

RESOLUTION NO. ____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT SUPPORTING THE FULL RESTORATION OF THE CARGILL SALT PONDS AND INCLUSION OF THE SALT PONDS IN THE DON EDWARDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND DECLARING OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLANS BY CARGILL AND DMB & ASSOCIATES OF THE SALT PONDS

WHEREAS, San Francisco Bay is our natural treasure, and it is essential that we protect and restore it to ensure that the Bay Area is a healthy place to live; and,

WHEREAS, the era of filling in San Francisco Bay is over – we stopped that destruction forty years ago; and,

WHEREAS, the bay’s salt ponds provide the best opportunity to restore a portion of the 150,000 of acres of valuable wetlands destroyed by previous generations; and,

WHEREAS, Cargill & DMB Associates are proposing a massive development on 1,400 acres of restorable salt ponds in Redwood City. Nothing so breathtaking in size or misguided in scope has been proposed in half a century; and,

WHEREAS, salt ponds are not land to be paved – they are part of San Francisco Bay to be restored to tidal marsh for wildlife habitat, natural flood protection for our communities, cleaner water, air and recreation areas for everyone to enjoy; and,

WHEREAS, we, as current elected officials, understand the pressures cities face and how essential San Francisco Bay is to our region. The bay belongs to all of us, and we all must protect it; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Belmont is deeply concerned about the adverse impacts on our community that could result from the proposed Cargill/DMB development—in essence another city of approximately 25,000 residents and untold more commercial tenants—on the infrastructure of the Peninsula, including air quality, water availability, sewage, quality of life, and traffic. For example, Belmont’s Ralston Avenue/El Camino Real intersection already operates at a maximum traffic capacity Level of Service (LOS) F – increases in vehicle trips resulting from a “Regional Impact” project such as the Cargill/DMB Development will likely create significant impacts at this critical intersection; and,

WHEREAS, the Belmont City Council is concerned about these same adverse impacts on the San Francisco Bay area infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Belmont that it opposes the proposed Cargill/DMB Development and supports full restoration of the Cargill salt ponds and the inclusion of the salt ponds in the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on March 23, 2010 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont