



San Francisco Youth Commission

Minutes ~ Draft

Tuesday, July 6th, 2021
5:00pm-8:00pm

Public Comment Call-in:
+1-415-655-0001

United States, San Francisco (toll)
Access Code: 146 399 0890

There will be public comment on each item.

Jayden Tanaka, Valentina Alioto-Pier, Lillian Tang, Plyfaa Suwanamalik-Murphy, Calvin Quick, Gabrielle Listana, Adrianna Zhang, Gracie Veiga, Ariana Arana, Rome Jones, Erika Morris, Arsema Asfaw, Sarah Cheung, Sarah Ginsburg, Nora Hylton, Amara Santos, Stephen “Rocky” Versace

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance (Discussion and Possible Action)**

Commissioner Hylton calls the meeting to order at 5:05 pm. Quorum is met.

Commissioner Zhang, Jones, Cheung, Ginsburg, and Santos gave advanced notice to miss this meeting.

Roll call: 12 present, 5 absent, 0 late

Jayden Tanaka, present
Valentina Alioto-Pier, present
Lillian Tang, present
Plyfaa Suwanamalik-Murphy, present
Calvin Quick, present
Gabrielle Listana, present
Adrianna Zhang, ***tardy***
Gracie Veiga, present
Ariana Arana, present
Rome Jones, ***absent***
Erika Morris, present
Arsema Asfaw, present
Sarah Cheung, ***absent***
Sarah Ginsburg, ***absent***
Nora Hylton, present
Amara Santos, ***absent***
Stephen “Rocky” Versace, present



No public comment. Motions: Commissioner Quick motions to excuse the absences of Zhang, Cheung, Ginsburg, Santos, and Jones seconded by Commissioner Tanaka. Motion passes by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Jayden Tanaka, aye
Valentina Alioto-Pier, aye
Lillian Tang, aye
Plyfaa Suwanamalik-Murphy, aye
Calvin Quick, aye
Gabrielle Listana, aye
Adrianna Zhang, ***tardy***
Gracie Veiga, aye
Ariana Arana, aye
Rome Jones, ***absent***
Erika Morris, aye
Arsema Asfaw, aye
Sarah Cheung, ***absent***
Sarah Ginsburg, ***absent***
Nora Hylton, aye
Amara Santos, ***absent***
Stephen "Rocky" Versace, aye

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Zhang arrived at 5:10pm.

Commissioner Quick: items 5A and 5B don't have presenters on legislative sponsors so these items are tabled until the next FYC on July 19th.

No public comment. Commissioner Quick motions to approve the agenda without items 5A and 5B, seconded by Commissioner Hylton. The motion passes by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Jayden Tanaka, aye
Valentina Alioto-Pier, aye
Lillian Tang, aye
Plyfaa Suwanamalik-Murphy, aye
Calvin Quick, aye
Gabrielle Listana, aye
Adrianna Zhang, aye
Gracie Veiga, aye
Ariana Arana, aye
Rome Jones, ***absent***
Erika Morris, aye
Arsema Asfaw, aye
Sarah Cheung, ***absent***
Sarah Ginsburg, ***absent***
Nora Hylton, aye
Amara Santos, ***absent***
Stephen "Rocky" Versace, aye



3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

- A. June 21st, 2021
[\(Document A\)](#)

No public comment. Commissioner Tanaka motions to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Veiga. The motion passes by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Jayden Tanaka, aye
Valentina Alioto-Pier, aye
Lillian Tang, aye
Plyfaa Suwanamalik-Murphy, aye
Calvin Quick, aye
Gabrielle Listana, aye
Adrianna Zhang, aye
Gracie Veiga, aye
Ariana Arana, aye
Rome Jones, ***absent***
Erika Morris, aye
Arsema Asfaw, aye
Sarah Cheung, ***absent***
Sarah Ginsburg, ***absent***
Nora Hylton, aye
Amara Santos, ***absent***
Stephen "Rocky" Versace, aye

4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (2 minutes per public comment)

There was no public comment.

5. Legislation Referred (All Items to Follow are Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. [Inform + Decision] File No. 210747 - [Hearing - COVID-Related Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data Reports - FY 2019-2020 and Initial Six Months of FY 2020-2021]
Sponsor: Supervisor Mandelman
Presenter: D8 Legislative Staff
(Document B)

This item was tabled.

- B. [Inform + Decision] BOS File No. 210748 - [Hearing - De Facto Route Abandonment and Service Restoration for Muni Buses, Trains, and Cable Cars]
Sponsor: Supervisor Preston
Presenter: District 5 Legislative Staff
(Document C)

This item was tabled.

- C. [Inform + Decision] File No. 210782 - [Supporting Free Muni for All Youth]



Sponsor: Supervisors Melgar, Preston, Haney, Safai, & Walton
Presenter: Megan Imperial, D7 Legislative Staff
(Document D)

Supervisor Melgar: first time coming in front of the YC. Was previous director of Jamestown Community Center, which was very involved with Free Muni for Youth campaign back in 2012. In 2013 there was a compromise to do free muni for free muni for low income youth which served 40k youth a year. Saw that requirements for this was cumbersome regarding having to have parents apply/literacy issues and so only about 70% of youth who could participate did. Access issues were a barrier to entry.

Not able to implement Free Muni for everyone this year and cuts are happening still, even in D7. However, youth are back to school and she is working with the MO and other Supes and able to put in the funding for the program for the entire year, so Muni will be free to ALL youth starting August 15th and no one has to submit any documentation or apply, you just have to get on public transportation. It will coincide with the start of school so youth will have the freedom to get on transportation around the same time that routes are expanding post pandemic.

Youth access and freedom, as well as data, to make sure we can prove that opening access to youth will increase ridership and have youth be the riders of tomorrow. Evidence shows that when you start taking muni earlier, riders become lifelong riders.

Kudos to SFYC for pushing this issue, and kudos to CPA, Coleman, and Power for over a decade. She promises to work hard and this is sustainable and keep this going and make it a permanent feature.

Thank you all for your advocacy, the SFYC was crucial in getting us over the finish line and pushing this issue. You have my commitment to keep this going past this year.

Questions:

Commissioner Zhang: thank you for presenting, SFYC does have a long history of supporting Free Muni for Youth

Commissioner Quick: Thank you for coming to present and support for Free Muni for All Youth. A few questions about implementation:

- When is this gonna roll out?
- When we think about MTA's process of implementation, how will they advertise this from Day 1

Answer: From what I know, the program starts 8/15 which is great because schools start that day. The expansion of the program will include parochial and independent schools. The MTA already has a relationship with SFUSD, these relationships will be mobilized and they will inform students. SFMTA will work with the archdiocese. We will do a big push through media and social media. I think it would be great to work with the YC to advertise this work.

SFMTA Diana Hammons has a presentation to share regarding implementation. Communication and Outreach Plan:

- direct mail to current Free Muni for Youth Participants
- posters/flyers to SFUSD, City College, private and religious school orgs and CBOS
- social media campaign
- emails to all registered clipper card holders
- in vehicle/shelter advertisements



Supervisor Melgar: the SFYC has a strong Twitter game- SFMTA can send out the marketing materials. Commissioners Asfaw and Zhang will be in touch about outreach possibilities.

Commissioner Asfaw: Does SFMTA think of ways to address how a young person looks.

Supervisor Melgar: goal was to do everything to increase ridership and didn't want to put any hard protocols because that's not the point. The goal is different for the Supes which is as flexible as possible and does not even ask about age. Diana Hammons: complete overhaul on fare compliance and staff use best discretion to be sensitive to age verification and is not a focus for them. Less than .03% of citations were issued to youth and says this low engagement will continue. In the case of someone being 21/21

Supervisor Melgar: it'd be great for us to come back to the YC as implementation goes through to get feedback and more ideas.

Commissioner Quick: I have a question about the subway - how will this work with the subway gates?

Diana: We already have this process for our lifeline participants. The gate closest to the station is on open mode. It will automatically open regardless of staffing. It works very well and there's stickers for fare gates. These will be the instructions for this messaging.

Commissioner Quick: so is there an open mode on every exit?

Diana: Yes, they are all left on open mode. The one gate closest to the station.

Discussion: Commissioner Quick: this is really exciting to see this finally coming to fruition after a decade of advocacy the SFYC has been involved in; especially HLU in the last 1.5 years to eliminate the youth fare. One of the main reasons why this is happening!

Commissioner Asfaw: I echo what you're saying and happy we can meet some of the needs of youth in San Francisco.

Public Comment:

Hayden Miller, SF Resident: Lives in D1, youth, strong support in favor of this. Went to Santa Rosa and they have fare free transit for under 18. A lot of the people were just finding out about it, so outreach is important, and hearing it from the driver is also helpful. Encouraging lifelong ridership and the habits. Really great program and hope it will be marketed and implemented well. Thanks to SFYC for its advocacy for this.

Alexander Hirji: former YCer, strongly supports this program. Has been a crucial equity issue for a long time because of deficiencies that were a part of the previous Free Muni program. Applications were hard to find. Goal of YC to get this done for a very long time and urges the SFYC to support this. Opens the door to having this be a possible permanent program.

Motions: Commissioner Quick motions to support this piece of legislation, seconded by Commissioner Veiga.

Roll Call Vote:



Jayden Tanaka, aye
Valentina Alioto-Pier, aye
Lillian Tang, aye
Plyfaa Suwanamalik-Murphy, aye
Calvin Quick, aye
Gabrielle Listana, aye
Adrianna Zhang, aye
Gracie Veiga, aye
Ariana Arana, aye
Rome Jones, ***absent***
Erika Morris, aye
Arsema Asfaw, aye
Sarah Cheung, ***absent***
Sarah Ginsburg, ***absent***
Nora Hylton, aye
Amara Santos, ***absent***
Stephen "Rocky" Versace, aye

6. **Presentations (All Items to Follow are Discussion and Possible Action)**

A. [Inform + Input] SF Planning Department: Housing Element 2022 Update Presenter: Planning Department Staff

Malena Leon-Farrera, part of the SF Planning Department presenting. Land acknowledgement that we are on Ramaytush land. We benefit and wish to pay respects to the Ramaytush people.

Housing element:

- City's housing plan prepared by Planning Dept with other city agencies
- legislated document adopted by BOS and signed into Ordinance
- required eligibility criteria for state affordable housing funds
- updates required by the state every 8 years
- does not change land use controls or zoning and does not allocate budget would guide and direct those decisions.

SF housing problem is a racial and social equity problem; disparate outcomes rooted in long history with institutional racism and discriminatory programs.

Data shows that American Indian and Black population dropped significantly and are more likely to be rent burdened than white households.

SF housing problem is also an economic problem. Increase price to own a home.

Need structural changes to address root causes. First time this plan will be centered on racial and economic issues.

Key policy shifts under consideration:

- for who?: American Indian, Black and other communities of color; unhoused or at risk of being unhoused, vulnerable populations, moderate and middle income households
- recognizing right to housing for vulnerable groups, expand programs to bring back displaced communities, priority geographies, high opportunity areas



Outreach: held 15 listening sessions, 7 presentations to CBOs, 118 online platform participants, etc.

-Community led Strategy: pay CBOs and participants

sfhousingelement.org - can provide feedback and find more information here

Commissioner Asfaw: no action needed on this item. Any input you want to give, please speak now.

Commissioner Quick: very interesting and thank you for coming back and walking us through these updates. Please go more in depth on Planning Department approaching the concentration of new development of housing production in that the city's strategy is doing area plans in low income neighborhoods which has furthered displaced Black and American Indian communities, while not producing enough housing, talk more about how we are planning to open up areas that have not had any affordable housing built in them. How is the Planning Department approaching this?

Answer: I want to begin by saying that the state passed a housing law that says we have to address segregated areas and racially concentrated areas of affluence. In order to do this, we need to check access and look into areas of concentrated poverty. This means opening up the areas highlighted in the map (slides). The way we can do this is with areas with improved transit and targeting these areas for housing development. Another way we are thinking is small and mid rise buildings, right now these new developments are for families. We can remove some of these restrictions to allow more units to be built in one lot. At least 50% of our affordable housing funds will be used in these areas. Our approach is that the state mandates that we plan for these units. We are trying to replace this growth and spread it equivocally across the city, this needs to be a more equitable process. We have different strategies that respond to the need and adhere to state law.

Commissioner Quick: a related point, the funding mechanism for affordable housing that we are going to rely on for the next 8 years. Is the PD in conjunction with the Housing Element, thinking about the money that is available. Is the money enough?

Kimia: Thank you. As you mentioned, our funding has not been sufficient. The affordable housing funding given to regional areas isn't enough, the main reason we've fallen behind. We are trying to piece together different sources of funding. The city has incorporated housing into the capital planning process. The gap is huge and how

Malena: We are incorporating strategies that we hope will reduce the cost of building homes. We have funding and also reduce costs.

Commissioner Quick: Can you go into detail about the ideas for cost reduction?

Malena: using new materials, reimagining permitting and removing uncertainty.

Commissioner Tanaka: represent D1, which you noticed as a rich area and a dead spot. What are your conversations from the westside like and with Sup. Chan? What has been the response?



Kimia: We noticed there is a general understanding for more housing, but we have heard concerns about the type of people moving in. There has been capacity building amongst CBOs to hear more about their input regarding our policies.

Malena: I want to acknowledge Sup. Mar's initiative Sunset Forward doing a needs assessment for the Sunset. I did sit through these conversations and it was evident there are a lot of concerns about their children not being able to live there. We have a need for affordable housing and need flexibility for housing choices for youth, seniors, and families.

Kimia: We are working on a youth focus group and would love to come back with the commission with updates in November. Feel free to give us feedback on our policies that are on our website.

7. Youth Commission Business (All Items to Follow are Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. [Inform + First Reading] File No. 2021-AL-16 [San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency - Transit Service Restoration]
Sponsor: Commissioner Quick
Presenter: Commissioner Quick
(Document E)

Commissioner Quick read this resolution into the record. SFMTA is a bit slow in resuming their services post pandemic. One change will be that SFMTA should bring back all lines that were cut and all service levels. Rumblings about SFMTA not restoring all the lines but service because they are increasing service on other lines.

No questions/comments.

8. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)

- A. Executive Committee
 - a. LAO
 - i. All 3 items of legislation introduced were on the agenda today and 2 of them will be heard on July 19th.
 - ii. BAC had a very long meeting on Monday/Tuesday - 36 hours - approved a budget that's a compromise with the Mayor.
 - iii. CARTSF has been funded, not secured
 - b. Comms
 - i. not much to report. We posted our Monthly Update and shared it on social media. Exciting to be back in the YC office.
 - c. General Committee Updates
- B. Civic Engagement
 - a. check-in with Coleman to talk about the direction of the Vote16 poll
- C. Housing and Land Use
 - a. we did not meet last week, no report.
- D. Transformative Justice
 - a. we did not meet, no report.
- E. OCOF
 - a. nothing to report.

9. Staff Report (Discussion Only)



- BOS is in recess in August - YC too - should be finishing things out -
 - Summer Recess: Aug 2nd - Sept 6th
 - Only meet if it's time sensitive
- 1 more FYC meeting in July - July 19th
- Questions from EC re: committee work/document historical info

10. **Announcements (This Includes Community Events)**

Staff Estrada: Coalition on Homelessness is looking for paid interns.
Commissioner Quick: go ride Muni for free on August 15th!

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51pm.