of HOPE were to quickly identify and renovate a location for the Navigation Center so that the donor, or other donors, might provide additional resources to support this effort; and

WHEREAS, With the support of the City's Real Estate Department (RED) and the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD), the 1950 Mission Street site was identified as a potential location for the SF Navigation Center with its large open space, fenced area and twelve mobile classrooms/bungalows offering safe and secure areas for sleeping, community gathering and meal space, showers, laundry and bathrooms and program and on-site case management and City services space for up to 75 formerly homeless guests and their pets at any time; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office of HOPE quickly embarked upon a robust community outreach effort with the support and involvement of the District Supervisor, the Honorable David Campos, to garner community input and support; and
WHEREAS, The Department of Public Works was tasked with leading the immediate renovation of this site and its facilities through its Bureau of Building Repair (BBR); and

WHEREAS, In response to the urgency of unprecedented numbers of citizens living unsafely on streets and under freeways and the shared pledge by HOPE and SFIC to meet the donor's wishes that the Navigation Center be opened quickly, the Department of Public Works issued an Emergency Order on January 16, 2015 to expedite their authority to complete renovations required at 1950 Mission Street, since the building had been unused for almost a decade and required upgrades, including accessibility compliance; and

WHEREAS, All branches and agencies of San Francisco City government, including the Mayor's Office, Board of Supervisors, City Administrator, Public Works, Human Services Agency, Public Health Department, City Controller, City Planning, Building Inspection Department, Fire Department, Police Department, Animal Care and Control, Adult Probation Department, Public Defender and Recreation and Parks Department, among others, worked together in an incredibly dedicated and expeditious manner to establish the site, program design and public support needed for success; and

WHEREAS, The SF Navigation Center opened to guests on Monday, March 30, 2015 and has had over 125 guests in its first three months; and

WHEREAS, The 2015-2016 City Budget that has been approved by the Board of Supervisor's Budget and Finance Committee contains funding for five new master-leases for Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) hotels that will provide over 500 housing placements, many of which serving guests of the SF Navigation Center; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby retroactively authorizes Bevan Duffy, Director of the Mayor's Office of HOPE, or his designee, on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco, to accept and expend the grant award of $2,925,000 from the San Francisco Interfaith Council for the purpose of the creation and renovation of the SF
Navigation Center and related program services, as provided in the Public Works Emergency
Declaration and SFIC Memorandum of Agreement; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors accepts the renovations of
1950 Mission Street, as funded by the SFIC grant, as a gift to the City and County of San
Francisco.

Recommended:  

Department Head

Approved:  

Mayor

Controller

Mayor Lee; Supervisor Farrell
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
File Number: 150733  Date Passed: July 21, 2015

Resolution retroactively authorizing the Mayor’s Office of Housing Opportunity, Partnerships and Engagement to accept and expend a grant in the amount of $2,925,000 from the San Francisco Interfaith Council for the purpose of renovating and opening the San Francisco Navigation Center and assisting with supportive housing exits for a one-year term for the period of January 26, 2015, through January 31, 2016.

July 15, 2015 Budget and Finance Sub-Committee - RECOMMENDED

July 21, 2015 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Avalos, Breed, Christensen, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee
Excused: 1 - Campos

File No. 150733

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 7/21/2015 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Mayor

Date Approved 7/30/15