Resolution urging the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to fully fund the development, creation, and acquisition of affordable housing for Transitional Age Youth in light of the creation of the Housing Trust Fund, and urging the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the Human Services Agency of San Francisco to continue to provide local operating subsidies and supportive services for Transitional Age Youth housing.

WHEREAS, As of 2012, nationwide there were 38.9 million youth in the age group of 16-24, and at least 6.7 million are currently recognized as opportunity youth, or known in San Francisco as transitional age youth;\(^1\) and

WHEREAS, As of 2006, there were 80,000 transitional age youth living in San Francisco, and while many in this population will make a transition into adulthood obtaining employment and housing, 5-10% of this population—or between 5,000 and 8,000 young people—will not and are at risk of becoming homeless, jobless or involved with the criminal justice system;\(^2\) and

WHEREAS, The challenges facing this population of disconnected transitional age youth are great: many will have recently cycled out of public systems, have a special need or disability, have not obtained a high school diploma, or are young parents themselves; and

WHEREAS, Transitional age youth are disproportionately involved in the criminal justice system in San Francisco, and unless their basic needs of housing, food and health are met, they will remain an economic and social challenge for the city with no way of contributing to San Francisco’s local economy; and

---


\(^2\) Disconnected Youth in San Francisco: A Roadmap to Improve the Life Chances of San Francisco’s Most Vulnerable Young Adults (2007), Mayor’s Transitional Youth Task Force, City & County of San Francisco (p 9).
WHEREAS, In 2005, the San Francisco Youth Commission adopted a resolution urging the
Mayor to ordain a taskforce to study and make recommendations regarding the issues that face
transitional age youth;³ and

WHEREAS, Former Mayor Newsom did so, and in 2007—after a year of work by task force
committees that met over 60 times with various stakeholders—the Transitional Youth Task Force
released its report entitled *Disconnected Youth in San Francisco: A Roadmap to Improve the Life
Chances of San Francisco’s Most Vulnerable Young Adults*, which contained sixteen
recommendations for City policymakers, key among which was the need for more accessible housing
for disconnected TAY;⁴ and

WHEREAS, The Mayor’s Office of Housing took up this issue, and proposed a goal of
providing 400 new housing units for transitional age youth by the year 2015;⁵ and

WHEREAS, Although the Mayor’s Office of Housing, the now defunct San Francisco
Redevelopment Agency, San Francisco Department of Public Health, and Human Services Agency of
San Francisco have identified, financed, and provided operational needs for many housing units for
TAY, there are over 187 units to be identified with three years left before the deadline for this goal;⁶
and

WHEREAS, San Francisco is among the most expensive places in the region, state, and nation
to live, and the rising home prices and rent are a financial burden to many transitional age youth and
their families, especially those struggling to make ends meet;⁷ and

---

³ San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 0405-AL005 “Resolution urging the Mayor to ordain a transitional youth task force,” adopted March 21, 2005.
⁴ *Disconnected Youth in San Francisco: A Roadmap to Improve the Life Chances of San Francisco’s Most Vulnerable Young Adults* (2007). Mayor’s Transitional Youth Task Force, City & County of San Francisco. For the section that focuses on housing, see “Recommendation #12: Expanding housing opportunities for homeless or marginally housed youth,” (pp50-51).
⁶ Documents from Mayor’s Office of Housing, June 2011.
WHEREAS, According to the Planning Department’s 2011 Housing Inventory report, 218 new units of affordable housing were constructed in 2011, which, despite representing 52% of new units added to the City housing stock, also constitutes a 63% decline over the previous years; \(^8\) and

WHEREAS, Not only is this number among the lowest seen in years, but no new housing units were constructed for the portion of the population labeled “Extremely Low Income” \(^9\) – a group which youth transitioning out of the foster care system would most likely fall into; and

WHEREAS, In June 2011, the San Francisco Youth Commission adopted a resolution urging the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to provide more affordable housing for transitional aged youth; \(^10\) and

WHEREAS, Unlike other types of affordable housing, TAY housing requires on-site special supportive services—such as substance abuse counseling and healthcare—which can be a major challenge in the development thereof; and

WHEREAS, The State Supreme Court issued a ruling December 28, 2011 in California Redevelopment et al., v. Ana Matosantos et al. that effectively eliminated redevelopment agencies, including the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, which provided the vast majority of local affordable housing funding for the City; \(^11\) and

WHEREAS, State funding from the last affordable housing bond, Proposition 1C, passed in 2006, has been almost fully depleted, and federal funding for affordable housing in San Francisco has declined by over 40% since 2007; \(^12\) and

WHEREAS, The qualified voters of the City and County of San Francisco voted on the November 6, 2012 general election to pass Proposition C, the Housing Trust Fund, which will set aside

\(^8\) San Francisco Housing Inventory 2011 (May 2012), San Francisco Planning Department (p 2).
\(^7\) Ibid. (p 22).
\(^9\) Ibid. (p 22).
\(^10\) San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 1011—AL09 “Housing for TAY Youth,” adopted June 20, 2011
\(^12\) Ibid. (p 3).
funding to create, acquire, and rehabilitate affordable housing and create greater housing options over
the next 30 years;¹³ and

WHEREAS, Proposition C, commonly called the Housing Trust Fund, is designed to address
the housing needs for the residents of the City and County of San Francisco, among them the City’s
TAY population; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission strongly commends the members of
the public who worked to pass this ballot measure for their dedication of time, effort, and support of the
development and passage of Proposition C and the creation of the Housing Trust Fund; and be it
further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission strongly commends the Mayor’s
Office of Housing, the Department of Public Health, the Human Services Agency, and the now-defunct
San Francisco Redevelopment Agency for the initiative they have taken in implementing the housing
recommendations of the Transitional Youth Task Force; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission calls on the Mayor’s Office of Housing
to implement a model of evaluating the quality and effectiveness of Transitional Age Youth housing
and its supportive services in terms of improving the social outcomes of Transitional Age Youth,
because the Youth Commission has heard concerns from youth living in Transitional Age Youth
housing about issues including grievance procedures, the types of housing (e.g., mixed use vs. TAY
only) and eviction rates, and that this evaluation include input from youth living in Transitional Age
Youth housing; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission calls on the Mayor, the Board of
Supervisors, the Department of Public Health, and the Human Services Agency to determine the

¹³ Jeff Buckley, Mayor’s Office of Housing. Power point presentation to the Full Youth Commission meeting of
1).
necessary provisions to complete the goal of providing 400 additional units of transitional age youth housing by 2015; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to strengthen their efforts in providing more affordable housing for transitional age youth.

Mia Shackelford
2012-2013 Youth Commission Chair

 Adopted by Youth Commission February 4, 2013