Resolution in support of the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan.

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors formed the Urban Forestry Council to protect the community interest and ensure that San Francisco realizes the full range of tree benefits, and to guide the stewardship of San Francisco’s trees by promoting a healthy and sustainable urban forest that benefits all San Franciscans while ensuring public health and safety; and,

WHEREAS, the Urban Forestry Council’s 2019 strategic plan articulates a goal to develop policy recommendations related to climate change; and

WHEREAS, according to a May 2021 analysis by the Scripps Institution for Oceanography and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the global atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration has once again broken recent records, reaching a total of 419 parts per million, a level not seen on the planet for four million years; and,

WHEREAS, recent California Executive Orders (B-55-18 in 2018, N-19-19 in 2019 and N-82-20 in 2020) mandate bold action to decrease carbon emissions and restore ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan acts on the extreme sense of urgency shared at all levels of human society, articulated at the international level by the IPCC and IPBES reports, and by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors “Declaring a Climate Emergency in San Francisco” Resolution No. 160-19; and,
WHEREAS, the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan brings San Francisco into compliance with the UN Paris Climate Accords; and,

WHEREAS, research by the Nature Conservancy and other organizations found that nature-based solutions can provide 37% of the global CO2 mitigation that is needed through 2030; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan includes robust strategies and actions that the Urban Forestry Council has long recommended, including increasing the urban forest cover by 30,000 trees and establishing long term funding for urban greening; and,

WHEREAS, tree planting and greening strategies outlined in the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan can provide, in addition to carbon sequestration and increased biodiversity, numerous direct resilience benefits for urban residents, including beauty, cooling, air quality, stormwater management, and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan aligns with increased investment at the state and federal level in climate change solutions in the urban setting; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Forestry Council passed a resolution in December 2019 supporting the federal Climate Stewardship Act, significant elements of which have been incorporated into the Biden Administration’s proposals for massive investment in climate change mitigation and infrastructure solutions; and,

WHEREAS, the 2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan could take advantage of funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Build Back Better Act which, together, would provide unprecedented federal investment in urban forests
and climate mitigation solutions that generate jobs in disadvantaged urban
communities; and, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Urban Forestry Council endorses the 2021
San Francisco Climate Action Plan in its entirety, including the Healthy Ecosystems
chapter of the Plan that includes 32 greening and urban forestry actions; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Urban Forestry Council urges
the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the Mayor of San Francisco to provide
appropriate legislation and funding to ensure the full successful implementation of the
2021 San Francisco Climate Action Plan.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted at the Urban Forestry Council at
its Regular Meeting on December 10, 2021.

Peter Brastow, Urban Forestry Coordinator

Andrew Sullivan, Chair

Vote: 12-0
Ayes: Vice Chair Crawford, Member Vaisset-Fauvel, Member Lacan, Member Polony,
Member Nagle, Member Xochitl-Flores, Member Sullivan, Member Stringer,
Member Spigelman, Member Potter, Member Trang, Member Keller
Noes: None
Absent: Member Hernandez-Gomez, Chair Sullivan