RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZE THE SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT TO RETROACTIVELY ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,514,184 FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO UPGRADE AND REPLACE ITS SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS INVENTORY

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) responds to over 100,000 incidents each year, including fires, vehicle accidents, and medical and other emergencies; and,

WHEREAS, SFFD employees use self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) to provide breathable air in contaminated environments; and

WHEREAS, At fires and other emergency scenes, SFFD employees’ safety is dependent on the functions of the SCBA; and,

WHEREAS, Due to funding issues, the Department has not been able to replace or upgrade its SCBAs on a regular basis with any funds out of its operating budget; and,

WHEREAS, The use of these grant funds would allow the Department to upgrade the SCBAs with units that meet the latest National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards; and,

WHEREAS, The SFFD applied for and was awarded a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant in the amount of $1,514,184 for the purchase of 275 SCBA units; and,

WHEREAS, The grant requires the City to provide matching funds worth 20 percent of the total award, or $378,545; and,

WHEREAS, The FEMA grant requires SFFD to purchase the SCBAs by February 16, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The SFFD wishes to accept and expend the grant, to support and promote the health and safety of its members; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Fire Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Fire Department to retroactively accept and expend a grant from FEMA in the amount of $1,514,184 to purchase 275 SCBA units.

Adopted at the Regular Meeting of the San Francisco Fire Commission on July 12, 2012.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0

Monica Quattrin, Commission Secretary