Youth Commission

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YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Derek Evans, Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee Clerk

FROM: Youth Commission

DATE: Wednesday July 22, 2015

RE: Referral response to BOS Files No. 150683

At our **Monday**, **July 20**, **2015** meeting, the Youth Commission voted unanimously to support the following motion:

To support BOS File No. 150683 – Resolution establishing a Board of Supervisors policy that police staffing levels be adjusted through a multidisciplinary process involving multiple departments and community stakeholders and directing the Budget and Legislative Analyst to review public policy best practices for evaluating police staffing levels.

During discussion on this item, youth commissioners discussed the importance of working to improve existing police-community relations before increasing police staffing levels. They discussed strategies for doing this, which could include ensuring newly hired police officers reflect the diversity of the City and are connected to the San Francisco neighborhoods they serve, as well as ensuring that newly hired police officers are fully trained on effectively working with young people. Youth commissioners also discussed the importance of ensuring that police foster and maintain positive relationships with long time residents when increasing staffing levels in neighborhoods experiencing new development.

Youth commissioners also approved the following comments regarding this legislation:

We recommend that the Board of Supervisors extend the multi-disciplinary approach to consider particular geographic areas and ensure equitable staffing across San Francisco neighborhoods.

Youth Commissioners thank the Board of Supervisors for their attention to this issue. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (415) 554-6446, or your Youth Commissioner.

Chair, Michel Li

Adopted on July 22, 2015

2014-2015 San Francisco Youth Commission