Resolution prioritizing three key Urban Environmental Accords actions for adoption by
the Commission on the Environment for the Commission and Department of the
Environment to work on for Calendar Year 2007.

WHEREAS, In 1945 the leaders of 50 nations gathered in San Francisco to develop
and sign the Charter of the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco was chosen by the United Nations to host UN
World Environment Day 2005 during the historic 60th anniversary of the United Nations, and

WHEREAS, San Francisco sponsored a week long celebration with over 350
community-based environmental events for United Nations World Environment Day that was
attended by Mayors from around the globe, and

WHEREAS, Every day of the World Environment Day week, the participating mayors
met in Urban Environmental Accords sessions to share solutions to the challenges common to
all mayors, discussing experiences and offering solutions to ensuring safe and clean energy,
water, air, food, homes, and public spaces for our citizens, and

WHEREAS, Mayors acknowledged the importance of the obligations and spirit of the
1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the 1992 Rio Earth Summit
(UNCED), the 1996 Istanbul Conference on Human Settlements, the 2000 Millennium
Summit, and the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, and

WHEREAS, Mayor Newsom initiated and signed the Urban Environmental Accords,
recognizing that for the first time in history, a majority of the world’s population lives in cities,
and Mayors and local policymakers have a unique opportunity to provide leadership in
advancing sustainability, fostering vibrant economies, promoting social equity, and protecting
the planet’s natural systems, and
WHEREAS, Under the leadership of San Francisco, 100 Mayors and Cities around the world signed onto and began implementation of the Urban Environmental Accords, and

WHEREAS, The Accords state that between 2005 and 2012, cities should attempt to implement as many of the 21 Accords as possible, with each city adopting three Accords every year with progress recognized through a City Green Star Program - with 4 stars being the objective, and

WHEREAS, The Commission on the Environment’s Policy Committee held a public hearing on Monday, February 12, 2007, to hear input from the public on which Urban Environmental Accords should be prioritized for the Commission and Department of the Environment to work on for calendar year 2007; and

WHEREAS, at that hearing The Commission’s Policy Committee and the Department of the Environment considered all Accords in the context of the following criteria (1) political opportunities to move issues forward in the coming year, (2) available budget and human resources for implementation, (3) current national and regional impact, (4) public visibility aspects, (5) issues that would bring together different coalitions effectively, (6) something measurable that can be completed in a year, and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee and staff reviewed progress made towards all accords and identified three key Urban Environmental Accords actions for adoption by the Commission on the Environment; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on the Environment at its March 27, 2007 Commission meeting considered and adopted the following three key Urban Environmental Accords actions for adoption to work on for calendar year 2007 based on the Commission’s Policy Committee’s recommendations:

**Action 5: Waste Reduction: Adopt a citywide law that reduces the use of a disposable, toxic, or nonrenewable product category by at least fifty percent in seven years.**
Action 8: Urban Design: Adopt urban planning principles and practices that advance higher density, mixed use, walkable, bikeable and disabled-accessible neighborhoods which coordinate land use and transportation with open space systems for recreation and ecological restoration.

Action 15: Transportation. Implement a policy to reduce the percentage of commute trips by single occupancy vehicles by ten percent in seven years.


I hereby certify that this Resolution was approved at the Commission on the Environment’s Meeting on March 27, 2007.

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Monica Fish
Monica Fish, Commission Secretary

VOTE:    Adopted (4-0) (1 Absent)

Ayes:    Commissioners Pelosi Jr, Gravanis, King and Mok
Noes:    None
Absent:  Commissioner Wald