Resolution authorizing the Office of the Mayor, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and Chief of Protocol to solicit donations from various private entities and organizations to support the City hosting the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit, notwithstanding the Behested Payment Ordinance.

WHEREAS, San Francisco will serve as the host city for the 30th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation ("APEC") Leaders' Summit, in November, 2023, to be attended by President Biden, various heads of state, and other officials from around the world; and

WHEREAS, APEC consists of 21 member economies and is the leading forum in the Pacific Rim for promoting trade, investment, economic growth and cooperation throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, The economies that will be represented in this year's APEC Leader's Summit include the United States, Canada, China, the Philippines, Japan, Singapore and Thailand; the Summit will focus on regional economic issues, including sustainability, digitalization, women's economic empowerment, trade facilitation, energy security, food security, and health; the APEC meetings will also include the APEC CEO Summit, bringing together company CEOs, thought leaders and other stakeholders together with political leaders from the region for three days of robust dialogue and engagement on global challenges including climate change, equitable growth and supply chain resilience; and

WHEREAS, APEC members account for approximately 40 percent of the global population and nearly half of global trade; as of 2021, fellow APEC members were the destination for more than 60 percent of U.S. goods exports; in addition, seven of the top 10 U.S. overall trading partners are also members; and
WHEREAS, San Francisco is widely recognized as a gateway to the Asia-Pacific region, with long-standing and extensive economic, cultural and academic connections to the region; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans account for about a third of San Francisco’s total population, and San Francisco has Sister City relationships with cities throughout the region, including Osaka, Seoul, Ho Chi Minh, Manila, Sydney, and Shanghai; San Francisco’s Chinatown is the first in North America and one of the largest Chinese communities outside of Asia; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco currently hosts over 75 consulates, representing the government interests of virtually all major countries around the world; over half of the APEC member economies have a consulate or trade office in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is a premier destination for foreign direct investment from the Asia Pacific region; each year, the San Francisco Customs District logs about $100 billion dollars from two-way shipping with APEC members; northern California firms sell an estimated $60 billion dollars of goods and services to APEC buyers; and

WHEREAS, The APEC Summit is estimated to generate nearly $37 million dollars in economic benefit to San Francisco; the APEC Summit will be held at the newly renovated Moscone Center and will draw thousands of attendees from around the world; and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic took a great toll on San Francisco’s economy, particularly in terms of international travel; as of February 2023, San Francisco International Airport (SFO) reported international checkpoint numbers at only 80% of pre-pandemic levels; travel from Asia has been particularly impacted; calendar year enplanements from Asia to SFO in 2022 were down 59.6% from 2019; flights from Asia have the highest economic impact on the Bay Area with the top markets in Asia exceeding the economic impact of top markets in Europe by over 50% per flight; and
WHEREAS, It is expected that around 10,000 people will come to San Francisco for APEC, almost entirely on overseas flights; San Francisco Travel estimates that 6,000 San Francisco hotel rooms will be used by APEC participants alone, excluding journalists and other visitors; and

WHEREAS, APEC will generate significant business for San Francisco’s hotels, restaurants, shops, and arts and cultural centers, providing a boost to San Francisco’s economic recovery; APEC will also deepen San Francisco’s ties to the Asia Pacific region and further promote San Francisco as a global capital of trade, technology, policy innovation, and culture; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Mayor, the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and San Francisco Chief of Protocol and War Memorial Trustee Maryam Muduroglu are working with San Francisco Travel and other civic leaders to help organize an APEC Host Committee to prepare for the Summit and position the City for the opportunities it presents, including by hosting related events such as receptions for foreign leaders and officials, conference panels and other meetings for participants to discuss policy and trade; and

WHEREAS, The APEC Host Committee would operate as a nonprofit entity and fundraise from firms, foundations and other organizations that will participate in the APEC Summit or are otherwise APEC stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Mayor and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development both partner with organizations, including potential APEC stakeholders, often through grant agreements; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Mayor, the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and Chief of Protocol Maryam Muduroglu seek a waiver of the City’s Behested Payment Ordinance (Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code, Sections 3.600 et seq.) to
the extent it restricts the Mayor, Chief of Protocol Muduroglu and officers and employees of
the Office of the Mayor and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development from
soliciting financial support or in-kind goods or services, from persons or entities that would be
considered interested parties, for the APEC Host Committee or to otherwise support the
APEC Summit; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That under Section 3.620(f) of the Campaign and Governmental Conduct
Code, the Board of Supervisors hereby waives application of the Behested Payment
Ordinance as to the Mayor, Chief of Protocol Maryam Muduroglu and officers and employees
of the Office of the Mayor and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development so that
they may solicit donations from private organizations and philanthropists to support the APEC
Summit; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That granting this waiver serves the public interest by
promoting economic growth, innovation and tourism in San Francisco and strengthening the
connection between San Francisco and the Asia Pacific region; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That granting this waiver does not create an appearance of
impropriety.
Resolution authorizing the Office of the Mayor, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and Chief of Protocol to solicit donations from various private entities and organizations to support the City hosting the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit, notwithstanding the Behested Payment Ordinance.

May 24, 2023 Budget and Finance Committee - RECOMMENDED

June 06, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Safai, Stefani and Walton

Excused: 1 - Ronen

File No. 230507

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 6/6/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

London N. Breed
Mayor

Date Approved