[Encouraging Adoption of a Goal of 20 Percent of Trips by Bicycle by 2020]

Resolution encouraging departments and agencies of the City and County of San Francisco to adopt a goal of 20 percent of trips by bicycle by 2020.

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Charter’s voter-approved Transit-First policy establishes in Section 8A.115 that “Bicycling shall be promoted by encouraging safe streets for riding, convenient access to transit, bicycle lanes, and secure bicycle parking;” and,

WHEREAS, The number of trips taken by people on bicycle, also called the mode share, was 6 percent in San Francisco in 2008, according to the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) survey; and

WHEREAS, Bicycling in San Francisco increased by 53 percent between 2006 and 2009, even while physical improvements to the city’s bicycling infrastructure were halted by a lawsuit and court injunction; and

WHEREAS, According to a 2009 survey, 7 in 10 San Franciscans say they have ridden a bicycle in the past year, and 1 in 4 say they bicycle at least twice a week; and

WHEREAS, While San Francisco is one of the leading cities for bicycling in the United States, some European cities have achieved a bicycle mode share of close to 40 percent of total trips by significantly investing in an integrated, multi-modal transportation systems that includes separated network of bicycle roadways, bicycle parking, bicycle safety, bicycle theft prevention, and bicycle education; and

WHEREAS, The experiences of other American and European cities have demonstrated that investing in bicycling infrastructure is one of the most cost-effective ways to provide for an urban transportation system, and that increased levels of bicycling and walking drives significant business to merchant corridors and local shops; and
WHEREAS, Growing the number of bicycle trips in San Francisco will require significant steps to make bicycling more attractive, safe and convenient for people of all ages; and

WHEREAS, In addition to improving the health of bicyclists, increasing the number of bicyclists also helps transit riders and drivers of private automobiles by reducing congestion on San Francisco’s already clogged streets; and

WHEREAS, Myriad agencies both within and outside of the structure of the government of the City and County of San Francisco are tasked with planning for and implementing transportation improvements in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Municipal Transportation Agency is completing an update to its Climate Action Plan and embarking on an update to its Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco County Transportation Authority has begun an extensive effort to update the San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP), with a final document expected in early 2012; and

WHEREAS, The effort to dramatically increase bicycling in San Francisco will require significant new funding, a concerted effort from all relevant government agencies and leadership and collaboration by elected officials to engage San Francisco residents and partners such as the business and education communities; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors encourages departments and agencies of the City and County of San Francisco to adopt a goal of 20 percent of trips by bicycle by 2020.