

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER, OR THE COUNTY MANAGER’S DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO WITH RENAISSANCE ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF \$200,000 IN SMC STRONG FUNDS TO BENEFIT SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS WHO RESIDE IN CERTAIN TARGET AREAS OF THE COUNTY AND WHO ARE LOWER-INCOME AND ADVERESELY IMPACTED BY COVID-19

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, and pursuant to Section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, the San Mateo County Health Officer (the “Health Officer”) declared a local health emergency throughout San Mateo County related to the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) and the Board of Supervisors has ratified and extended this local health emergency, which remains in effect throughout San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020, and pursuant to Section 8630 of the California Government Code and Chapter 2.46 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, the San Mateo County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a local emergency throughout San Mateo County related to COVID-19 and the Board has ratified and extended the proclamation of a local emergency (“Local Emergency”), which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency related to COVID-19 (“State of Emergency”), effective throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, the Health Officer prohibited all public or private gatherings of 50 or more people and urged the cancelation of all gatherings of 10 or more people in a single confined space; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Health Officer issued an order that, among other things, directed all individuals living within San Mateo County to shelter in their place of residence (“Original Shelter-in-Place Order”), and authorized individuals to leave their residences only for certain “Essential Activities,” Essential Governmental Functions,” or to operate “Essential Businesses,” all as defined in the Original Shelter-in Place-Order; and

WHEREAS, several times since March 16, 2020, and most recently, on June 4, 2020, the Health Officer issued revised Shelter-in-Place Orders extending the Original Shelter-in-Place Order due to evidence of continued significant community transmission of COVID-19 within the County and throughout the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20, which, imposed a Statewide Shelter-In-Place Order requiring individuals to remain in their places of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure, access necessities such as food, prescriptions and healthcare, or engage in other authorized activities; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2020, Governor Newsom announced a plan to allow the limited reopening of some businesses beyond those in the category of essential critical infrastructure, which is part of the "Resilience Roadmap" for California, the multiphase plan to modify the Statewide Shelter-In-Place Order; and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the State approved the County’s request for a variance allowing the County to align with the Resilience Roadmap for California; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2020, the Health Officer rescinded the June 4, 2020 revised Shelter-in-Place Order and replaced it, effective immediately, with a new order aligning the County with the Statewide Shelter-in-Place Order/Resilience Roadmap, emphasizing individual behavior and the practices that businesses must follow as they resume operations, including limiting gatherings to no more than 50 people, outlining

social distancing and face covering requirements, allowing for social bubbles, and requiring businesses to implement a social distancing protocol and written health and safety plans, based on evidence of continued significant community transmission of COVID-19 within the County and throughout the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, as the State and County continue with reopening, the number of identified COVID-19 cases continues to grow; in fact, as of July 28, 2020, there were 475,305 positive COVID-19 cases in California, as well as 8,715 people in the State who have died of COVID-19 causes, as well as 5,306 COVID-19 cases and 118 deaths in San Mateo County and, as COVID-19 cases continue to increase, the Governor has ordered the closure of some businesses that had been permitted to reopen; and

WHEREAS, while the long-term societal and economic impacts of COVID-19 will not be known for some time, the continuing direct impacts to the local San Mateo County community have already been substantial, as residents throughout the County are confronting continuing and substantial income loss due to business and school closures, corresponding layoffs or loss of work hours and wages, and extraordinary out-of-pocket medical expenses; and

WHEREAS, among the businesses located in San Mateo County, small businesses have been hit the hardest by this crisis, and this negative impact has been felt in particular among small business owners who are lower-income and living in certain target areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, the existence, health and vibrancy of small businesses are essential to the health, welfare, diversity, and the long-term sustainability of communities throughout the County and that, in these current circumstances, a primary goal of this

Board, and an appropriate use of public funds, is to provide emergency grants to support small, local businesses, particularly those whose owners are lower-income and living in certain target areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, through the SMC Strong Fund, which included \$1 million in seed funds contributed by the County of San Mateo, over \$3.5 million in grants of \$10,000 each have been made to approximately 350 small businesses located throughout San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, relatively few businesses located in certain areas of the County, including in Daly City, East Palo Alto, unincorporated North Fair Oaks, Menlo Park, the unincorporated Mid-Coast, unincorporated Pescadero, Redwood City, San Mateo, South San Francisco, and San Bruno applied for initial SMC Strong Fund grants; and

WHEREAS, although the initial SMC Strong small business grant fund program included extensive outreach throughout the County and the applications materials and informational materials were made available in multiple languages, the County's experience to date reflects that a different, more focused program will more effectively reach small businesses that are owned by individuals residing in certain target areas of the County who are lower income and have been adversely impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, this Board finds that it is appropriate to establish a small business assistance program that is focused on small businesses that are owned by individuals residing in certain target areas of the County who are lower income and have been adversely impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center ("Renaissance") is dedicated to assisting very low to moderate income women and men to start and grow

their small businesses and, in the last two years, Renaissance has worked with over 195 small business owners throughout the County and their clients are 97% lower income and 37% immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Renaissance's business assistance program has been reviewed, and is supported by, the Economic Recovery, Equity and Recovery Coordinating Council of the San Mateo County COVID Recovery Initiative; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, this Board finds it appropriate for the County to enter into an agreement with Renaissance under which the County will direct \$200,000 in available SMC Strong funds to Renaissance to establish and administer a program that will make grants of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) each to small business owners who reside in target areas (defined as the areas that lie within the boundaries of the following zip codes); who are lower income, and who have been adversely impacted by COVID-19: 94014 and 94015 (Daly City); 94303 (East Palo Alto); 94025 (Menlo Park); 94038 (Unincorporated Mid-Coast); 94060 (Pescadero); 94061 and 94063 (Redwood City and North Fair Oaks); 94401 and 94403 (San Mateo); and 64066 and 94080 (South San Francisco/San Bruno); and

WHEREAS, individual small business owners who had annual incomes below \$120,000 in 2019 or who had an average annual income below \$120,000 for the last three years shall be deemed "lower-income" for purposes of this resolution and businesses owned by partnerships must be at least fifty-on percent (51%) owned by a qualifying individual in order to be eligible for a grant through the program described in this resolution; and

WHEREAS, this Board deems it appropriate for Renaissance to be paid an administrative fee equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the amount distributed to Renaissance pursuant to this resolution; and

WHEREAS, this Board further deems it appropriate to vest the County Manager, or his designee, working in coordination with the Office of the County Counsel, to negotiate and execute an agreement with Renaissance for the establishment and implementation of the above-referenced grant program that reflects the eligibility requirements and conditions set forth in this resolution and that will provide for compensation to Renaissance of fifteen percent (15%) of the funds distributed to Renaissance pursuant to this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the County Manager, or the County Manager's delegee, working in coordination with the County Counsel, be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute an Agreement with Renaissance for and on behalf of the County of San Mateo that provides for the distribution of \$200,000 in SMC Strong Funds to Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center; that calls for the administration and distribution of these funds (less a fifteen percent administrative fee) as grants of \$5,000 each to eligible small business owners; and that reflects the eligibility requirements and conditions set forth in this resolution, including that Renaissance shall distribute grants to small business owners residing in the target areas of the County enumerated in this resolution who are lower income and have been adversely impacted by COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that that the Board authorizes the County Manager, or the County Manager's designee to contribute Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) in available SMC Strong funds to Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center for distribution to San Mateo County small businesses in accordance with the terms and intent of this resolution. The County Manager, or designee(s), shall periodically report back to the Board regarding the status of the efforts called for by this resolution.

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