Resolution urging the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) to develop and implement a plan to promote unobstructed pedestrian access for boarding public transit by eliminating parking in bus stops and making other necessary infrastructure improvements.

WHEREAS, There are approximately 3,000 bus stops in the City and County of San Francisco, and some bus stop curbs are painted red (prohibiting parking) while others are not painted red and allow vehicle parking in the bus stop, thereby obstructing pedestrian access to the bus and preventing buses from pulling into bus stops; and

WHEREAS, In July 2021, Marcel E. Moran, a Ph.D. Candidate at the University of California, Berkeley, published 'Are Shelters in Place? Mapping the Distribution of Transit Amenities via a Bus-Stop Census of San Francisco' in the Journal of Public Transportation, Volume 23, Number 3; the report was based on an in-person census of 2,964 San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) street-level bus stops across San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Moran’s study attempts to analyze two important empirical questions on what bus stop amenities -- such as places to sit, clear signage, shelters for inclement weather, and unobstructed curbs -- are present, and how are they distributed across systems, which may reveal neighborhood or route-specific disparities; and

WHEREAS, Moran’s study also found that census tracts with a higher than average share of white residents were more likely to feature clear curbs in comparison to tracts with higher than average populations of people of color; and

WHEREAS, Moran’s study also found that routes with the most frequent service, or shorter “headways” (10 minutes or less between arrivals), had the highest share of
unobstructed curbs (88%); in contrast, routes with the least frequent service (20 to 30 minutes
between bus arrivals or the longest headways) had the lowest percentage of stops with
unobstructed curbs (44%); and

WHEREAS, Moran also found that 32% of bus stops were obstructed by on-street
parking, meaning that there was not enough space for buses to pull up or riders to board
safely from the curb, which forces riders to step into the street to board, and often navigate
through parked cars; and

WHEREAS, Allowing parking in bus stops and failing to provide unobstructed access to
public transit undermine San Francisco’s transit-first policy, and pose particular hardship for
seniors and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, SFMTA is aware of Moran’s report with respect to parking in bus stops,
but has not developed a comprehensive plan to address this public access issue; now,
therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the SFMTA to promptly develop and
implement a plan to promote unobstructed Muni access, including painting bus stop curbs red
where parking is currently obstructing access, and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the SFMTA to consult
with vulnerable communities, including communities of color, people with disabilities, and
seniors, all of whom are disproportionately impacted, in developing its plan to ensure
unobstructed access to Muni vehicles; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the SFMTA should act with urgency in making bus stop
improvements to promote unobstructed Muni access; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the SFMTA should report back to the Board of
Supervisors within 90 days with data on the number of bus stops citywide where curbs are not
painted red and where there is unobstructed Muni access, the number by district, the history
regarding why parking is allowed in bus stops, and any plans or policies to make prompt improvements to promote unobstructed Muni access; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to the SFMTA and the SFMTA Board.
Resolution urging the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) to develop and implement a plan to promote unobstructed pedestrian access for boarding public transit by eliminating parking in bus stops and making other necessary infrastructure improvements.

November 30, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 11/30/2021 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