

1 [San Francisco Commission on the Environment Resolution Adopting a Reduced Risk Pesticide  
2 List (RRPL) for 2021]

3 WHEREAS, Chapter 3, Section 303(e) of the San Francisco Environment Code allows  
4 the Commission on the Environment to exempt “reduced-risk” pesticide products from the  
5 pesticide ban imposed by the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Ordinance upon a finding that  
6 the “reduced-risk” pesticide is commonly used as part of an IPM strategy; and,

7 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment annually performs an extensive  
8 evaluation of pesticide products that may qualify as “reduced-risk” pesticides in consultation  
9 with members of the public, scientists, and departments and agencies of the City and County of  
10 San Francisco; and,

11 WHEREAS, Public concern over the use of certain herbicides has strengthened the  
12 Department’s focus on identifying the safest alternatives for weed control; and,

13 WHEREAS, Since 2016 the Commission on the Environment has approved additional  
14 herbicide restrictions aimed at reducing the use of higher-hazard herbicide products; and,

15 WHEREAS, City departments involved with the citywide IPM Program have  
16 substantially reduced the use of certain herbicides as a direct result of the herbicide restrictions,  
17 including a 98.4% reduction in glyphosate (Roundup®) use and a 96.8% reduction in “most  
18 hazardous” herbicide use in the City since 2010; and,

19 WHEREAS, These City departments have also hired new staff, undertaken numerous  
20 pilot studies, and organized staff trainings aimed at pursuing the safest weed control practices;  
21 and,

22 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment continues to work closely with City  
23 departments to strengthen the implementation of the herbicide restrictions; and,

1 WHEREAS, The Commission on the Environment is strongly committed to the  
2 community’s right to know about potential hazards, as articulated in the Precautionary Principle  
3 Ordinance; and,

4 WHEREAS, The Commission on the Environment is strongly committed to promoting  
5 pest management practices that are both effective and the safest available for City workers, the  
6 environment, and the general public; and,

7 WHEREAS, The Department of the Environment has developed and recommends the  
8 attached revised RRPL, for adoption by the Commission; now therefore be it,

9 RESOLVED, That the Commission on the Environment finds that the pesticide products  
10 on the revised RRPL are “reduced-risk” pesticides commonly used as part of IPM strategy, and  
11 are therefore exempt from the ban imposed by Section 302 of the Environment Code; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission on the Environment requests that the  
13 Department of the Environment continue to explore with other City departments opportunities  
14 for no-pesticide and reduced risk alternatives on public properties, and periodically report on its  
15 progress to the Policy Committee.

16 I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Commission on the Environment  
17 at its meeting on September 28, 2021.

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20 Katie Chansler, Commission Secretary

21 Vote: 7–0 Approved

22 Ayes: Commissioners Stephenson, Ahn, Bermejo, Hunter, Sullivan, Wald, and Wan

23 Noes: None

24 Absent: None