[Public Defender's "MAGIC" (Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities) Programs in the Bayview and Fillmore/Western Addition Neighborhoods]

Resolution authorizing the Public Defender's "MAGIC" (Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities) Programs in the Bayview and Fillmore/Western Addition Neighborhoods, and expressing the Board of Supervisors' continued support for those programs.

WHEREAS, The Public Defender's Office, under the leadership of Jeff Adachi, recognized a need to focus on youth and community building in order to prevent young people from being clients of the Public Defender; and

WHEREAS, Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities program ("MAGIC") was therefore co-founded in 2004 by the Public Defender's Office and leaders of Bayview Hunters Point community-based organizations ("CBOs") to address and improve the quality of life of Bayview Hunters Point children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, In 2006 MAGIC expanded to serve the Fillmore District and Western Addition communities, forming Mo'MAGIC, with B'MAGIC serving Bayview-Hunters Point (together, the "MAGIC Programs"); and

WHEREAS, San Francisco communities like the Bayview and Fillmore/Western Addition, historically Black neighborhoods, have experienced massive outmigration, sometimes leaving behind those most vulnerable and disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs' current target populations are children, young people up to age 24, and their families, with a particular prioritization on the Black community and low-income families; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs partner with CBOs to work to reduce juvenile contact with the juvenile and criminal justice system and develop community resources; and

WHEREAS, Following a collective impact model, the MAGIC Programs operate as "backbone support organization[s]," identifying gaps in the system and empowering community partners to address their needs; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs' network is not only comprised of local CBOs but also representatives from schools, District Supervisor offices, City departments, faith-based organizations, neighborhood associations, and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, Beyond resource matching and assistance, the MAGIC Programs successfully facilitate conversation and collaboration amongst service providers, youth and their families, and community residents; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs bring together service providers to plan year-round events with the goals of building strong community bonds, disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline and decreasing violence in the community; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs expand their reach and bolster their ties in the community and together work with over 60 CBOs and serve over 6,000 children, youth, and their families annually; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs have created significant and lasting opportunities for youth to grow, thrive, and succeed by holding trainings and workshops alongside community building events and resource sharing programs like resource guides, backpack giveaway events; literacy-based programs and events, and youth development programs; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs work to build the service capacity of CBOs, schools, parents and guardians, and youth through resource mobilization, building social capital, and facilitating community building opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Many of these communities served by the MAGIC Programs, particularly Bayview Hunters Point, have a disproportionate number of youths who are held within San Francisco's juvenile detention facility; and

WHEREAS, According to Our Children Our Families, Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) referrals in San Francisco are disproportionately higher among Black and Latinx youth; and

WHEREAS, According to JPD, in 2018, although less than 6% of San Franciscans were Black, Black youth made up 55% of all JPD referrals, and although 15% of San Francisco youth are Latinx, Latinx youth made up 28% of all JPD referrals; and

WHEREAS, According to the 2020 JPD Annual Report, approximately 17% of youth referrals were from Bayview Hunters Point and approximately 9% from Western Addition, most of the referrals were from Bayview Hunters Point; and

WHEREAS, According to the 2020 JPD Annual Report, approximately 57% of referrals were AA/Black and 28% Latinx; and

WHEREAS, The community engagement work that the MAGIC Programs conduct as community conveners is an essential counterpart to the work done by the Public Defender's Office and has helped contribute to taking the office beyond a courtroom advocate to a community partner in the fight for juvenile justice; and

WHEREAS, This kind of prevention work is critical in conjunction with the juvenile justice work done by the Public Defender's Office because it is disrupting the systems of inequality and barriers that keep young people from becoming thriving adults; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that early prevention work helps to close the school-toprison pipeline and research from the Justice Policy Institute has shown that effective community-based programming can reduce recidivism by up to 22%, keeping youth and communities safer; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs' work, in partnership with CBOs, leads to diminishing youth interaction with the juvenile justice system; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs' work has been recognized by the Brennan Center for Justice as a best practice in modeling community partnership to address systemic problems; and

WHEREAS, While MAGIC was co-founded in partnership with CBOs, the MAGIC Programs are exclusively run and operated by the Public Defender's Office; and

WHEREAS, Each MAGIC program has three dedicated permanent full-time staff members made up of a Director, Program Coordinator and Program & Outreach Assistant; and

WHEREAS, All six staff members are City and County employees under the Office of the Public Defender, members of the SEIU 1021 Union, and working for the City while working on the Magic Programs; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs have accomplished extensive feats since their inception, including: facilitating over 600 cross-organization meetings focused on violence prevention, workforce development, education and health, distributing culturally relevant books to over 6,000 pre-K to 2nd grade students, and providing essential education tools such as backpacks and school supplies to over 45,000 k-12 grade students; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs pilot and create youth leadership and development opportunities such as Bayview Youth Summit, Community Safety Initiatives, and the Mentor Series which is now adopted under the City's Opportunities for All program; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs, as a unique blend of community and Public Defender's Office-level advocacy, have been successful in creating platforms for collaboration amongst youth networks as well as addressing service gaps and needs in the neighborhoods they serve; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, MAGIC Programs provide critical resources to community members such as job and internship opportunities, community-based training workshops, and educational field trips; and

WHEREAS, The MAGIC Programs are critical to supporting and empowering the Bayview Hunters Point and Fillmore/Western Addition communities; and

WHEREAS, Charter, Section 1.101 provides that all rights and powers of the City and County that are not vested in another officer or entity by the Charter shall be exercised by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, The Charter does not vest in the Public Defender the right to create and run community-partnership programs like the MAGIC Programs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Public Defender's Office to continue operating the MAGIC Programs as described in this resolution in the Bayview and Fillmore/Western Addition neighborhoods, as a unique and critically important community extension of the Public Defender's Office.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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## Resolution

File Number: 220049

Date Passed: February 01, 2022

Resolution authorizing the Public Defender's "MAGIC" (Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities) Programs in the Bayview and Fillmore/Western Addition Neighborhoods, and expressing the Board of Supervisors' continued support for those programs.

January 20, 2022 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - RECOMMENDED

February 01, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 220049

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/1/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

London N. Breed

Mayor

**Date Approved** 

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board