NINTH SUPPLEMENT TO MAYORAL PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DATED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

WHEREAS, California Government Code Sections 8550 et seq., San Francisco Charter Section 3.100(14) and Chapter 7 of the San Francisco Administrative Code empower the Mayor to proclaim the existence of a local emergency, subject to concurrence by the Board of Supervisors as provided in the Charter, in the case of an emergency threatening the lives, property or welfare of the City and County or its citizens; and

WHEREAS, On February 25, 2020, the Mayor issued a Proclamation (the “Proclamation”) declaring a local emergency to exist in connection with the imminent spread within the City of a novel (new) coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, On March 3, 2020, the Board of Supervisors concurred in the Proclamation and in the actions taken by the Mayor to meet the emergency; and

WHEREAS, On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to exist within the State due to the threat posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, On March 6, 2020, the Local Health Officer declared a local health emergency under Section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, and the Board of Supervisors concurred in that declaration on March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, On March 6, 2020, the City issued public health guidance to encourage social distancing to disrupt the spread of COVID-19 and protect community health; and

WHEREAS, On March 7, 2020, the Local Health Officer ordered certain City facilities not to hold non-essential group events of more than 50 people for the two weeks from the date of the order and prohibited visitors from Laguna Honda Hospital; and

WHEREAS, On March 7, 2020, the Department of Human Resources issued guidance to minimize COVID-19 exposure risk for City employees who provide essential services to the local community, in particular during the current local emergency; and

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2020, March 13, 2020, March 17, 2020, March 18, 2020, and March 23, 2020, the Mayor issued supplements to the Proclamation, ordering additional measures to respond to the emergency; and
WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the City’s Health Officer issued a stay safe at home order, Health Officer Order No. C19-07 (the “Stay Safe At Home Order”), requiring most people to remain in their homes subject to certain exceptions including obtaining essential goods such as food and necessary supplies, and requiring the closure of non-essential businesses, through April 7, 2020, and on March 31, 2020, the Health Officer extended the Stay Safe At Home Order through May 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, On March 19, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-33-20 and the California Public Health Officer issued a corresponding order requiring people to stay home except as needed subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, There are currently 797 confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the City and there have been 13 COVID-19-related deaths in the City; there are more than 20,000 confirmed cases in California, and there have been 542 COVID-19-related deaths in California; and

WHEREAS, This order and the previous orders issued during this emergency have all been issued because of the propensity of the virus to spread person to person and also because the virus physically is causing property loss or damage due to its proclivity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time; and

WHEREAS, To reduce the spread of the virus and protect the public health, the Stay Safe At Home Order prohibits restaurants in the City from offering dine-in service, limiting restaurants to delivery and takeout offerings only; and

WHEREAS, Restricting restaurants to takeout and delivery offerings only has placed a sudden and severe financial strain on many restaurants, particularly those that are small businesses that already operate on thin margins, adding to financial pressures in the industry that predate the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, It is in the public interest to take action to maximize restaurant revenue from the takeout and delivery orders that are currently the sole source of revenue for these small businesses to enable restaurants to survive this crisis and remain as sources of employment and neighborhood vitality in the City; and
WHEREAS, Many consumers use third-party applications and websites to place orders with restaurants for delivery and takeout, and these third-party platforms charge restaurants fees; service agreements between some restaurants and third-party platforms provide that the platform charges the restaurant 10% of the purchase price per order, while some agreements provide for higher per-order fees; and

WHEREAS, Restaurants, and particularly restaurants that are small businesses with few locations, have limited bargaining power to negotiate lower fees with third-party platforms, given the high market saturation of third-party platforms, and the dire financial straits small business restaurants are facing in this COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, Capping the per-order fees at 15% will accomplish the legitimate public purpose of easing the financial burden on struggling restaurants during this emergency while not unduly burdening third-party platforms, as this fee is recognized as reasonable, and third-party platforms continue to earn significant profits; and

WHEREAS, In the Second Supplement to the Emergency Proclamation, dated March 13, 2019, the Mayor authorized the Controller to establish a fund to receive private donations to support the City’s COVID-19 response efforts; private parties have also expressed interest in donating goods to assist with emergency response efforts, and it is in the public interest to expand the prior authorization to allow the acceptance and use of such goods; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, London N. Breed, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, proclaim that there continues to exist an emergency within the City and County threatening the lives, property or welfare of the City and County and its citizens;

In addition to the measures outlined in the Proclamation and in the Supplements to the Proclamation dated March 11, March 13, March 17, March 18, March 23, March 27, March 31, and April 1, 2020, it is further ordered that:

(1) It shall be unlawful for a third-party food delivery service to charge a covered establishment a fee per online order for the use of its services that totals more than 15% of the purchase price of such online order.
(a) For purposes of this order, the following definitions apply:

“Covered establishment” means a restaurant that offers, in a single commercial transaction over the internet, whether directly or through a third-party food delivery service, the sale and same-day delivery of food to customers from one or more retail locations within the City. Covered establishment shall not include any restaurant that meets the definition of a formula retail use under Section 303.1 of the Planning Code.

“Online order” means an order placed by a customer through a platform provided by a third-party food delivery service for delivery or pickup within the City.

“Purchase price” means the menu price of an online order. Such term therefore excludes taxes, gratuities and any other fees that may make up the total cost to the customer of an online order.

“Restaurant” shall have the meaning provided in Section 451 of the Health Code.

“Third-party food delivery service” means any website, mobile application or other internet service that offers or arranges for the sale of food and beverages prepared by, and the same-day delivery or same-day pickup of food and beverages from, no fewer than 20 separately owned and operated food service establishments.

(b) The Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, or the Director’s designee, is authorized to implement this order and issue any necessary guidance or rules consistent with this order.

(c) This order shall take effect on April 13, 2020, and shall terminate at such time as the Health Officer amends or terminates the order prohibiting restaurants from offering dine-in service or that prohibition otherwise expires, so that dine-in service is then allowed.

(d) A third-party food delivery service shall not be found in violation of this order if between April 13, 2020 and April 20, 2020, it imposes a fee per online order for the use of its services that totals more than 15% of the purchase price of such online order, provided it refunds the portion of the fee that exceeds 15% of the purchase price to the covered establishment prior to April 27, 2020.
(e) If a third-party food delivery service charges a covered establishment fees that violate this order, the covered establishment shall provide written notice to the third-party food delivery service requesting a refund within seven days. If the third-party food delivery service does not provide the refund requested after seven days or the third-party food delivery service continues to charge fees in violation of this order after the initial notice and seven-day cure period, a covered establishment may enforce this order by means of a civil action seeking damages and injunctive relief. The prevailing party in any such action shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney fees.

(2) Item 4 in the Second Supplement to the Emergency Proclamation, dated March 13, 2020, is revised and replaced as follows:

The Controller is authorized to accept and expend funds in any amount and accept, distribute and use goods valued at any amount contributed by individuals or entities for the purposes of assisting the City’s efforts to respond to the COVID-19 emergency. Notwithstanding any authorization in the Administrative Code or other City laws to accept and expend funds or accept, distribute and use goods, all donations, grants, gifts and bequests of money and goods to the City for the purpose of responding to the emergency shall be accepted by the Controller, and expenditures of such funds and the distribution and use of such goods shall be subject to the Controller’s direction. Funds and goods accepted by the Controller may be expended or used by the City to provide shelter, food, financial assistance including but not limited to loans, grants, or rent, mortgage and utility payments, and other assistance to individuals and families in the City who are impacted by the emergency; to replace, repair, and rebuild public buildings, infrastructure, and other assets for use in the City’s efforts to respond to the emergency; to issue and administer grants and/or interest-free loans to small businesses in the City to compensate for economic harms resulting from COVID-19; and for other City efforts to address the impacts of COVID-19. Goods accepted by the Controller may be distributed by the City or used for any City effort to address the impacts of COVID-19. The Controller may coordinate with or delegate responsibility to any other department or agency to develop criteria for and administer the expenditure of funds and the distribution or use of goods. Provisions of existing agreements and of local law are suspended to the extent they would impede the disbursement of funds or the distribution or use of goods to outside entities for the purposes described above; and
(3) Item 9 in the Seventh Supplement to the Emergency Proclamation, dated March 31, 2020, is revised and replaced as follows:

All fees and charges authorized by the Board of Supervisors for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 shall remain in effect until the Board’s adoption of the Annual Appropriation Ordinance, or until otherwise altered by ordinance or emergency declaration.

DATED: April 10, 2020

[Signature]
London N. Breed
Mayor of San Francisco