Motion establishing goals for the Board of Supervisors' Budget and Appropriations Committee, and the process to guide the Board's deliberations on the City budget, for FYs 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors each year strives to design a budget process with broad involvement from not only all members of the Board but also the Mayor's office, City agencies, and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, Each year, it is up to the Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee to design a budget process that accomplishes the above goals; and

WHEREAS, On December 10, 2019, the Board of Supervisors unanimously passed Motion M19-180, stating that, "By March 1 each year, the chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall introduce a motion for consideration by the Board, delineating the budget process for the coming months, including but not limited to: the Committee's anticipated hearing topics from March through June, the process for the Board to identify and publicly communicate its policy priorities for the budget; whether the Board will schedule Committees of the Whole to hold hearings on the Mayor's budget instructions, the Mayor's budget priorities, the Mayor's proposed budget, the Board's proposed spending plan, or other topics; and the Committee's guidelines regarding public transparency and decision-making;"

and

WHEREAS, On December 17, 2019, the Board of Supervisors also unanimously passed Ordinance No. 294-19, requiring City agencies to hold public hearings prior to submission of their proposed budgets, requiring the Mayor to hold a public meeting on her proposed budget and also to submit budget priorities to the Board, and requiring the

Supervisors Fewer; Walton, Ronen, Yee, Mandelman, Preston
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Controller to maintain a centralized website with City budget information accessible to the public; and

WHEREAS, This year many City agencies are actively engaging the public in budget meetings and committing not only to transparency but also to incorporating feedback into their budget development; and

WHEREAS, The City’s budget for FY2019-2020 totaled over twelve billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, The City’s budget is made up of property taxes, business taxes, other local taxes, fees, charges for services, as well as intergovernmental revenue from the state and federal governments and a variety of other sources; and

WHEREAS, It is primarily local taxpayers who contribute to the city’s budget and so it is to this public that the Board of Supervisors and more broadly the City and County of San Francisco must hold itself accountable during the budget process; and

WHEREAS, The City budget is the most important policy document deliberated by the Board of Supervisors, and is reflective of the values of this body as well as the Mayor of San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

MOVED, That the following goals are established for the Budget and Appropriations Committee’s budget process: 1) to develop an understanding of the landscape facing the city budget for FYs 2020-2021 and 2021-2022; 2) to engage in public discussion about policy priorities for the budget while the Mayor is determining her priorities; 3) to create space for public input on budget priorities; 4) to provide accountability for departmental spending and efficacy of services; 5) to begin to identify areas for cost savings or reallocation; and, be it

MOVED, That the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall hold a series of issue-based budget hearings in March of 2020 on key topics that bridge across city departments, reflecting policy areas prioritized by the Committee; and, be it
MOVED, That the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall hold hearings in April and May of 2020 focused on four proposed agency budgets, for which the Budget and Legislative Analyst will produce analysis for the Committee’s consideration; and

MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors intends to hold a Committee of the Whole on the Mayor’s budget priorities for FYs 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, which are to be submitted to the Board no later than April 30, 2020; and, be it

MOVED, That Budget and Appropriations Committee will hold hearings on May 1st, 2020, for proposed agency budgets released by the Mayor, including the Municipal Transportation Agency, Airport, Port, Public Utilities Commission, Board of Appeals, Child Support Services, Building Inspection, Environment, Library, Law Library, Retirement, and Rent Board; and, be it

MOVED, That all other agency budgets will come before the Budget and Appropriations Committee in June; and, be it

MOVED, That in June, the Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall publish a list of all budget requests received and also publish a proposed spending plan, upon which the public can comment prior to final deliberations of the Committee; and, be it

MOVED, That the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall hear public comment at each and every meeting including during the June budget hearings, and shall hold at least one meeting in June dedicated to public comment and hearing from the public about spending priorities.
Motion establishing goals for the Board of Supervisors' Budget and Appropriations Committee, and the process to guide the Board's deliberations on the City budget, for FYs 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

February 11, 2020 Board of Supervisors - APPROVED
   Ayes: 9 - Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee
   Absent: 2 - Fewer and Peskin

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was APPROVED on 2/11/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board