[National Park Service - Cease Efforts to Locate Alcatraz Ferry Service at Fort Mason Piers]

Resolution urging the National Park Service to abandon plans to locate Alcatraz Ferry Service at Fort Mason Piers and to focus their efforts on working with the Port of San Francisco to continue service at the Port.

WHEREAS, The National Park Service (NPS) began a public scoping and planning process in June of 2012 to establish a long-term ferry embarkation site for passenger service between the San Francisco waterfront and Alcatraz Island; and

WHEREAS, The Alcatraz Ferry Embarkation Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will also evaluate a ferry connection from the San Francisco embarkation site to existing piers in Sausalito and/or Fort Baker; and

WHEREAS, NPS is evaluating potential sites at Fort Mason Piers and three sites at the Port of San Francisco – Piers 31 ½, Pier 41 and Pier 45; and

WHEREAS, According to the NPS' Notice of Intent to Prepare and EIS, over 1.4 million people visit Alcatraz Island annually from the existing ferry embarkations site at Pier 31 and 33 in San Francisco at Fisherman's Wharf; and

WHEREAS, Fisherman's Wharf is a bustling commercial district with restaurants, gift shops, over 3000 hotel rooms and other tourist attractions well served by public transportation; and

WHEREAS, Contrast that to Fort Mason in the Marina – a predominantly residential neighborhood with a population of 23,000 residents, NPS is looking at a very different landscape that what is currently in place at Fisherman's Wharf; and

WHEREAS, Linking the embarkation location of the Alcatraz Ferry service to the closest possible proximity to the center of Fisherman's Wharf will serve to continue the

symbiotic relationship the district has enjoyed with the NPS for years by providing a convenient link for the end customer to the hotels, restaurants, shops, mass transit and parking facilities that drive volume to Alcatraz and make a well-rounded experience for visitors.

WHEREAS, The Fort Mason location would require shuttle busses to take people from Jones Street to Fort Mason which will increase large vehicle traffic on streets already impacted with Golden Gate Transit, Sightseeing Tour Busses and MTA busses.

WHEREAS, Fort Mason also pales in comparison to the public transportation options offered at Fisherman's Wharf – one of the City's most popular tourist destinations; and

WHEREAS, Adding the potential of 5,000 visitors per day or 35,000 visitors per week will more than double the population of the Marina and create adverse impacts on parking and traffic in an already congested area; and

WHEREAS, This number does not take into account how many visitors would increase if ferry service was established between Sausalito and Fort Baker in addition to Alcatraz Ferry Service; and

WHEREAS, If Fort Mason is selected as the best alternative site, this could mean an addition of 1.5 million people annually coming through the Marina neighborhood looking for parking, creating traffic and a likely increase in tour bus activity; and

WHEREAS, In addition to a ferry embarkation point, NPS' desire to create an on-land experience with a visitor center, store and/or museum will also increase the expected impacts; and

WHEREAS, Based on the Draft EIS the NPS published for the F-Line Extension, we already know that traffic impacts will be long-term and adverse in this area as it stated, "The [traffic] effect could be adverse if large numbers of people search parking at the marina, creating traffic congestion at local intersections"; and

WHEREAS, Drastically altering a residential neighborhood and the businesses already established at Fort Mason is rather bold, especially considering that the Fort Mason Center and the Fort Mason Merchants group does not believe it's a feasible alternative due to compatibility of use and the glaring absence of public transportation to the site; and

WHEREAS, There are currently 4,297 parking lot spaces with walking distances of Piers 31-45 but only 738 near the Fort Mason piers; and

WHEREAS, The Marina Green is already at capacity on the weekends due to children's athletic leagues such as soccer and various festivals that are permitted through the Recreation and Park Department; now, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the National Park Service to abandon plans to locate Alcatraz Ferry Service at Fort Mason Piers and to focus their efforts on working with the Port of San Francisco to continue service at the Port.



## City and County of San Francisco **Tails**

## City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Resolution

File Number:

121131

Date Passed: December 04, 2012

Resolution urging the National Park Service to abandon plans to locate Alcatraz Ferry Service at Fort Mason Piers and to focus their efforts on working with the Port of San Francisco to continue service at the Port.

December 04, 2012 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Elsbernd, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Olague and Wiener

File No. 121131

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 12/4/2012 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

12/14/12

Mayor

**Date Approved** 

Date: December 14, 2012

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

File No. 121131