San Francisco Youth Commission
Agenda
Monday, April 3, 2017
5:15 pm-8:00 pm
City Hall, Room 416
1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Madeleine Matz (Chair), William Juarez (Vice Chair), Martin Krause, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Lisa Yu, Joshua Park, Cris Plunkett, Mary Claire Amable, Emma David, Noah David, Hugo Vargas, Cecilia Nicole Galeano, Jarrett Mao, Jonathan Mesler, Tsia Blacksher, Griffin Ng, Chiara Lind

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)
   A. March 20, 2017
   (Document A)

4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (Discussion Only)

5. Youth Commission Business (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)
   A. [Second Reading] Resolution 1617-AL-02 [Resolution Responding to Donald Trump’s Election and Executive Actions]
      Sponsors: Commissioners Plunkett and E. David
      (Document B)

   B. Motion 1617-AL-07 [Youth Commission Support for Petra DeJesus’ Reappointment to the Police Commission]
      Sponsor: Commissioner Matz
      (Document C)

   C. Motion 1617-AL-04 [Motion Urging the Board of Supervisors to hold a hearing on alternatives to incarceration for 18-25 year olds]
      Sponsors: Commissioners Galeano and Mesler
      (Document D)

   D. [First Reading] Resolution 1617-AL-05 [Resolution Requesting Support for Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10]
      Sponsor: Civic Engagement Committee
      (Document E)
E. [First Reading] Resolution 1617-AL-06 [Resolution Urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to Support Efforts to Pre-Register 16-17 year olds to Vote] (Document F)

F. Certifying Resignation of Commissioner Tsia Blacksher

6. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)
   A. Executive Committee
   B. Housing, Recreation and Transportation Committee
   C. Immigration, Justice and Employment Committee
   D. Civic Engagement Committee
   E. Our Children Our Family Council

7. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

8. Announcements (This Includes Community Events)

9. Adjournment

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City Hall, Room 345
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-6446, Fax: (415) 554-6140
Email: youthcom@sfgov.org
www.sfgov.org/yc

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Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Phone: (415) 554-7724, Fax: (415) 554-5784
Email: sotf@sfgov.org
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AVISO EN ESPAÑOL: La solicitud para un traductor debe recibirse antes de mediodía de el viernes anterior a la reunion. Llame a Derek Evans (415) 554-7702.

San Francisco Youth Commission
Minutes - Draft
Monday, March 20, 2017
5:15 pm-8:00 pm
City Hall, Room 416
1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Madeleine Matz (Chair), William Juarez (Vice Chair), Martin Krause, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Lisa Yu, Joshua Park, Cris Plunkett, Mary Claire Amable, Emma David, Noah David, Hugo Vargas, Cecilia Nicole Galeano, Jarrett Mao, Jonathan Mesler, Tsia Blacksher, Griffin Ng, Chiara Lind

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

Chair Matz called the meeting to order at 5:22pm

Commissioners Present: Madeleine Matz, Martin Krause, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Lisa Yu, Joshua Park, Mary Claire Amable, Emma David, Noah David, Jarrett Mao, Jonny Mesler

Commissioners Absent: Juarez, Ng, Plunkett, Blacksher, Vargas, Galeano, Lind.

There was quorum.

Staff present: Leah LaCroix, Kiely Hosmon, Adele Carpenter

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Mesler, seconded by Commissioner Krause, moved to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by acclamation.

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

B. March 6, 2017
(Document A)

Commissioner Marshall-Fricker, seconded by Commissioner E. David, motioned to approve the minutes. Motion passed by acclamation.

4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (Discussion Only)
There was no public comment.

5. Presentations (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Presentation on Planning Department’s January 2017 Report “Housing for Families with Children”
   Presenters: Supervisor Norman Yee and Jen Lowe, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Yee
   (Document B)

Supervisor Yee thanked the Commission for pushing forward Vote16 as it got a lot of people engaged in the discussion even though it didn’t go the way we wanted it to. Supervisor Yee wants to push forth “family friendly housing” as SF has the lowest percentage of children anywhere in the US. The average is 25-28% children population, while SF has 13%. Supervisor Yee asked the national research firm, PolicyLink, to get involved with this issue. These issues are connected to children of color, lower level incomes, etc but people ignore these types of populations so that’s why Yee asked Policy Link to get involved for more traction to get these issues listened to. Need a connection to the national work and the local work, if we can’t get things done at the local level then we can’t expect things will get done at the national level. A final draft of the report is getting readied and he is calling for a hearing in April.

There are a lot of studios and one bedrooms but this is not enough for families. Currently there is no definition of what family housing is. 2-3 bedrooms in itself doesn’t necessarily make it “family” housing. Developers said they know how to build family housing but they said that the leaders of SF said “we don’t need it”. What amenities do families need versus those that don’t have children? (Storage space, washer/dryer access, etc.). Most high rises don't have accessible spaces for those with children even if they are 2-3 bedrooms. So these elements are being incorporated. If you look at legislation in the past few weeks you’ll see lots of leg that refers to the housing report Yee put out. Need to make sure we have this in our codes so would allow for certain regulations that are followed by developers and this will be pushed in the next month or so. Hopes there will be long lasting impacts so that people don’t decide to leave SF. Supervisor Yee doesn’t want to lose people like Youth Commissioners who could grow up to have children and then have to be forced to leave because they don’t have access to family housing.

Questions/Comments:
Commissioner Amable-Likes the report. What are the opposing stances or why wouldn’t anyone want this? Supervisor Yee-people will agree with many of these things until you push policy. A lot of it is profit driven and no one builds housing to lose money.

Commissioner Amable-do these numbers reflect families living in compressed spaces or neighborhoods and families living in SROs and one bedrooms? Yes, these issues are addressed in here.

Commissioner Mesler-how can YC help push this policy with you? If YC can start talking about this issue that would be helpful and to let Yee’s office know if there is any opportunity to speak about this issue. This report isn’t telling anyone to do anything yet so Yee or others will create policies and will let YC know that they are ready to push policy and the YC can weigh in and be supportive.
Within affordable housing units there are some that have been requested to have childcare access available via legislation to developers for new developments to set aside units that will
operate family childcare. The YC can help support that as well which they already did in a past meeting.

Chair Matz requests anything that can be referred to us so we can weigh in on it.

Commissioner E. David-what is the missing middle? Looking at the development of high rises, the housing stock, etc you see buildings that aren't high rise or single family units. The duplexes, triplexes that have space in the middle of units could potentially have something built or re zoned to maximize unused space.

Commissioner Amable-for neighborhoods that are currently struggling is there current work to help support them? Need to help support senior folks.

Chair Matz-with families with children are there housing that is prioritized for them already, especially in affordable units? When there are multi units they are targeted for families, but for those that are market rate there is no regulation so what generally happens is that if you have a two bedroom place you might have 4 singles, 2 couples, etc more so than a family. Yee would love to explore market rate issues because he’d like to pursue changing regulations around that as well.

There was no public comment.

B. Presentation on the Scholar Card (ConnectED) initiative between SFPL and SFUSD

Presenters: Katherine Jardine, Public Relations Officer, San Francisco Public Library
(Document C)

The Scholar Card is being provided to every student. Provides free resources for youth to become life long learners: online homework help, wifi access, museum passes, streaming music and movies, etc. Scholar Card streamlines the library card process. SFPL uses data provided by SFUSD to create accounts for every SFUSD student. The card is a clean slate and fees are waived by activation (one time waive). Youth can choose designs from local artist Christian Robinson. The Scholar Card calls upon city government to get involved to support youth in library.

Sfpl.org/scholarcard is the webpage. Materials are translated in different languages. There is a launch event on Thursday, April 13th at the Tenderloin Elementary School with Mayor Lee and other notable city figures.

If a student already has a card they can keep their current card or choose a new design and keep barcode number. Teachers can activate cards for all their students and activate all cards. For those who aren’t SFUSD, they are hoping to branch out to charter schools and private schools. SFUSD is the pilot right now. This is an opt out program where parents can opt out of it online or in person.

Questions/Comments:
Commissioner Mesler: what is exact different between scholar card and regular card? The scholar card is special is that it is instant activation and waives all fees and get the special designs on the card.
Chair Matz—a great tool to get more youth in the libraries and to remove barriers to access. Can open this up to Commissioners for items of support.

Public comment—homework portal and online homework help. It is live and provides help.

Commissioner N. David, seconded by Commissioner Marshall-Fricker, motioned to support this program. The motion was approved by acclamation.

C. Presentation on Community Action Model Youth Leadership Project: Creating Positive Change in Communities

Presenters: Anastasia Mallillin, Program Coordinator, and Jessica Escobar and Jennifer Martinez, Youth Leadership Institute

Community Action Model is a youth group made up of 7 youth with 3 of them presenting today. They represent various neighborhoods in SF and are advocating for policies to protect the health of their communities. Their current campaign—high density of unhealthy advertising targets youth and their communities in the Mission, Bayview, and Tenderloin. Youth Participatory Research Methods used: Photovoice, public opinion surveys, stakeholder interviews. A significantly high portion of these neighborhoods have up to 5 liquor stores within 3 blocks of each other, 76% of SF residents believed that these advertisements have negative impacts on their communities, 91% of SF residents supported artwork to replace unhealthy advertising. This is a community, health, and social justice issue and directly affects youth of color. The presenters shared how these issues personally impact their families and their communities and how they feel targeted by corporations.

They are working with store owners, using social media to spread info about the campaign, and engaging stakeholders and similar organizations. Met last month with Eric Mar, Supervisor Fewer, and received endorsement from SFUSD school health program.

Questions/Comments:
Commissioner Amable—do you work with Asian Youth Prevention Services. No, they don’t. How does the change happen in regards to the advertising in stores actually happen? What steps need to happen to get them taken down? Targeting liquor stores not billboards so working with store owners and invite them to voluntarily take them down on their own. Most storeowners agree that this is an issue and so they want to and have agreed to take down some advertisements because they care about their community.

Commissioner Marshall-Fricker—thinks voluntarily is better.

Commissioner Park—can you pay youth to draw murals on the storefronts? There is a list of stores that have responded to the campaign favorably.

Commissioner Matz can open this up to action. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Amable, seconded by Commissioner Krause, motioned to support this campaign. The motion was approved by acclamation. YC will be in touch about further support.

D. Presentation on San Francisco Prevention Coalition: Alcohol Density Impacts in SF
This Coalition’s main focus is to change conditions and norms that make alcohol available and desirable for underage youth. 11 agencies involved in this coalition that include: SOMCAN, Horizans, CYC, Boys and Girls Club, Asian American Recovery Services, YLI, and a few more. Funded by Dept of Public Health. The Coalition uses environmental prevention approaches to reduce underage drinking (access/availability, policies, social norms, and media).

They are targeting alcohol density and think that youth have too many access points to sales. Waiting for a report for more info but know that alcohol is a casual agent in 250 deaths from 2005-2012, alcohol was primarily drug for latinx and Asians. 61% of residents reported past month use. Youth leaders in the coalition share why this issue is important. Low income people of color and youth are more vulnerable to issues like alcohol density and high access. Would like YC to stand in support of the coalition and the work that they do. Alcohol is contaminating the city, especially when it is being targeted towards youth. Alcohol industry is hurting communities of color and continues targeting low income communities of color.

They have advocated for BOS resolution to deny applications to stores that traditionally don’t sell alcohol. Urged to pass SB 819 and another assembly bill to disband selling powdered alcohol. This is a part of larger effort along with other SF agencies. They are asking the YC to write a resolution in support of this issue.

Questions/comments:
Commissioner Amable—giving them praise because this is a good platform to address environmental racism. Appreciates the work that you all do. This is not an individual issue, it is a community and social justice issue and are trying to address the issues at the system level.

YC staff: Are there any YCers interested in writing a resolution about this? Amable, Krause, Matz.

Commissioner Matz informed the Coalition that in the next month(s) we are drafting BPPs (main pieces of leg writing for the year) and then presenting them to BOS in May. Each priority requires two readings at the YC and drafting time separately so if the resolution is to be used as a framework the resolution would have to go first and then get into the BPPs.

E. Presentation by Breathe California: “Flavored Tobacco, Youth Health, and Social Justice"  
Presenters: Randy Uang, Director of Tobacco Prevention and Control Services and Linsay Christelle Etienne, Policy Advocate, Breathe California  
(Document E)

Flavored tobacco is a youth issue and a social justice issue. Youth are targeted by corporations with flavored tobacco. It's a combination of lots of products (menthol cigs, candy flavored vapes, flavored chew, candy flavored cigar, etc.). Three main ways that target youth: packaging, pricing, flavor. Flavored tobacco is a matter of social justice. 8 out of 10 teen smokers started with flavored tobacco. Smoking related deaths are 100% preventable. Menthol Cig use for black youth is 95%, Asian American is 61%, Latinx youth is 58%, white is 51% and for LGBT youth it’s 71%. Data collection methods used: focus groups, surveys.
They are calling for an end or severe limitation to flavored tobacco in SF. Congress folks in 2009 did something like this where they denied flavored cigs except for menthols. Would want SF to close this loophole so to get rid of menthols and get rid of other flavored products.

Starting a petition to make a statement against flavored tobacco. Tinyurl.com/noflavor (can do this as an individual to sign). Asking for orgs and agencies to voice endorsement support.

Questions/Comments:
Commissioner Amable—because they pushed back the age for those to buy products do you think this has helped dropped the rates? Doesn’t know of any data as it might be too early to tell just yet.

Commissioner Mesler, seconded by Commissioner Krause, motioned to support this campaign. The motion was approved by acclamation.

6. **Youth Commission Business (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)**

   G. Training on Pre-Registration of 16 & 17 Year Olds
   
   Sponsor: Civic Engagement Committee

   Commissioner N. David informed the Commissioners on how they can legally register youth to vote and asked for their help in getting as many 16 & 17 year olds registered as possible.

   YC staff will get large stack of voter registration cards and put in YC office.

   Adele will take the Commissioner who gets the most youth registered out to lunch. Kiely will take the second winner out to Loving Cup. Commissioner Amable thinks she can get 25, as does Commissioner Matz. Commissioner N. David -10, Krause-25, Park – 15 or 20.

   H. Leave of Absence Request for March 13-April 5, 2017 for Commissioner Cris Plunkett

   Commissioner Plunkett is requesting a leave of absence from March 13-April 5th. Commissioner N. David, seconded by Commissioner Mao, motioned to approve this leave of absence. Motion was approved by acclamation. There was no public comment.

   Commissioner Park—how would not having a Legislative Affairs Officer affect us? He did a lot regarding legislation. We could take on an interim legislative affairs officer. Commissioner Marshall-Fricker will volunteer for this.

   I. Discussion and Review of Plan for Youth Solidarity Rally

   Taking place Monday, April 3rd before our next YC meeting. There is a Facebook event going out. Currently doing outreach and need speakers and organizations to sign on as co sponsors and bring youth. Need to set aside time to follow up with emails and phone calls, especially for speakers the YC wants. Need to identify more information to send out to potential participants as well. Need to have another informal working meeting to help plan. Park, Yu, Mao, Amable interested in helping out and will have a meeting this Thursday at 3:30pm. Matz will send an email to those that aren’t here at tonight’s meeting.

   There was no public comment.
7. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)

F. Executive Committee

Discussed attendance, solidarity rally, internet fiber issue for District 2 office. They are helping the supervisors cut the survey down and have a youth friendly version.

G. Housing, Recreation and Transportation Committee

Worked on their BPPs.

H. Immigration, Justice and Employment Committee

No meeting due to lack of quorum. So, reminder to show up and attendance is key. Tuesday, March 28th a meeting with Project What and Matt Haney at 4:00pm, Commissioner Matz, Krause, and Mesler can attend. March 29th with Chief Nance with Amable and Galeano. On March 30th have a meeting with Hennessy at 4:00pm, Commissioner Matz. April 4 have big meeting with Chief Scott in Mission Bay and will prep before in YC office and the meeting is at 4pm, Mesler, Krause are in.

I. Civic Engagement Committee

Met two weeks ago and had voter registration training and starting to do pre-registration. Have rough draft of BPPs and will work on again this week.

J. Our Children Our Family Council

Commissioner Galeano is not here to report back.

8. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

- returning applications are live and deadline is April 7th for those who want to return. Mesler, LMF, Mao, Park, Yu, and maybe Amable would like to reapply.
- thanks for helping staff tabling. Remember to fill out your activity log.
- work gets done a lot faster if you come to the YC office and ask for help.
- attendance is really important this time of year. It’s really easy to start slipping but it’s the time of year where it’s the city budget process and people will lobby you and supervisors will notice what you’re doing, youth who are interested in applying will come check it out. So if you’re not here you might not know what is happening. Thanks to those who showed up. Things will chill out in May. Not cool with last minute cancellations.
- April 21st the movements program and Bernal program is having a summit. Mesler is interested. Please let staff know if you are interested.
- Who is interested in working on Youth Empowerment Allocation issue? Commissioner Amable and Matz.
- Reminder that your committee meetings are set for two hours so please do not expect to leave earlier than that, especially this time of year.
9. **Announcements (This Includes Community Events)**

- Pre register to vote!
- April 3\(^{rd}\) please come and bring people to the solidarity rally
- Commissioner Amable-Friday, showing Moana at the Rec Center on 6\(^{th}\) and Folsom.

10. **Adjournment**

    The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.
Resolution responding to the Presidency of Donald Trump and reaffirming San Francisco’s Youth’s commitment to the values of community, respect and solidarity, and urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to support young people’s leadership during this critical time

WHEREAS, On January 20th, 2017 Donald Trump was inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to his inauguration, he has issued several executive orders and actions that threaten immigrant families, and transgender people, twice attempted to institute a Muslim travel ban, threatened to cut funding to sanctuary cities and UC Berkeley, promised to spend federal money to build a border wall, sown disharmony in the international community, disregarded and sought to disempower the judiciary, sought to displace military officials and install a white nationalist on the national security council, sought to pass legislation that would take away health coverage from tens of millions of people, overseen military actions resulting in the largest loss of lives of Iraqi civilians since the U.S. invasion in 2003, and promised further unilateral action; and

WHEREAS, young people will be disproportionately impacted by the proposed federal budget cuts, and are poised to inherit the political divisions and disharmony affecting our country; and

WHEREAS, young people around the country and in San Francisco in particular are largely opposed to the rising tide of racism, transphobia, Islamophobia, and xenophobia, and its purveyors, SFUSD students led the inauguration day protests, and young people have a key role to play in building the resilience needed to withstand attacks on our communities and heal divisions of fear and hatred; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that despite the threats, and no matter their severity or duration, the San Francisco Youth Commission will maintain its commitment to all undocumented youth, and our commitment to San Francisco remaining an impervious Sanctuary City dedicating itself to shelter and...
raising up its numerous undocumented youth and families that call this City their home; and be it further

RESOLVED, that regardless of the actions of ICE or the executive branch, this commission stands strong in its long-held beliefs—including the value of all youth, documented or undocumented; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City’s youth will never back down on women’s rights, and young women in San Francisco will grow up to be role models for generations, portraying to those around them that they can be and do anything; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that we stand by our transgender LGBTQ+ communities, including those innumerable proud transgender and LGBTQ+ youth who have come to San Francisco seeking a loving community; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this commission denounces the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, the Religious Liberty Bill, and all other actions that would hinder the progress and wellbeing of LGBTQ+ youth in this nation and City; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this commission will stand by both Arab and Muslim youth and their families, as well as our nation’s founding principle of religious freedom; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we do not turn our backs on our youth nor their families for their faith or country of origin, and that refugees are wanted and valued here; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Black Lives Matter in San Francisco, and that the killing and brutality against black people must never be normalized and the color of one’s skin should never compromise young people’s safety or wellbeing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Youth Commission will continue to advocate for reforming our police department to improve relationships between police and youth of color, ensuring that youth are treated with respect and care; and, be it further

Commissioner Plunkett and E. David
SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH COMMISSION
RESOLVED, that we will stand up for our environment and its climate—even with elected federal officials who are climate change deniers, because youth understand the harm industrial and commercial materials can have on our environment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that while the executive branch and climate-change deniers may not comprehend it, the youth of San Francisco understand the true threat climate change has to our species and to future generations, and we will continue our work advocating for a more green city and nation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Youth Commission believes that no one, especially the President, should make fun of people with disabilities and we stand in solidarity with those with disabilities to be treated with dignity; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this commission will continue advocating for the MUNI and BART systems many students rely on for our daily commutes, whether this administration follows through on its platform to eliminate federal transit funding or not, and that we are already firmly committed to expanding transit access through programs like Free MUNI for Youth and we will never stop fighting for this and programs like it; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we are privileged to live in an economically strong region full of promise and innovation, and that youth of this City will not be bullied or afraid of threats to revoke funding from the programs and resources we access in order to thrive; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission and all youth throughout this city and county will remain dedicated to our values, and to advocating for a strong quality of life for all youth, and that we recognize the manifold achievements and contributions of young people of diverse backgrounds to the wellbeing of our City; and be it further
RESOLVED, that bigotry may have won a seat in the White House, but it cannot and will not ever change the solidarity amongst youth in San Francisco, and that our convictions and engagement will only be strengthened by the challenges we now face; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to explore ways to continue to invest in and support strong youth leadership in our City, so that San Francisco continues to grow the leaders that are critically needed during this time.
[Youth Commission Support for Petra DeJesus’ Reappointment to the Police Commission]

Supplemental Information:
Petra DeJesus has served on the Police Commission for ten years, during which time she has been an advocate for the needs of young people and improving youth-police relations. The Youth Commission supports her reappointment to the Commission by the Board of Supervisors.
[Motion Urging the Board of Supervisors to hold a hearing on alternatives to incarceration for 18-25 year olds]

Supplemental information:
Research shows that young people’s brains are still developing until age 25, meaning they may be uniquely positioned to learn, change, and benefit from rehabilitative approaches. However, despite representing a shorter age range, 18-25 year olds make up nearly one-quarter of the overall population of our county jails compared to other age groups. Moreover, 18-25 year olds have the longest stays in our county jails, and so account for largest share of “bed days” of any age group each year. According to the Work Group to Re-envision the Jail Replacement Project’s recent issue brief, 18-25 year olds accounted for 235,371 bed days per year, out of a total 837,890 bed days. Black youth 18-25 represented the highest number of bed days of any group in the system (135,578) overall.

In contrast to our City’s high rate of incarcerating its of young adults, the Juvenile Probation Department has met success in its efforts to find alternatives to incarceration for youth under age 18. Over the last several years, the Juvenile Probation Department has overseen a dramatic reduction in the number of juveniles held in out-of-home detention. The population at Juvenile Hall in January 2017 was 36 youth, compared to over 80 youth in 2013. The Juvenile Probation Department has employed many innovative means to reach these goals, including stream-lining risk assessment procedures, using a community assessment and referral center, and working with a collaborative re-entry team to reduce recidivism.

San Francisco’s Young Adult Court was established in summer 2015 as a partnership between the Superior Court, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, Department of Public Health, Adult
Probation, the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, the Police Department, and Family Service Agency. The court serves 18-25 year olds facing felony charges and engages them in a high-touch intensive case-planning approach as an alternative to jail time. The court is now successfully graduating its second cohort of 60-80 young people. However, the court has had to twice shut its doors to new referrals due to reaching its capacity. The San Francisco Veterans Justice Court represents another example of a collaborative approach to addressing the needs of particular populations in the adult criminal justice system.

As part of the ongoing discussion about the needs of the population in San Francisco’s county jails, the Youth Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors hold a hearing to discuss alternatives to incarceration for 18-25 year olds in San Francisco’s county jails. This hearing can explore promising approaches currently in use in the Young Adult Court; existing barriers to young adults’ successful enrollment in or graduation from the Young Adult Court; insights learned from the Juvenile Probation Departments’ successful efforts to develop alternatives to out-of-home detention for youth; and approaches being used by other states and counties to better address the needs of 18-25 year olds involved in the criminal justice system.
Resolution urging the Board of Supervisors to pass a resolution in support of assembly constitutional amendment 10 (ACA-10), which would allow 17 year olds to vote in state elections and would promote youth becoming involved in matters that affect them and promote early civic engagement.

WHEREAS, the twenty-eighth Assembly District Assemblymember, Evan Low, has introduced Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10 (ACA 10) which would lower the voting age from 18 years-old to 17 years-old in the state of California; and

WHEREAS, a majority of members of the Board of Supervisors supported 16 and 17 year-old municipal voting rights in 2016; and

WHEREAS, 17 year olds are just as politically knowledgeable as the average 18 year old, who in turn is as politically knowledgeable as the average 21 year old; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the earlier in life one votes, the more likely they are to become a lifelong voter; and

WHEREAS, while some in America, such as Republicans in statehouses across the country, attempt to take away people’s voting rights, we in San Francisco stand with many across California and the United States to increase civic engagement and voter turnout, especially in marginalized communities; and

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1 The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) at Tufts University. www.civicyouth.org
WHEREAS, two localities- Takoma Park and Hyattsville, Maryland now allow 16 and 17-year olds to vote in their municipal elections; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Berkeley passed a law allowing 16 and 17-year olds to vote in their elections for school board; and

WHEREAS, “strong youth electoral participation is critical to achieving a fully representative democracy;”3 and

WHEREAS, most high school age youth establish contact with the political process in their high school government class or through volunteering on campaigns for community service credit; and

WHEREAS, many 18-year olds are usually in a time of transition — graduating from high school, going to college, or getting a job and may therefore find it difficult to first establish new voting habits; and

WHEREAS, “people who vote at an early age are more likely to stay engaged and vote in later elections;”4 Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that by lowering the voting age from 18-years old to 17-years old, ACA 10 will promote youth becoming involved in matters that affect them personally and promote early civic engagement; and be it further

RESOLVED, that lowering the voting age to 17-years old will engage youth at a time when they are still connected to their schools, their homes, and their communities; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Board of Supervisors to pass a resolution in support of Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10 (ACA-10).

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1 Assemblyman Constitutional Amendment 10: Voting Age Low Fact Sheet
[Resolution urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to Support Efforts to Pre-Register 16-17 year olds to Vote]

Resolution urging the investment and recognition of the importance of youth civic participation in San Francisco, as well as supporting new efforts to increase voter pre-registrations among 16 and 17 year olds by supporting partnerships with the Department of Children, Youth, and their Families and the Department of Elections.

WHEREAS, “in 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 113 by Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) which allowed voter pre-registration beginning at age 16 once the California’s statewide voter registration database, VoteCal, was certified. VoteCal was certified in September 2016, and pre-registration was initially only offered through paper forms;”¹ and

WHEREAS, strong voter turnout and voter engagement is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy; and

WHEREAS, data shows that there is a strong case that pre registering 16 and 17 year olds in San Francisco will bridge the gap between transitional aged youth and the ballot box and continue to build lifelong voters and strengthen our democracy;² and

WHEREAS, educating and engaging more young people in the rights and responsibilities of voting is among the best ways to encourage everyone, including and especially young people to vote; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is leading the fight against President Trump at a time where our President is threatening our city and our values, and working to take away voting rights; and

WHEREAS, we have an opportunity to continue progress in the field of expansion of Voting Rights by taking advantage of the new state legislation of pre-registration of 16 and 17 year olds.

WHEREAS, last year the Civic Engagement Committee contributed a major Budget and Policy priority toward the entirety of the Youth Commission Budget and Policy Priority list; and

WHEREAS, at the time it was written the Youth Commission had just hosted the first joint Board of Supervisors and Youth Commission meeting that consisted of hundreds of youth showing up to the full board meeting and giving hours of public comment. This led to a 9-2 vote in favor of the expansion of municipal voting rights toward 16 and 17 year olds, and would allow this issue to be brought toward the voters of San Francisco in the form of a new name Proposition F; and

WHEREAS, Proposition F lost by just 2.1% at the polls, but Prop F’s campaign showed the ability to unite young people and bring them to the table with local politicians and into the realm of San Francisco Politics; and

WHEREAS, Proposition F was almost entirely youth run, and had the second largest group of campaign volunteers in San Francisco, made almost exclusively of Bay Area youth; and

WHEREAS, 6 of the Board of Supervisors who served during the 2016 term signed on as co-sponsors, as well as various San Franciscan Political groups including the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club and Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic club; and

WHEREAS, we at the Youth Commission feel the need to ride out this momentum through the newly introduced piece of state policy which allows 16 and 17 year olds to preregister to vote; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Commission has also felt the negative effects of Trump being elected president, and now more than ever believe that encouraging youth to participate in any type of voting or elections is extremely critical, and being pre-registered to vote at 16 or 17 is a first step into civic engagement; and
WHEREAS, in the last few months since our terms began we have worked on moving the
conversation of pre-registration; and

WHEREAS, In February 2017, we met with Department heads of Department of Children
Youth and their Families, and they have agreed that for any agency or organization who works with
youth and becomes a grantee of DCYF after the request for proposal (RFP) process of 2017 that they
will need to offer the option of pre-registration to the youth they will work with; and

WHEREAS, also in February 2017, we have continued a partnership with the Department of
Elections and have received a presentation on the current numbers of 16 and 17 year olds pre-
registered, a training on how to legally and ethically implement voter registration, and have acquired
special pre-registration forms that will allow Department of Elections to track how many youth the
Youth Commission have preregistered; and

WHEREAS, twenty-eighth Assembly District Assemblymember, Evan Low, has introduced
Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10 (ACA 10) which would lower the voting age from 18 years-old
to 17 years-old in the state of CA; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Youth Commission urges DCYF to require any 2017 youth serving
agency or organization RFP grantee to offer the option of pre-registration to the youth they will work
with; and further

RESOLVED, that there should be funding of a specific grantee of the DCYF 2017 RFP to
create a position or campaign specifically aimed at increasing the pre-registration of 16 and 17 year
olds and voter outreach using peer-to-peer strategies; and further

RESOLVED, that extra funding be included for a new staff person at the Department of
Elections for youth voter outreach; and finally
RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors write a resolution in support of the Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10 (ACA 10) which would lower the voting age from 18 years-old to 17 years-old in the state of CA.