Resolution in Support of Resolving Projected Transportation and Parking Issues at San Francisco General Hospital

WHEREAS, San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, as one of the nation’s leading public hospitals, has continuously provided a wide range of ambulatory and acute care services to San Francisco residents for more than one hundred years;

WHEREAS, to meet the challenges of ensuring that DPH can continue serving its client populations under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the highly competitive environment it has created the DPH established the San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) – a complete care system including primary care, emergency and trauma treatment, medical and surgical specialties, diagnostic testing, skilled nursing and rehabilitation services, and behavioral health services;

WHEREAS, the rebuild of San Francisco General Hospital will be completed in 2015 and the San Francisco Department of Public Health desires to take the opportunity to plan for the re-use of the existing hospital space that supports greater integration of DPH services;

WHEREAS, the expansion of Department of Public Health programs at SFGH, which may include outpatient dialysis services and the Public Health Laboratory, will be of great benefit to the communities served by DPH and be aligned with our goals of service excellence;

WHEREAS, these potential changes will result in significant new demands for parking by patients, staff and visitors. There will be increased patient visits for dialysis and other relocated clinics, relocated staff from relocated clinics, and additional staff for the new hospital building;

WHEREAS, SFGH and UCSF have been partners in public health since 1873, collaborating on care, research and education.

WHEREAS, faculty, staff and students from UCSF’s four schools – medicine, dentistry, nursing and pharmacy – work collaboratively with DPH staff at SFGH to provide care and conduct cutting-edge research based on the needs of the SFGH patient population.

WHEREAS, UCSF and SFGH together attract physician scientists committed to medical advancement, and because of the emphasis on teaching and research, the care provided at SFGH is often translated into improved health practices, protocols and policies that are adopted not only at SFGH, but also throughout the world.

WHEREAS, staff from DPH and UCSF are working collaboratively on a potential project comprised of the development by UCSF of a new state of the art research facility that would
consolidate SFGH campus research centers and labs and which, if approved following environmental review, could result in the displacement of over 130 parking spaces presently used for short-term parking by patients and visitors, and create a demand for an additional 72 spaces to accommodate increased UC staff that will work in the research building;

WHEREAS, existing parking capacity does not meet demand, as measured by a two-year waiting list for employee parking permits for the SFGH garage;

WHEREAS, SFGH is committed to a continuous effort to establish the most robust alternative transportation alternatives for all staff working at SFGH through its Transportation Demand Management Program which includes operation of a shuttle service and inclusion of bike racks on campus;

WHEREAS, it is projected that by 2020, even with a robust Transportation Demand Management Program, the parking deficit at SFGH will be 551 spaces and post-2020 increases to 921 spaces;

WHEREAS, adequate, accessible and affordable parking capacity is a patient satisfaction and retention issue for DPH patients, especially those who are chronically ill, and their families.

WHEREAS, adequate, accessible and affordable parking capacity is critical to clinical staff recruitment and retention efforts, especially in the current competitive local economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Department of Public Health Commission strongly encourages the SFMTA Board of Directors to have SFMTA staff work collaboratively with DPH staff to identify transportation and parking solutions, including expansion of the SFGH Garage, to enable patients, visitors and staff to reasonably access the San Francisco General Hospital Campus in light of the loss of parking spaces and the projected increase in individuals needing access to the hospital campus.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of February 17, 2015 adopted the foregoing resolution.

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Mark Morewitz
Executive Secretary to the Health Commission