

**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Juvenile Probation Commission**

**Dirk J. Beijen, President**  
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**Julian Chang, Commissioner**  
**Susan Jones, Commissioner**  
**Rebecca Woodson, Commissioner**



**William P. Siffermann**  
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

March 13, 2013

The Honorable Edwin M. Lee  
City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Lee:

On March 13, 2013, by unanimous vote, the members of the Juvenile Probation Commission approved this letter, and authorized me to forward it immediately to your attention. This year we would like to request additional funds to support the Juvenile Probation Department (Department) in its efforts to address deferred maintenance and strengthen its capital infrastructure.

We truly appreciate the economic challenges and fiscal realities your office faces given the City's ever increasing expenses while trying to accommodate uncertain economic times. We applaud your leadership and efforts of your staff to close the budget gap over the past fiscal year to \$129.1 million and impose a two-year plan on all departments that encourages fiscal responsibility and long-term prioritizing over a quick fix. That said, as we work together to meet the budget targets imposed on the Department, we believe this fiscal year that addressing the Department's critical deferred maintenance and investing in its infrastructure are important to the health and safety of the youth of San Francisco. We can no longer ignore the ongoing infrastructure needs of the Department, which include the following:

- updating Log Cabin ranch water treatment system to ensure clean drinking water for youth and staff;
- fixing the dorm bathroom conditions at Log Cabin Ranch to ensure compliance with state and federal laws;
- upgrading the fire notification system at Youth Guidance Center to maintain state and federal compliance;
- repairing the road at Log Cabin Ranch to prevent it from washing away at any time causing health and safety issues, and potentially shutting down the Ranch.

Given that this department is responsible for the safety of youth in our care, these are basic necessities to maintain and are vital to our City. The Juvenile Probation Department is charged with helping the City's most vulnerable youth – those who have lost their way and look to the Department and its dedicated staff to build their confidence and faith in themselves, complete their education, obtain job skills and make other significant changes necessary to create a better future outside the criminal justice system.

The Commission strongly urges you to accept the Department's proposed operating and capital budgets. These budgets will allow the Department to maintain core services, as well as update its essential infrastructure so that it may return its focus to the youth and families served by the Department. We appreciate your consideration of this letter and look forward to working closely with your office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dirk J. Beijen".

Dirk J. Beijen, President  
Juvenile Probation Commission

cc: William P. Siffermann, Chief Probation Officer  
Nicole Wheaton  
Capital Planning Committee