RESOLUTION TO COMMIT CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO TO LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT PRACTICES AT PUBLIC MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS, INCLUDING SPORTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

Whereas United States history is marred by brutal treatment of Indigenous people, including systematic murder of Native populations, separation of families, and land theft;

Whereas United States educational institutions including schools, colleges, universities, and museums have often presented distorted histories of Native Americans;

Whereas Governor Gavin Newsom has recently made a formal apology for the state’s genocidal practices toward California’s Native population in an executive order, which also called for a Truth and Healing Council to disseminate knowledge of this history;

Whereas City College of San Francisco is committed to social justice education through its Ethnic Studies and Social Justice Departments and its Social Justice AA-T degrees;

Whereas City College of San Francisco’s “Introduction to Museum Studies” class emphasizes the importance of decolonizing and indigenizing museums, thereby participating in the movement among museums throughout the country to repatriate stolen objects, expose the brutal treatment of Native Americans in U.S. history, and include Indigenous perspectives in programs and exhibitions;

Whereas City College of San Francisco’s Critical Pacific Islands and Oceania Studies Program offers a critical analysis of Pacific peoples and cultures in the U.S. diaspora and beyond and privileges the voices of native Pacific Islanders, exploring a plethora of historical and contemporary topics, including colonization, militarization, social movements, and immigration, through the use of academic and community-based scholarship.

Whereas City College of San Francisco recently mounted the “Ohlone Elders and Youth Speaks: Restoring a California Legacy” exhibition in the Rosenberg Library, which honored the cultural traditions of the Indigenous people of the Bay Area;

Whereas Native Americans and other Indigenous people have maintained sacred relationships to ancestral lands and continue to serve as stewards of those lands, including promoting ecological practices that can restore the planet during this time of climate crisis; and

Whereas a resistance and resilience movement led by Native Americans calls for an accounting of brutal U.S. practices toward Native people and, as a first step in healing, for formal acknowledgment that these institutions sit on ancestral lands.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

City College of San Francisco acknowledges that it sits on the ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples.
Land acknowledgment statements, developed in consultation with the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples, by a Board of Trustees designated Task Force, including Indigenous scholars and other staff at the College, will be offered with respect and purpose at all City College of San Francisco public meetings and gatherings, including sports and cultural events.

City College of San Francisco will continue to offer and promote history and other courses that include Indigenous perspectives and that such curriculum development may lead to certificate, A.A., and transfer programs in Native American Studies, and that the aforementioned Task Force shall commit to the development of these programs, and that the College will commit designated funds for the exploration and establishment of such programs.