

1 [San Francisco Commission on the Environment Resolution on Ramaytush Ohlone Land  
2 Acknowledgement]

3

4 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Commission on the Environment (COE) acknowledges  
5 that the Ramaytush Ohlone are the original peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula; and

6 WHEREAS, The COE acknowledges that the area comprising the City and County of  
7 San Francisco was originally inhabited by the Yelamu, an independent tribe of the Ramaytush  
8 Ohlone peoples; and

9 WHEREAS, The COE acknowledges that the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone has  
10 actively worked to research, expand public awareness of, and preserve Ohlone history and  
11 culture; and

12 WHEREAS, The COE acknowledges that the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples have survived  
13 the brutalities of colonialism, enslavement, genocide, discrimination, racism, gender-based  
14 violence, theft, forced assimilation, and other atrocities driven by local, federal, and global  
15 governments; and

16 WHEREAS, The COE acknowledges that environmental degradation is caused by  
17 colonization, and that Ramaytush Ohlone peoples as original caretakers of Yelamu have  
18 maintained balance with nature for millennia; and

19 WHEREAS, The COE acknowledges that early environmentalists and conservationists  
20 were part of efforts to forcibly remove people, and deny indigenous wisdom, traditional  
21 ecological knowledge, and Indigenous practices, and rights to the land; and

22 WHEREAS, The COE acknowledges that Ramaytush Ohlone peoples are not a mythical  
23 population of the past, but an integral and active community in the present San Francisco Bay

1 Area region, and beyond, whose ongoing exclusion and invisibility denied the greater Native  
2 American community's inclusion and respect in San Francisco; and

3 WHEREAS, The COE acknowledges that the City and County of San Francisco was  
4 founded on unceded territory, and that the existence of the City and County on this land  
5 continues to contribute to the erasure and exclusion of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples; and

6 WHEREAS, To acknowledge the truth of the lands and peoples history is a human right  
7 and a demonstration of honor and respect for the contributions and sacrifices of the Ramaytush  
8 Ohlone ancestors that inhabit and care for this land before us; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, From this date forward, the San Francisco Commission on the  
10 Environment will state the following land acknowledgement at the beginning of each  
11 Commission meeting:

12 The Commission on the Environment acknowledges that we occupy the unceded ancestral  
13 homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, who are the original inhabitants of the San  
14 Francisco Peninsula. We recognize that the Ramaytush Ohlone understand the  
15 interconnectedness of all things and have maintained harmony with nature for millennia. We  
16 honor the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples for their enduring commitment to *wahrep*, mother earth.  
17 As the indigenous protectors of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush  
18 Ohlone have never ceded, lost, nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place,  
19 as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. We recognize that we benefit  
20 from living and working on their traditional homeland. As uninvited guests, we affirm their  
21 sovereign rights as First Peoples and wish to pay our respects to the Ancestors, Elders and  
22 Relatives of the Ramaytush Community. As environmentalists, we recognize that we must  
23 embrace indigenous knowledge in how we care for San Francisco and all its people; and, be it



- 1 Vote: 7-0 Approved
- 2 Ayes: Commissioners Ahn, Bermejo, Chu, Stephenson, Sullivan, Wald, and Wan
- 3 Noes: None
- 4 Absent: None