

1 **[Resolution Endorsing the Green Connections Plan]**

2 Urban Forestry Council Resolution endorsing the Green Connections Plan and  
3 implementation of the Green Connections Network.

4 WHEREAS, The Green Connections project aims to make the City more healthy,  
5 sustainable, and livable through features such as street trees and other landscaping, storm  
6 water management, and opportunities for beautification and community stewardship,  
7 with the goal of increasing access to parks, open spaces, and the waterfront through  
8 creation of a network of “green connections”. The Green Connection network will be  
9 implemented incrementally over the next 20 years to make it safer and more pleasant  
10 to travel to parks by walking, biking, and other forms of active transportation; and,

11 WHEREAS, The Green Connections Plan highlights the need to increase urban  
12 street tree canopy and the benefits that street trees provide; and,

13 WHEREAS, The Green Connections Plan strives to support local wildlife by  
14 creating habitat-supportive streetscapes that enhance the city’s ecological function; and,

15 WHEREAS, The Green Connections Plan builds on and supports several City  
16 efforts related to street design, including the 2014 Draft Urban Forest Plan, the  
17 Recreation and Open Space Element, the Better Streets Plan, and the Green  
18 Landscaping Ordinance; and,

19 WHEREAS, The Urban Forestry Council endorsed the 2014 Draft Urban Forest  
20 Plan in UFC Resolution No. 001-14-UFC, finding that the Draft UF Plan helps  
21 maximize the benefits of urban trees and supporting the Draft UF Plan goal of  
22 increasing street tree canopy, which is consistent with the Green Connections Plan;  
23 and,

24 WHEREAS, The Urban Forestry Council endorsed the Recreation and Open  
25 Space Element in UFC Resolution No. 008-11-UFC, finding that the ROSE supports the

1 long term health and sustainability of the urban forest and helps the City achieve the  
2 best benefits from open space assets; and,

3 WHEREAS, The Better Street Plan identifies that that streets comprise  
4 approximately 25% of San Francisco’s total land area and that trees are the most  
5 important element of the street environment and should be included in design of  
6 completed streets; and,

7 WHEREAS, The Green Connection Plan provides valuable and practical  
8 resources that highlight the value and importance of street trees, including the Design  
9 Toolkit, the Community Resource List, the Ecology Guides, and the forthcoming SF  
10 Plant Finder, which is a searchable online database of climate appropriate plants that  
11 will incorporate the Urban Forestry Council’s list of Recommended Street Trees,  
12 therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Urban Forestry Council endorses the Green Connections  
14 Plan; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Urban Forestry Council recognizes the vital  
16 role of green infrastructure in the public right of way; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Urban Forestry Council supports the full  
18 implementation of the Green Connections Network, including building at minimum  
19 twelve demonstration-level projects (\$110M estimated cost) over the next twenty years;  
20 and be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Urban Forestry Council urges departments to  
22 collaborate to implement the Green Connections Network, which includes coordination  
23 with City streetscape, traffic calming, and stormwater projects to ensure they support  
24 Green Connections’ goals(\$58M estimated cost to enhance ongoing projects to add  
25 minimum level Green Connections greening and streetscape elements); and be it.

1           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Urban Forestry Council urges the City to  
2 identify both public and private funding and other resources to implement the Green  
3 Connections Network.

4           I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted at the Urban Forestry Council's  
5 Regular Meeting on March 28, 2014.

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7 Monica Fish, Council Secretary

Dan Flanagan, Council Chair

8 VOTE: Approved 8-0; 2 Absent; 1 Vacant

9 Ayes: Members Flanagan, Hillan, Hillson, Kida, Most, Short, Sullivan and Swae

10 Noes: None

11 Absent: Members Leffingwell and Sherwin

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