WHEREAS, San Francisco boasts some of “the best drinking water in the world”;

WHEREAS, since 1934, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has provided high quality and rigorously treated drinking water from the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System to the residents of San Francisco and to commuters and visitors to our World Class City;

WHEREAS, As recently as March, 2017, on average, 85% of the water delivered to San Francisco has come from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park, and the remaining 15% has come from five regional reservoirs in Alameda and San Mateo Counties;

WHEREAS, in 2002, San Francisco voters narrowly approved Proposition A, a $1.628 billion revenue bond measure to retrofit the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System by improving the system’s water delivery and seismic safety, water quality, water supply, and watershed and environmental quality;

WHEREAS, Proposition A made no mention of adding lower quality, minimally treated groundwater to San Francisco’s drinking water, but the SFPUC, in a “bait and switch” tactic, appropriated $66,000,000 of the bond monies to fund its “groundwater supply project”; 

WHEREAS, the SFPUC is using public money to promote its “groundwater supply project” with an expensive, misleading publicity campaign with the theme “Two supplies are always smarter than one”; 

WHEREAS, the “second supply” of water is groundwater with high levels of nitrates, manganese, and radon 222 that is unsafe for human consumption as a single source of drinking water, and must be “blended” with the HHRWS water to meet current drinking water standards;

WHEREAS, the SFPUC is unwilling to discontinue its groundwater project in favor of developing better water delivery systems to provide resilience in the case of future droughts or a disaster;

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Republican Party (SFGOP) believes that the “groundwater supply project” is a misappropriation and waste of public funds that will result in lower quality drinking water for a majority of San Francisco residents;

WHEREAS, the SFGOP believes that San Francisco residents should continue to receive the same high quality drinking water to which they have come to expect;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Republican Party calls upon the Mayor, the SFPUC, and the Board of Supervisors to immediately discontinue the SFPUC’s “groundwater supply project” and to work with all stakeholders in the City, including ratepayers, to plan, approve, fund, and construct additional sustainable and reliable sources of high quality water to meet the City’s future needs.