

1 [Refuse Rate Adjustment for Rate Years 2024 and 2025]

2

3 **Resolution Encouraging the Refuse Rate Administrator and the Refuse Rate**
4 **Board to Approve a Refuse Rate Adjustment for Rate Years 2024 and 2025 that**
5 **Helps San Francisco Advance Its Zero Waste and Related Climate Goals.**

6

7 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco (“the City”) adopted a
8 zero waste policy in 2002 upon the recommendation of the Commission on the
9 Environment (“the Commission”);

10 WHEREAS, To support this policy, the City has adopted interim targets to
11 reduce solid waste generation by 15 percent and disposal by 50 percent by 2030;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, These goals and related consumption-based emission targets
14 have been codified in Environment Code, Chapter 9, and comprise an integral part
15 of San Francisco’s 2021 Climate Action Plan; and

16 WHEREAS, The 2021 Climate Action Plan includes a suite of strategies and
17 actions for responsible production and consumption, and a related consumption-
18 based emissions inventory, to help achieve and monitor progress toward the City’s
19 2030 zero waste and related climate goals; and

20 WHEREAS, On February 7, 2023, the Commission approved the San
21 Francisco Environment Department’s (“the Department”) proposed budget for
22 fiscal year 2023-2024. This budget included the portion of the Department’s
23 budget and programs funded by the refuse rate-generated impound account, which
24 supports the Department’s work to advance the City’s 2030 zero waste and related
25 climate goals; and

26 WHEREAS, On June 7, 2022, San Francisco voters approved Proposition F,
27 which amended the Refuse Collection and Disposal Ordinance to include, in part, a
28 requirement that the Refuse Rate Administrator present refuse rate information to

1 the Commission at a public hearing, so that the Commission can offer input on the
2 refuse rate adjustment before the Refuse Rate Administrator proposes a rate
3 adjustment to the Refuse Rate Board. The Refuse Rate Board must ensure the rates
4 are just and reasonable, taking into account any applicable service standards and
5 environmental goals established by law; and

6 WHEREAS, On March 28, 2023, the Refuse Rate Administrator, Recology,
7 Inc., and the Environment Department presented on the proposed refuse rate
8 adjustment for refuse rate years 2024 and 2025. This presentation included
9 information on new Environment Department priorities and initiatives that will
10 advance San Francisco's zero waste and climate goals, including work funded by
11 the proposed refuse rate-funded impound budget; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the Commission on the Environment encourages the
13 Refuse Rate Administrator and the Refuse Rate Board to support a refuse rate
14 adjustment that clearly helps San Francisco advance its 2030 zero waste and
15 related climate goals; and, be it

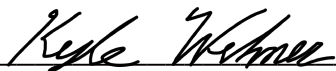
16 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Commission encourages the Refuse Rate
17 Administrator and the Refuse Rate Board to support a refuse rate adjustment that,
18 during refuse rate years 2024 and 2025, funds increased efforts to: (1) reduce
19 contamination in all three refuse streams, including improved collection route
20 monitoring and, after consulting with the City Attorney's Office to minimize the
21 City's liability and ensure the City's compliance with applicable data protection
22 laws, testing of collection truck cameras, reinstatement and analysis of
23 contamination charges, and pre-processing of organics testing and evaluation of
24 new technology to remove contamination before hauling to a composting facility;
25 (2) increase recovery through outreach to San Francisco residents and businesses,
26 including every resident at least every two years; (3) test and evaluate trash
27 processing to recover recyclables and compostables at a state-of-the-art regional
28 facility and develop a plan to expand trash processing in the subsequent refuse rate

1 period; and (4) establish a zero waste incentive system with annual recovery
2 targets to create performance incentives and rewards to support San Francisco’s
3 2030 zero waste goals; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission encourages the Refuse Rate
5 Administrator and the Refuse Rate Board to support continued refuse rate funding
6 of the impound account and secure additional funding sources as needed to meet
7 the Environment Department’s proposed impound budget and continue its work to
8 advance San Francisco’s zero waste and related climate goals and additional
9 related legislative mandates.

10 I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Commission on the
11 Environment at its meeting on May 23, 2023.

12

13 

14 Kyle Wehner, Commission Affairs Officer

15

16 Vote: Approved 5-0

17 Ayes: Commissioners Ahn, Wan, Hunter, Stephenson, and Sullivan

18 Noes:

19 Absent: Commissioner Bermejo