

# City and County of San Francisco YOUTH COMMISSION

## **MINUTES**

Monday, April 17, 2023 5:00 p.m.

#### IN-PERSON MEETING with REMOTE ACCESS

**Members**: Emily Nguyen (Chair, D11), Ewan Barker Plummer (Vice Chair, Mayoral), Steven Hum (Legislative Affairs Officer, Mayoral), Raven Shaw (Legislative Affairs Officer, Mayoral), Gabrielle Listana (Communications & Outreach Officer, D6), Astrid Utting (Communications & Outreach Officer, D8), Chloe Wong (D1), Allister Adair (D2), Reese Terrell (D3), Maureen Loftus (D4), Hayden Miller (D5), Ann Anish (D7), Yoselin Colin (D9), Vanessa Pimentel (D10), Yena Im (Mayoral), Tyrone S. Hillman III (Mayoral).

**Present**: Emily Nguyen, Ewan Barker Plummer, Steven Hum, Astrid Utting, Chloe Wong, Allister Adair, Reese Terrell, Hayden Miller, Ann Anish, Vanessa Pimentel, Tyrone S. Hillman III.

**Absent**: Raven Shaw (excused), Maureen Loftus (excused), Yoselin Colin (excused), Yena Im (unexcused).

Tardy: Gabbie Listana.

The San Francisco Youth Commission met in-person with remote access, and provided public comment through teleconferencing, on April 17, 2023, with Chair Nguyen presiding.

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

Chair Nguyen called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.

On the call of the roll:

Roll Call Attendance: 11 present, 5 absent.

Chloe Wong present Allister Adair present Reese Terrell present



Maureen Loftus absent
Hayden Miller present
Gabrielle Listana absent
Ann Anish present
Astrid Utting present
Yoselin Colin absent
Vanessa Pimentel present
Ewan Barker Plummer present
Steven Hum present
Raven Shaw absent
Yena Im absent
Tyrone S. Hillman III present
Emily Nguyen present

A quorum of the Commission was present.

Director Esquivel Garcia confirmed which commissioners let staff know in advance of their absence, and that Commissioner Im no longer has any excused absences for the full Youth Commission meetings and this absence will be unexcused.

Commissioner Miller, seconded by Officer Utting, motioned to excuse the absences of Commissioners Loftus, Listana, Colin, and Shaw. The motion was carried by the following voice vote:

Voice vote: 11 ayes, 5 absent.

Chloe Wong aye
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell aye
Maureen Loftus absent
Hayden Miller aye
Gabrielle Listana absent
Ann Anish aye
Astrid Utting aye
Yoselin Colin absent
Vanessa Pimentel aye
Ewan Barker Plummer aye
Steven Hum aye
Raven Shaw absent
Yena Im absent
Tyrone S. Hillman III aye



Emily Nguyen aye

Action: absences excused for Commissioners Colin, Listana, Loftus, and Shaw.

#### 2. Communications

Alondra Esquivel Garcia, Director of the SFYC, shared communications and meeting announcements with Commissioners.

#### 3. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

No discussion, and no public comment.

Vice Chair Barker Plummer, seconded by Officer Utting, motioned to approve the April 17, 2023 full Youth Commission meeting agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice vote: 11 ayes, 5 absent.

Chloe Wong aye Allister Adair aye Reese Terrell ave Maureen Loftus absent Hayden Miller aye Gabrielle Listana absent Ann Anish aye Astrid Utting aye Yoselin Colin absent Vanessa Pimentel ave Ewan Barker Plummer aye Steven Hum aye Raven Shaw absent Yena Im absent Tyrone S. Hillman III aye Emily Nguyen aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

## 4. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

a. April 3, 2023 (Packet Materials)



No discussion. No public comment.

Officer Utting, seconded by Commissioner Adair, motioned to approve the April 3, 2023 full Youth Commission meeting minutes with the updated attendance count. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice vote: 11 ayes, 5 absent.

Chloe Wong aye Allister Adair aye Reese Terrell aye Maureen Loftus absent Hayden Miller ave Gabrielle Listana absent Ann Anish aye Astrid Utting aye Yoselin Colin absent Vanessa Pimentel aye Ewan Barker Plummer aye Steven Hum aye Raven Shaw absent Yena Im absent Tyrone S. Hillman III aye Emily Nguyen aye

Action: Minutes Approved.

## 5. Public Comment on matters not on Today's Agenda (2 minutes per comment)

No public comment. Commissioner Gabbie Listana entered the meeting at 5:16pm.

#### **6. Hearings** (discussion and possible action)

- a. Hearing to discuss and understand what is happening with Juvenile Hall since its closure in 2021, as well as what efforts are presently being made to secure the intended closure of Juvenile Hall, and services being offered to support the youth inside.
  - i. Presenter: Board of Supervisors District 10 Office
  - ii. Presenter: San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department
  - iii. Presenter: San Francisco Close Juvenile Hall Work Group
  - iv. Presenter: San Francisco Public Defender's Office
  - v. Presenter: San Francisco District Attorney's Office



Commissioner Colin and Commissioner Pimentel introduced the hearing and its presenters, as well as the reasons why the hearing is taking place.

Tracy Brown, BOS Legislative Aide for District 10, discussed the history and the efforts of those who advocated for the closure of San Francisco's Juvenile Hall. Brown stated that the District 10 Office is still in support of the closure of Juvenile Hall, regardless of the increased amount of barriers that they didn't know beforehand. Brown recommends that there still be a plan for alternatives to incarceration, stronger diversion protocols, and that they need a better system for unaccompanied youth. Brown encourages the Youth Commission to push for solutions that will best support these youth. Brown wants the SFYC to (1) monitor where all of the funding goes towards JJC, (2) monitor how many mental health beds are available to youth, (3) let the youth tell the adults what they need to be truly successful, and (4) how we as the City of San Francisco can make sure that we have public safety and youth that are supported where they are.

Chief Katy Miller, Chief Probation Officer for the Department of Juvenile Probation, discussed the goals of the Juvenile Probation Department. Miller went over the 39 recommendations on how to transform the Juvenile Justice Center and the policies that are affected by those recommended changes. Miller discussed the current alternatives to incarceration that currently exist, some of which are fully funded by JPD's and the overall City budget. Miller explained how they're also expanding current or new programs to better address the needs of youth that they don't currently have. Miller discussed the DJJ realignment and how that legislation significantly shifted the responsibility of the youth justice system from the state-level to the county-level. Miller went over the process that youth go through after they're arrested. Miller went over the requirements for the City and County of San Francisco by statewide policies. Miller said that they're now sitting down with an architect to discuss redesign of the current set-up of the Juvenile Justice Center, but have no official funds for any type of construction.

Patti Lee, Public Defender's Office, went over the summary of the ordinance and said that the Public Defender's office still fully supports the closure of Juvenile Hall. Lee said the funding that goes towards Juvenile Hall needs to be reinvested into the alternatives to running the center. Lee mentioned the very low numbers of youth in Juvenile Hall and that they should not be higher, but that the current number of available beds (~150). Lee went over their Facilities Subcommittee and the work that they've been doing thus far, and she hopes that the Youth Commission can help dispel the belief that these youth are dangerous, when in reality they are unhoused youth who are overwhelmingly nonviolent and struggling. Lee said that they've seen a change in the prosecution with more young people being arrested and put into jail with the increased hard-on-crime rhetoric and current District Attorney Brooke Jenkins, especially compared to former District Attorney



Chesa Boudin. Lee mentioned the disparities that continue to exist within the Juvenile Justice Center. Lee said there should be no more than 20 beds in Juvenile Hall, and there should be no Juvenile Hall for girls.

Emily Goldman, Public Defender's Office, explained the work of what the San Francisco Public Defender's Office does, which means that they defend the public and those going through the criminal justice system. Goldman introduced Aimee Ubas, who went through the youth justice system. Aimee Ubas introduced herself, and is 19 years old. Ubas has gone through the Juvenile Justice Center a few times, the first time when she was 15. Goldman asked Ubas what the JJC was useful for, to which Ubas said that she ended up growing up there. Ubas said that there were some useful resources, but that the support really ended when she was 18 years old. Ubas said there were fights, but the worst were often mental health battles. Ubas said that there could be better support for youth from the staff who work at JJC, and there's a disparity between those who are there for detention and those who are there for long-term sentences. Ubas was born in the Philippines and was raised in the Tenderloin, but spent the majority of her time in group homes or in jail. Ubas also said that she really wants people to see how they live and what they have to go through before making any decisions on their behalf. Ubas said that it was her POs, attorneys, and supporting folks who helped her start going to college and build a life for herself. Ubas said that helping youth with their mental health while they're in JJC needs to happen, especially since it's so easy to get lost while serving time, and it's easy to be cast aside by other incarcerated youth at the center.

Tiffany Sutton, District Attorney's Office, said that they hope to keep youth safe and that the DA's office doesn't want to detain youth, but that the state law demands that they do have to have the Juvenile Hall open. Sutton said the DA's office hopes to prevent youth from committing crime or even going in front of a judge, that would be preferred. Sutton said the numbers that the Public Defender's stated in regard to the population of Juvenile Hall are correct and show that they are reducing the overall population. Sutton said that DA Jenkins' leadership pushes for diversion programs that currently exist, or for ones that they might want to expand into to create a greater support net for youth. Sutton said that they hope to work with community-based organizations to ensure that youth have the support that they need to stay out of the justice system altogether. Sutton said that misdemeanor offenses are mostly sent straight to diversion programs, but there are some crimes that they do address that pertain closer to public safety. Sutton said the expectations for youth are that they live healthy lives and do not come into contact with the justice system in the first place.

Commissioners then moved onto their questions towards the presenters. Commissioner Pimentel asked what mental health support is available to youth in Juvenile Hall, to which Chief Miller said that the Department of Public Health might be better to ask that,



but that they're one of the only JJC's that have 24-hour support for mental health and medical support.

Commissioner Anish asked for clarification on how the Youth Commission can best monitor the funding that goes towards the Juvenile Justice Center and how safe spaces should be created when the system usually already pushes back. Brown said that the Youth Commission can ask for reports on how many referrals were made and how many youths had their issues addressed, and Brown said that there were not many referrals made through the DCYF process; Brown said that with law enforcement making decision on behalf of youth, especially since they have implicit bias, and therefore the youth need to be asked what they need to be successful; Brown talked about her personal experience with her sons and how she tried her best to keep them safe. Brown said that it's the Youth Commission's responsibility to be the voice of those youth who do not have those voices or opportunities to speak for themselves, and she encourages them to be the leaders youth want them to be. Sutton added that there should be different spaces or platforms to uplift youth, and they invite them to the DA's office to help also have the conversation. Miller added that they always try their best to go back to what the youth are saying, especially to have to have them constantly repeat themselves.

Commissioner Hum asked what examples of collaboration to support the partnership between SFUSD and advocacy groups have had. Brown said that there were schools that have community programs integrated into SFUSD schools to best support these collaborative efforts.

Vice Chair Barker Plummer asked why it was difficult to find those challenges and barriers in the legislative process. Brown said that they weren't in an open collaborative relationship with the former Chief Probation Officer at the Juvenile Justice Center, and then built collaboration with community organizations to push for the ordinance. Brown also said that there was no connection with the Superior Court, and they were not told that the courts also had a decision-making process in that effort. Barker Plummer asked what they mean and envision by "non-institutional". Brown said she envisions there being a facility for those that don't have to be detained, and having a college-like center for those who do have to be contained. Miller added that her vision is one that doesn't look like a secure facility, and one that makes youth feel safe and not that there is a carceral facility.

Chair Nguyen asked the DA's Office to clarify whether or not the youth incarceration and prosecution rate are increasing or reducing, since the presentations have conflicting information. Sutton said certain crimes have remained the same, but that they did go down during the pandemic. Sutton added that now that they're out of the pandemic, that crimes like property or assault are now beginning to increase. Sutton said that there has



been an increase in arrest, but that doesn't mean there's an increase in crime proportionally. Goldman added that she has a different answer and that there is an increase in arrests and cases going to the District Attorney's office, and that there's a lower rate of forwarding cases to diversion. Goldman said she hopes that those cases are dismissed and sent straight to community programs without being filed in the DA's office. Chair Nguyen asked for clarification on the competing information from the DA and PD offices. Chair Nguyen asked Brown what should be done in the meantime with state law needing to be changed first. Brown said that while a few youth need to be at JJC, many of the youth in Juvenile Hall don't need to be there and can be helped through alternatives to incarceration. Miller said that there's certain restrictions that they can't avoid, but that they're doing their best to make the JJC accommodative while also respecting the jurisdiction of the judges.

Officer Utting asked which programs were lacking in support and funding, to which Brown said that they can ask DCYF for that information. Utting asked what other examples can be used to compare on what to change locally, to which Miller said that many of the examples are in other countries and not in the United States. Miller said that there's currently no plans on how to explore those other nation's solutions.

Officer Listana asked how involved the Public Defender's Office is in client's cases and how successful their programs are. Goldman said that they support youth throughout the entire process and it can depend on the youth and what their case specifics are.

Vice Chair Barker Plummer asked how the savings of not having a Juvenile Justice Center can be reallocated towards programs and services that can better support the incarcerated youth. Brown said that information can be found in the ordinance itself and in many of the recommendations presented. Barker Plummer asked what would happen if there were more than 20 incarcerated youth, how those youth would be both housed and accommodated. Lee said that there are youth who don't need to be detained, and she believes that there are alternatives that must be developed to see the number of youth who are incarcerated to be diverted to alternatives rather than be in the JJC. Lee said the community, if given the tools, can be creative in creating those solutions. Lee said she is comfortable saying that 20 beds in the JCC is enough.

Commissioner Colin asked if there's any way for youth in the JJC to be able to discuss the way they are being treated by staff. Chief Miller said that this is where they disagree with the Public Defender's office since she does have to look after and care for those incarcerated at the JJC, and that 20 beds is not sufficient. Miller added that they also need wiggle room to ensure that each youth who is incarcerated at times doesn't feel safe with one another. Colin asked for clarification on the staff complaint, to which Miller said that they can move forward with the grievance process to address any issues with



staff. Colin asked if they were able to make an agreement with the courts, to which Brown said that they have not been able to reach any agreement.

Commissioner Adair asked if there's preferential treatment at the Juvenile Justice Center, to which Miller said that they do their best to support youth, especially during any crisis.

Chair Nguyen handed the gavel to Vice Chair Barker Plummer at 7:28pm. Vice Chair Barker Plummer handed the gavel back to Chair Nguyen at 7:36pm.

#### **Public Comment:**

Speaker 1: speaking as a foster youth and its negative effects on youth; they ask the Youth Commission to stand with the community.

Speaker 2: speaking as an SF resident; SF voted to close JJC; community was against the incarceration of youth; if the basic needs of youth are met, there is no need to put youth in jail; the average of youth in JJC was significantly lower during the pandemic; schools reopening saw the rise in youth incarceration and the school-to-prison pipeline lives on; schools are underfunded; we should not be discussing reforms but whole-scale change.

Speaker 3: people should be making decisions based on those who have lived here; she wants to see that the trauma is addressed directly.

Speaker 4: third-generation affected by incarceration; they should have those seats open for people who have been through the system; also asked for the DA's office to respond to their emails and calls for help.

Speaker 5: works for Larkin but here to support the community; here to voice for the closure of JJC; says that youth 12-17 do not have a voice and can't talk for themselves in this current system; says that there was no support for her when she was in the system; there are changes that have needed to be made years ago; create a platform to support family and the youth.

Speaker 6: part of the YMFC; a community member who has been part of this coalition building in the City; wants us to invest in solutions that will uplift the people who've been affected by these issues; they believe in creating a new long-term vision that will care for youth and invest in prevention; the community must reclaim its power from the institutions that have taken it from them; the youth need things that can reinvest in them directly.



Speaker 7: talked about her experience in Juvenile Hall and believes that every youth deserves an opportunity; the youth are the future of this City; they should have the education to be on a commission, lawyers, doctors, etc.; ask for more housing and basic needs.

Speaker 8: thanked the YC for holding the hearing; talked about how many of the youth who spoke are frustrated at the system and not directly at the Commission, and that these issues are directly personal to them; asks the YC to stand in solidarity with the community.

Speaker 9: wants to emphasize what the YWFC is saying and supports young people; they don't want any Juvenile Hall to exist; they have been reaching out to the DA's office for a response and haven't heard anything; people are hurt and frustrated.

Speaker 10: he was put into group homes; all of the discussion taking place are band-aid solutions; he said that he knows a lot of the Youth Commission don't understand the personal experiences of incarcerated youth; preventative things work.

Speaker 11: can't see what's happening but understands the pain and frustration of the youth organizers in our community, with people in positions of power shutting them out of the conversation; gives props to those who've started the conversation; thanks the Youth Commission to have this conversation, especially since there's been little to no conversation from these institutions.

#### Staff Report (discussion item)

Staff will be sending their reports over email. No public comment.

#### **8. Announcements** (this includes Community Events)

No announcements or community events. No public comment.

# 9. Adjournment

There being no further business on the agenda, the full Youth Commission adjourned at 7:42pm.



- 1 [Gun Violence Restraining Orders – Public Awareness]
- Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to improve and expand 2
- public awareness of Gun Violence Restraining Orders, particularly to middle 3
- school students, high school students, higher education students, educators, 4
- school administrators, and other school staff, and to create a dedicated a team 5
- 6 dedicated to processing and pursuing Gun Violence Restraining Order requests
- 7 from members of the public.
- WHEREAS. Gun violence is a national crisis in the United States that 8
- 9 disproportionately impacts youth and transitional aged youth; and
- WHEREAS. Gun violence is the leading cause of death for children and teens in 10
- 11 the United States<sup>1</sup>; and
- WHEREAS, Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by gun 12
- violence, with Black Americans experiencing 10 times the gun homicides, 18 times the 13
- gun assault injuries, and nearly 3 times the fatal police shootings of White Americans<sup>2</sup>: 14
- 15 and
- WHEREAS, Black youth are four times more likely to be killed from gun violence 16
- than White youth<sup>3</sup> in the United States; and 17
- WHEREAS, Black and Latino men between the ages of 18-35 are 18
- disproportionately impacted by and at the highest risk of gun violence in San 19
- 20 Francisco4; and

Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States, New England Journal of Medicine, 5/19/2022 (https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2201761)

mpact of Gun Violence on Black Americans, Everytown for Gun Safety Research and Policy (https://everytownresearch.org/issue/gun-violence-black-americans/)

Gun Violence Prevention, Children's Defence Fund (<a href="https://www.childrensdefense.org/policy/policy-priorities/gun-violence-prevention/">https://www.childrensdefense.org/policy/policy-priorities/gun-violence-prevention/</a>)

4 Understanding Serious Violence in San Francisco (Executive Summary), San Francisco Police Department and Californis Partnership for Safe Communities, 3/4/2021 [Slide

1	WHEREAS, A Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO) is a California court
2	order that prohibits an individual from possessing a firearm(s) and/or ammunition in the
3	case a court finds reasonable cause to believe that an individual poses an immediate
4	and present danger of causing personal injury to themself or another by having in their
5	possession a firearm(s) and/or ammunition; and
6	WHEREAS, Following the Isla Vista terror killings in 2014 when a college student
7	killed six people and wounded 13 others near the University of California, Santa
8	Barbara campus, California enacted Assembly Bill 1014,5 which was the first Gun
9	Violence Restraining Order (GVRO) law, or "red flag" law, in the nation; and
10	WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1014 authorized law enforcement officers to file a
11	petition for and allowed courts to issue a GVRO when a court deems reasonable cause
12	to believe that an individual poses an immediate and present danger of causing
13	personal injury to themself or another by having in their possession a firearm (s) and/or
14	ammunition; and
15	WHEREAS, Since Assembly Bill 1014 was first enacted it has been amended
16	multiple times to strengthen and expand the program; and
17	WHEREAS, Current California law allows 1) an immediate family member, 2) an
18	employer, 3) A coworker (if they have had substantial and regular interactions with the
19	individual for at least one year and have obtained the approval of the employer), 4) an
20	employee or teacher of a school that the subject has attended in the last six months (if
21	they have obtained the approval of a school administrator or a school administration

<sup>5</sup> California Assembly Bill 1014, 2013-2014 Legislative Session (https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill id=201320140AB1014)

Commissioner(s): Barker Plummer, Shaw, Colin; Utting, Nguyen, Pimentel

1	staff member with a supervisorial role), and/or 5) a law enforcement officer to petition for
2	a GVRO to be issued <sup>6</sup> ; and
3	WHEREAS, Current California law also allows a court to issue Ex Parte GVROs
4	and Emergency GVROs (before a notice and hearing) in the case that the court finds
5	there is a substantial likelihood that the individual poses a significant danger to themself
6	or others in the near future <sup>7</sup> ; and
7	WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1014 has been proven to be effective,8 yet public
8	awareness of GVROs and their effectiveness remains low9; and
9	WHEREAS, A survey <sup>10</sup> conducted in 2020 by the University of California Firearm
10	Violence Research Center reported that approximately 65% of California respondents
11	were not aware of GVROs nor of "red flag" laws; and
12	WHEREAS, The aforementioned survey also reported that approximately 52% of
13	California firearm owners were not aware of GVROs nor of "red flag" laws; and
14	WHEREAS, The aforementioned survey also reported that approximately 71% of
15	California respondents who lived with a firearm owner(s) were not aware of GVROs nor
16	of "red flag" laws; and
17	WHEREAS, The aforementioned survey also reported that the main reason
18	someone would not pursue a GVRO from a judge was that they did not know enough

about GVROs; and

Commissioner(s): Barker Plummer, Shaw, Colin; Utting, Nguyen, Pimentel **YOUTH COMMISSION** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> California Penal Code

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Extreme Risk Protection Orders in California, Giffords Law Center, 11/10/2022 (https://giffords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tifords.org/lawcenter/state-laws/extreme-risk-protection-orders-in-california/tiforni

california/#footnote 0 16192)

8 'Red Flag' Law in California Kept Guns From 58 Potential Mass Shooters, Research Shows, Madeleine List, The Sacramento Bee, 6/9/2022

<sup>(</sup>https://www.sacbee.com/news/nation-world/national/article262319527.html)

<sup>9</sup> Red Flag Laws Are Saving Lives, They Could Save More., Matt Vasilogambros, Pew - Stateline, 10/5/2021 (https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-

analysis/blogs/stateline/2021/10/05/red-flaq-laws-are-saving-lives-they-could-save-more)

10 Public Awareness of and Personal Willingness to Use California's Extreme Risk Protection Order Law to Prevent Firearm-Related Harm, Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz, PhD, MPH; Amanda J. Aubel, MPH; Rocco Pallin, MPH; Garen J. Wintemute, MD, MPH, JAMA Health Forum, 6/4/2021 (https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama-health-forum/fb/19/68/ft-po/24/04/tz)

1	WHEREAS, A 2021 report <sup>11</sup> from the San Francisco Chronicle found that San
2	Francisco was consistently behind the Bay Area average for the issuances of GVROs
3	between 2017 and 2020, and that GVROs "went nearly unused in San Francisco in the
4	first three years of the [red flag] law"; and
5	WHEREAS, The San Diego Office of the City Attorney has championed the use
6	of GVROs through the creation of a specific team "gun violence restraining order unit"
7	dedicated to processing and pursuing GVRO requests and working with local police to
8	implement these orders <sup>12</sup> ; and
9	WHEREAS, The aforementioned unit processes approximately 30 GVRO
10	request referrals from local police every week; and
11	WHEREAS, The aforementioned unit has successfully filed for a GVRO more
12	than 1,350 times between the end of 2017 and April 2022; and
13	WHEREAS, In July 2022, the San Diego Office of the City Attorney was awarded
14	a \$1,000,000 grant from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services to train
15	and educate city attorney offices and law enforcement groups in California on how to
16	utilize GVROs <sup>13</sup> ; and
17	WHEREAS, A key component of any effective strategy to keep schools safe from
18	gun violence is schools sharing information on gun violence prevention
19	programs/strategies like GVROs; and therefore be it
20	RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the City and
21	County of San Francisco to improve and expand public awareness of Gun Violence

Commissioner(s): Barker Plummer, Shaw, Colin; Utting, Nguyen, Pimentel YOUTH COMMISSION

<sup>11</sup> Red flag law takes guns from dangerous people. Why aren't more California counties using it?, Alexei Koseff, San Francisco Chronicle, 5/14/2021 (https://www.sfchronicle.com/projects/2021/california-gun-restraining-orders/#SanFrancisco)
12 Inside the Team Pioneering California's Red Flag Law, Alexei Koseff, CalMatters, 9/19/2022 (https://calmatters.org/gun-violence/2022/09/red-flag-laws-california/)
13 California Announces New Details on Efforts to Promote Nation-Leading Red Flag Laws, Office of the Governor of California, 7/4/2022 (https://www.gov.ca.gov/2022/07/14/california-announces-new-details-on-efforts-to-promote-nation-leading-red-flag-laws/)

1	Restraining Orders, particularly for middle school students, high school students, higher
2	education students, educators, school administrators, and other school staff; and be it
3	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the
4	City and County of San Francisco to explore and, if applicable, apply for grant funding to
5	expand training, education, and outreach on utilizing Gun Violence Restraining Orders;
6	and be it
7	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges both
8	the City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco Unified School District to
9	work together collaborate to improve and expand public awareness of Gun Violence
10	Restraining Orders for San Francisco Unified School District students, families, and
11	staff; and be it
12	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the
13	Office of the City Attorney and Police Department to create a team dedicated to
14	processing and pursuing Gun Violence Restraining Order requests from members of the
15	public; and be it
16	FURTHER RESOLVED, That San Francisco Youth Commission staff are
17	directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the Office of the Mayor, Board of
18	Supervisors, San Francisco Unified School District Board of Education, Office of the
19	City Attorney, and Police Commission.

2 3 Resolution urging the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to install protected bike lanes and intersection safety improvements on Arguello Blvd from Golden Gate Park to the Presidio Gate, urging the Mayor and District 1 and 2 Supervisors to support protected bike lanes and intersection safety improvements on Arguello Blvd 7 from Golden Gate Park to the Presidio Gate, urging the Presidio Trust to install physically protected bike lanes and intersection safety improvements from the Presidio Gate to Sheridan Avenue, and urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to urge the Presidio Trust to install physically protected bike lanes and intersection safety

[Protected Bike Lanes and Safety Infrastructure - Arguello Boulevard]

improvements from the Presidio Gate to Sheridan Avenue.

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WHEREAS, Arguello Blvd is an important component of San Francisco's bicycle network linking Golden Gate Park including JFK Promenade to commercial corridors, Rossi Park, Slow Lake Street, and the Presidio National Park; and

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WHEREAS, Arguello Blvd between Geary Blvd and West Pacific Avenue is a part of the High Injury Network, the 13% of streets where 75% of severe or fatal traffic collisions occur; and

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WHEREAS, Arguello Blvd marks the border between District 1 and 2 which both severely lack physically protected bike lanes with Arguello Blvd being no exception, the current bike lanes provide no physical separation from parking and vehicle travel lanes; and

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WHEREAS, In November 2022, a 16-year-old cyclist was severely injured after being hit by a vehicle at the intersection of Arguello Blvd and California Street and in April of 2023, USA Cycling champion Ethan Boyes was killed by a driver on Arguello Boulevard in the Presidio; and

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WHEREAS, In December 2022, The San Francisco Bicycle Advisory Committee passed a Resolution<sup>1</sup> calling for protected bike lanes and intersection safety improvements on Arguello Blvd; and

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WHEREAS, San Francisco has committed to Vision Zero with a goal of ending traffic fatalities on city streets by 2024 but as stated in Youth Commission [Res. No. 2223-AL-10] little progress has been made and they city is not on track to meet its 2024 goal; and

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38 39 WHEREAS, San Francisco also has a mode shift goal that states "The city will shift 80% of trips to sustainable travel choices by 2030. More people walking and biking on safe streets in San Francisco—getting health benefits from physical activity, cleaner air, and less traffic noise helps makes it safer for everyone on every street;" and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PROTECTED BIKE LANES ON ARGUELLO BETWEEN GOLDEN GATE PARK AND THE PRESIDIO AND ADDITIONAL SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS INTERSECTIONS, San Francisco Bicycle Advisory Committee, 12/12/2022 (https://sf.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/RESOLUTION%20TO%20SUPPORT%20A%20PROTECTED%20BIKE%20LANE%20ON%20ARGU ELLO.pdf)

WHEREAS, San Francisco has adopted a Transit First Policy which states "decisions regarding the use of limited public street and sidewalk space shall encourage the use of public rights of way by pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit, and shall strive to reduce traffic and improve public health and safety" and "bicycling shall be promoted by encouraging safe streets for riding, convenient access to transit, bicycle lanes, and secure bicycle parking;" now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the 2022-2023 Youth Commission of the City and County of San Francisco urges the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to expeditiously install physically protected bike lanes and intersection safety improvements on Arguello Blvd from Golden Gate Park to the Presidio Gate; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2022-2023 Youth Commission of the City and County of San Francisco calls on Mayor London Breed, District 1 Supervisor Connie Chan, and District 2 Supervisor Catherine Stefani to support these safety improvements and their expeditious installment; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2022-2023 Youth Commission of the City and County of San Francisco urges the Presidio Trust to install physically protected bike lanes and intersection safety improvements from the Presidio Gate to Sheridan Avenue; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2022-2023 Youth Commission of the City and County of San Francisco urges the Board of Supervisors, Mayor, and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to urge the Presidio Trust to install physically protected bike lanes and intersection safety improvements from the Presidio Gate to Sheridan Avenue.

FILE NO. MOTION 2223-AL-23

1 May 1st, 2023 2 San Francisco Board of Supervisors 3 City Hall 4 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place 5 Room 244 6 San Francisco, CA 94102 7 8 Mayor London Breed 9 City Hall 10 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place Room 200 11 12 San Francisco, CA 94102 13 14 Re: Support the Department of Environment's Budget Request of \$5.03M for the Fiscal 15 Years of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. 16 17 Dear Mayor and Board of Supervisors, 18 19 The San Francisco Youth Commission supports the Department of Environment's \$5.03M budget request from the City and County of San Francisco for Fiscal Years of 2023-2024 and 20 21 2024-2025. 22 23 Through an amendment to the City Charter in 1995, the Youth Commission was created to 24 advise the Mayor and Board of Supervisors on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is a body of 17 diverse youth between the ages of 12 and 23 who represent 25 all youth in San Francisco. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comments and 26 27 recommendations on all proposed laws that primarily affect youth before the Board takes final 28 action. 29 30 The Youth Commission is driven to make San Francisco an equitable and sustainable city in 31 which all youth can thrive. Specifically, we have been concerned with the worsening climate crisis. Youth are currently seeing and experiencing the harmful effects of climate change, and 32 will continue to have to bear with these harmful impacts in many decades to come. Additionally, 33 34 as an urban city, we believe San Francisco has a greater responsibility to address these climate 35 impacts and provide creative and innovative solutions. 36 As a result, our Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee has worked on initiatives to make 37 San Francisco more walkable, livable, and public transit-friendly such as permanent Slow 38

Streets, the closure of the Great Highway to cars, and Free Muni for all Youth. We greatly value

FILE NO. MOTION 2223-AL-23

1 and appreciate the work of the San Francisco Department of Environment on this issue. 2 Specifically, we believe in funding and implementing the Climate Action Plan. 3 4 The Climate Action Plan was first released in 2004, and updated in 2013 with a summary on the city's progress, its successful policies and programs, and necessary further action. In 2019, the 5 6 city achieved a 41% reduction in emissions from 1990. However, since these plans have been 7 released, the city has been experiencing a worsening climate crisis with disproportionate impacts 8 on marginalized communities. This crisis drove the development of the 2021 Climate Action 9 Plan. The 2021 Climate Action Plan provides a general road map for the city to reach net-zero 10 emissions by 2040. 11 12 For the Fiscal Years of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, the Department of Environment is requesting 13 \$1.53M to retain staff and prevent cuts, and \$3.5M to secure existing and new budget requests 14 for the Climate Action Plan. Current staffing is necessary for the department to secure federal grants. There is more federal money available now than ever before and keeping existing staff 15 levels will maintain capacity to seek federal grant dollars and implement Climate Action Plan 16 goals. It will also ensure the department can collaborate with other city departments on unified 17 goals. The Climate Action Plan is a large initiative that demands funding to achieve its current 18 19 vision and also advance forward meaningfully. 20 21 San Francisco needs to take immediate action to address the climate crisis. The climate crisis is 22 an issue that affects everyone in the city, but it will especially affect youth who will bear all of 23 the potential future consequences. The Mayor and Board of Supervisors must consistently invest 24 in bold climate action by funding the Department of Environment and granting the total ask of \$5.03M. The Department of Environment's work is necessary to create a more livable, 25 sustainable, and equitable city for youth. 26 27 28 Sincerely, 29 30 31 32 Emily Nguyen, Chair Adopted on 5/1/2023 2022-2023 33 34 San Francisco Youth Commission

	TIEL NO.	WOTION NO. 2220 AL 2
1	[Motion to Support SB 691 – Universal Dyslexia Risk Screening]	
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4	Supplemental Information:	
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6	See attached document [Letter of Support]	
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Commissioners Barker Plummer, Loftus, Utting SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH COMMISSION

The Honorable Anthony Portantino California Senator, District 25 1021 O Street, Suite 7630 Sacramento, CA 95814

### Re: Support for SB 691 (Portantino) - Universal Dyslexia Risk Screening

Dear Senator Portantino.

On behalf of the San Francisco Youth Commission, I am writing to express our support for SB 691 (Portantino). The bill would require the State Board of Education to adopt screening tools for dyslexia, provide that all students in California be screened for dyslexia in early elementary grades, and that the results be made available in a timely fashion to teachers and parents, as specified.

The Youth Commission is composed of seventeen youths, between the ages of 12 to 23, who represent the diverse communities of San Francisco. Created by the voters under a 1995 amendment to the City Charter, the Youth Commission advises the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor of San Francisco on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comments and recommendations on all proposed laws that primarily affect youth before the Board takes final action.

The Youth Commission supports SB 691 because it would establish a statewide policy of early screening toward the goal of eliminating inequities of opportunity in California's public schools. Without universal screening in every school district, only those students with sufficient resources and advocacy on their behalf are identified as having dyslexia and receive the appropriate instruction and support they need to reach their full potential.

Dyslexia is the most common learning disability, with nearly 15% of the general population having the condition. Sadly, students with dyslexia and struggling with reading and other academic content often go undiagnosed. Without identification and support, students with dyslexia are less likely to graduate high school and attend college and face a greater risk of incarceration. In some prisons today, nearly 80% of the inmates are illiterate, and almost one-half of these are on the dyslexia spectrum.

Specifically, SB 691 would require all local educational agencies serving students in any of the grades Kindergarten to Grade 2, inclusive, to use a screening tool approved by the State Board of Education to screen students for dyslexia (unless objected to in writing from the parent or guardian). The bill provides for the results and state dyslexia program guidelines to be made available to parents and teachers in a timely manner so they are aware of the findings and strategies that can be used to support the student in the general education program, and so that parents understand their rights.

SB 691's provisions to make screening results available to teachers in a timely fashion will help educators better understand their students' challenges and provide needed help. The bill also ensures that parents have the results of screening in a timely fashion, so they are also made aware of their child's challenges and how they can help too.

Identifying students at risk of dyslexia early as a statewide priority is a low-cost investment for the state to help ensure every child has equitable access to a basic education guaranteed as a fundamental right in the California Constitution. Targeting instructional support early for identified students will also significantly reduce costs to schools and families for later academic remediation and support services.

Hundreds of thousands of California students struggle every day with dyslexia and reading at grade-level, often without the proper identification and support to achieve their full potential. By screening all students for dyslexia early, California can help families and teachers achieve the best learning and life outcomes for all students, close academic achievement gaps, and help end the school-to-prison pipeline. Thank you for your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

- 1 2 3 4
- Emily Ngyuen, Chair Adopted on 05/01/2023 2022-2023 San Francisco Youth Commission

1	[Motion to Support SCA 2: lowering the voting age from eighteen to seventeen in
2	all public elections throughout the state]
3	
4	Supplemental Information:
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6	See attached document [Letter of Support]
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# Youth Commission City Hall ~ Room 345 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



(415) 554-6446 (415) 554-6140 FAX

May 1, 2023

TO: Senator Steven Glazer (Chair) CA Senate Elections Committee Sacramento, CA

Subject: SUPPORT SCA 2 (Stern)

Dear Chairmen Glazer,

On behalf of the San Francisco Youth Commission, we ask you to please support SCA 2 (Stern) which would lower the voting age from eighteen to seventeen in all public elections throughout the state.

Young voters (ages 18-24 years old) in California have the lowest turnout rate of any age demographic, leaving them drastically underrepresented. In the 2014 general election, only 8.2% of California's eligible youth voted. The low turnout of young voters is partly due to the fact that they enter voting eligibility at a time of drastic transition; many 18-year-olds are graduating from high school, going to college, or getting a job.

Research has shown that the earlier in life one votes, the more likely they are to continue voting. Furthermore, a robust body of evidence demonstrates that 16- and 17-year-olds have the necessary cognitive skills and civic knowledge to vote responsibly. As a result, there has been a nationwide movement to engage youth earlier in the electoral process. California, along with ten other states, allow 16-year-olds to preregister to vote. California's pre-registration program began in 2016, and as of 2020, more than 500,000 California teens have taken advantage of the preregistration program.

Research demonstrates that voting is habitual—if someone votes in the first election for which they are eligible, they are far more likely to continue voting throughout their lifetimes. Furthermore, when younger voters participate in the political process, this civic engagement is more likely to trickle up and influence their friends and families. Lowering the voting age not only will bring younger voters into the electoral process, but will also have positive impacts on those around them.

The passage of SCA 2 would allow California to pave the way toward a stronger democracy and help heal generational wounds that have negatively impacted equitable voting. As of May 2022, 21.9 million of California's 26.9 million eligible adults (82%) were registered to vote. This is six percent higher than just 4 years before. However, about six in ten unregistered adults in the state are Latino. A growing body of political science research concludes that one of the primary determining factors in whether someone becomes a lifelong voter is whether their parents voted. This hereditary habit

# Youth Commission City Hall ~ Room 345 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



(415) 554-6446 (415) 554-6140 FAX

of voting has been historically inhibited for many minority groups, and those effects can still be seen in turnout today.

It is for these reasons that the San Francisco Youth Commission strongly urges your yes vote to pass SCA 2.

Emily Nguyen, Chair Adopted on 05/01/2023 2022 – 2023 San Francisco Young Commission

cc: Sen. Stern

FILE NO.

Commissioner Colin

SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH COMMISSION

MOTION NO. 2223-AL-24

1 May 1st, 2023

- 3 The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer
- 4 Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee
- 5 Legislative Office Building
- 6 1020 N Street, Room 111
- 7 Sacramento, California 95814

# RE: AB 1497 (Haney) - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer,

The Youth Commission is pleased to support AB 1497 (Haney), which seeks to ensure that no survivors of violence – particularly Black and brown women, youth, queer, or transgender victims – are excluded from legal remedies that open up pathways to healing and a fresh start for them and their families.

The Youth Commission is composed of seventeen youths, between the ages of 12 to 23, who represent the diverse communities of San Francisco. Created by the voters under a 1995 amendment to the City Charter, the Youth Commission advises the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor of San Francisco on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comments and recommendations on all proposed laws that primarily affect youth before the Board takes final action.

 In California, 34% of women will experience domestic violence in their lifetimes. Gender-based violence – including domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual violence – impacts all communities, but Black, brown, and indigenous women and queer and trans people are disproportionately impacted. Black women are almost three times more likely than white women to die at the hands of a current or former partner. More than 80% of American Indian and Alaska Native women had experienced violence in their lifetime, and one in three had experienced violence within the past year. And transgender and gender non-conforming people are six times more likely to be sexually assaulted as children, have a greater risk of sexual violence across their lifetimes, and are vastly overrepresented in prisons.

A horrifying reality of our current legal system is that over 90% of human trafficking victims are criminalized while being trafficked. Survivors are often arrested and punished simply for protecting their or their families' lives.

- Too often, victims and survivors of violence are blocked from the opportunity to heal because their trauma is used against them, ignored, or not accounted for during legal proceedings.
- Consequently, judges and juries are left with insufficient information and options to make key
- 42 decisions about survivors' lives, including in criminal charges and sentencing. The

criminalization and penalization of victims by California's legal system leaves survivors without access to healing or crucial resources like housing, employment, education, and financial independence, and subjects them to continued cycles of violence, homelessness, and poverty.

5 6

AB 1497 would guarantee that survivors have a chance for their experiences to be heard during legal proceedings as well as a chance to rebuild their lives. Specifically, this bill would:

7 8 9

• Prevent the unjust conviction of victims who survived contexts of abuse, coercion, and exploitation through an expanded affirmative defense.

11 12

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 Allow judges and jurors to consider an individual's relevant mental health diagnosis and treatment in more cases, broadening key decision-makers' understanding of each individual and their unique circumstances.

13 14 15

 Permit judges to consider survivors' experiences when making sentencing decisions, allowing for the opportunity for healing and family reunification.

16 17 • Ensure that no survivors of abuse, coercion, and exploitation are excluded from forms of post-conviction relief that allow survivors a fresh start including access to employment, housing, education, and other opportunities.

18 19 20

For all these reasons, the Youth Commission is pleased to support AB 1497 and respectfully requests your "Aye" vote.

212223

Sincerely,

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Emily Nguyen, Chair

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Yoselin Colin, Chair of the Transformative Justice Committee

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Adopted on 05/01/2023

33 2022-2023 San Francisco Youth Commission

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35 CC:

- 36 Assemblymember Juan Alanis, Vice Chair
- 37 Assemblymember Mia Bonta
- 38 Assemblymember Isaac Bryan
- 39 Assemblymember Tom Lackey
- 40 Assemblymember Liz Ortega
- 41 Assemblymember Miguel Santiago
- 42 Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur

1	[Calling on the Mayor to Fund 2,000 New Shelter or Temporary Housing Placements]
2	
3	Resolution calling on Mayor London N. Breed to fund 2,000 new shelter or temporary
4	housing placements over the next two fiscal years.
5	
6	WHEREAS, In June, 2022, the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted File No.
7	220281, the Place for All Ordinance, establishing the policy goal of providing immediate exits
8	from the street for everyone willing to accept them, as soon as possible; and
9	WHEREAS, This was a significant change in policy direction, driven by a growing
10	realization among San Franciscans that shelter for all is a humanitarian imperative, and the
11	quickest way to end unsheltered homelessness with limited resources; and
12	WHEREAS, The evidence shows that shelter for all policies are the quickest, most cos
13	effective way to end unsheltered homelessness; and
14	WHEREAS, In New York City, which provides over twice as many shelter placements
15	per capita than San Francisco and guarantees residents a legal right to shelter, 96.2% of
16	people experiencing homelessness have some form of shelter or transitional housing; and
17	WHEREAS, In Boston, which provides over twice as many shelter placements per
18	capita than San Francisco, 95.2% of people experiencing homelessness have some form of
19	shelter or transitional housing; and
20	WHEREAS, On January 31, 2023, Supervisor Mandelman submitted a letter of inquiry
21	to the Department of Emergency Management requesting a summary of resources needed to
22	ensure prompt citywide removal of encampments within 24 hours; and
23	WHEREAS, On February 28, 2023, the Department responded that "under the context
24	of ample shelter for all that is accessible 24 hours a day and if we preserved the current
25	

1	resource levels from each department, we would be able to respond to everything rapidly -
2	likely within 24 hours"; and
3	WHEREAS, All Home's 2021 Regional Action Plan, on file with the Clerk of the Board
4	of Supervisors in File No. 220281, found that "in order to reduce unsheltered homelessness
5	rapidly, most cities or counties will need to frontload investment into interim housing options,
6	such as leasing or purchasing motels, tiny homes, mobile homes, or other temporary housing
7	options"; and
8	WHEREAS, The Bay Area Council Economic Institute's 2021 Report on
9	Homelessness, titled New Urgency, New Solutions, on file with the Clerk in File No. 220281,
10	found that "a Bay Area Shelter mandate could shelter the vast majority of the region's
11	homeless population for approximately \$245 million in one-time capital expenditures and \$481
12	million in annual spending on services and management"; and
13	WHEREAS, In a March 17 letter to the Board of Supervisors, on file with the Clerk in
14	File No. 230115, Bay Area Council CEO Jim Wunderman called on the City to focus on
15	shelter, highlighting the fact that HSH estimates they can stand up seven shelter placements
16	for the cost of one permanent housing placement; and
17	WHEREAS, A broad coalition of San Francisco stakeholders have called for the City to
18	prioritize a rapid expansion of shelter, including the San Francisco Travel Association, SF
19	Benefit District Alliance, Council of District Merchants Associations, Coalition for San
20	Francisco Neighborhoods, SF Marin Medical Society, Union Square Alliance, and SF Bar
21	Owners' Alliance; now, therefore, be it
22	RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby calls on Mayor
23	Breed to fund 2,000 new shelter or temporary housing placements over the next two fiscal
24	years.
25	