

Press Release

**Supervisor Kim Calls For Hearing on the Impacts of Automation:
Robots Replacing Human Workers & Impacts on the San Francisco Workforce**

March 14, 2017
For Immediate Release

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San Francisco, CA – The automation revolution has already caused millions of Americans to lose their jobs. In coming decades, this trend is expected to accelerate as robots are able to perform tasks that had been performed by workers. Today, San Francisco Supervisor Jane Kim announced that she will be calling a hearing on the impacts of automation on the city’s workforce, including job displacement, educational and workforce development needs, and the potential loss of payroll tax revenue on the City’s financial health.

“Workers want and need meaningful employment. Unfortunately, we’re already seeing many lose their jobs to automation. We cannot stop the trend to automation but we can act now to make sure those workers who lose their jobs have the chance to retrain and to ensure we maintain the vital services that will be needed to help with this transition,” said Supervisor Kim.

While the manufacturing sector has been hit hard by automation, new developments in technology indicate that soon industries as varied as transportation, healthcare, and retail will also face major changes. According to researchers at Oxford University, 47 percent of American jobs are at “high risk” for being automated in the next decades. And it is not just taxi and ride-share drivers, delivery drivers, clerks, and manufacturing workers who are being replaced by machines. Accountants, lawyers, and other high-wage professionals are also being replaced at an accelerating rate.

“Automation will make billions of dollars for those at the very top. We simply want to ensure that everyone else is not left behind. By making sure that we are prepared to address likely new needs in workforce development, job training and new job creation, we have to help smooth this transition and help all workers to have a brighter future,” said Kim.

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www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk/downloads/academic/The_Future_of_Employment.pdf