Resolution commending the dedicated workforce of San Francisco Public Works and declaring May 22 through May 26, 2023, as Public Works Week in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, It is the mission of San Francisco Public Works to improve the quality of life in San Francisco by providing outstanding public service and partnering with the community; and

WHEREAS, Public Works’ motto, #LoveOurCity, means that as a team of 1,400 staff and as a 24/7 operation with a diverse portfolio of responsibilities, Public Works touches every neighborhood in San Francisco; the workers design and manage construction of civic buildings, landscapes and streets; clean, maintain and inspect the public right of way; care for and expand the urban forest; pave streets and build curb ramps; repair bridges and public stairways; repair and maintain civic buildings; and train people for jobs; and

WHEREAS, During the past year, not only did Public Works staff continue its day-to-day design, field and maintenance work, but Public Works also delivered significant achievements, including the completion of two community-driven projects located in the Bayview – the Southeast Community Center and the Southeast Family Health Center – as well as the Castro Mission Health Center, all of which were designed and/or managed by Public Works architects, landscape architects, project managers and construction managers; and

WHEREAS, Public Works recently received a national award from Metal Architecture’s Judges’ Award for the Public Works-designed and construction-managed Bayview SAFE Navigation Center, an innovative homeless shelter; and
WHEREAS, San Francisco hosted the national American Society of Landscape Architects annual conference in November 2022, which gave our Bureau of Landscape Architecture the opportunity to showcase its work and initiatives to a national audience through multiple sessions and tours, including on best practices to keep an urban forest thriving amid climate change and the City's bond-funded parks and playground in North Beach and Chinatown; and

WHEREAS, Public Works' urban forestry, building repair and pothole crews successfully and skillfully responded around the clock to a variety of extraordinary challenges, including three months of pounding winter rain and windstorms that resulted in significant tree and street damage and a barge collision with the historic Third Street Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Public Works' inspectors and street cleaning crews were on at the ready as the City recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic and hosted its typically large roster of parades, attended by tens of thousands of residents and visitors, including Lunar New Year, Carnaval, Pride, Bay to Breakers and, in 2022, the Warriors NBA Championship celebration; street cleaning crews and inspectors prepped parade routes and removed tons of confetti, trash and other debris – leaving City streets sparkling just hours after these huge events wrapped up; and

WHEREAS, Public Works initiated new programs this year to help the City recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, including a street vending permit system with corresponding enforcement, an opt-in, free graffiti removal program for private property owners in neighborhood commercial corridors, and the installation at Embarcadero Plaza of the first of 25 next-generation public toilets in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, After a hiatus during the pandemic, Public Works' monthly Love our City: Neighborhood Beautification Day events resumed and continues as a robust collaboration
among neighborhood volunteers, community groups and Public Works employees to clean
and green in every supervisorial district, including the special Arbor Day workday in March in
the South of Market district, where 117 new street trees were planted; and

WHEREAS, As part of Public Works’ Racial Equity Initiative, the department published
an in-house researched and written history of the department, “Inspecting our Foundation: A
Reexamination of Public Works’ History through a Racial Equity Lens,” which is available on
the sfpublicworks.org website; and

WHEREAS, Public Works Week is a time when San Francisco Public Works
demonstrates what “public works” means by celebrating accomplishments and milestones and
hosting activities that reinforce partnerships with San Francisco residents, businesses,
community organizations and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, During Public Works Week, San Francisco honors the professional and
committed Public Works employees who model the best in public service through their
steadfastness and professional expertise in stewarding public buildings, landscapes and the
public right of way; and

WHEREAS, A highlight of Public Works Week is the department’s annual Employee
Recognition Awards, held this year on May 23, where excellence is honored and recognized
within the department; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby declares May 22 through May 26,
2023, as Public Works Week in San Francisco and commends the tried-and-true staff of San
Francisco Public Works; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges San Francisco residents,
neighborhood associations, community nonprofits and merchant organizations to continue to
work in collaboration with Public Works to enhance the quality of life in San Francisco.
Resolution commending the dedicated workforce of San Francisco Public Works and declaring May 22 through May 26, 2023, as Public Works Week in the City and County of San Francisco.

May 23, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 10 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton
Excused: 1 - Melgar

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 5/23/2023 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