

1 **[Free MUNI for Youth]**

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3 **Resolution urging government agencies to work together to develop a free MUNI Fast**
4 **Pass for San Francisco youth.**

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6 WHEREAS thousands of youth rely on MUNI to get to school, work, internships, and
7 after-school programs; and

8 WHEREAS, Youth, families and community organizations across San Francisco are
9 increasingly concerned with rising transit costs and a deepening economic crisis; and

10 WHEREAS, The SFMTA increased the cost of the Youth Fast Pass by 110 percent
11 between July 2009 and July 2011, from \$10 to \$21; and

12 WHEREAS, Recognizing the financial burden this placed on families, the Youth
13 Commission passed Resolution No. 09-10-AL08 on February 1, 2010 and the Board of
14 Supervisors passed Resolution No. 100408 (introduced by Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi) on
15 April 6, 2010 urging the SFMTA to create a Youth Lifeline pass, a discount Youth Fast Pass
16 for low-income youth in San Francisco’s public school system; and

17 WHEREAS, the SFMTA Board of Directors allocated \$1.4 million annually in its two-
18 year budget for FY 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 to sell 12,000 discounted youth passes to low-
19 income youth; and

20 WHEREAS, In March 2011, the Board of Supervisors encouraged and the SFMTA
21 Board of Directors authorized the distribution of the Youth Lifeline pass free-of-charge during
22 the last three months of FY 2010-2011 given administrative barriers to taking payment for
23 discounted passes; and

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FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO.

1 WHEREAS, The SFUSD successfully distributed 12,000 Youth Lifeline passes to low-
2 income youth free-of-charge during April, May and June 2011 with the coordinated outreach
3 efforts of dozens of community groups across San Francisco; and

4 WHEREAS, The demand for the Youth Lifeline pass far exceeded the limited supply;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Administrative challenges to selling the Youth Lifeline pass as a
7 discounted pass continue to exist; and

8 WHEREAS, In December 2010, the Board of Education approved a three-year plan to
9 reduce SFUSD's 44 school buses serving 59 elementary and middle schools to 25 school
10 buses, starting in August 2011, to address state budget cuts; and

11 WHEREAS, Thousands of elementary school and middle school students will now
12 have to find their own way to travel to school; and

13 WHEREAS, Youth, families and community groups have been urging City officials to
14 develop a Fast Pass free-of-charge to all San Francisco youth in order to alleviate the
15 economic burden of high transit costs on families; help children get to school and access
16 afterschool programs; build a new generation of transit riders that will sustain the system
17 long-term; and reduce carbon emissions by helping families choose environmentally-friendly
18 transit options; and

19 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Youth Commission unanimously passed Resolution
20 1112-AL-01 on September 19, 2011 urging various City agencies to work together to create a
21 plan to make MUNI free for young San Franciscans; and

22 WHEREAS, The Budget and Legislative Analyst studied the cost-benefits of providing
23 access to Muni free-of-charge by San Francisco youth, and estimates a 4.6 percent increase
24 in overall Muni ridership and a cost of \$6.4 million in lost fare revenues, and \$900,000 in
25 Clipper fees, maintenance and operations costs; and

FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO.

1 WHEREAS, Families, youth, community groups and members of the Board of
2 Supervisors are exploring a three-year pilot program funded through a multi-agency effort,
3 using a combination of efficiencies in MUNI, contributions from several different agencies,
4 and private funds; and

5 WHEREAS, The SFMTA has the opportunity to increase agency efficiencies to invest
6 in the pilot, as well as service improvements for all transit riders. Efficiencies include curbing
7 overtime (SFMTA exceeded its original overtime budget by \$18 million in FY 10-11, and runs
8 more overtime than any other City department); reducing its work orders to other departments
9 (totaling \$66 million in FY 10-11); and implementing the Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP);
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The pilot would help City agencies understand youth ridership patterns
12 and where additional resources need to be invested, while developing a long-term,
13 sustainable source of funding; now, therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
15 urges the SFMTA, SFUSD, the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA), and
16 the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to work collaboratively with community
17 groups to design, secure funding for and launch a program with a clear timeline that provides
18 access to Muni free-of-charge to San Francisco youth; and, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
20 urges the SFMTA to increase agency efficiencies to invest in youth riders and overall service
21 improvements by curbing overtime, increasing work order accountability and implementing
22 the Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP); and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board
24 of Supervisors send a copy of this resolution to Mayor Ed Lee, SFMTA Director Ed Reiskin,
25 the SFMTA Board of Directors, SFUSD Superintendent Carlos Garcia, the San Francisco

FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO.

1 Board of Education, SFCTA Director Jose Luis Moscovitch, and MTC Director Steve
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