April 11, 2011

At the April 11, 2011 Small Business Commission meeting, the following findings and resolution were adopted:

FILE NO. R-2011-001-SBC
DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. 001-11-SBC

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES DISPLACED BY THE AMERICA’S CUP RACING EVENT AND FACILITIES

WHEREAS, The America’s Cup race event is an important and prestigious sporting event that will have importance to the local economy, create jobs, and will bring positive changes to the San Francisco waterfront;

WHEREAS, An unintended consequence of the construction of race facilities will be the displacement of a number of San Francisco small businesses;

WHEREAS, Many of these affected small businesses are cherished by San Francisco residents and visitors alike, are destination businesses, and contribute to the character and vitality of the city;

WHEREAS, The Small Business Commission recognizes that the displacement of many of these businesses may be a necessary consequence in order to hold this international event;

WHEREAS, When relocating, businesses will face significant up front permit, entitlement and impact fee costs, including fees charged by the Planning Department, Department of Building Inspection, Department of Public Works, SFMTA, Public Utilities Commission and other City departments;

WHEREAS, The Office of Economic and Work Force Development and the Port of San Francisco have dedicated staff, including appointing dedicated point persons, to work with the Americas Cup Event Authority in producing this event;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The Small Business Commission requests that the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, the Port of San Francisco, and the Americas Cup Event Authority take efforts to minimize the number of small businesses affected by the America’s Cup Event;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, The Small Business Commission requests that the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Port of San Francisco provide dedicated resources to assist affected businesses;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, The Small Business Commission requests that the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, Port of San Francisco, and other City Departments assist affected businesses in relocating new locations and negotiating leases, including special assistance for businesses have business models that require a location on or near the waterfront;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, The Small Business Commission requests that the Planning Department, Department of Building Inspection, Port of San Francisco, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and other City Departments provide prioritized and streamlined permitting and entitlements in order to efficiently allow affected businesses to relocate to their new locations;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, The Small Business Commission requests that City departments waive, or the Americas Cup Event Authority be responsible for, all permit, entitlement, impact and other related fees and costs associated with the forced relocation of businesses;