

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-033

**APPROVE ADOPTION OF NEW POLICY-LEVEL CRITERIA FOR USE IN
EVALUATING PHYSICAL SUICIDE DETERRENT SYSTEMS**

April 22, 2005

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors, at its meeting of March 11, 2005, adopted Resolution No. 2005-015, authorizing proceeding with the environmental studies and preliminary design work necessary to undertake development of a physical suicide deterrent system on the Golden Gate Bridge, with the understanding that a new set of assumptions and conditions are to be established to govern project development, including (a) the establishment of different design and engineering criteria calling for a physical suicide deterrent system to serve as a deterrent to suicides, recognizing the difficulty, if not impossibility, to devise any practical system that would make it physically impossible in all circumstances for suicides to occur; (b) the generation of financial support from external public and private sources to finance the project with the understanding that much of this work cannot begin until funds have been identified and appropriated; and, (c) with the further understanding that these initial actions are being authorized to enable the Board of Directors to ultimately determine whether to proceed with construction of a physical suicide deterrent system; and,

WHEREAS, many years ago, the District Board of Directors adopted a list of criteria for use in evaluating physical suicide deterrent systems, and determined that any deterrent system must satisfy all of the following criteria:

- Cannot cause safety or nuisance hazards to pedestrians or Bridge personnel;
- Must be totally effective as a barrier;
- Cannot bar pedestrian traffic;
- Weight cannot be beyond established allowable limits;
- Cannot cause excessive maintenance problems;
- Aerodynamics (Wind Stability) cannot be beyond established allowable limits;
- Historical and architectural considerations;
- Visual and aesthetic impacts; and,
- Cost effectiveness.

WHEREAS, staff was directed to begin the project by developing new proposed criteria for evaluation of alternatives for a physical suicide deterrent system for consideration and ultimate adoption by the Board of Directors; and,

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2005, staff presented a report to the Building and Operating Committee that included new proposed criteria for a physical suicide deterrent system on the Golden Gate Bridge; and,

WHEREAS, the Building and Operating Committee, at its meeting of April 21, 2005, has so recommended; now, therefore, be it

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2005

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RESOLVED that the Board of Directors (Board) of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District hereby approves adoption of new policy-level criteria for use in evaluating potential physical suicide deterrent systems, as outlined below:

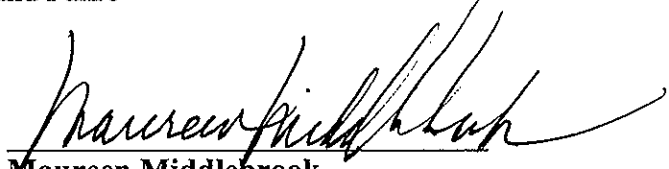
- Must impede the ability of an individual to jump off the Golden Gate Bridge.
- Must not cause safety or nuisance hazards to sidewalk users including pedestrians, bicyclists, District staff, and District contractors/security partners.
- Must be able to be maintained as a routine part of the District's on-going Bridge maintenance program and without undue risk of injury to District employees.
- Must not diminish ability to provide adequate security of the Golden Gate Bridge.
- Must continue to allow access to the underside of the Bridge for emergency response and maintenance activities.
- Must not have a negative impact on the wind stability of the Golden Gate Bridge.
- Must satisfy requirements of state and federal historic preservation laws.
- Must have minimal visual and aesthetic impacts on the Golden Gate Bridge.
- Must be cost effective to construct and maintain.
- Must not in and of itself create undue risk of injury to anyone who comes in contact with the suicide deterrent system.
- Must not prevent construction of a moveable median barrier on the Golden Gate Bridge.

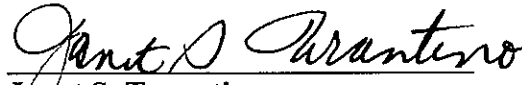
ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2005, by the following vote of the Board of Directors:

AYES (15): Directors Brown, Cochran, Eddie, Hernández, Kerns, McGoldrick, Murray, Reilly, Sandoval, Shahum, Smith and Stroeh; Second Vice President Boro; First Vice President Harrison; President Middlebrook

NOES (0): None

ABSENT (4): Directors Ammiano, Dufty, Martini and Pahre


Maureen Middlebrook
President, Board of Directors

ATTEST: 
Janet S. Tarantino
Secretary of the District