[Urging Implementation of Additional Health Provisions to Address Social and Health Inequities Exacerbated by the COVID-19 Pandemic]

Resolution urging the Department of Public Health to implement additional health provisions to address social and health inequities exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS, On March 6, 2020, the San Francisco Health Officer issued a Declaration of Local Health Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which was preceded by a March 4, 2020, proclamation of State of Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom, and a February 25, 2020, proclamation by Mayor Local existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco is currently experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19, which has been deemed a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, As of Tuesday, April 28, 2020, the San Francisco Department of Public Health has reported 1,468 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in San Francisco, and 23 deaths; and

WHEREAS, Among the 1,468 cases, the majority of the cases are spread across Districts 6, 9, 10, and 11, with 182 in 94110, 162 in 94112, 116 in 94103, 113 in 94124, and 95 in 94107; and

WHEREAS, Based on data from the Department of Public Health, the top five zip codes with the highest cases per 10,000 residents are in 94103, 94107, 94127, 94110, and 94158 spread across Districts 6, 9 and 10; and

WHEREAS, A long history of health disparities and social inequities exist within the top zip codes with the highest COVID-19 confirmed cases in Districts 6, 9, and 10; and

Supervisors Walton; Preston, Haney, Fewer, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WHEREAS, The race and ethnicity breakdown of the cases are 31% Latinx, 17% White, 14% Asian, 5% African American, 7% other and 24% unknown; and

WHEREAS, Among the 23 COVID-19 related deaths, 75% of people of color, 12 are Asian, 5 are White, 3 are African American, 2 are Latinx, and 1 other; and

WHEREAS, Neighborhoods with the highest concentration of people of color often lack access to healthy food options such as grocery stores, preventative healthcare, adequate housing, and are often disproportionately affected by hazardous environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, These neighborhoods that are predominantly in Districts 6, 9, and 10, have the highest percentage of poverty, predisposed health conditions, and lower life expectancy compared to the rest of San Francisco and are more vulnerable in contracting COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, According to the San Francisco Homeless Point in Time Count conducted on January 24, 2019, the same districts, 6, 9, 10 also has the highest concentration of residents experiencing homelessness with 3,659 in District 6, 1,820 in District 10, and 661 in District 9 respectively; and

WHEREAS Majority of San Francisco’s congregate settings for unhoused residents including shelters, navigation centers, and single room occupancy hotels are concentrated in Districts 3, 6, and 9; and

WHEREAS, The high rates of COVID-19 affecting communities of color are located in the zip codes with the most health and social inequities are reflective of the external historical factors that have impacted the neighborhood’s health and these impacts have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is disproportionately affecting people of color with rates and people of color are more likely to die a COVID-19 related death in San Francisco; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the Department of Public Health to adopt the following health provisions to address the health and social inequities further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic:

1) Implement pop up testing sites throughout zip codes with the highest rates of COVID-19 case and these sites should also test asymptomatic residents to prevent the spread and avoid an increase of cases and deaths; and

2) Implement additional field care clinics in areas with the highest number of COVID-19 cases in order to provide necessary medical treatment and urgent care support, and

3) Deploy proper personal protective equipment for all employees and members of communities in area more vulnerable and susceptible to contracting COVID-19, and

4) Increase resources for outreach and education in areas that need a more concentrated and culturally competent strategies to inform people about the latest heath orders and imperative updates to increase compliance, and

5) Immediately work with the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing and the Healthy Streets Operation Center Homeless Outreach to provide testing to the homeless population including asymptomatic people n congregate settings such as single room occupancy hotels, shelters, navigations centers and encampments, and

6) Immediately work with Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, the Healthy Streets Operation Center Homeless Outreach, Human Services Agency, and the Emergency Operations Center to place homeless people who are capable of caring for themselves in hotels to prevent further transmission in an already vulnerable population living on the streets; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Department of Public Health to implement these health provisions immediately in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and address the health and social inequities in our communities.
Resolution urging the Department of Public Health to implement additional health provisions to address social and health inequities exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

May 05, 2020 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was ADOPTED on 5/5/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board