DCCC Resolution In Support of Full Funding of Free City College

Sponsors: Kim and Mandelman, Co-Sponsors: Baraka, Campos, Chiu, DeJesus, Dufty, Gupta, Ma, Mar, Maxwell, Peskin, Ting, and Yee

WHEREAS, Proposition W was passed by the voters of San Francisco on November 8, 2016, winning 62% of the vote, and the campaign for Proposition W clearly and deliberately tied the measure to Free City College, with all Proposition W campaign materials referring clearly to the intent to fund Free City College and official arguments—in support as well as in opposition—included in the official Voter Information Pamphlet referencing Free City College as an intended use for revenue generated by Prop W; and

WHEREAS, Free City College would allow all students who are residents in the city and county of San Francisco or employees of the San Francisco Unified School District, City College, or the City and County of SF to enroll in credit courses free of charge and would allow students who are already receiving financial aid to be eligible for up to $1,000 in grants for educational expenses such as textbooks, transportation, and class supplies; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Democratic party endorsed Proposition W at its August, 2016 meeting and nationally Democrats like President Obama, Bernie Sanders & Hillary Clinton have all supported free community college proposals, and Free City College offers San Francisco the opportunity to be at the vanguard of a national movement to expand access to public higher education.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Democratic Party supports using Proposition W funds, as the voters were promised, to fully fund Free City College beginning with the Fall 2017 semester and urges Mayor Lee and the Board of Supervisors to take all such actions as may be necessary to assist City College in implementing the Free City College Program at its full and intended scale no later than Fall 2017.