[Supporting the Establishment of an Urban Agriculture Program]

Resolution acknowledging receipt of the Office of the City Administrator's recommendations regarding the establishment of an Urban Agriculture Program; supporting the Recreation and Park Department as the location for the new Urban Agriculture Program to coordinate the City's urban agriculture activities; and setting reporting goals related to Urban Agriculture.

WHEREAS, Urban Agriculture provides multiple benefits to San Franciscans including connecting City residents to the broader food system, providing green space and recreation, saving public agencies money, providing ecological benefits and green infrastructure, building community, and offering food access, public health, and economic development potential; and

WHEREAS, At least seven City agencies currently provide funding for urban agriculture activities, and there has been no formal coordination among all of these agencies; and

WHEREAS, The intent of Ordinance No. 162-12 is to help bring to scale urban agriculture activities across the City by recognizing and maintaining the leadership of each agency in supporting the many established and new urban agriculture initiatives, while at the same time fostering enhanced inter-agency collaboration and providing more centrally coordinated institutional support to the urban agriculture community; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 162-12, passed by the Board of Supervisors on July 17, 2012, amended the San Francisco Administrative Code by adding Chapter 53, Sections 53.1 through 53.4 to establish an Urban Agriculture Program to oversee and coordinate all of the City's Urban Agriculture activities and adopt goals for the City related to Urban Agriculture; and

Supervisors Chiu, Campos, Mar
WHEREAS, Ordinance 162-12 directed the Office of the City Administrator to take the lead in developing an Urban Agriculture strategic planning process during the second half of 2012; and

WHEREAS, During its consideration of FY 2012-13 budget, the Board of Supervisors voted to provide the Office of the City Administrator with $120,000 for the purpose of implementing Ordinance 162-12, and that money has not yet been spent in FY 2012-13; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the City Administrator convened meetings of a working group comprised of representatives from several City departments and well as interested public stakeholders, hosted three community town halls, and conducted more than 25 individual interviews, and the Mayor’s Budget Office performed an in-depth survey of sources and uses of funds for urban agriculture purposes in all City departments; and

WHEREAS, On April 19, 2013, the City Administrator submitted recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the implementation of the Urban Agriculture Program, which included: (1) The Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Department of Public Health and Department of Environment should continue their leadership roles on urban agriculture; (2) The Recreation and Park Department should be the lead agency for the Urban Agriculture Program; and (3) San Francisco’s public spending on Urban Agriculture is significant, and should be used to leverage new private investment; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the City Administrator, Supervisor David Chiu and the Recreation and Park Department co-hosted an open house for the public on May 15, 2013 to present and discuss the Office of the City Administrator’s recommendations; and

WHEREAS, The Recreation and Park Department met with numerous community groups to solicit feedback on the recommendations, including the San Francisco Urban
Agriculture Alliance, the Park, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee, and the
SPUR Food Policy Committee, and has plans to continue its stakeholder outreach; and
WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors acknowledges the role of community groups in
promoting and utilizing Urban Agriculture and encourages future engagement between the
City and the community; and
WHEREAS, Ordinance 162-12 requires that the Board of Supervisors pass a resolution
approving of the Office of the City Administrator’s recommendations; and
RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby fully supports
recommendations 1 and 2 in the City Administrator’s Urban Agriculture memorandum of April
19, 2013 as outlined above, and it agrees with recommendation 3, that existing public funding
should be used to leverage new private funding for urban agriculture, but also hereby
emphasizes the importance of a continued role for public funding of urban agriculture within
the City; now, therefore, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby approves of the plan to
dedicate one full-time staff person to the coordination of the Urban Agriculture Program, which
accords with the original intent expressed in Ordinance 162-12, and the Board of Supervisors
requests that the unspent $120,000 in the FY 2012-13 budget be transferred from the Office
of the City Administrator to the Recreation and Park Department to fund this position for the
first year; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that the Recreation
and Park Department submit to the Board of Supervisors and make available to the public,
within six weeks of hiring the new full-time staff person (a) a first year work plan for the new
Urban Agriculture Program coordinator with measurable goals, timelines, and evaluation
metrics, and (b) an organizational chart or description detailing the reporting structure for the
new position, including how the Urban Agriculture Program will interact within the Recreation

Supervisor Chiu
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and Park Department, alongside the Community Gardens Program, and with other agencies; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that the Recreation and Park Department, in accordance with the requirements of Ordinance 162-12, shall submit the first urban agriculture annual report to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors no later than January 1, 2014; the report should include (a) a summary of key urban agriculture achievements, challenges, and indicators from the previous year, including an official accounting of all City funding for Urban Agriculture and an inventory of local resources and programs relevant to Urban Agriculture in San Francisco, and (b) data on the progress the City made in the prior year towards meeting each of the Urban Agriculture Program goals.
Resolution acknowledging receipt of the Office of the City Administrator's recommendations regarding the establishment of an Urban Agriculture Program; supporting the Recreation and Park Department as the location for the new Urban Agriculture Program to coordinate the City's urban agriculture activities; and setting reporting goals related to Urban Agriculture.

July 08, 2013 Land Use and Economic Development Committee - AMENDED

July 08, 2013 Land Use and Economic Development Committee - RECOMMENDED AS AMENDED

July 16, 2013 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Chiu, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang, Wiener and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 7/16/2013 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Date Approved: 7/25/2013