MEMORANDUM

September 8, 2016

TO: MEMBERS, PORT COMMISSION
   Hon. Willie Adams, President
   Hon. Kimberly Brandon, Vice President
   Hon. Leslie Katz
   Hon. Eleni Kounalakis
   Hon. Doreen Woo Ho

FROM: Elaine Forbes
       Interim Executive Director

SUBJECT: Update on the City’s Resiliency Plan by the City’s Chief Resilience Officer and Director of Earthquake Safety

DIRECTOR’S RECOMMENDATION: Informational Only, No Action Required

Executive Summary
On April 18, 2016, the City & County of San Francisco released Resilient San Francisco – Stronger Today, Stronger Tomorrow – a strategic vision to building a more resilient San Francisco. Resilient San Francisco was developed in partnership with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, along with local community leaders and stakeholders.

RESILIENT-SF is a strategy that seeks to tap into our city’s trademark tenacity by laying out our most pressing challenges and demanding that City government partner with the community to make bold and lasting progress on these challenges. When we think about San Francisco, we think of a city of unwavering strength, a city that is prepared to not only respond but to recover, and a San Francisco of strong and unified neighborhoods, ready to continue reimagining, and striving for the strong and resilient San Francisco of tomorrow.

Background
Resilient San Francisco was developed over the course of 18 months through a process that involved more than 186 individuals, 31 government agencies, and 56 NGO and private sector organizations. It lays out the City’s resilience goals that we will continue

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to track and measure as we update this living document to ensure the City is working together with our communities, and continuing to work diligently toward these goals. San Francisco is a resilient city, but we must not forget what is at stake.

The population of San Francisco today is just over 840,000, by 2040 it is projected to increase to over 1 million. In 1906, when the last major earthquake struck, the population was approximately 400,000. The majority of today's infrastructure and buildings were built after that earthquake, during a historically quiet seismic period and prior to modern building codes. Climate change and rising sea levels pose new challenges for this City surrounded by water. How can we begin to accommodate this growth, while facing both the challenges of today and tomorrow? We have determined four actionable goals to address those challenges. Each goal was formed from, and will be supported by, leveraging successful City department-level initiatives, as well as supporting efforts (e.g., department studies, existing projects) within each goal's policy area:

1. *Plan and Prepare for Tomorrow* - San Francisco's challenges build slowly and quickly, steadily and suddenly. This goal looks toward building our city’s capacity to handle today's challenges and tomorrow’s disasters. We address land use planning and recovery planning, as well as earthquake planning and preparedness.

2. *Mitigate, Adapt and Retrofit* - We face a future with certain challenges. This goal looks to confront the pressing realities of an imminent large earthquake, a changing climate and rising seas, all while building a stronger city today.

3. *Ensure Housing for San Franciscans Today and After a Disaster* - Today's challenges will only worsen with tomorrow’s disruptions. We must work now to ensure housing for all San Franciscans before and after a disaster. We will work to address our city’s housing and homeless crises through innovative policies, reimagining and bold action to build a stronger city for today and tomorrow.

4. *Empower Neighbors and Neighborhoods through Improved Connections* - San Francisco is a city of neighborhoods and neighbors. This goal seeks to build on the strength of our city’s character and vibrancy, by being effective governmental stewards of resilient, healthy and cohesive neighborhoods based in trust, equity and partnership.

**Next Steps**
This strategy has the power to transform San Francisco. Ultimately, though, effective implementation is paramount. Clear, actionable steps are the foundation of urban resilience, building momentum and continual support for the work we do. These goals can only be achieved if the City partners with communities to take a stand and make the hard decisions necessary to secure a better future for all San Franciscans. Some of the hallmark actions this strategy will take include…
• A new Office of Resilience and Recovery
• Create capacity to house a population expected to grow to 1 million residents by 2040.
• A disaster housing and governance plan for long-term recovery
• Launching a regional resilience design challenge
• Constructing a disaster-resilient waterfront by 2040
• Seismic retrofit of vulnerable buildings and set a higher level of safety for new buildings
• Advance Citywide adaptation planning for sea level rise

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