

**YOUTH EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE  
POLICY PRIORITIES**

**Increase Summer Youth Employment Opportunities**

**Priority #1: Launch a local San Francisco Summer Jobs+ campaign**

- identify private and public sector funds
- secure private sector job opportunities
- develop infrastructure to manage internships

Background

“Our nation’s greatest untapped natural resource is our next generation. These young men and women represent homegrown talent, ready, willing, and able to be a part of the future; they simply need the outlook, the outlet, and the opportunity.”<sup>1</sup>

It is clear that a young person’s first job brings them more than a paycheck. This experience teaches skills that serve them through work and life, long after the job is over. However, young people in America are currently facing record unemployment. In response, President Obama launched the Summer Jobs+ campaign – a joint initiative that challenges business leaders and communities to help provide hundreds of thousands of summer jobs for America’s youth. The President proposed \$1.5 billion for youth employment. The White House has challenged both the public and private sector to work together in creating pathways to youth employment. Overall, it is great news that record high youth unemployment is highlighted on a national level by the President’s Summer Jobs+ campaign, and that this campaign has garnered commitments from big corporations and companies to employ youth. However, as youth, we are still concerned with finding the tools and mechanisms necessary to help trickle down these commitments, down to a local city level. The San Francisco Youth Commission’s Youth Employment Committee is dedicated to the increase of summer jobs for youth at a local level.

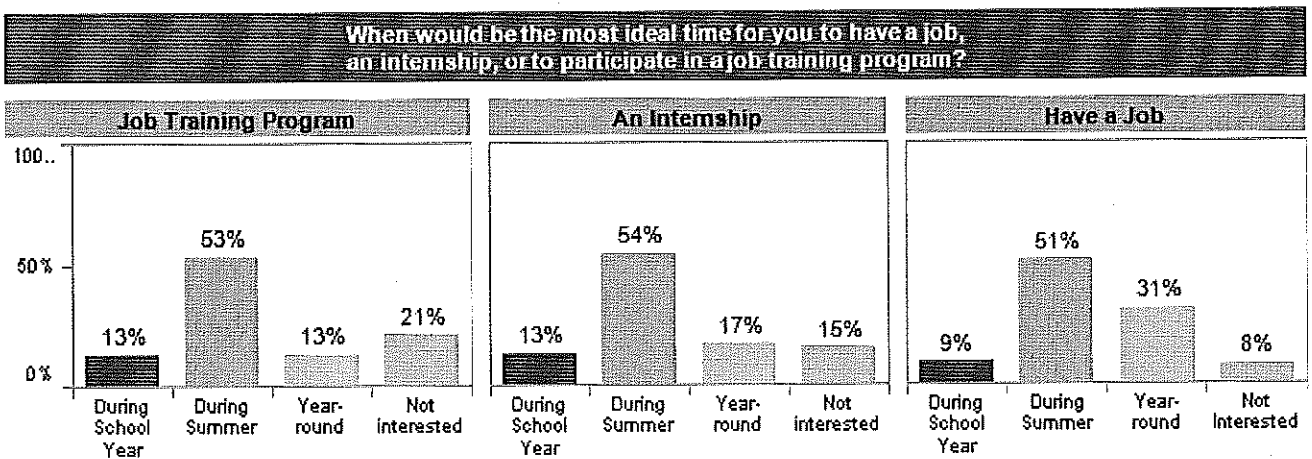
Findings

Nationally, summer unemployment is at its highest rate since 1948, with only 49% of youth 16-24 years old employed in July – the busiest youth job month of the year. Locally, San Francisco’s youth job rate is at its lowest in more than 60 years, with 33% of the city’s job seeking youth officially unemployed according to the American Community Survey. In the last summer alone, over 2000 youth were turned away by the City’s two largest paid internship programs, the Mayor’s Youth Employment and Education Program (MYEEP) and San Francisco Youth Works.

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<sup>1</sup> Jovi, Jon Bon. "Going All in For All Youth." *The Huffington Post*. TheHuffingtonPost.com, 31 Jan. 2012. Web. 28 Mar. 2012. <[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jon-bon-jovi/youth-unemployment\\_b\\_1244699.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jon-bon-jovi/youth-unemployment_b_1244699.html)>

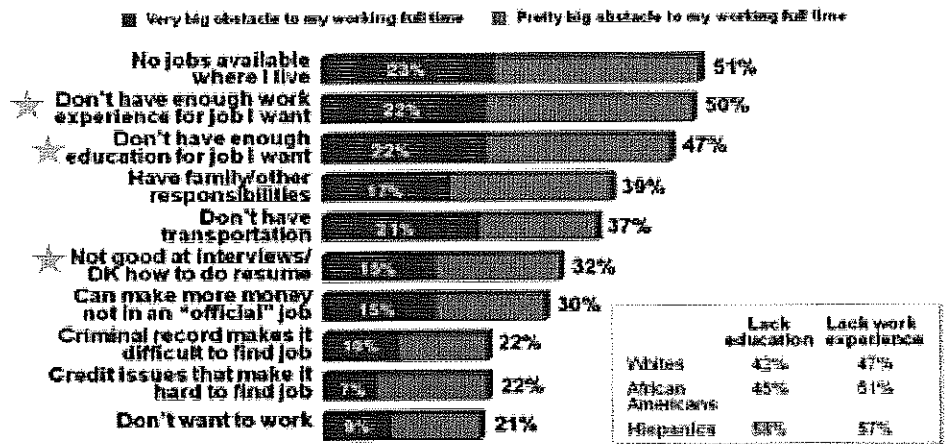
According to the Fall 2011 Youth Vote Survey of over 9,500 San Francisco Unified School District high school students, youth consistently prioritize employment over any other potential activity, program, club or lesson. From this same survey, we see that SFUSD youth are consistently choosing the summer as the most ideal time for them to be employed.



According to a 2012 report from the Corporation for National And Community Service and the White House Council for Community Solutions, youth have identified the following as the top three obstacles to connecting to work:

- Don't have enough work experience for job I want
- Don't have enough education for job I want
- Not good at interviews/Don't know how to do resume

Figure 9: Obstacles to Connecting to Work



Source: Opportunity Road, 2012

Nationwide, there are 6.7 million transitionally aged youth disconnected from education and work,<sup>2</sup> with many disconnected youth ages 16-24 not represented in employment statistics because the competitive current job market had dissuaded them from even searching for work.

We see over and over again, the importance of having youth connected to jobs, as it helps a young person develop skills needed to be a successful and responsible citizen. We believe that an increase in youth employment starting this summer would aid youth in overcoming obstacles to finding work and help to address the pressing, universally acknowledged need for youth workforce development programs.

During past Mayoral terms, San Francisco has successfully created public and private partnerships to provide summer youth workforce development programs, for example, former Mayor Willie Brown raised over \$1 million for subsidized youth employment opportunities through local corporations that partnered with the city in the Say Youth Employment for the Summer (Say YES) campaign, which was launched in May 2000<sup>3</sup>, and former Mayor Gavin Newsom secured funding for over 120 youth jobs in his Mayor's Vocational Program by making personal phone calls to local businesses in 2004<sup>4</sup>.

We believe that a local Summer Jobs+ campaign can be successful in San Francisco.

### Analysis

We have been meeting and working very closely with youth advocates, and youth employment service providers to understand the landscape of youth employment in San Francisco, and to collect as much knowledge to better form policy recommendations that reflect the needs of youth. As it is right now, there is a significant need for summer jobs for San Francisco youth.

To address this need, the goals for the SF Summer Jobs+ Campaign should include:

- 400 new paid jobs or internships provided to youth by local companies.
- 400 additional subsidized youth jobs or internships funded by contributions from local private sector businesses and the City.
- 100 additional paid internships in City government supported by departmental funding.

This represents a total of 900 new summer jobs for San Francisco youth. At a cost of \$2500 per summer job, we need an investment of \$2.25 million in San Francisco's youth this summer.

### SF Summer Jobs+ Action Steps:

- **Identify private and public sector funds:** The Mayor and Board of Supervisors, in partnership with local youth organizations, mobilize a campaign to raise at least \$1.25 million in new funding from private sector companies and the City. These funds will

<sup>2</sup> Belfield, Clive R., Henry M. Levin, and Rachel Rosen. *The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth*. Serve.gov. Jan. 2012. Web. 27 Feb. 2012. <[http://www.serve.gov/new-images/council/pdf/econ\\_value\\_opportunity\\_youth.pdf](http://www.serve.gov/new-images/council/pdf/econ_value_opportunity_youth.pdf)>.

<sup>3</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene. "Teen Summer Jobs Need \$1.2 Million." *www.SFGate.com*. San Francisco Chronicle, 19 May 2000. Web. 28 Feb. 2012. <<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/e/a/2000/05/19/BUSINESS4540.dtl>>

<sup>4</sup> Mayor's Press Office. "PressRoom\_NewsReleases\_2004\_24086" Office of the Mayor. "PressRoom\_NewsReleases\_2004\_24086" Office of the Mayor. Mayor's Press Office, 13 Apr. 2004. Web. 28 Feb. 2012.

<[http://sfmayor.org/ftp/archive/209.126.225.7/archives/PressRoom\\_NewsReleases\\_2004\\_24086/index.html](http://sfmayor.org/ftp/archive/209.126.225.7/archives/PressRoom_NewsReleases_2004_24086/index.html)>

subsidize summer internship opportunities in a diversity of settings including private sector, public sector and non-profit websites.

- **Secure private sector job opportunities:** City leaders publicly commit their full support to the Summer Jobs+ Campaign efforts of the DCYF, OEWD, United Way of the Bay Area and other youth employment providers to catalyze the private sector to create summer jobs for youth.
- **Develop infrastructure to manage internships:** Youth employment organizations, SFUSD Career Technical Education Department, OEWD and DCYF work together to determine the best strategy to scale up existing efforts to manage the increase in job / internship volume for the summer period.

## **Priority #2: Include Youth Involvement Plans During Business Negotiations**

- urge new businesses coming into San Francisco to have a Youth Involvement Plan
- include paid and unpaid internships, apprenticeships, or job training programs for the city's youth in Youth Involvement Plan
- identifying increased employment and educational opportunities for youth

### Findings

### Analysis

#### Prioritizing Youth Involvement Plan resolution (Version for BoS)

WHEREAS, Despite the recent financial downturn, San Francisco's economic landscape—in particular, our incubation, attraction and retention of technology companies—potentially offers unique employment opportunities to young people; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has a commitment to retaining vital new companies, as demonstrated in the Central Market/Tenderloin Payroll Tax Exclusion (CMTPE); and

WHEREAS, Mayor Lee’s jobs plan “Roadmap to Good Jobs and Opportunity” emphasizes the importance of apprenticeships, jobs, and internships for San Francisco youth in these new technology companies; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco also has a commitment to considering opportunities for young people, as evidenced in the Youth Involvement Plan required by the 34<sup>th</sup> America’s Cup Host City Agreement, which calls on the City and County of San Francisco, the America’s Cup Event Authority and the America’s Cup Organizing Committee to develop a “comprehensive strategy for achieving” youth involvement in the America’s Cup; and

**YOUTH JUSTICE COMMITTEE  
POLICY PRIORITIES**

**Priority 1**

Full access for detainees at the Juvenile Probation Department's Juvenile Justice Center

**Background**

See February 25, 2012 *Bay Citizen/New York Times* article:

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*Giving Detainees Access to Outdoor Recreation*

By TREY BUNDY

How many adults does it take to supervise a playground? Too many, apparently, if the playground is at San Francisco's Juvenile Justice Center.

A large outdoor recreation area at the city's juvenile hall — part of a \$47 million renovation in 2006 — has sat mostly unused for five years. Center officials say staff shortages and security concerns have prevented youthful detainees from using the space, which includes basketball and volleyball courts, a kickball diamond and a soccer field with grass.

"They gave us the yard, but they didn't give us the proper allocation of staff to be able to post up in there," said William Siffermann, chief of juvenile probation, who oversees the hall.

Now a group of young people, including some former juvenile detainees, are taking the matter to the mayor and the Board of Supervisors. The San Francisco Youth Commission— a 17-member volunteer group of young people ages 12 to 23 that makes policy recommendations to city leaders — drafted a resolution last week calling for detainees to have regular access to the space.

The commission also questioned whether detainees at the hall were getting outside enough to comply with state regulations. Every juvenile is required to have an opportunity for outdoor exercise for at least an hour a day.

"I spent two full years in juvenile hall, always wishing I could go outside more," said Angel Carrion, 20, one of the youth commissioners. Mr. Carrion was released in 2009, after earning a G.E.D., and now works with juveniles in the justice system.

"Quite frankly, I don't think many youth in there know what they're allowed to do or what they're allowed to be getting," he said.

Mr. Carrion and a fellow commissioner, Rene Ontiveros, who also served time in the hall, said they doubted, based on their experience, that most detainees got outside for an hour each day.

Mr. Siffermann said juvenile hall was in compliance with state mandates but added that he "can't say with certainty that every kid has had his or her opportunities" to go outside.

A 2010 evaluation by the Corrections Standards Authority, the state agency that inspects the center every two years, found no state code violations there.

While the large fields sit dormant, young offenders spend their outdoor time on small courtyards adjacent to five living units. Although each unit houses up to 20 youths, only about five can use a courtyard at a time because of the size and supervision concerns.

Because the courtyards are typically available for only an hour a day, Mr. Ontiveros said, "getting 20 kids on that yard for an hour is impossible."

Mr. Siffermann acknowledged that there was only a "short window of time" each day for detainees to go outside.

He also said there were legitimate reasons some detainees did not get outside each day.

"We might have a kid that's on more discipline and requires more room time," he said. "Some kids don't want to go outside, and I can't force them out there."

Detainees have gym classes during school hours, but those are inside and do not provide the physical and mental health benefits associated with sunlight.

“When you’re locked in a facility with limited access to natural light, it’s very unhealthy and depressing,” said Sue Burrell, a lawyer at the Youth Law Center in San Francisco.

Using the whole space would require improving the yard’s fence and paying overtime wages for staff members, Mr. Siffermann said. The money needed for both items has not been budgeted. But as a step forward, he said, his staff would begin allowing youths to use two basketball courts on the edges of the yard beginning in March.

In response to the youth commission’s concerns, Mr. Siffermann has agreed to meet with the commissioners quarterly. He led them on a tour of the center last week.

The commissioners are committed to working with Mr. Siffermann, but they remain unconvinced by the state’s assessment that detainees are getting enough fresh air and sunlight.

“Either they had a dog and pony show when the big bosses were coming down or the regulations need to be fixed,” Mr. Ontiveros said.

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### **Analysis**

Juvenile Probation Department has neither requested nor planned for any of the monies necessary to make the capital improvements for full recreation access.<sup>1</sup>

### **Priority 2**

Have Police Department implement the 3 recommendations the Youth Commission Youth Justice Committee delivered.

### **Background and Analysis:**

See March 19 memo to Police Commission:

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## **YOUTH COMMISSION**

### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Thomas Mazzucco, President, Police Commission  
Honorable Members, Police Commission  
Greg Suhr, Chief of Police

**CC:** Honorable Mayor Edwin M. Lee  
Honorable Members, Board of Supervisors  
Honorable Superintendent Carlos Garcia, San Francisco Unified School District  
Honorable Commissioners, Board of Education  
Joyce M. Hicks, Executive Director, Office of Citizen Complaints

**FROM:** Youth Commission Youth Justice Committee  
Commissioner Rene Ontiveros, Chair  
Commissioner Angel Carrion, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Javonte Holloway, Member

**DATE:** Monday, March 19, 2012

**RE:** Recommendations to improve youth-police interactions

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### **Background: March 7 Joint Hearing**

<sup>1</sup> 2011-2012 Capital Plan. <http://onesanfrancisco.org/wp-content/uploads/Public-Safety-2012-2021.pdf>, page 28.

On March 7th, 2012 the Police and Youth Commissions held the first ever joint meeting of our respective bodies.

For about four and a half hours, we heard presentations from experts in youth and criminal justice and staff from the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) and Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC). We also listened to public comment testimony from over seventy speakers. At least forty of these speakers were youth—a great many of whom offered passionate, compelling stories—and the balance was mostly youth service providers, principals, teachers, and parents.

We heard inspiring stories as well of heart-felt suggestions for improving youth/police relations. Many community members and department staff discussed the positive and positively life changing work in which SFPD is involved each day. There were also numerous stories of miscommunication and seemingly unnecessary escalation between police officers and youth.

Most people who came forward to speak did so in good faith: they honestly shared their stories in the hope of improving interactions between youth and police. This memo is an attempt to help make good on that hope.

### **Recommendations**

This memo contains three recommendations for the SFPD and the Police Commission to improve youth-police relations in San Francisco. These recommendations are a result of not only the joint hearing and months of research our committee conducted in advance of the March 7 event, but also the Youth Commission's eight years of working in collaboration with juvenile justice advocates, the OCC, and SFPD to revise and implement the Department General Order (DGO) 7.01 on juvenile-policing procedures. The recommendations are numbered in order of importance.

- 1) *Provide a new training for all police officers, with a priority for sergeants and patrol officers that address topics and policing tactics unique to juveniles. This training should include topics such as adolescent cognitive development, mental health issues for youth, asserting authority effectively with juveniles, recognizing and interacting with traumatized youth and responding to accusations of racial profiling. The Youth Commission Youth Justice Committee strongly suggests that the training incorporate scenarios of real life police-youth interactions and emphasize effective communication and de-escalation tactics during police interactions with youth.*

Many members of the public at our hearing spoke to the importance of building relationships between youth and police officers to further community relations and to reduce the chances of youth involvement in crime. We heard how this is done to great effect in the programming of the Police Activities League, the Wilderness Program, the Youth Fishing Program, Operation Dream and the STEPs Program, the Chief's "Finish High School" and job outreach talks at schools, and the everyday work of officers of the Special Victims Unit and district stations all over the city.

We also heard, however, that too often these relationships can be strengthened or in some cases, do not exist. And we all know that it's not always possible for these relations to exist, given the SFPD's chief responsibility to provide for the public's safety through the prevention and investigation of crime.



However, the youth-related training that SFPD officers currently receive does not include the elements outlined above, and although SFPD used to provide more in-depth training to school resource officers, this training was discontinued in 2009.

We are convinced a new training that is specifically tailored to police-youth interactions would improve youth and police interactions, increase community support of the police, and provide officers more tools to successfully interact with youth.

We think the SFPD has already engaged in a good model of collaboration with community organizations in the 2009 work that officers from the Ingleside Station did with youth from Excelsior-based community organizations. This new training should build upon the work that has already been done through community building events like the Excelsior Youth Summit and should utilize existing venues such as the Youth Chief Advisory Forum. The trainings offered by Strategies for Youth ([www.strategiesforyouth.com](http://www.strategiesforyouth.com)) provide a "Train the Trainer" for command staff and training sergeants, and Strategies for Youth also involves community organizations and youth in the training.

We would be glad to discuss with you opportunities for obtaining substantial funding for these trainings. Will the Police Commission and the Chief consider instituting this kind of training for FY 12-13?

- 2) Ensure there is widespread and regular distribution of SFPD Juvenile Know Your Rights pamphlets through other City agencies, the school district and social media.

As part of the projects to implement the revisions to DGO 7.01, the Youth Commission, numerous juvenile justice advocacy groups and the OCC co-authored with SFPD a youth-friendly *Know Your Rights* brochure. This pamphlet explains police procedures under DGO 7.01 along with young people's rights and responsibilities with the police.

The Youth Commission Youth Justice Committee recommends that at the beginning of each school year SFPD provide the "Know Your Rights" brochure to every middle and high school student, and at the beginning of each fiscal year provide it to the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF). The Youth Commission Youth Justice Committee also recommends that SFPD make available the Know Your Rights brochure at all community events, at each district station, and that it be included on an annual basis in each district station's community newsletter.

SFPD's unprecedented "It Gets Better Video" was groundbreaking. Would the department consider creating such a video aimed at a general youth audience?

- 3) Establish an active Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the school district and standardize relationships between high schools and district stations.

We heard over and over at our joint hearing about the positive impact of school resource officers and the "school car" model of policing. At the same time, we also heard about numerous instances of miscommunication between students and police.

Since 2004, there has not been an active MOU between the SFPD and the school district. We recommend that SFPD and the school district enter into an MOU that at

minimum states the procedures for arresting and interrogating students on campus, the manner in which police will notify parents or guardians when a student has been taken into custody by the police, and how the student will be informed of her or his rights and responsibilities.

Finally, we recommend that at the beginning of each school year, high school principals invite officers from their respective district stations (from the Captains on down) to begin to establish a relationship with students in their schools.

**Next Steps: Presentation, Discussion, Timeline**

The Youth Commission Youth Justice Committee would be grateful to present these recommendations to the Police Commission at your April 4th meeting. We would like to briefly discuss these recommendations with you, answer any questions or concerns you might have, and hopefully come to an agreement as to how best to move forward on these recommendations.

In closing, thank you once more. We hope last week was just the beginning of a growing partnership. Please don't hesitate to contact Mario Yedidia at [youthcom@sfgov.org](mailto:youthcom@sfgov.org) and (415) 554-6254.

**Youth City Services Committee (Housing, Transportation, Recreation)  
Policy & Budget Priorities**

**Priority #1**

Make MUNI free for all young people, beginning on August 1, 2012.

**Background**

The Youth Commission (YC) has been particularly focused on accessible public transportation since fiscal year 2009-2010. In this time, the Youth Commission has adopted three resolutions that have resulted in legislation at the Board of Supervisors (BOS), Board of Education (BOE) calling on the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) to reduce or eliminate MUNI fares for young people.

In response to a legislative process begun by YC 0910—AL08 “Youth Lifeline Pass and Fare Increases,” adopted on February 1, 2010, the SFMTA allocated \$1.5 million in each of FY’s 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 to sell fast passes to low-income youth at half the cost of the regular youth pass.

**Analysis**

The Youth Commission has a number of policy reasons behind its push for free MUNI for all youth. These include:

- *San Francisco youth’s dependence on MUNI.* According to the Fall 2008 YouthVote Student Survey, which polled 8,256 San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) high school students, nearly seventy percent of respondents (69.3%) use some form of public transportation to get to school and over forty percent (44.2%) of these students (who ride public transportation to school)—and thirty percent (30.6%) of overall respondents—must take more than one train or bus to get to school.
- *The dramatic increase in the price of the youth fast pass and the simultaneous disappearance of yellow school bus service.* The monthly price of the youth fast pass has increased from \$10 in May 2009 to \$15 in December 2009, \$20 in May 2010, and \$21 in July.<sup>1</sup> The SFUSD has radically slashed its school bus service in recent years, cutting over half of its yellow bus service from school year 2010-2011 to school year 2011-2012.<sup>2</sup>
- *Free MUNI for all youth will cost the SFMTA 1% of its annual budget.*

<i>Annual Figures</i>	<i>Free Youth Pass for All Youth (#’s in millions)</i>
Youth Pass Fare	\$0
Youth Cash Fare	\$0.75
Annual Youth	\$0

<sup>1</sup> San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 0910—AL08 “Youth Lifeline Pass and Fare Increases,” adopted February 1, 2010; San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution No. 1011—AL04 “Youth Lifeline Follow Up,” adopted January 3, 2011.

<sup>2</sup> *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 15, 2010, “San Francisco Votes to Slash School Busing,” by Jill Tucker, [http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/cityinsider/detail?entry\\_id=79025](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/blogs/cityinsider/detail?entry_id=79025)

Pass Revenue	
Annual Youth	\$0.7
Cash Revenue	
Total Revenue	\$0.7
Total Revenue	(\$7.2) m
Loss	
Graffiti Clean up	\$0.5 m
Additional MTAP	\$0.1 m
Staff	
Incremental	\$0.4 m
Clipper®	
Transaction Fees	
Clipper®	\$0.2 m
Marketing Costs	
(one time)	
Incremental	\$0.3 m
Administration	
Costs	
Total Incremental	\$1.5 m
Costs	
Total Revenue	(\$8.7 m)
Loss and	
Incremental	
Clipper® Costs	
(required to be	
funded)	

- *Free MUNI as opposed to reduced MUNI significantly reduces administrative difficulties and costs.* The SFMTA and SFUSD never implemented the Youth Lifeline fast pass program because of administrative difficulties and costs.

**Analysis:**

The Youth Commission supports free MUNI for all youth under a two year pilot project, funded by a combination of local and regional transportation funds.

**Priority #2:**

Improve the way the City serves disconnected Transitional Age Youth through both (a) City departments meeting previously established goals and fulfilling recommendations and (b) improving systematic coordination between departments and other agencies.

**Background**

There are approximately 5,700 homeless and marginally housed youth in San Francisco, ages 12-24. Of the homeless youth, the majority are transitional aged youth, ages 18 – 24. (2010 Larkin Street Youth Services Incidence and Needs report, estimated Counts of Homelessness in San Francisco chart, page 2.) The Youth Commission prioritizes health, education, and housing for homeless youth.

As a result of limited access to medical and dental care, homeless youth are at high risk for a number of health problems including hepatitis, asthma, pneumonia, nutritional disorders, and skin infections. (Ibid, Medical care in the 30 days prior to intake chart, page 5.)

In addition, through ongoing trauma, instability, and stress from living on the streets, homeless youth deal with mental health and substance use issues of varying degrees. (Ibid, Length of time since youth had a reliable place to sleep chart, page 7)

Transitional housing provides longer-term housing for youth. The guiding philosophy for transitional housing programs is to create an environment that closely mirrors real life, while also providing a safety net for youth that facilitates development of independent living skills.

Community Based Housing

Permanent Youth Housing

(Youth Homelessness in San Francisco: 2010 Report on Incidence and Needs).

### **Analysis**

San Francisco is falling short of the City's regionally assigned goals, particularly for low and moderate-income housing. While the City is on pace to meet 67 percent of its overall housing goal, at the current rate of production it will only achieve 16 percent of its goal for low-income housing and 25 percent of its goal for moderate-income housing by 2014, .

\*Table 1.1 Housing Production Projections through June 2014

(Budget & Legislative Analyst *Performance Audit of San Francisco's Affordable Housing Policies and Programs*).

Although some departments have further developed and strengthened their TAY programming and services, challenges remain for disconnected transitional aged youth. The struggling economy has pushed young people out of entry-level jobs. Additionally burdened by record-high housing and living costs, more young people are finding themselves unemployed, homeless, and receiving public aid than this City has ever seen. Because of this, we need to ensure that transitional age youth are a priority population citywide and across City departments, increase coordination of service and investments for transitional aged youth. This includes, above all, health, education, and housing.

(TAYSF MEMORANDUM)

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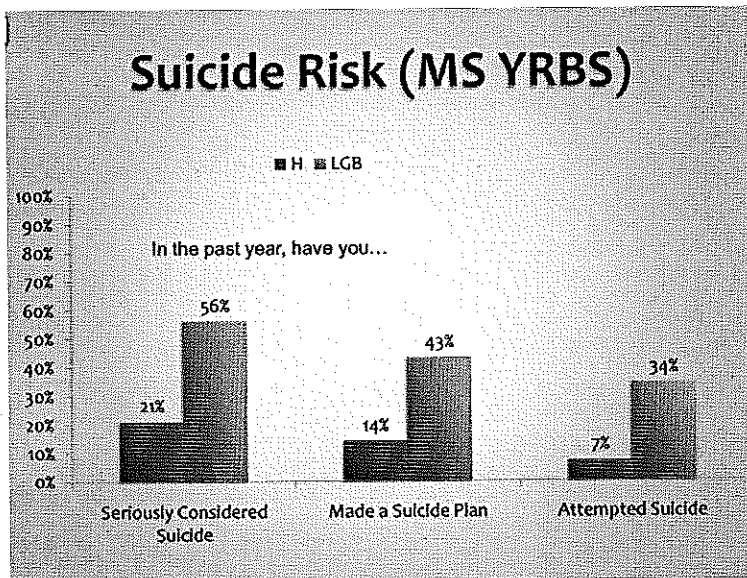
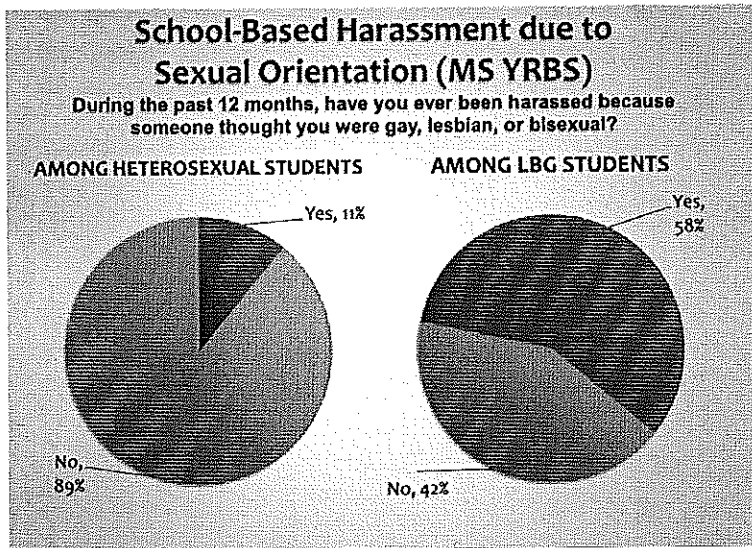
### **Priority 3**

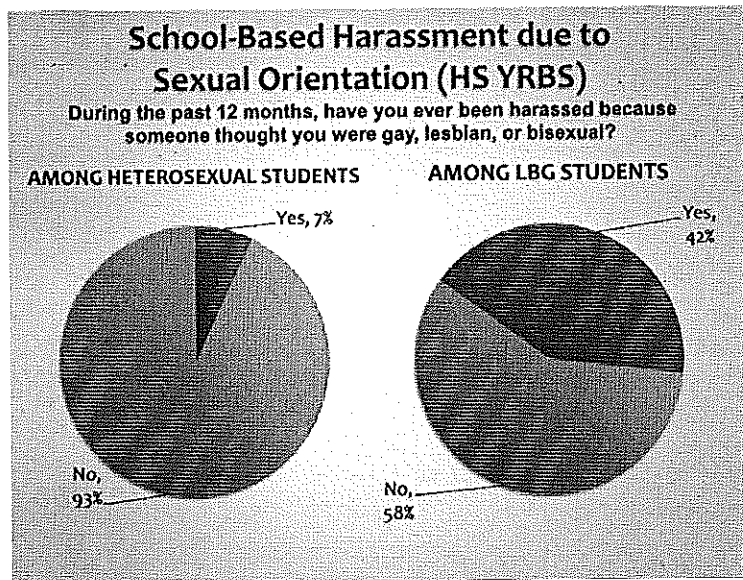
Enforcing Chapter 12N of the San Francisco Administrative Code: *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning Youth: Youth Services Sensitivity Training*.

### **Background**

This mandate designed to help queer youth access services has been on the books since 1999 and hasn't really ever been implemented. However, for the last few months a working group staffed by the Department of Public Health and the Youth Commission has been preparing a tool that City departments and nonprofit contractors can use.

2. Support Services for LGBTQ – includes info on different policies on campus, etc...  
<http://www.healthiersf.org/LGBTQ/index.php>





Student Safety Data - Youth Risk Behavior Survey -SFUSD

\* <http://healthiersf.org/LGBTQ/GetTheFacts/health.html>

\*[http://healthiersf.org/LGBTQ/GetTheFacts/docs/LGBTQ\\_websiteHealthSurvey0809.pdf](http://healthiersf.org/LGBTQ/GetTheFacts/docs/LGBTQ_websiteHealthSurvey0809.pdf)

\*<http://healthiersf.org/resources/chks-yrbs.php> shows survey trends/data from 2011

### **Analysis**

Once the tool that the Department of Public Health and the Youth Commission are developing is finished, the City should follow through on the letter of the law: "each contracting agency of the City or any department thereof, acting for or on the behalf of the City."

**YOUTH IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE  
POLICY PRIORITIES**

**Employment Opportunities for  
Undocumented Youth and Transitional Age Youth**

**Priority #1: Give access to city employment programs for undocumented youth and transitional age youth**

- Give access to existing city youth employment programs funded by the Children's Fund or General Fund
- Pay them through stipends and/or educational scholarships

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**The Need**

Though San Francisco is a sanctuary city, it is still hard to get qualitative data on undocumented youth. What we clearly know is that we still deny them access to employment opportunities through the city's youth employment programs like MYEEP. Unfortunately this reality has unintended consequences when young people are forced to find other ways to make money.

This large need for employment opportunities for undocumented youth has been captured through the qualitative research of the Youth Commission, WISF's Workforce Investment Community Advisory Committee (WICAC), TAYSF's Young Adult Advisory Board (TAYSF-YAA), and DCYF:

**Findings?**

- WISF WICAC/TAYSF-YAA, *Youth Employment Forum, 2011*
  - Members of the YAA conducted focus groups with over 80 youth and young adults around barriers and solutions to finding employment
  - One of the top barriers identified was denial of an opportunity in employment programs that required citizenship to participate
- Youth Commission, *Immigrant Youth Summit, 2011*
  - Surveyed and conducted focus groups with 99 (only 58 surveys were turned in) youth that attended from SFUSD high schools
  - The group also found their citizenship status to be a barrier to attaining meaningful employment
- Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, *Community Needs Assessment, 2011*
  - Participants in DCYF's community input sessions articulated the need for internships, career mentoring/shadowing programs, and meaningful, year-round (not solely summer) employment opportunities as a factor critical in reducing youth violence



**PRELIMINARY DRAFT – NOT AT ALL FINAL** San Francisco Youth Commission  
April 2, 2012

- Participants expressed a need to ensure that immigrant youth and those with disabilities or involvement in the juvenile justice or child welfare system have access to such programming
  
- Youth Advisory Council, *Focus Group with ESL and Immigrant Youth, 2011*
  - Members of DCYF's Youth Advisory Council conducted a focus group for the Community Needs Assessment with ESL and immigrant youth from SFUSD and young adults from CCSF
  - Documentation requirement for programs was found as large barrier to program accessibility

Overall the need for meaningful employment, programs, and training services for undocumented youth and young adults has been clearly identified and documented by youth and young adults themselves. This overwhelming voice is what drove the Youth Immigration Committee to dedicate itself to finding creative solutions to fully give access to undocumented youth and young adults in all City funded workforce programs.

**Training SFUSD Counselors**

**Priority #2: SFUSD Counselor Training and Curriculum Adjustment for New Comer Students**

- Course placement should be based on immigrant students' English level and academics rather than simplistic placement, in order for immigrant students to be better equipped for college.
- Counselors should provide more information for immigrant students, including but not limited to volunteer events, after school programs, internships, AB540, Dream Act, and resources for undocumented youth.

**The Need**

**Findings and Analysis**

a) In the survey conducted by DCYF CAN Assessment Focus Group ESL and immigrant youth, the group had predicted that one of the greatest challenges for ESL students was that their course placement and the English Language Development (ELD) curriculum was unsatisfactory and not suited to their academic level. Some said "Sometimes immigrant youth want to transfer out of ELD program and challenge themselves, but their teacher won't let them" and there are

**Comment [P1]:** United We Dream and CCSF Civic Engagement internship program as models?

**Deleted:** [Maybe insert info on modeling programs after United We Dream scholarship & Civic Engagement internship program to help undocumented youth here]

**Comment [P2]:** Lets cite this!

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April 2, 2012

"ELD programs that don't meet college requirements." Others said they were "placed in an English only classroom when you don't know any English at all." They also shared that:

- ELD classes are not preparing youth for college. They need more vocabulary, grammar, academic rigor.
- Curriculum: There is a big difference between ELD curriculum and non ESL curriculum. ESL students receive the lowest level education that prepares them for blue collar jobs.
- ELD programs don't help immigrant youth adapt to American life
- ESL students need help with this transition from high school to college.
- ESL teachers need to be more dedicated and have better requirements. Some are only focused on teaching to the test.

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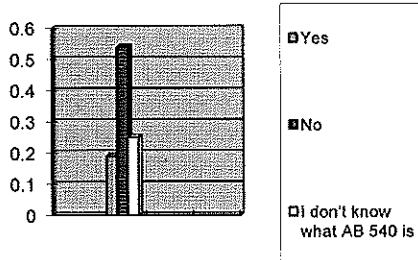
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All of these comments from the focus group are echoed by the experiences of two members of the San Francisco Youth Commission 2010-2011, 2011-2012 and Student Advisory Council 2011-2012. This all has clearly identified that SFUSD ELD students' need for a better ELD curriculum and course placement are unmet.

Comment [P3]: Names

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b) Counselors should provide more information for immigrant students, including but not limited to volunteer events, after school programs, internships, AB540, Dream Act, and resources for undocumented youth.



(I am still trying to work on the graphs)

According to the survey conducted by the Immigrant Youth Summit for 58 SFUSD students, 54% said they had never heard of AB540 before the summit and 25% still didn't know what AB540 was. 49% had never heard of the Dream Act and 25% still didn't know what the Dream Act was after the summit. ( [REDACTED] of the 99 participants attended the Dream Act workshop during the summit) The high percentage of immigrants who do not know about AB540 is shocking. It is very important for newcomer students to be aware of their immigration status as early as possible because unawareness of their status may jeopardize students' job and college access.

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In the DCYF focus group, students have also identified some other challenges:

- Culture shock of coming to America
- ELD programs that don't help immigrant youth adapt to American life

Therefore, we recommend SFUSD counselors to be trained to better provide information for undocumented youth about existing resources such as scholarship and for immigrant youth in general more programs that help them transition to American life.

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