



# San Francisco Youth Commission Agenda

Monday, May 6, 2019

5:00 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.*

Charley Obermeyer, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Maggie Dong, Josephine Cureton, Calvin Quick, Alysha Sadarangani, JoJo Ty, Natalie Ibarra, Bahlam Vigil, Arianna Nassiri, Nora Hylton, Drew Min, Grace Hoogerhyde, Alexander Hirji, Kaye Chin, and Savion Green

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

**2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)**

**3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**

A. April 15, 2019

[Document A](#)

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

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

A. BOS File No. 190392 [Administrative Code - Juvenile Hall Closure]

Sponsor: Supervisor Walton, District 10

Presenter: Natalie Gee, District 10 Chief of Staff

Document B

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

A. Mental Health Association of San Francisco Peer Programs Presentation

Presenter: Meaghan O'Brien, Peer Programs Manager

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

A. [First Reading ]Motion No. 1819-AL - 16 [Letter of Support for the HESPA youth-related budget asks]

Presenter: Housing and Land Use Committee

Document C

B. [ First Reading ] Motion No. 1819- AL – 17 [Letter supporting Assembly Constitutional Amendment 8, Allowing 17 year Olds to Vote in State Elections]



Presenter: Civic Engagement Committee  
Document D

C. [Second Reading] Youth Commission Budget and Policy Priorities for FY2019-2020 –  
FY2020-2021

Presenters: All committee chairs  
Document E

D. [ Second Reading ] Resolution No 1819 – AL – 12 [Urging the Mayor and Board of  
Supervisors to adopt a city-wide tobacco minimum price law and prohibit the redemption of  
coupons for tobacco products.]

Presenter: Civic Engagement Committee  
Document F

E. [Second Reading] Resolution No. 1819 – AL – 13 [Supporting AB 307 Homeless youth:  
grant program]

Presenter: Calvin Quick, Legislative Affairs Officer  
Document G

F. [Second Reading] Resolution No. 1819 – AL – 14 [Support for the Vote16 Campaign in  
San Francisco]

Presenter: Civic Engagement Committee  
Document H

## **8. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)**

A. Executive Committee

- i. LAO
- ii. Communications Team

B. Housing and Land Use Committee

C. Transformative Justice Committee

D. Civic Engagement Committee

## **9. Staff Report (Discussion Only)**

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

## **11. Adjournment**

Any materials distributed to the members of the Youth Commission within 72 hours of the meeting or after the agenda packet has been delivered to the members are available for inspection—along with minutes of previous Youth Commission meetings and all supplementary information—at the Youth Commission office during regular office hours (9am to 6pm, Monday—Friday). The Youth Commission office is at:

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](mailto:youthcom@sfgov.org)  
[www.sfgov.org/yc](http://www.sfgov.org/yc)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE OR TO REPORT A VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE, CONTACT THE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE, please contact:

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: [sof@sfgov.org](mailto:sof@sfgov.org)

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To obtain a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services to participate in the meeting, please contact Kiely Hosmon, Youth Commission Director [phone: 415-554 6464; email: [Kiely.hosmon@sfgov.org](mailto:Kiely.hosmon@sfgov.org)] at least 48 hours before the meeting, except for Monday meetings, for which the deadline is 4:00 p.m. the previous Friday. Full Commission Meetings are held in Room 416 at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place in San Francisco. City Hall is accessible to persons using wheelchairs and other assistive mobility devices. Ramps are available at the Grove, Van Ness and McAllister entrances.

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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.

Paunawa: Ang mga kahilingan ay kailangang matanggap sa loob ng 48 oras bago mag miting upang matiyak na matutugunan ang mga hiling. Mangyaring tumawag kay Joy Lamug sa (415) 554-7712.

**翻譯 必須在會議前最少四十八小時提出要求**  
**請電 (415) 554-7719**



# San Francisco Youth Commission

## DRAFT - Minutes

Monday, April 15, 2019

5:00 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.*

Charley Obermeyer, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Maggie Dong, Josephine Cureton, Calvin Quick, Alysha Sadarangani, JoJo Ty, Natalie Ibarra, Bahlam Vigil, Arianna Nassiri, Nora Hylton, Drew Min, Grace Hoogerhyde, Alexander Hirji, Kaye Chin, and Savion Green

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

Chair Vigil calls the meeting to order at 5:04 PM. Commissioners Sadarangani, Ibarra, Min, Nassiri not present. Quorum is met. Commissioner Quick, seconded by Commissioner Chin, motion to excuse Sadarangani and Nassiri due to their advanced notice. Motion passes. Commissioner Min and Ibarra are unexcused.

### 2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Quick, seconded by Commissioner Hoogerhyde, motions to approve of agenda without item 6G, item 6G to be tabled for next meeting pending legislation referred. Motion passes by a vote of acclamation.

### 3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

A. April 1, 2019

[Document A](#)

There is no public comment. Commissioner Quick, seconded by Commissioner Hoogerhyde motion to approve of minutes. Motion passes.

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

Commissioner Ibarra arrives at 5:07. There is no public comment.

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

a. BOS File No. 190311 [Health Code - Restricting Commercial Tobacco Activities on City Property]

Sponsor: Supervisor Walton

Presenter: Natalie Gee, Legislative Aide to District 10

Document B

A and B called together. BOS file - 190311 & 190312



Chair vigil likes to remind presenter 5 minutes per each item, 5 minutes for more information.

Legislative Aide, Natalie Gee:

- Wish to prohibit lease on city property, an ordinance to amend the code,
- Restricts sale, manufacture, and distribution of tobacco productions, including e-cigs: fed law for all products with nicotine need FDA approval, if there is none they will not sell in S.F. Targets middle and high schoolers, very easy to get the product. So that it is harder for youth to get this product.
- No public comment.
- Discussion:
  - Commissioner Quick: not about legislation itself, question is regarding articles on the news that suggested that these legislations might be put into a referendum if passed by tobacco companies.
  - NG: trying to get cosponsors on this so that it is veto proof. It is easy ban, once there is updated approval then you can use it again. Counter argument is that it helps with quitting cigarettes.
  - Commissioner Vigil: which D9, 10 and D6 are the communities most impacted by this impact.
- Commission Quick motions to support item A, seconded by Commissioner Green. Motion passes.
- Commissioner Hylton motions to support item B, seconded by Commissioner Hoogerhyde. Motion passes.

b. BOS File No. 190312 [Health Code - Restricting the Sale, Manufacture, and Distribution of Tobacco Products, Including Electronic Cigarettes]

Sponsor: Supervisor Walton

Presenter: Natalie Gee, Legislative Aide to District 10

Document C

c. BOS File No. 190373 Hearing to examine food insecurity, particularly among low-income pregnant women and families, as nutritious food is a fundamental human right essential for all people to live healthy, successful lives, but food insecurity, limited or uncertain access to adequate food still occurs in San Francisco; and requesting the Department of Public Health to report.

Sponsor: Supervisor Stefani

Document D

Staff Fierro - nobody could come to present, please review document. Commissioner Quick - hearing to be scheduled in next month, this is on our radar as it impacts young people and families, no motion to be made immediately. No public comment. Motion to table for next meeting by Commission Quick, seconded by Commissioner Hoogerhyde. Motion passes.



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

a. [ First Reading ] Resolution No 1819 – AL – 12 [Urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to adopt a city-wide tobacco minimum price law and prohibit the redemption of coupons for tobacco products.]

Presenter: Civic Engagement Committee

Document E

- Commissioner Chin reads the resolution.
- Public Comment: Stephanie Roman, Mary Caldera, and Isabel Brena Milan (D11) give public comment in support of passing this resolution.
- Commission Quick: Is it the same price minimum for all tobacco products?
- Director Hosmon: The Youth Leadership Institute wrote this resolution for the Civic Engagement Committee (CEC), so CEC cannot answer questions on the substance.
- Chair Vigil: I would also add a line to urge the BOS and Mayor to allocate resources to preventative and addiction treatment services.

b. Presentation Reviewing the Youth Commission FY19-20 Application Process

Presenter: Caroline Truong, Community Partnership Specialist

Document F

- The link to the application will be in the weekly internal for all of you to disseminate
- The application ends May 12th at 11:59 PM.
- Executive committee will vet all of the applications. Last year the YC received 60, which on the lower end, and we anticipate more this year. If you would like to help, then please reach out to Staff Fierro.
- Commissioner Obermeyer: on question 20, it would be useful to refer applicants to helpful links and resources that will help define how they can advise the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the Mayor.
- Commissioner Hylton: on question 21 it would be helpful to debunk the myth that applicants need to be connected to politics, but rather engaged in their community. We want to make this as accessible as possible and not deter anyone from applying.
- Commissioner Hylton: on question 25 do the challenges that you are referring to have to do solely with one's personal life or with the youth commission? I would define that.
- Commissioner Quick: It would make sense to refer to challenges on the youth commission.
- Motion to approve with the application with the suggested changes by Commissioner Hoogerhyde and seconded by Commission Quick. The motion passes.

c. Presentation Regarding the Youth Commission Open House

Presenter: JoJo Ty, District 8 Commissioner



#### Document F

- Brenda's French Soul Food has donated food for our event.
- There will be a Youth Commission (YC) application station for potential applicants to ask questions and submit their applications.
- We will have youth artists from the Youth Art Exchange from District 11.
- We are starting a selfie competition: The Commissioner who submits the most selfies with their posted YC application and open house fliers by May 29th will win a non-alcoholic beverage of choice at the next full youth commission meeting. Please, submit your selfies to Naomi Fierro.
- We are hosting a cute clean up day a la Marie Kondo to prepare our physical space for the open house. Our clean up day is on 4/30 from 3 - 6 PM at the YC office. Feel free to drop by for as long as you can. Confirmed help by Chair Vigil, Commissioner Quick and Commissioner Ibarra.
- On May 2nd we need folx to help set up around 4 PM - 4:30 PM.
- We need to people to help get food - Commission Ty and Obermeyer
- We need a greeter and sign in - Commissioner Hylton and Ibarra
- YC application station - Commissioner Dong
- We will be doing outreach during Youth Advocacy Day
- There will be an email template to invite your networks in the Weekly Internal

#### d. [First reading] Budget and Policy Priorities

Presenters: All committee chairs

- Transformative Justice Committe (TJ) - Juvenile Probation Department
- Housing and Land Use Committee (HLU) - TAY Homelessness Exits and the TAY Navigation Center
- Civic Engagement Committee (CEC) - Reintroduction of Vote 16 and their pre-registration efforts

#### e. [First Reading] Motion No. 1819 – AL – 13 [Supporting AB 307 Homeless youth: grant program]

Presenter: Calvin Quick, Legislative Affairs Officer

#### Document G

- Clarification: this is a resolution not a motion.
- Commissioner Quick reads the resolution on behalf of HLU into the record.
- There are no questions or comments.
- Chair Vigil motion for a 15 minute break and Commissioner Hirji seconds the motion. The motion passes.

#### f. [First Reading] Resolution No. 1819 – AL – 14 [Vote16]

Presenter: Arianna Nassiri, Civic Engagement Committee Chair

#### Document H

- The meeting resumes at 6:33 PM.
- Commissioner Nassiri not present.
- Commissioner Obermeyer reads the Vote 16 resolution into the record



- Chair Vigil: Recommends a description of what vote 16 is, and who else has supported it?
- Commissioner Cureton: clarifying question for staff - are we allowed to make recommendation for school board rep or no?
  - Staff: No
  - Commissioner Quick: Due to the particular election code under City College of San Francisco, we can comment.
- Staff Fierro: I have mentioned this multiple times already and still do not see any mention of how this will affect undocumented students. In addition, the resolution opens by using young people who are charged with adult criminal charges as further rationale to support Vote 16, yet it does not mention how this legislation will affect youth who are currently or were formerly incarcerated.

g. [First Reading] Motion No. 1819 – AL – 15 [Letter of support to Youth Guidance Center Closure]

Presenter: Transformative Justice Committee

Document I

- Tabled until next meeting

## 7. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)

### A. Executive Committee

#### i. LAO

- introduced legislation
- Admin code for castro as cultural district
- Admin code to close juvenile hall
- Hearing on city college course changes and introduction (no referrals, but good for informational item - pending scheduling)
- Resolutions
  - The formatting of them - irks them how line items don't go well, if people doing resolution can see CQ for forming process

#### ii. Communications Team

- YC profiles have finished -> fb will be posted in the works.
- Focus forward: grassroots outreach for YC apps & bpp
- YC social - cancelled.

### B. Housing and Land Use Committee

- Went over BPP, prepared public comment for B&F hearing 4/17 1pm

### C. Transformative Justice Committee

- CJCJ presented on Unmet Promises report incarceration in DJJ & conditions, set up meeting with Safai's regarding SFUSD & SFPD MOU, small letter of support for juvenile hall closure, and worked on BPP





D. Civic Engagement Committee

- Worked on vote16 resolution, working on constituent training

**8. Staff Report (Discussion Only)**

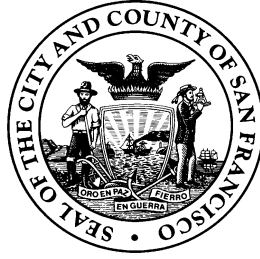
- Youth Advocacy Day is April 25th from 8:30 AM to 4 PM at City Hall.
- Upcoming Budget Hearings: Wednesday, April 17th the Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee will hear the housing and homelessness issue area; on Wednesday, April 24th they will hear the public safety issue area.
- Yerba Buena Center for the Arts has extended an invitation to their opening night exhibit called We are here on April 20th. Contact staff for ticket information.
- For the Mayoral appointees, is there still interest in meeting with Jenny Lam, advisor to the Mayor? Yes.
- Youth Commission Open House on May 2nd from 4- 6 PM.
- The application is live on the YC website.

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

- a. Chair Vigil: resolution with City and discourse and dialogue with who to get connected with SFUSD Commissioner COLLINS - MUNI HEARINGS coming up

**10. Adjournment** the meeting is adjourned at 7:02 PM.

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kiely Hosmon, Director
Youth Commission
FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk,
Government Audit and Oversight Committee
DATE: April 16, 2019
SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors has received the following proposed legislation which is being referred to the Youth Commission as per Charter, Section 4.124 for comment and recommendation. The Commission may provide any response it deems appropriate within 12 days from the date of this referral.

File No. 190392

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the City to close Juvenile Hall by December 31, 2021, expand community-based alternatives to detention, and provide a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a location approved by the Court; to establish a working group for the development of a Juvenile Hall closure plan, and to establish the Youth Justice Reinvestment Fund to support community-based alternatives to detention and also support the working group; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Government Audit and Oversight Committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

RESPONSE FROM YOUTH COMMISSION Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ No Comment

\_\_\_ Recommendation Attached

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Youth Commission

1 [Administrative Code - Juvenile Hall Closure]

2  
3 **Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the City to close Juvenile Hall**  
4 **by December 31, 2021, expand community-based alternatives to detention, and provide**  
5 **a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a location approved by the**  
6 **Court; to establish a working group for the development of a Juvenile Hall closure plan,**  
7 **and to establish the Youth Justice Reinvestment Fund to support community-based**  
8 **alternatives to detention and also support the working group; affirming the Planning**  
9 **Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and**  
10 **making findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of**  
11 **Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

12 **NOTE:** **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
13 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
14 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.  
15 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
16 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~Arial font~~.  
17 **Asterisks (\*\*\*\*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
18 subsections or parts of tables.

19 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

20 Section 1. Environmental and Land Use Findings.

21 (a) The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this  
22 ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources  
23 Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
24 Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board affirms this  
25 determination.

1 (b) On \_\_\_\_\_, the Planning Department determined that the actions  
2 contemplated in this ordinance are consistent, on balance, with the City's General Plan and  
3 eight priority policies of Planning Code Section 101.1. The Board adopts this determination as  
4 its own. A copy of said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in  
5 File No. \_\_\_\_\_, and is incorporated herein by reference.

6  
7 Section 2. The Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Chapter 119,  
8 consisting of Sections 119.1 through 119.3, to read as follows:

9  
10 **CHAPTER 119: CLOSURE OF JUVENILE HALL**

11  
12 **SEC. 119.1. DEFINITIONS.**

13 "City" means the City and County of San Francisco.

14 "Court" means the San Francisco Superior Court Juvenile Division.

15 "Juvenile Hall" means the locked detention facility at 375 Woodside Avenue in the City.

16  
17 **SEC. 119.2. FINDINGS.**

18 (a) For nearly two decades, since roughly the advent of the 21st Century, youth crime has  
19 steadily declined across the country, including in the City. During this time the City has emerged as a  
20 leader in juvenile justice reform - shifting the focus from punishment and incarceration to support and  
21 care for young people. The City's reform-minded approach and the decrease in youth crime have  
22 contributed to a dramatic decline in the number of youth detained in custody. The City's focus  
23 increasingly has been on new and innovative interventions that invest in young people, rather than  
24 punishment.

1           (b) The budget for Juvenile Hall does not reflect today's low numbers of detained youth. In  
2 fiscal year 2017-2018, the City budgeted \$13,322,254 for Juvenile Hall despite the significantly  
3 reduced number of detained youth as compared to earlier years. From 2009 to January 2019, the  
4 average annual cost per year for each youth detained in Juvenile Hall has risen 127%, from \$123,400  
5 to \$279,500.

6           (c) The detention of young people is not rehabilitative, nor does it effectively address public  
7 safety. Detention increases the likelihood of recidivism, future incarceration, and homelessness, and  
8 results in lower high school completion rates.

9           (d) The majority of youth detained in Juvenile Hall are not charged with serious offenses. In  
10 December 2018, 40 youth were detained at Juvenile Hall - filling only 27% of its beds. Of those 40  
11 youth, 30% were detained for a misdemeanor offense, and 50% were detained while waiting for a  
12 court-ordered placement.

13           (e) Multiple studies have shown that putting youth behind bars fails to enhance public safety,  
14 drives low-level delinquent youth deeper into criminality, and increases the likelihood that they will  
15 wind up behind bars again. The Arkansas Division of Youth Services studied youth recidivism and  
16 identified detention as the strongest predictor of youth recidivism - more so than family difficulties or  
17 gang membership. One recent longitudinal study of 35,000 young offenders found that those who were  
18 detained as juveniles were twice as likely to be incarcerated as adults than juveniles who committed  
19 similar offenses and came from similar backgrounds but were given an alternative sanction or simply  
20 not arrested. Another recent study, from Brown University and MIT, found that detaining young people  
21 increases by 23% the likelihood that they will be jailed as adults. The study also found that juvenile  
22 detention is the single biggest predictor of future incarceration.

23           (f) The majority of youth in the juvenile justice system nationwide have experienced abuse,  
24 neglect, trauma, mental health problems, and family crisis. Youth in the juvenile justice system suffer  
25 from serious mental health issues at a rate far greater than the general youth population: 70% as

1 compared to 10-20% of the general youth population. Nearly 90% of youth in the juvenile justice  
2 population nationwide have suffered a prior traumatic experience, and 30% of that population meet the  
3 criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder. The needs of youth impacted by these issues are better met  
4 outside of the punitive framework of the delinquency system.

5 (g) Detention adds more trauma to the lives of already traumatized youth. Detained youth  
6 become more isolated and disconnected from their families and their support networks and, when  
7 detained while awaiting their disposition hearings, fare far worse at every stage of their case.

8 (h) The detention of youth negatively impacts their cognitive development at what are critical  
9 development stages. Healthy psychological development requires: 1) the presence of a parent or  
10 parent-like adult who is involved with and concerned about the young person's development; 2) a peer  
11 group that values positive behavior and academic success; and 3) opportunities and activities that  
12 foster independent decision-making and critical thinking. These core adolescent development  
13 requirements cannot be achieved when young people are detained because those detained are: 1)  
14 separated from their support networks; 2) grouped together with other youth who have been charged  
15 with offenses; and 3) stripped of their autonomy and self-determination.

16 (i) Most youth will age out of crime and should be supported in a positive developmental  
17 process. This requires creating strong relationships with caring adults, inclusion in pro-social peer  
18 groups and activities, and encouragement to develop their own interests and potential. By expanding  
19 our investment in services that are community-based, culturally-relevant, trauma-informed, and  
20 developmentally-appropriate, the City will enable youth to make a positive transition into adulthood.

21 (j) For those youth who must be detained, small, non-institutional settings are most effective at  
22 rehabilitating and supporting youth. Services provided to youth should be built on strengths and needs  
23 identified by their families, should be delivered by community programs, and whenever possible should  
24 avoid institutional placements and their attendant costs and harms.

1                   **SEC. 119.3. CLOSURE OF JUVENILE HALL.**

2                   By no later than December 31, 2021, the City shall close Juvenile Hall, expand community-  
3 based alternatives to detention, and provide a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a  
4 location approved by the Presiding Judge of the Court, that will be available for wards of the Court  
5 and persons alleged to come within the jurisdiction of the Court. The place of detention shall be a safe  
6 and supportive homelike environment, which shall not be deemed to be, nor treated as, a penal  
7 institution, and which shall conform to all applicable State and federal regulations.

8  
9                   Section 3. Chapter 5 of the Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Article  
10 XL, consisting of Sections 5.40-1 through 5.40-7, to read as follows:

11  
12                   **ARTICLE XL: CLOSE JUVENILE HALL WORKING GROUP**

13  
14                   **SEC. 5.40-1. CLOSE JUVENILE HALL WORKING GROUP.**

15                   The City hereby establishes the Close Juvenile Hall Working Group.

16  
17                   **SEC. 5.40-2. DEFINITIONS.**

18                   “CARC” means the Huckleberry Community Assessment and Resource Center.

19                   “City” means the City and County of San Francisco.

20                   “Court” means the San Francisco Superior Court Juvenile Division.

21                   “DCYF” means the Department of Children Youth and Families.

22                   “Juvenile Hall” means the locked detention facility at 375 Woodside Avenue in the City.

23                   “Working Group” means the Close Juvenile Hall Working Group.

24  
25                   **SEC. 5.40-3. PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES.**

1           (a) The purpose of the Working Group is to create a plan to:

2                   (1) close Juvenile Hall by no later than December 31, 2021;

3                   (2) strengthen and expand community-based alternatives to detention;

4                   (3) provide a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a location approved  
5 by the Court, which is available for all wards of the Court and persons alleged to come within the  
6 jurisdiction of the Court; and

7                   (4) reinvest any monies saved by the closure of Juvenile Hall in high-quality, effective,  
8 community-based alternatives to detention; an alternative, rehabilitative, non-institutional center for  
9 youth who are detained; and mental health and educational support for detained youth.

10           (b) In carrying out this purpose, the Working Group shall be guided by the following  
11 principles:

12                   (1) A juvenile justice system should balance public safety, positive youth development,  
13 family and community health, and victim restoration.

14                   (2) Detention has a devastating impact on youth, their families, and their  
15 neighborhoods, and undermines the safety and health of both detained youth and their communities.

16                   (3) The rehabilitative goals of the juvenile justice system can best be accomplished in  
17 family-based settings in the communities where youth live.

18                   (4) The vast majority of young people in detention should be diverted from that system  
19 and given access to developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed programs and services that address  
20 racial and ethnic disparities.

21                   (5) Youth in the juvenile justice system and their families should have a role in  
22 identifying what kind of support would be most helpful to them.

23                   (6) Resources invested in Juvenile Hall should instead be invested in youth, their  
24 families, and community-based programs, including mental health and educational support.



1           (7) Community-based programs that serve juvenile justice-involved young people should  
2 be supported, strengthened, and where appropriate, expanded.

3           (8) Youth in the juvenile justice system should be referred to programs and court-  
4 ordered placements in the City whenever possible.

5           (9) Juvenile Hall staff should be given the opportunity, consistent with civil service  
6 rules, to transfer to other jobs with the City or the San Francisco Unified School District once Juvenile  
7 Hall is closed.

8  
9           **SEC. 5.40-4. MEMBERSHIP.**

10          (a) Members. The Working Group shall consist of 13 members as set forth below.

11           (1) Seats 1 and 2 shall be held by representatives of community-based non-profits that  
12 serve juvenile justice-involved youth and are members of the Juvenile Justice Providers Association.

13           (2) Seats 3 and 4 shall be held by persons under the age of 29 who were previously  
14 detained or incarcerated.

15           (3) Seat 5 shall be held by a parent or guardian of a person who is or was detained as a  
16 youth in the juvenile justice system.

17           (4) Seat 6 shall be held by an expert in the design of small, rehabilitative, and  
18 education-focused centers that meet the needs of young people who, following their arrest or detention,  
19 cannot return to their home or community.

20           (5) Seat 7 shall be held by an expert in youth mental illness, with experience serving the  
21 juvenile justice population, and expertise in best practices for serving youth with mental illness.

22           (6) Seat 8 shall be held by an expert in juvenile justice reform with experience in data  
23 analysis and the development of alternatives to detention.

24           (7) Seat 9 shall be held by a member of the labor community.  
25

1           (8) Seat 10 shall be held by the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer or the Chief Juvenile  
2 Probation Officer's designee.

3           (9) Seat 11 shall be held by the Public Defender or the Public Defender's designee.

4           (10) Seat 12 shall be held by the District Attorney or the District Attorney's designee.

5           (11) Seat 13 shall be held by a representative of the Court if the Court so chooses. While  
6 the Court is not required to provide a representative to hold this seat, it shall be invited to do so.

7           (b) Seats 1-9 shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Board shall strive to appoint  
8 members to the Working Group from communities disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice  
9 system and from the City's most marginalized communities.

10  
11           **SEC. 5.40-5. ORGANIZATION AND TERMS OF OFFICE.**

12           (a) Members of the Working Group in Seats 1-9 shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of  
13 Supervisors and may be removed by the Board at any time. Each member in Seats 1-9 may remain in  
14 the Working Group until the termination of the Working Group under Section 5.40-7, unless removed  
15 by the Board. Any vacancy in Seats 1-9 shall be filled by the Board.

16           (b) Service in the Working Group shall be voluntary. Members appointed to Seats 1 through 9  
17 may receive a stipend in an amount determined by the Board.

18           (c) Any member in Seats 1-9 who, within a six-month period, misses three regular meetings of  
19 the Working Group without the express approval of the Working Group at or before the missed meeting  
20 shall be deemed to have resigned from the Working Group ten days after the third unapproved absence.  
21 The Working Group shall inform the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of any such resignation.

22           (d) Subject to the fiscal and budgetary provisions of the Charter, the City Administrator shall  
23 designate staff to provide administrative support to the Working Group.

24           (e) Subject to the fiscal, budgetary, and civil service provisions of the Charter, the City  
25 Administrator shall hire and make available to the Working Group an outside consultant with expertise

1 in juvenile justice reform, program evaluation, data analysis, youth development, development of  
2 alternatives to detention, and juvenile justice systemic change. The outside consultant shall advise the  
3 Working Group, and, to the extent desired by the Working Group, may facilitate its meetings and  
4 compile required reports on behalf of the Working Group.

5 (f) Quorum. Seven members of the Working Group shall constitute a quorum.

6 (g) Officers. The Working Group shall elect a Chairperson from its members. The Chairperson  
7 shall designate a member to serve in the Chairperson's absence.

8 (h) Subcommittees. The Working Group may establish subcommittees to be convened as  
9 directed by the Working Group. The Working Group's Chairperson or the Chairperson's designee  
10 shall appoint members to the subcommittees. Subcommittees shall report findings and make  
11 recommendations to the full Working Group for its consideration.

12 (i) Meeting Frequency. The Working Group shall meet at least every two months until Juvenile  
13 Hall is closed and a substitute place or places of detention are available for youth placement.

14 (j) Roles of Members. In adopting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors recognizes that  
15 each member in Seats 10-13 retains their authority and duties under State law and that where conflicts  
16 may arise out of members' dual roles, State powers and duties shall supersede the duties that this  
17 Article XL imposes on members.

18  
19 **SEC. 5.40-6. POWERS AND DUTIES.**

20 (a) The Working Group shall have the following powers and duties in the work focus areas  
21 described below:

22 WORK FOCUS AREA # 1: Based on available data, conduct a needs assessment for youth  
23 detained in Juvenile Hall. To conduct this assessment, the Working Group shall:  
24  
25

1           (1) Request that the City Attorney petition the Court for access to data contained in  
2 juvenile delinquency files and related juvenile records in the possession of the Juvenile Probation  
3 Department for the purpose of conducting the needs assessment.

4           (2) Track every child detained at Juvenile Hall who is not required by State law to be  
5 kept in a secure facility, including but not limited to: (A) children charged with probation violations or  
6 technical violations such as home detention violations, (B) children charged with a misdemeanor  
7 awaiting disposition, and (C) children awaiting an out-of-home placement post-disposition.

8           (3) Identify gaps in existing community-based programs and services.

9           (4) Evaluate the use of risk assessment tools, both quantitatively and qualitatively, to  
10 ensure that all young people who are eligible and safe to be released are in fact being released.

11           (5) Create plans to transition youth leaving Juvenile Hall to appropriate, local non-  
12 institutional settings.

13           WORK FOCUS AREA # 2: Plan and design a small, rehabilitative and education-focused  
14 center for the placement of detained youth ("Center"). In developing the plan and design, the Working  
15 Group shall:

16           (1) Analyze best practices for the administration and management of small rehabilitative  
17 non-institutional settings for youth, which may include consultation with designers, architects, experts  
18 in alternative models, and mental health and youth development experts. The analysis also may include  
19 examination of existing programs in other counties, states, or countries that have demonstrated  
20 rehabilitative success.

21           (2) Collaborate with the Real Estate Division, the Capital Planning Committee, and  
22 local community-based organizations to identify local land or existing buildings that may be used for  
23 this Center.

24           (3) Create an implementation plan for this Center.

1           WORK FOCUS AREA # 3: Determine the community-based residential or day-programs that  
2 need to be created, expanded, or reinstated to effectively serve wards of the Court and persons alleged  
3 to come within the jurisdiction of the Court who are not ordered detained by the Court. To make this  
4 determination, the Working Group shall:

5           (1) Promptly identify a housing option in the City for female youth who, following arrest  
6 or release from detention, cannot return to their homes, to replace the Catholic Charities San  
7 Francisco Girls Home Shelter closed in 2018.

8           (2) Identify existing community-based day programs and housing options that may be  
9 expanded.

10           (3) Identify new services or programs, including day services and housing options,  
11 which are needed to serve vulnerable youth populations.

12           (4) In consultation with DCYF, the Department of Public Health, the Juvenile Probation  
13 Department, and the Human Rights Commission, create funding plans to ensure both the expansion of  
14 existing programs with a demonstrated record of success and the creation of new programs. The  
15 programs should include mental health services, educational services, employment opportunities, and  
16 mentoring opportunities, which are culturally-relevant, trauma-informed, strengths-based, and rooted  
17 in the local community. Where possible, these services should be available to youths' family members.

18           WORK FOCUS AREA # 4: Collaborate with the Department of Human Resources and labor  
19 organizations that represent Juvenile Hall staff, to develop a plan to transition Juvenile Hall staff to  
20 jobs in other City departments or jobs with the San Francisco Unified School District or the alternative  
21 Center that this Working Group shall create.

22           WORK FOCUS AREA # 5: Develop trauma-informed, culturally relevant transition plans,  
23 specialized services, and housing options for vulnerable youth exiting detention, including young  
24 women, gender non-conforming and LGBT youth, African American youth, immigrant, youth, foster  
25 youth, homeless youth, and mentally ill youth.

1           WORK FOCUS AREA # 6: Develop a reinvestment plan that redirects funds historically  
2 allocated for Juvenile Hall to community-based alternatives to detention, the Center, and additional  
3 mental health and academic support programs for juvenile justice-involved youth.

4           WORK FOCUS AREA # 7: Develop policy recommendations for the Police Department, the  
5 Juvenile Probation Department, and CARC, which divert youth who have been arrested from the  
6 juvenile justice system to alternative, community-based programs and support systems.

7           WORK FOCUS AREA # 8: Develop policy recommendations for the Juvenile Probation  
8 Department that transform the department supervision model into a strengths-based framework so that  
9 young people are not sent to detention for probation violations, including technical violations or  
10 violations for low-level offenses.

11           (b) In carrying out its duties, the Working Group shall: 1) collaborate with the Mayor's  
12 Juvenile Justice Reform Blue Ribbon Panel; and 2) consult with the Capital Planning Committee, Real  
13 Estate Division, Child Welfare Division of the Human Services Agency, Child Crisis Division of the  
14 Department of Public Health, Youth Commission, the Police Department, and the San Francisco  
15 Unified School District. The Working Group shall invite a representative of each entity identified in this  
16 subsection (b) to all Working Group meetings.

17           (c) Subject to the fiscal, budgetary, and civil service provisions of the Charter, and to the extent  
18 consistent with open government laws, the Working Group shall investigate juvenile justice best  
19 practices by visiting other jurisdictions and retaining subject matter experts, as needed.

20           (d) Reports. The Working Group shall prepare and submit a report every six months that  
21 describes the Working Group's progress in fulfilling the duties set forth in this Section 5.40-6. The first  
22 report shall be due six months after the effective date of the ordinance in Board File No. \_\_\_\_\_,  
23 creating this Article XL. The Working Group shall submit each report to the Board of Supervisors,  
24 along with a proposed resolution to accept the report. The Working Group shall also submit each  
25 report to the Mayor, any City department or office responsible for a program identified in the report,

1 and the City Administrator. Each report shall be available to the public, and the City Administrator  
2 shall post each report on the City Administrator's website.

3 (e) In carrying out its duties, the Working Group shall receive prompt and full cooperation and  
4 assistance from all City departments, offices, officers, and employees. All components of City  
5 government shall promptly produce all records and information requested by the Working Group,  
6 unless prohibited from doing so by state or federal law.

7  
8 **SEC. 5.40-7. SUNSET DATE.**

9 This Article XL shall expire by operation of law, and the Working Group shall terminate, when  
10 the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer certifies in writing that Juvenile Hall is closed and there is a  
11 substitute place or places of detention, approved by the Court, that is available for wards of the Court  
12 and persons alleged to come within the jurisdiction of the Court. In that event, after the sunset date, the  
13 City Attorney shall cause this Article XL to be removed from the Administrative Code.

14  
15  
16 Section 4. Article XIII of Chapter 10 of the Administrative Code is hereby amended by  
17 adding Section 10.100-376, to read as follows:

18  
19 **SEC. 10.100-376. YOUTH JUSTICE REINVESTMENT FUND.**

20 (a) Establishment of Fund. The Youth Justice Reinvestment Fund is established as a category  
21 eight fund to receive fee revenue dedicated to community-based alternatives to juvenile detention and  
22 other contributions to the fund.

23 (b) Use of Fund. The fund is to be used exclusively by the City Administrator, for the purpose of  
24 supporting community-based alternatives to juvenile detention and the work of the Close Juvenile Hall  
25 Working Group established in Article XL of Chapter 5 of the Administrative Code.

1           (c) Administration of Fund. The City Administrator, shall administer the fund and shall report  
2 annually to the Board of Supervisors on the current status of the fund, the amounts approved for  
3 disbursement, and the number and types of community-based alternatives to juvenile detention assisted.  
4 The City Administrator shall have the authority to prescribe rules and regulations governing the Fund.

5  
6           Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after  
7 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the  
8 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board  
9 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

10  
11 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
12 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

13 By:   
14 JANA CLARK  
15 Deputy City Attorney

16 n:\legana\as2019\1900427\01351478.docx



## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Juvenile Hall Closure]

**Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the City to close Juvenile Hall by December 31, 2021, expand community-based alternatives to detention, and provide a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a location approved by the Court; to establish a working group for the development of a Juvenile Hall closure plan, and to establish the Youth Justice Reinvestment Fund to support community-based alternatives to detention and also support the working group; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

### Existing Law

State law requires that the Board of Supervisors provide and maintain, in a location approved by the Juvenile Court, a suitable house or place ("Juvenile Hall") for the detention of wards of the Juvenile Court and of persons alleged to come within the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court, under the management and control of the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer. In the City, the current Juvenile Hall is the locked facility located at 375 Woodside Avenue.

### Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would require that the City close the existing Juvenile Hall, expand community-based alternatives to detention, and provide a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a location approved by the Juvenile Court, to replace the Juvenile Hall. This ordinance would establish the Close Juvenile Hall Working Group ("Working Group") for the development of a Juvenile Hall closure plan. The Working Group would have 13 members, with seats 1-9 appointed by the Board, and seats 10-13 serving *ex officio* as follows:

- Seats 1 and 2 - Representatives of community-based non-profits that serve juvenile justice-involved youth and are members of the Juvenile Justice Providers Association.
- Seats 3 and 4 - Previously detained or incarcerated persons under age 29.
- Seat 5 - Parent or guardian of a person who is or was detained as a youth.
- Seat 6 – Design expert.
- Seat 7 - Mental health expert.
- Seat 8 - Juvenile justice reform expert.
- Seat 9 – Labor representative.
- Seat 10 – Chief Juvenile Probation Officer.
- Seat 11 - Public Defender.
- Seat 12 - District Attorney.

Seat 13 – Court representative, by invitation.

This ordinance would require that the Working Group develop a plan to:

- (1) close Juvenile Hall by no later than December 31, 2021;
- (2) strengthen and expand community-based alternatives to detention;
- (3) provide a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a location approved by the Court, which is available for all wards of the Court and persons alleged to come within the jurisdiction of the Court; and
- (4) reinvest any monies saved by the closure of Juvenile Hall in high-quality, effective, community-based alternatives to detention; an alternative, rehabilitative, non-institutional center for youth who are detained; and mental health and educational support for detained youth.

This ordinance would require that all City departments cooperate with and promptly produce records and information to the Working Group, to the extent permitted by State or federal law.

This ordinance would establish the Youth Justice Reinvestment Fund, administered by the City Administrator, to receive fee revenue dedicated to community-based alternatives to juvenile detention and other contributions to the fund.

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## **Young, Victor (BOS)**

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 2:22 PM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; Young, Victor (BOS)  
**Subject:** FW: Praise for efforts to close Juvenile Hall  
**Attachments:** Book Cover

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**From:** Lisa Hill <afrocentric315@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 6:01 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>; Ronen, Hillary <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>; Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Praise for efforts to close Juvenile Hall

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Greetings,

I recently read the article regarding the Supervisors who are drafting legislation to close Juvenile Hall. I want to commend their efforts. I worked for Alameda County Probation Department for three decades. I retired as Superintendent of the Camp program after tiredness efforts to introduce reforms. I am currently a professor at California State University, Eastbay teaching in the Criminal Justice Department. My goal is to educate and train compassionate and ethical Criminal Justice professionals. I recently published a book entitled "Keeping Kids in the Home and out of the System."

I applaud the Supervisors efforts to reform a costly and failing intervention to address juvenile delinquency.

Please consider offering my book to families as you make the transition.

Lisa Hill, Ph.D., LMFT

2019-11  
JOB, Rules, ETO  
Clerk

President, District 7  
BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
Tel. No. 554-6516  
Fax No. 554-7674  
TDD/TTY No. 544-6546

Norman Yee

**PRESIDENTIAL ACTION**

Date: 4/15/2019

To: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Madam Clerk,  
Pursuant to Board Rules, I am hereby:

Waiving 30-Day Rule (Board Rule No. 3.23)

File No. \_\_\_\_\_ (Primary Sponsor)  
Title. \_\_\_\_\_

Transferring (Board Rule No 3.3)

File No. 190392 Walton  
(Primary Sponsor)  
Title. Administrative Code - Juvenile Hall Closure

From: Rules \_\_\_\_\_ Committee  
To: Government Audit & Oversight \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Assigning Temporary Committee Appointment (Board Rule No. 3.1)

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Replacing Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

For: \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting  
(Date) (Committee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Norman Yee, President  
Board of Supervisors

RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SAN FRANCISCO  
2019 APR 15 PM 4:41  
BY \_\_\_\_\_

# Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SAN FRANCISCO

Time stamp  
or meeting date

2019 APR -9 PM 4:23

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor [ ] inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. [ ] from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No. [ ]
- 9. Reactivate File No. [ ]
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on [ ]

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

**Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.**

Sponsor(s):

Walton, Ronen, Haney, Mar, Peskin, Fewer, *Brown, Safai*

Subject:

Administrative Code - Juvenile Hall Clousure

The text is listed:

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require that the City close Juvenile Hall by 2021, expand community-based alternatives to detention, and provide a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, in a location approved by the Court, to establish a working group for the development of Juvenile Hall closure plan, and to establish the Youth Justice Reinvestment Fund; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making findings of consistency with the General Plan and the eight priority polices of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:

*[Handwritten Signature]*

April 9th, 2019

Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**RE: Strong Support for BOS File No. 190392 [Administrative Code - Juvenile Hall Closure]  
Sponsors: Walton; Ronen, Haney, Mar, Peskin, Fewer, Brown and Safai**

Dear Board of Supervisors,

San Francisco Juvenile Hall is under-filled, overfunded, and not a restorative space for our youth. Over the last decade, youth crime has steadily decreased, reaching record lows across the country, including in San Francisco. Currently, over 70 percent of San Francisco's Juvenile Hall sits empty, with the city spending nearly \$270,000 to keep one young person behind bars each year. In January, for example, there were 45 children detained in the Hall, filling only 30 percent of its 150 beds, with nearly 70 percent of those detained being held for a non-violent offense. The city's approach also disproportionately affects African American youth, despite the fact that African Americans make up a dwindling 3% percentage of San Francisco's population.

For many years, the Youth Commission has advocated expanding alternative to incarceration for youth through legislation and our annual Budget and Policy Priorities publications. Our city's budget would be much better used for investment in alternatives for incarceration, like community-based restorative practices. We advocated for these in our recent Omnibus Budget Priorities Resolution. Through these, youth would be able to heal, learn and grow while staying rooted with their community.

Legislation introduced at the San Francisco Board of Supervisors April 9th meeting would require the closure of San Francisco's Juvenile Hall by December 2021. In its place, San Francisco would develop an expanded array of alternatives to incarceration for young people who do not need to be locked up. In addition to expanding community-based alternatives to detention and providing a rehabilitative, non-institutional place of detention, it will establish a working group for the closure plan, and establish a Youth Justice Reinvestment Fund.

We, the Transformative Justice Committee of the Youth Commission, believe that incarceration leaves youth traumatized, disconnected and disempowered. We follow the lead of youth directly impacted by the legal system and thank Young Women Freedom Center and Supervisors Walton, Haney, and Ronen for spearheading this legislation forward. We are excited that the legislation is veto-proof with the cosponsorship of Supervisors Mar, Brown, Lee Fewer, and Peskin. Let's shut down Juvenile Hall and open the doors for community-oriented solutions to community health issues. It's high time to focus on care not cages for young people.

Sincerely,

**Transformative Justice Committee**  
*San Francisco Youth Commission*

1 [Motion to Approve the Housing and Land Use Committee’s Letter of Support for the  
2 Homeless Emergency Service Provider Association’s Budget Proposal for Fiscal Years 2019-  
3 2020 and 2020-2021]

4 Supplementary Information:

5 Approved as attached (see below).  
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May 6, 2019

Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**RE: Support for the Homeless Emergency Service Provider Association (HESPA) budget proposal for FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021**

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The Housing and Land Use Committee of the Youth Commission supports HESPA's \$13.9 million budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year (see appendix). The goals of this budget proposal are to 1) ensure safe and dignified emergency services, 2) replace expired Federal Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing grants, 3) prevent homelessness among people at risk, and 4) create additional exits out of homelessness through subsidies and vacant unit rehabilitation.

The Housing and Land Use Committee of the Youth Commission is firmly in support of expanding San Francisco's supportive system, particularly as it touches youth experiencing homelessness.

While historically, the City has spent as little as 3% of its budget on programs to address homelessness, it remains that today over 20,000 individuals are experiencing homelessness at any given time in San Francisco. The HESPA proposal does not pretend to solve the homeless crisis: its objective is to close severe gaps in the existing system that severely impact its effectiveness.

The HESPA budget proposal would allocate over \$13 million in FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021 to house and stabilize 4,000 households experiencing homelessness, notably by:

- **Funding 338 new housing subsidies** to families, the transgender community, single adults, seniors, and people with disabilities to move out of homelessness or retain permanent, rent-controlled housing;
- **Expanding emergency services** to thousands of individuals experiencing homelessness in severely underserved communities. This initiative would provide funding for housing navigation services for homeless families in shelters, drop-in centers, overnight bathrooms, and emergency housing subsidies for youth;
- Ensuring all San Franciscans have a right to counsel in eviction proceedings, and expanding back rent and other homelessness prevention strategies **to serve 1,740 households who are at-risk of eviction from housing and shelter;**
- **Funding critical mental health services and employment**, providing site-based mental health services to homeless families and fund innovative behavioral health innovations, such as pop-up mental health services and youth-specific psychiatric and clinical supports and employment services for over 1,500 households.

The Housing and Land Use Committee of the Youth Commission supports expanded access to emergency shelter, housing and employment, and prevention services, especially to at-risk youth or youth experiencing homelessness, and further supports ensuring that the supportive system is equipped to serve the physical and behavioral health needs of the population experiencing homelessness.

For all these reasons, we support the HESPA budget proposal.

Sincerely,

**Housing and Land Use Committee  
SF Youth Commission**



## **APPENDIX**

### **Keeping San Franciscans Housed and Housing San Franciscans: A Funding Proposal**

*Presented by the*

*Homeless Emergency Service Providers Association, San Francisco*

*April 2019*

San Francisco is in the midst of a humanitarian crisis. According to the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, over 20,000 people experience homelessness in our city each year. The City's Point in Time Count found over 7,000 people experiencing homelessness at any one time. However, we have only 2,500 temporary beds in the entire system, causing our shelter wait list for single adults to exceed 1,400 shelter seekers. With only 800 -1,000 housing exits anticipated this year, it is clear that the City and County of San Francisco must address this crisis. San Francisco only spends 2.7% of its entire budget on homelessness, making it a low priority in spending decisions historically. The Homeless Emergency Service Providers Association (HESPA) recognizes this disastrous situation can be mitigated with wise policy decisions and prioritization by our civic leaders. This proposal is not meant to be the complete solution to homelessness – much more revenue over several years is needed to create the housing necessary to end the crisis. However, this is an attempt to do as much as we can in the short term and within the constraints of a two-year budget to keep San Franciscans housed and house San Franciscans.

#### **History of HESPA Funding Proposals and Context for Ask**

Since 2012, HESPA has developed proposals to ensure safe and dignified emergency services, replace expired federal Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing grants, prevent homelessness among people at risk, and create additional exits out of homelessness through subsidies and vacant unit rehabilitation.

Since HESPA's advocacy began, San Francisco's homeless response system has benefited from the following funding allocations:

<b>Fiscal year</b>	<b>Funding investment from HESPA budget proposals</b>
2012/13	\$3 million
2013/14	\$2.95 million
2014/15	\$6.5 million
2015/16	\$4.1 million
2016/17	\$9.2 million (\$2.5 million was funded in June and then removed due to the failed sales tax initiative on the November 2016 ballot)
2017/18	\$6.7 million

2018/19	\$9.9 million
---------	---------------

These investments have been indispensable as we strive to alleviate the housing crisis faced by low-income San Franciscans. **As a result of these investments, by the end of this fiscal year, almost 1,509 households will exit homelessness, thousands of households will maintain their housing, and thousands of homeless people will receive deeply enriched emergency, employment, and mental health services that enable safety, and dignity.**

**Summary of Two-Year Budget Request**

The goals of HESPA’s 2019-20 and 2020-21 budget proposal are to:

- Prevent homelessness among people who are at risk of eviction;
- Provide housing solutions to a greater number of homeless San Franciscans; and
- Respond to the emergency health, behavioral health, and other basic needs of people who are on our streets due to the limited capacity of our current shelter and housing system.

Despite the successes enabled by the City’s investments in the homeless service system, significant gaps persist that result in long waits for shelter and housing, visible street-based homelessness, unmet mental health needs among homeless people, and a lack of housing exits from the existing emergency shelter system. **New initiatives and expanded programs are needed to keep pace with the scope of the crisis.** Funding our proposal for 2019-20 and 2020-21 will provide the tools to halt preventable displacement of low-income San Franciscans from rent-controlled housing and relieve the burden on our city’s shelters by both expanding shelter capacity and providing housing subsidies to some of our most vulnerable citizens.

This year, we can build on past successes through **an infusion of \$13,940,189 million in new and baseline funding for FY 2019-20 and \$13,915,741 million in FY 2020-21 to house and stabilize an additional 4,000 homeless people and households.** This budget proposal attempts to both prevent homelessness and create exits out of homelessness, while ensuring an adequate emergency services system for those forced to remain on the streets.

This proposal is the result of a careful, data-driven process to analyze our current housing and homeless system, identify service gaps, and tap into the experience and creativity of our providers to determine the most cost-effective solutions. Please see Attachment 1 for a detailed budget for our proposal.

- **Private Market Housing Subsidies:** Fund 338 new household subsidies to families, the transgender community, single adults, the elderly, and people with disabilities to allow San Franciscans to move out of homelessness or retain permanent, rent-controlled housing.
- **Emergency Services:** Expand emergency services to thousands of individuals experiencing homelessness in severely underserved communities. This initiative would provide funding for

housing navigation services for homeless families in shelters, drop-in centers, overnight bathrooms, and emergency housing subsidies for youth.

- **Homelessness Prevention and Right to Counsel:** Even the playing field and ensure all San Franciscans have a Right to Counsel in eviction proceedings by adding 5 attorneys, with paralegals and social workers, expanding back rent, and other prevention strategies to serve approximately 1,735 households annually who are at risk of eviction from housing and shelter.
- **Critical Mental Health Services and Employment:** Provide site-based mental health services to homeless families, and fund innovative behavioral health innovations such as pop up mental health services and youth-specific psychiatric and clinical supports and employment services for over almost 1,500 households.

**Part 1: Expansion of Private Market Housing Subsidies**

**Background**

The limited creation of housing units affordable to homeless people in recent years has greatly restricted the available inventory for potential placement of destitute households, resulting in a stagnant shelter system and prolonged street homelessness. The lack of affordable units for homeless individuals and families has forced more homeless households to seek housing in the private market. Tenant-based subsidy programs allow homeless households to take advantage of units in new affordable developments that are priced above their income level, and can also allow homeless households to acquire housing in the private market.

**Summary of Initiatives and Outcomes**

Initiative	Amount requested	Department	Number of people served and outcome
Expand new needs-based housing subsidies for seniors and people with disabilities	FY 2019/20: \$3,367,775 FY 2020/21: \$3,367,775	MOHCD	225 households will either be prevented from becoming homeless, or will be able to exit homelessness into housing.
Rent Subsidies for Transgender Adults	FY 2019/20: \$1,105,150 FY 2020/21: \$1,105,150	MOHCD	75 Transgender households will either be prevented from becoming homeless, or will be able to exit homelessness into housing.

Expand new needs-based housing subsidies for families	FY 2019/20: \$538,153 FY 2020/21: \$538,153	DHSH	12 formerly homeless high-need family households will be housed in San Francisco.
Expand rapid-rehousing subsidies to improve bilingual services capacity	FY 2019/20: \$773,273 FY 2020/21: \$773,273	DHSH	36 formerly homeless families from primarily monolingual Spanish speaking households will receive language-appropriate services to enter or maintain housing.

**Expand New Rent Subsidies for Elderly or Disabled Adults**

In 2014, the City funded a successful rent subsidy and housing navigation pilot to prevent eviction and help rehouse seniors and adults with disabilities. Through a significant collaboration including 50+ social service agencies throughout the city, this program has rapidly and efficiently enrolled 427 homeless or at-risk households with rent subsidies, case management, and housing navigation services. That is one household every 2 days. By successfully submitting DAHLIA applications for every eligible household, and smartly supporting participants to increase their income, the average cost per subsidy is decreasing over time.

In a recent analysis of 968 households eligible to apply for a studio at Openhouse senior housing, 43 met the minimum income requirements to apply for a studio. Ninety-five percent could not even apply without a rent subsidy. Now every household that wins the lottery and needs a subsidy to be approved can receive one. This program works closely with MOHCD to provide rent subsidies to Certificate of Preference, Displaced Tenant Housing Preference households, affordable housing providers, and community organizations to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, the practice of people waiting for over a decade on an affordable housing wait list, reaching the top, and getting turned down because they don't make enough income to qualify for affordable housing, or applying for a below market rental and being turned down because their limited social security incomes are insufficient to meet minimum income requirements. A comparison of the homeless count and census data shows over 11% of the disabled adult population in SF is homeless, the second highest rate in the city.

This request adds 225 subsidies primarily for seniors and people with disabilities to maintain housing and prevent homelessness or move into new housing.

### **Pilot Rent Subsidies for Transgender Adults**

One in five transgender adults in San Francisco is homeless. Drivers of this disproportionate rate of homelessness include employment and housing discrimination, and increased rates of violence and other trauma committed by society against transgender individuals. Barriers to exiting homelessness include historic lack of welcoming and affirming housing and homeless service provision for transgender, lesbian, gay, and bisexual communities.

This request will take a critical first step in reaching for equity for the transgender community by providing 75 rent subsidy slots to prevent eviction or help people secure new housing. Subsidy-eligible households will participate in a housing navigation program that automatically submits all housing applications for which they are eligible to apply. This proposal will fund a dedicated staff position to build housing expertise capacity in transgender serving organizations.

### **Expansion of Need-Based Subsidy for Families**

Current rapid re-housing subsidy programs have been effective for a sliver of the population: 1) those who require only temporary help until they can cover market rent on their own, and 2) those for whom moving out of San Francisco is a viable option. Most rapid re-housing households, due to the housing crisis, are placed outside San Francisco, disrupting their community ties, employment, and schooling for their children. This system leaves behind those who are unable to increase their income in a relatively short period of time, and those who cannot move outside San Francisco, including families who have special needs children or health conditions, those paroled to San Francisco, or undocumented families with children who would be put at risk by leaving the protection of San Francisco's Sanctuary policies.

This subsidy is deep enough to enable households to rent in the bottom 20% of the rental market, while contributing 30% of their income toward the rent. Similarly, it is need-based, allowing households to use it as long as necessary. The program fills the gap for those who cannot demonstrate an ability to substantially increase their income, while keeping low-income people of color close to their communities in San Francisco. It also provides the flexibility to be used in non-profit owned buildings, master lease buildings, or in scattered sites.

This program has a track record of success, having moved 20 families with no other housing option into housing last year. The need far outweighs the number of available subsidies, and this modest expansion would move 12 more families into housing.

### **Expansion of Rapid Re-Housing Subsidies to Improve Bilingual Services Capacity**

Among families experiencing housing instability and homelessness in San Francisco, monolingual Spanish speaking families represent a substantial and growing proportion of the homeless population. While the demand for housing subsidies and other housing opportunities remains high among Spanish speaking households, the existing capacity for bilingual case management is extremely limited despite the

breadth of our homeless services network. By expanding our capacity to provide bilingual case management services, we could provide rental subsidies for an additional 36 Spanish speaking families who might not otherwise receive the services they need.

**Part 2: Emergency Services**

**Background**

It is unacceptable that anyone would have to sleep on the street, and yet the 2017 Point-in-Time count revealed that 4,353 San Franciscans are unsheltered on a given night. The city’s outreach, drop-in center, and emergency shelter system is the safety net that individuals rely on to catch them before they reach the street, yet the system is overwhelmed, whole neighborhoods are grossly underserved, and the result is a persistent and inhumane street homelessness crisis. Our response must be multifaceted and targeted in order to fill gaps and make a measurable difference in street homelessness. HESPA’s budget request reflects the diversity of needs to fill, including street-based outreach, flexible emergency housing funds, hotel vouchers, adult and family shelter funding, housing navigation services, and expanded bathroom access.

**Summary of Initiatives and Outcomes**

Initiative	Amount requested	Department	Number of people served and outcome
New Housing Navigators in the Family Shelter & Resource Centers	FY 2019/20: \$246,600 FY 2020/21: \$246,600	DHSH	Housing Navigation Services for 105 families at access points and shelters
Expanded Emergency Housing Flexible Fund for TAY	FY 2018/19: \$151,800 FY 2019/20: \$151,800	DHSH	110 TAY experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness
Multi-Service Center for Youth at 730 Stanyan	FY 2018/19: \$771,028 FY 2019/20: \$746,580	HSH	750 TAY experiencing homelessness or housing instability
24-hour bathroom access	FY 2018/19: \$470,458 FY 2019/20: \$470,458	DPW	Staffing to cover 1 24-hour bathroom access in the Tenderloin and 1 in Bayview

**New Housing Navigators in the Family Shelter & Resource Centers**

Currently, family shelters and family serving access points in San Francisco do not have the tools, resources, or staffing capacity necessary to move all families out of shelters and into housing. As a result, there is a persistent problem where families residing in shelters are caught jumping from one shelter to the next for months to years without ever attaining a housing exit. The original premise of homeless family shelters was to offer a short-term, emergency housing intervention for families in need. Shelters are not an appropriate long-term living environment for children and families, but this is often what they become. Unfortunately, without additional resources from HSH, the existing family shelter system cannot possibly meet the ambitious housing placement outcomes to which we aspire.

The family shelter system is in need of dedicated housing placement services since many shelter users are unable to navigate systems of care on their own. Housing Navigator services are needed at Family Access Points to help move families with the most acute needs who reside in shelters into more appropriate placements. Currently, there are three Family Access Points (Bayview Access Point, Central City Access Point, and Mission Access Point), and Housing Navigator FTEs are distributed among these centers according to the volume of family clients each access point serves. Housing Navigators will fill a critical gap in support that occurs when families transition between programs. Their presence will help ensure a continuity of care and allow for a warm hand-off and seamless transition as families move between programs. Housing Navigators will advance HSH's goal of developing a streamlined Homelessness Response System that effectively identifies and houses shelter-users with the highest need, and opens up new shelter beds for those living on the streets by providing the following:

- Standardized assessments and prioritization tools
- Determination of a housing path based on the HSH-designated assessment tool
- Immediate, intensive, onsite Housing Navigator services to those assessed as the highest need
- Housing-focused case management with the development of an individualized housing plan tailored for each participant
- Valid IDs, income documentation, benefits advocacy and documentation, credit repair, legal aid, IHSS enrollment, money management, and any other services necessary to move families into housing
- Assistance with completing housing applications
- Assistance with outstanding warrants and criminal records
- Transportation to property management meetings
- Advocacy and barrier removal related to prior evictions
- Move-in assistance (security deposits, furniture, household items, etc.)
- Follow-up services through leasing process
- Warm hand-offs to supportive housing case managers
- Linkages to external mental health, treatment, and primary health providers
- Input into the ONE system

### **Expanded Emergency Housing Flexible Fund for TAY**

Young people experiencing homelessness in San Francisco need safe and welcoming places to sleep and meet other immediate needs. Yet San Francisco's existing portfolio of youth emergency shelter beds

includes only 22 beds for youth ages 12 to 17 and only 40 beds for transition-age youth (TAY). No other fact is needed to explain why 93% of youth under 18, and 81% of TAY, lack basic shelter in San Francisco. While we eagerly await the City's promised launch of a Youth Navigation Center, youth providers have successfully deployed emergency housing flexible funds to compensate for the lack of youth-specific brick-and-mortar shelter beds.

Emergency housing flexible funds can work nimbly to prevent homelessness for youth at imminent risk of losing their housing, as well as divert youth from homelessness by bridging them to stable housing options. Emergency housing flexible funds can mean different things for different young people: for one youth, the funds could pay back-rent to a roommate who would otherwise evict them for nonpayment of rent; for another, the funds could purchase up to 28 days in a single-room occupancy (SRO) hotel while they access housing navigation services. We propose expanding the emergency housing flexible funds to cover an additional 110 youth citywide, from the Civic Center/Tenderloin area to the Bayview/Hunters Point neighborhoods.

### **Multi-Service Center for Youth at 730 Stanyan**

The most important thing San Francisco can do for young people experiencing homelessness in the short-term is to provide safe and welcoming indoor spaces that offer low-barrier support towards meeting immediate needs. The Coalition for a Complete Community (CCC) in the Haight district has proposed a community-developed plan for interim use of the site at 730 Stanyan Street, including a Multi-Service Center for Youth that would provide low-barrier engagement programming through a collaborative of youth providers with a longtime presence in the neighborhood, including the Homeless Youth Alliance, Huckleberry Youth Programs, and Larkin Street Youth Services.

To support an effective interim use of the site, we propose the Multi-Service Center for Youth to provide case management, basic needs support and necessities (including food, clothing, bathrooms, laundry, and showers), individual and group counseling, medical and mental health care, drug and alcohol treatment including suboxone, HIV/HCV testing, and referral and linkage services to other services, including workforce development programs. This site will also be an access point for the Coordinated Entry system. Importantly, the Multi-Service Center is poised not only to restore services that have been lost to the neighborhood due to nonprofit displacement, but also to meet high-level needs among a community of young people that regularly congregate in the Haight.

The CCC believes services located at this site benefits the overall health and safety in the Haight: "When our most disenfranchised neighbors receive services that aid in their many needs they quite simple have the opportunity to make significant changes. When people have access to get their most basic needs met, it is then, that they can seek to address larger more complicated issues that leads to them exiting homelessness. The entire neighborhood benefits when this population's needs are being met."

### **Overnight Bathroom Accessibility at Pit Stops**

There is a bathroom accessibility crisis in San Francisco. It is felt by tourists, shoppers, residents out for the day, and most acutely, those living on our streets. The last homeless Point-in-Time count recorded that



4,353 of our homeless neighbors are unsheltered. Not only do these unsheltered people lack a safe place to sleep at night, they also lack consistent access to bathrooms and handwashing facilities. The City’s investment in Pit Stops, public restrooms staffed by paid attendants, has been helpful in beginning to relieve the problem of lack of access to public bathrooms, yet more can be done to better meet the needs of homeless people and of neighborhoods where a lack of bathroom access has created unsanitary conditions on the streets. For example, of the 25 Pit Stops that currently exist throughout the City, there are no locations that are open later than 8:00 pm. Overnight bathroom access is a significant unmet need among unsheltered San Franciscans, and one neighborhood group, the Tenderloin People’s Congress, has identified the provision of 24-hour bathroom access in the Tenderloin neighborhood as a key component of their platform to improve the Tenderloin for housed and unhoused residents alike.

Currently, only two San Francisco neighborhoods offer overnight drop in centers; the rest of the city offers no place to use the restroom after 8:00 pm. Adding more staff coverage to select Pit Stops to allow overnight access would fill an urgent need. By the Department of Public Works estimation, adding more staff coverage to select Pit Stops would increase usage ten-fold.

**Part 3: Keeping San Francisco Housed – Homeless Prevention**

**Background**

Walking through San Francisco we see daily reminders that we are ground zero of the housing crisis. As the Five-Year Strategic Framework for the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) makes clear, preventing homelessness is a key component of achieving HSH’s goals: “Expanding eviction prevention must be part of our efforts to reduce overall homelessness in San Francisco.”

**Summary of Initiatives and Outcomes**

Initiative	Amount requested	Department	Number of people served and outcome
Shelter Grievance Advocacy	FY 2019/2020: \$384,790 FY 2020/21: \$384,790	DHSH	Representation in due process to ensure right to remain in shelter in 2,244 additional Denial of Service Hearings as part of the City’s Shelter Grievance Policy.

Rental Assistance for Back Rent	FY 2019/20: \$541,305 FY 2020/21: \$541,305	MOHCD	Rental Assistance for 250 households to avoid eviction in order to cover back rent.
New Eviction Prevention Legal Services	FY 2019/20: \$1,916,820 FY 2020/21:\$1,916,820	MOHCD	250 households would receive eviction prevention legal services by 5 new staff attorneys as well as the addition of support staff (paralegals and social workers)
Expand Aftercare Services for Formerly Homeless Families	FY 2019/20: \$149,862 FY 2020/21: \$149,862	DHSH	35 formerly homeless families at risk of recidivating

## **Full funding for enforcing the City’s Shelter Grievance Policy**

In an effort to address the over 1,000 people on the waitlist each night for shelter, the City has committed to adding 1,000 new shelter beds. Already, over 460 new beds have been added since the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing was created, and 200 more beds are being added this summer. However, the City has not increased its level of funding for enforcing the City’s Shelter Grievance Policy, which currently funds less than two advocates for a combined total of approximately \$142,000. This level of funding is inadequate to service the existing number of shelter beds in the city, let alone the additional shelter beds and shelter sites that have and will continue to come online in the coming months.

San Francisco has a one-of-its kind Shelter Grievance Policy that seeks to ensure due process to individuals being denied services at a shelter. As with any policy, proper enforcement is key to its efficacy. To this end, the City has funded advocates who stand at the ready to represent shelter clients in administrative hearings.

At the current staffing level, however, advocates cannot attend more than 12 hearings per week. Already, requests for hearings are coming in at a rate that exceeds staff capacity, meaning clients are made to live on the streets for longer periods of time waiting for their hearing to determine whether they were rightfully denied shelter services. This proposal would add two more advocates and a manager to the program, as well as missing program costs such as transportation, phones, and other basic costs.

## **Increase in Assistance to Pay Back Rent**

The cost of rent has skyrocketed in San Francisco in recent years, with the median price of a one bedroom apartment now \$3500 (<https://www.zillow.com/research/data/>). But income has lagged far behind. Over 50% of Bay Area families are considered to be “rent burdened,” paying more than 30% of their income in rent. This reality disproportionately impacts people of color, with 60% of black, Latino and Native American households being rent-burdened (SPUR Regional Strategy Report, 2/21/2019). For individuals and families on a fixed income, especially seniors and persons with disabilities, the burden is often even greater, with many tenants paying virtually all of their monthly income in rent.

An individual on SSI (Supplemental Security Income, or federal disability benefits, which is often the sole source of income for many disabled tenants in San Francisco) gets only \$930/month. According to Zillow, the median rent for a studio apartment in San Francisco in early 2019 is \$2900 (<https://www.zillow.com/research/data/>). Clearly, an individual on SSI cannot begin to afford to rent a typical apartment on the market in San Francisco. **If they have a rent-controlled unit, it is imperative that they keep that unit, or it is almost inevitable that they will become homeless.**

For tenants who have been fortunate enough to have subsidized housing (often after many years on a wait list), unanticipated family and personal emergencies (a death in the family, a health scare, a robbery) can cause tenants to fall behind on the rent. Even absent an isolated crisis, many low-income tenants find it difficult to make ends meet month-to-month, living in one of the most expensive cities in the United States. They find that the cost of what seem like reasonable necessities – food, medication, toiletries, transportation, clothes, telephone, television, pet food and care – strains and sometimes exceeds their extremely limited incomes.

**Once a tenant falls behind on the rent, they are extremely vulnerable to eviction.** If they are a tenant in private housing, a late rent payment can be just the excuse a landlord needs to displace that tenant and significantly raise the rent on the unit. Even in more affordable housing, management companies can use late payments, or missing rent payments, as an easy excuse to get rid of tenants who are perceived as troublesome, particularly those whose disabilities or background make them difficult or more burdensome to work with. Given the high cost of housing, once a tenant is evicted, especially from affordable housing, the chance that they will be able to find replacement housing in San Francisco is almost nil and this drives homelessness. **It is thus incredibly important that tenants who are falling behind on the rent be eligible for rental assistance quickly and with low barriers, so that overdue rent can be quickly paid and an eviction and homelessness averted.**

**The current amount of financial assistance available to pay back rent for tenants is not adequate to meet the need.** RADCo reports that they are more than \$50,000 over where they had budgeted to be at this point in the contract year, and they are on track to run out of funds by the 10th month. Not only are they at risk of spending down the money early, the available funding is inadequate to meet the case-by-case needs as the limit on back rent assistance for any one individual or family is \$3,000.

### **New Eviction Prevention via Full funding for implementing Proposition F**

In response to the growing number of evictions and victims of the housing crisis, San Franciscans voted in favor of Proposition F in June 2018. Proposition F states that every tenant, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, income, or any other distinguishing criteria, is entitled to an attorney when faced with an eviction. As a city dominated by renters (  $\frac{2}{3}$  of San Francisco households have historically been renters), the number of attorneys and support staff needed to meet this need is necessarily large. While the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development did deploy an additional \$3.9MM per year for this purpose, this still falls short of the funding required to ensure sufficient attorneys and support staff on the ground so every tenant facing an eviction in San Francisco has access to an attorney.

While the increase in the number of eviction defense attorneys has made a significant difference in the number of tenants who receive full representation – and thereby retain their housing – the need is far from fully met. Prior to the additional funding, data culled at mandatory settlement conferences estimated that 50 tenants per month appear at mandatory settlement conference without an attorney. (In 2016 624 unrepresented appeared at mandatory settlement conferences, the rate of which remained largely unchanged in 2017). With this addition of new attorneys slated to start in FY 2019/20, HESPA estimates that approximately 250 individuals will still be unrepresented. In other words, about 21 tenants per month will face eviction in San Francisco without representation. Moreover, the number of individuals who lose by default because they never make it to the settlement conference is unknown.

HESPA previously encouraged funding for at least sixteen additional eviction defense staff attorneys, as well as paralegals and social workers to support the attorneys and tenants. The additional funding rolled out by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development fell short of the original ask by five attorneys, four paralegals, and four social workers.

Experience has shown that the use of paralegal support – to conduct interviews, prepare paperwork, file and serve documents, engage in research and provide other support – allows attorneys to focus on the actual legal representation much more effectively, increasing both the number of clients who can be served and the quality of the representation. In addition, the involvement of social workers and social service advocates can make a significant difference in the outcome of cases. Especially when the tenant is facing multiple issues that may be contributing to the eviction, a social worker – who can provide or secure ongoing treatment for physical, mental health, or substance abuse issues, get a tenant help cleaning their unit, or help the client to obtain rental assistance – can mean the difference between tenants keeping or losing their housing. We strongly urge funding for support services for eviction defense, including paralegal and social workers. Combined, the paralegals and social workers will deepen the impact of the legal representation, and therefore increase the likelihood of long-term homelessness prevention, for 290 households who will be provided services through currently-allocated resources.

Studies repeatedly show that tenants with full scope legal representation fare exponentially better than those who are unrepresented. A Social Return on Investment Study determined that for every \$1 invested in the Justice and Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco (JDC)'s housing legal services, the San Francisco community gained \$11.74 of immediate and long-term benefits by keeping people housed and preventing homelessness.

The City's Housing Balance Report showed that the City gained 6559 affordable units between 2005 and 2014; however landlords used Ellis Act evictions, owner move-ins, and other actions during that same period that took at least 5470 rent-controlled apartments off the market, over 8000 San Franciscans experiencing homelessness, new affordable housing alone cannot keep pace with the needs of low-income tenants. Each time a tenant is evicted from their rent-controlled home, the city loses yet another affordable unit. But for the work of eviction defense attorneys, hundreds more rent-controlled affordable housing units would be lost, and countless San Franciscans added to the ranks of San Francisco's homeless population. Protecting private rent-controlled tenancies is critically important affordable housing strategy.

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(1) Stanford Law School - John and Terry Center for Public Service and Public Interest– San Francisco Right to Civil Counsel Pilot Program Documentation Report p. 14.

(2) Community Services Analysis LLC Social Return on Investment Analysis of JDC for year ended December 31, 2013.

### **Expand Aftercare Services for Formerly Homeless Families**

Because of the limited availability of affordable housing opportunities in San Francisco, homeless service providers are increasingly looking to neighboring cities and counties to find housing options that are viable for families exiting homelessness. Unfortunately, when a family is forced to relocate to a new environment, this often means a loss of social networks and a lack of familiarity with the services and supports available in their new community. Families who lack support in becoming properly integrated into their new environments face a heightened risk of recidivating back to homelessness. By investing in aftercare case management services, service providers will have the capacity to follow up with families months and years after they have been placed into housing to support their transition and integration into their new environments. Aftercare case managers will participate in home visits to help connect families

to public services and social supports, which is pivotal for preventing recidivism and ensuring their long-term success. Moreover, the availability of aftercare services will help reinforce the success of the City’s rapid rehousing subsidy programs, which do not possess the ability to provide intense follow up and transition support for families on their own.

**Part 4: Employment Services**

**Background**

In alignment with the City’s framework for preventing and ending homelessness, homeless job seekers require a continuum of employment supports that enables re-entry into the workforce at a living wage. Providing job seekers with the support they need to secure employment is a prerequisite to achieving long-term housing stability and reducing street homelessness.

**Summary of Initiatives and Outcomes**

Initiative	Amount requested	Department	Number of people served and outcome
Expand Workforce Development Services for Homeless Youth, Families and individuals	FY 2019/20: \$725,075 FY 2020/21: \$725,075	OEWD	140 total: 28 youth, 35 families and 77 single adults will have access to job-readiness and employment services

**Expand Workforce Development Services for Homeless Youth, Families and Individuals**

Expanding the capacity to deliver employment and workforce development services for homeless youth, families, and individuals at non-profit agencies is essential for connecting them with opportunities to achieve a stable income, while also preparing a needed workforce under Prop C. By focusing on building income, additional employment specialists will help families create a viable financial path for remaining in the San Francisco Bay Area. Through a combination of job readiness training, internships, and financial literacy coaching that touches on credit-building, budgeting, and money management, families will be better positioned to accomplish economic self-sufficiency and maintain stable housing in the long run. For families who are unable to work, these employment specialist would offer individualized case management to help them identify other income opportunities, such as SSI/SSDI and state income benefits.

## Part 5: Critical Behavioral Health Services

### Background

For the first year, given the behavioral health crisis homeless people forced to live on our streets have been facing, this year HESPA has a special focus on behavioral health. Our attempt is to fill gaps in caring for particular populations, as well as coming up with innovative interventions to reach underserved communities.

### Summary of Initiatives and Outcomes

Initiative	Amount requested	Department	Number of people served and outcome
Pop Up Mental Health Peer Based Services	FY 2019/20: \$300,000 FY 2020/21: \$300,000	DPH	300
Restoration of Mental Health Services for Families Experiencing Homelessness	FY 2019/2020 \$891,250 FY 2020/2021: \$891,250	DHSH	5 FTE Clinical Director to serve 450 Households / Families at 5 agencies and the Buena Vista Horace Mann Stay Over Program
TAY SOC Psychiatrist	FY 2019/20: \$377,982 FY 2020/21: \$377,982	DPH	200 TAY experiencing homelessness or housing instability
Youth Access Point Clinicians	FY 2018/19: \$206,172 FY 2019/20: \$206,172	DPH	400 TAY experiencing homelessness or housing instability

## **Pop Up Mental Health Peer Based Services: Radically Compassionate Care**

While struggling with the lack of safety, privacy, and the stability of a home, many homeless residents are coping with disabling mental health issues and substance abuse disorders that complicate interventions and thwart efforts to improve the health-threatening situation. San Francisco continues to rely on Psychiatric Emergency Services for people in psychiatric crisis, a pathway that starts in handcuffs and ends in a locked facility, often a traumatizing and ineffective intervention. San Francisco has recently expanded community based psychiatric emergency services through Dore Clinic, but they are often at capacity. Further expansion of community-based psychiatric crisis services by the Department of Public Health is essential to address this capacity issue.

It is estimated that every homeless person costs the city \$40,000 in emergency health care, including ambulance rides, emergency room visits, placements in sobering centers and other services. A relatively small number accrued significantly higher care costs. Among the most needy homeless people — the 338 people in the city’s public health database who use the most emergency services — 80 percent have a history of serious mental illness. Nearly two-thirds have a physical and substance abuse problem, too. This group makes up just 3 percent of the homeless people in the public health database, but they account for a third of all costs. Treating them in emergency and urgent care costs \$50 million a year, or nearly \$150,000 per person on average.

This funding would allow regularly scheduled and impromptu pop-up mental health and substance abuse clinics (“Clinics”) throughout the city at regular times and days where people can receive low-threshold access to services, rapid clinical assessments immediately followed by direct peer escort to drop-in centers, community health clinics, or general acute care.

A community organization will plan and coordinate among our compassionate crisis lead responders, peers, partner service providers, and city agencies for regular Clinics to appear with tables, tents, and general provisions (water, snacks). The goal is to get peers specialists, intensive case managers, clinicians and psychiatric professionals under one Pop-Up and provide socio-emotional support and diagnostic triage assessments of individual health, stabilization services, as well as necessary de-escalation or compassionate response to behavioral crises or emotional dysregulation.

## **Restoration of Mental Health Services for Families Experiencing Homelessness**

Increasing evidence shows that homelessness has a lasting and pervasive impact on all aspects of children’s development – even after they transition to stable housing. Homeless children are twice as likely to experience hunger as other children, and they are sick four times more often.[1] They are three times more likely than their peers to develop emotional behavioral problems, and four times more likely to show delayed development.[2] Stress from frequent moves and housing instability has a deleterious effect on school attendance and academic outcomes: children who are homeless are more than twice as likely to repeat a school grade, be expelled or suspended, or drop out of school.[3] Across the board, the stress of homelessness profoundly affects all dimensions of childhood development. Homeless mothers are also extremely likely to be impacted by major depressive episodes (50%), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (36%, or triple the rate of the general population) and substance abuse disorders (41%, or double the rate of the general population).



However, research suggests that early intervention can minimize or even reverse the effects of trauma in homeless children and parents. A recent study from the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs demonstrated that homeless children's academic success correlates with parental closeness, quality relationships with teachers, and relationships with caring adults.[4] Furthermore, early childhood mental health consultation in shelter settings has been found to be a central contributor to positive change in a caregiver's behavior and children's experience. Mental health services help adult caregivers to attend to the needs of children experiencing homelessness and reduce the traumatic impact of the experience on both adult and child.[5] Further, recommendations from Child Trends include ensuring mental health support for children, as well as incorporating play-based strategies to encourage healthy development.

This new body of research represents hope for children recovering from the experience of homelessness. With the necessary support and tools in place, children will be more likely to succeed in school, less likely to experience homelessness as adults, and the entire family will be more likely to recover from the traumatic impacts of homelessness.

Agencies serving families experiencing homelessness in San Francisco have seen funding that supports childhood and family mental health services cut severely during the past six years – including cuts in funding from First 5 and DPH. With the growth in family homelessness tied to the housing crisis in San Francisco, families are finding it harder and taking longer to end the experience of homelessness in their lives – resulting in deeper effects on the mental health of children and their caregivers. The restoration of this funding will support approximately 450 households with on-site direct mental health support in family shelters, transitional housing, and housing subsidy programs – as well as mental health consultation and training for staff working within those programs. The clinicians based at each site would help supervise a larger team of clinical interns in order to expand the capacity of mental health services at those sites. Additionally, given the major language needs and gaps that exist within family mental health services in San Francisco, recruiting bilingual/bicultural clinicians will be a priority for these sites.

### **Youth Behavioral Health Services: TAY SOC Psychiatrist & Youth Access Point Clinicians**

Behavioral health represents a critical unmet need for young people experiencing homelessness in San Francisco. Homeless youth experience major psychiatric disorders at rates up to four times higher than their peers. Almost half of Larkin Street youth (47%) report current or prior mental health issues at entry into housing, and nearly one quarter (24%) of homeless TAY in San Francisco identified mental healthcare as a key service need. TAY-centered behavioral healthcare should integrate mental health and substance use treatment, as substance use can be a coping strategy for dealing with the experience and trauma of homelessness.

In September 2018, the Department of Public Health's (DPH's) Community Behavioral Health Services launched a TAY System of Care (TAY SOC) to create more services that meet TAY needs, provide linkages for TAY moving between systems and among levels of care, and support system-wide coordination of TAY-specific services. While the TAY SOC remains in the early stages of development and implementation, we see a key service need for citywide and youth-specific psychiatry services,

including consultation, diagnostic, prescription, medication management, and other related services. We propose one licensed psychiatrist to maintain regularly scheduled days serving the City's TAY clinics, including the Tom Waddell Urban Health Clinic, the Huckleberry Youth Health Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Youth Center and Clinic, and Larkin Street Youth Services' Michael Baxter Youth Clinic.

Additionally, HSH's Coordinated Entry System will launch six Youth Access Points for assessment, problem-solving, and referral of youth into housing. Because the assessment process requires youth to share sensitive information from their personal histories, and because the Youth Access Points will be the entryway to the City's youth-specific system of care, we propose two TAY clinicians—one to serve each trio of access point partners—to provide crisis intervention, individual and group therapy, and similar services to young people dropping in for access point services.

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[1] National Center on Family Homelessness. [<http://www.familyhomelessness.org/children.php?p=ts>]

[2] Ibid.

[3] Child Trends. [<http://www.childtrends.org/?indicators=homeless-children-and-youth>]

[4] Family Housing Fund. [[http://www.fhfund.org/\\_dnld/reports/SupportiveChildren.pdf](http://www.fhfund.org/_dnld/reports/SupportiveChildren.pdf)]

6 Charles F. Brinamen, Adriana N. Taranta and Kadija Johnston, *Expanding Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation to New Venues: Serving Infants and Young Children in Domestic Violence and Homeless Shelters* (Infant Mental Health Journal, Vol 33(3), 2012), 283- 292.

FILE NO.

MOTION NO. 1819-AL-17

1 [Motion to Issue a Letter supporting Assembly Constitutional Amendment 8, Allowing 17 year Olds to  
2 Vote in State Elections]

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4 **Supplemental Information:**

5 Please see the attached letter.

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## **Priority #: Increase Emergency Shelter Options and Permanent Exits from Homelessness for Transitional Age Youth**

*Complete the 2015 TAY Housing Plan, construct a TAY Navigation Center, and increase funding for supportive services targeting at-risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness.*

### **Introduction**

### **History**

### **Problem Statement**

### **Proposed Solution**

## **Recommendations**

- **Complete the 2015 TAY Housing Plan.** The Youth Commission urges HSH to fully fund the identification of the remaining 120 units to reach the goal of 400 units of permanent supportive housing for TAY. At the Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee's April 17, 2019 policy hearing on housing and homelessness, Director of HSH Jeff Kositsky highlighted his department's goal of completing 700 units of permanent supportive housing in the next two fiscal years. HSH should dedicate a minimum of 120 of those units to fulfill the City's delayed commitment to vulnerable youth in San Francisco.
- **Recommit to a new 2025 TAY Housing Plan.** While completing the 2015 TAY Housing Plan goal of 400 units of permanent supportive housing for TAY is an essential first step, the City cannot stop at 400 units. HSH should conduct research and commit to a goal for permanent supportive housing units for TAY sufficient to house all TAY experiencing homelessness in San Francisco.
- **Construct a TAY Navigation Center.** The Board of Supervisors has already allocated funding for a TAY Navigation Center. However, HSH has not yet identified a site for this facility. A TAY Navigation Center will allow TAY to access services and address their unmet needs in a supportive environment.
- Supportive Services for TAY (see various related items from OPBP Reso)
- Proportional HSH funding

## **Conclusion**

## **Acknowledgements**

Titles /Goals & Bullet points priorities

- **NH:**Goal: [Alternatives to Incarceration](#)
  - Closure of Youth Guidance Center
  - Closure of 850 Bryant
  - Include impacted youth in city bodies/governance seats
  - Expand alternatives
  - Expand young adult court
  - Provide needed jobs
- **JC:** Goal: [Improve Support and services for youth and families who have been in contact with the justice system](#)
  - San Francisco Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership bill of rights
  - Project what's visitation without hesitation policy
  - Young adult court
  - Bail reform
- **NI:** Goal: [enhanced reentry programs and services](#)
  - navigation services,
  - Job employment
  - Housing
  - Mental health/substance abuse training
  - Rehabilitation and healing services/investment in social workers
- **NI:** Goal: [Invest in training on youth rights and development](#)
  - Oversight and expansion in mandatory training for law enforcement officers in youth cognitive development and interactions with youth
    - Police commission - to start a working group
  - Investment in youth rights curriculum / expanding for youth -not just 1st contact but also probation
  - Training for School Resource Officers and Juvenile Probation Department on competent care

# **PRIORITY X: IMPROVE VOTER TURNOUT AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT BY PRE-REGISTERING 16 AND 17 YEAR OLDS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Urging for the investment and recognition of the importance of youth civic participation in San Francisco, as well as supporting continued efforts to increase voter pre-registration among 16 and 17 year olds by capitalizing on partnerships with the Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families, the Department of Elections, the San Francisco Board of Education, and the SFUSD Student Advisory Council.

## **INTRODUCTION**

In response to numerous school shootings and weak policies regarding gun control, many young people have organized and mobilized their own student walkouts as well as attended many of the March for our Lives protests across America. Young people at these demonstrations have questioned why they cannot directly hold their elected officials accountable and why they do not have the right to vote for officials who can make changes that directly affect youth. These demonstrations have shown us that when there is a pressing issue affecting the lives of young people, youth have the knowledge and motivation to seek policy changes in order to improve the lives of not just the individual but also the lives of the youth in their communities. Since the very beginning, the Youth Commission has been dedicated to giving youth the resources they need for future success and the tools to contribute to policy change. We firmly believe that one of these resources is providing access to voter pre registration opportunities for 16 and 17 year olds in San Francisco.. Youth today are eager to take part in the political process. Voter pre-registration and increasing civic engagement of young people can and will lead to a healthier democracy. Not only are youth mobilizing in favor of gun control reform, but San Francisco, in particular, is also leading the fight against President Trump, at a time when our president is continuously threatening our city, our values, and working to take away voting rights and many other civil liberties. In opposition to an attack on voting rights, the San Francisco Youth Commission has continued to pre-register 16 and 17 year olds to vote.

**“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 and California became the 21st state to allow pre-registration. VoteCal was certified in September 2016, and pre-registration was initially only offered through paper forms.”<sup>1</sup>**

Online registration is now available and as of February 2019, there are 142,717 youth pre-registered in the state of California and 1,692 youth pre-registered in San Francisco<sup>2</sup>. Strong voter turnout and voter engagement are at the core of a healthy democracy. All of this was accomplished by youth who believed in expanding the voting

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.sos.ca.gov/administration/news-releases-and-advisories/2017-news-releases-and-advisories/16-and-17-year-olds-can-now-pre-register-vote-online/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/ror/ror-odd-year-2019/pre-reg.pdf>

rights of 16 and 17 year olds. Data shows that there is a strong correlation between pre-registering 16 and 17 year olds in San Francisco and a continued trend of voting among transitional-aged-youth increasing.<sup>3</sup> With the recent demonstrations and protests, now more than ever, we believe that encouraging youth to participate in any type of voting or elections is extremely critical. Being pre-registered to vote at 16 or 17 years old is one of the first steps in building a lifelong pattern civic engagement.

According to Path to the Polls, a report published in 2016 on pre-registration in California, allowing 16 and 17 year olds to pre-register to vote can increase young voter turnout by up to 13 percentage points and that people who vote at an early age are more likely to stay engaged and vote in later elections<sup>4</sup>. This data encourages us to wholeheartedly advocate for the process of pre-registration and the importance it has for young people.

The Youth Commission has been increasing voter pre registration for 16 and 17 year olds for the past several years. In February 2017, the Civic Engagement Committee (CEC) met with the Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families (DCYF) department heads where they agreed their youth-serving agencies (after the 2017 request for proposal (RFP) process) should offer the option of pre-registration to the youth they serve. In that same month, CEC continued a partnership with the Department of Elections and 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 acquired special pre-registration forms that allowed Department of Elections to track the amount of youth the Youth Commission has pre-registered. In late April 2017, CEC met with the SFUSD Student Advisory Council (SAC) where they asked for feedback on increasing voter registration outreach at the district level as well as asking for support in implementing the Board of Education Resolution 162-23A3 -- Encouraging Students to Exercise Their Voting Rights<sup>5</sup>. In early May 2017, the committee attended a Board of Education Curriculum and Program Committee meeting with the Student Advisory Council and gave a presentation on the work that the CEC had done that year on pre-registration, and gave suggestions on how to move this work forward at the school district level that the Student Advisory Council and the Youth Commission had brainstormed at the late April meeting.

### **Problem Statement**

Due to an increased demand by young people to be involved in the democratic process, have the opportunity to hold elected officials accountable, and be engaged earlier on in

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<sup>3</sup> Eric Plutzer, "Becoming a Habitual Voter: Inertia, Resources, and Growth," *The American Political Science Review* 96/1 (March 2002), pp. 41-56.

<sup>4</sup> Path to the Polls: Pre-registering California's Youth to Build a More Participatory Democracy. Alana Miller, Frontier Group Emily Rusch, CALPIRG Education Fund Rosalind Gold and Ofelia Medina, NALEO Educational Fund. September 2016:  
<http://calpirgedfund.org/sites/pirg/files/reports/CALPIRG%20NALEO%20-%20Path%20to%20the%20Polls%20-%20Sept%202016.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> San Francisco Unified School District Board of Education Resolution 162-23A3 -- Encouraging Students to Exercise Their Voting Rights adopted April 12, 2016. Retrieved from  
<http://www.sfusd.edu/en/assets/sfusd-staff/about-SFUSD/files/board-agendas/Agenda4122016-1.pdf>



issues that directly impact youth, it is imperative that the City and County of San Francisco work in collaboration with the San Francisco Unified School District, as well as with local nonprofits and community based organizations, to create access to voter pre registration opportunities for 16 and 17 year olds.

### **Proposed Solution**

As part of this advocacy work, the Youth Commission has to make specific requests to partnering agencies, city departments, and organizations to help us achieve our goal of increasing the number of pre-registered 16 and 17 year olds in San Francisco.

In January 2019, the CEC applied for a Youth Leadership Institute B.L.I.N.G. (Building Leaders in Innovative New Giving) grant. In February, the CEC was informed they were awarded a grant of \$5000 towards further pre-registration efforts, and held the first pre-registration training workshop in April 2019. The CEC is currently planning a second training session where we will train young people to act as “trainers” to go into their own schools and organizations to help increase pre-voter outreach. We hope that our trainings in 2019 will produce similar results to the outcome numbers of last term. The committee last term pre registered 23 sixteen year olds, 41 seventeen year olds as well as registering 11 eighteen year olds, and 7 people over the age of eighteen.



During the 2018-2019 term, the CEC continues to focus on pre-registration work. Throughout the year, stakeholder meetings were held with various groups and organizations such as Generation Citizen, B Magic, Coleman Advocates, SF Rising, the League of Women Voters, etc. CEC is reaching out to many community based organizations to bring in youth to pre-register at their own schools. The Youth Commission also partnered with the Department of Children Youth and their Families (DCYF) to put on Youth Advocacy Day on April 25th, 2019. On this day, youth were welcomed to City Hall to attend issue-based panels, walk into the offices of the Board of Supervisors, and engage in meaningful dialogue about the issues that affect them and learn about how they can get politically involved. Finally, the Commission held the first ever Youth Commission Open House on May 2nd where CEC held a pre-registration drive, reaching even more young people.

Knowing that data proves that young people are more likely to be civically involved the earlier they are involved in the process, will also help with our long term campaign of getting 16 and 17 year olds the right to vote (Vote16 2020) in local SF elections. Please see **Priority X on page X** for more information on this campaign.

### **Legislative Updates**

It is important to note that the Board of Education's resolution from April 2016 has not been entirely implemented, and there are continued solutions to be enacted from this existing piece of legislation. For example:

- 1) "the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District, would encourage and support... the responsibility of sharing voting and proposition information to their school sites' American Democracy classes..."
- 2) "That the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District requests that the Superintendent of Schools ensure that every American Democracy course offer a lesson on the requirements and process for registering to vote, which includes instruction on the requirements and process for pre-registration of students as young as 16 in accordance with California law, and which offers the necessary forms for voter registration or pre-registration, with information on where to return such forms..."
- 3) "The School District will partner with the County Registrar of Voters to develop information sheets outlining the legal requirements for voter registration and pre-registration, and partner with nonpartisan organizations that can offer voter registration drives at high school campuses at least once annually..."
- 4) "That the American Democracy course will include instruction on the platforms of political parties with significant (more than 5 percent) registration in San Francisco county and information on how to be an involved voter..."
- 5) "That voter registration activities at school should be structured so that students who do not meet the voter eligibility criteria in California law may still participate in class work and activities without disclosing their eligibility status..."

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

All of the above means nothing without the continued support from the City of San Francisco to engage San Francisco youth in the civic and voting process. We encourage you to do everything in your power to assist us in the pre-registration of 16-17 year old youth in the city. The Youth Commission urges:

- 1) The Mayor's Office of Education continue to build bridges between the City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco Board of Education, to continue implementation of the Board of Education Resolution 162-23A3 -- "Encouraging Students to Exercise Their Voting Rights".
- 2) The Department of Children, Youth and Their Families require older youth-serving grantees to offer the option of pre-registration to the youth they will work with. The Youth Commission thanks DCYF, especially Executive Director Maria Su, for their continued commitment to including pre-registration efforts with their youth serving grantees.

3) The Board of Supervisors and the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families partner with the San Francisco Unified School District to support implementation of the required policies it previously committed to for the 2019-2020 School Year.

4) The Board of Supervisors continue to support the Department of Elections in their budget needs.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The meaningful work done to engage youth could not have been possible without the support of the Youth Leadership Institute's B.L.I.N.G. program for their generous financial contributions. Their monetary contribution was greater than our initial ask, for which we are extremely thankful and understand the importance they are emphasizing on this issue as well. The Youth Commission greatly appreciates the support and guidance that the Department of Elections has provided for young people on the issue of voter pre-registration. We look forward to future collaboration. We also would like to acknowledge our continued support from the Board of Supervisors, as well as from many independent city constituents, who have maintained awareness and investment in developing the representation of young people in San Francisco's electorate. Thank you to Generation Citizen, B Magic, Coleman Advocates for Youth, SF Rising, and League of Women Voters to continue to be partners in increasing voter pre registration with 16 and 17 year olds.

**Resolution urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to adopt a city-wide tobacco minimum price law and prohibit the redemption of coupons for tobacco products.**

WHEREAS, 480,000 people die from tobacco-related diseases every year in the United States, making tobacco the leading cause of preventable death in the nation;<sup>1</sup> and

WHEREAS, between 2005 and 2009, the average annual smoking-related health care costs were \$132.5 to \$175.9 billion per year, with another \$151 billion in lost productivity, making the total economic burden of smoking between \$289 and \$322.5 billion per year in the U.S.;<sup>2</sup> and

WHEREAS, nearly 90 percent of adult smokers begin smoking by the age of 18;<sup>3</sup> and

WHEREAS, smoking rates in low-income communities of color are higher than in other income groups,<sup>4</sup> however, studies have shown that smoking rates can decrease when culturally appropriate or community-based<sup>5</sup> strategies are intentionally implemented in low-income communities and communities of color;<sup>6</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2014). *The Health Consequences of Smoking — 50 Years of Progress. A Report of the Surgeon General*. Available at: [www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/full-report.pdf](http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/full-report.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2014). *The Health Consequences of Smoking — 50 Years of Progress. A Report of the Surgeon General*. Available at: [www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/full-report.pdf](http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/full-report.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2012). "Current Tobacco Use Among Middle and High School Students – United States, 2011." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 61: 581–604. [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6131.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6131.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. 2013. *Tobacco and Socioeconomic Status*. Available at: [www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0260.pdf](http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0260.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Meaning the implementation of culturally competent actions, that are informed by both City officials and community members.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2000). *Reducing Tobacco Use: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, p. 398–400. Available at: [www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/sgr/2000/complete\\_report/pdfs/fullreport.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/sgr/2000/complete_report/pdfs/fullreport.pdf)

WHEREAS, in 2011, tobacco companies spent the majority of their marketing budget on price discounting strategies, accounting for over 83 percent of their \$8.4 billion advertising and promotional marketing budget; and

WHEREAS, tobacco companies give retailers and wholesalers promotional allowances such as: off-invoice discounts, buy downs, and voluntary price reductions<sup>7</sup> to reduce the cost of tobacco products at the point of sale; and

WHEREAS, tobacco companies spent nearly \$758 million on promotional allowances for retailers and wholesalers in 2011; and

WHEREAS, FEAR CAM's youth-led public opinion survey that collected over 300 responses revealed, 95 percent of participants have seen some form of the following price minimizing strategies -- price coupons, buy-one-get-one free deals, discounted prices, and multi-pack discounts -- used to sell tobacco and tobacco-related products in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, tobacco companies incentivize customers to purchase more tobacco products by reducing the retail price. In 2013, 55.4 percent of adults who are exposed to price minimizing strategies reduce the price by an average of \$1.27 per pack of a tobacco product;<sup>8</sup> and

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<sup>7</sup> Federal Trade Commission. (2013). *Federal Trade Commission Cigarette Report for 2011*. Available at: [www.ftc.gov/os/2013/05/130521cigarettereport.pdf](http://www.ftc.gov/os/2013/05/130521cigarettereport.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Xu X., Pesko, M.F., Tynan, M.A., et al. 2013. "Cigarette Price-Minimization Strategies by U.S. Smokers." *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 44: 472–476.

WHEREAS, 19.8 percent of adults who smoke cigarettes use coupons to purchase cigarettes; and that 24.3 percent who purchase cigarettes in bulk amounts, save an average of \$0.75 per pack;<sup>9</sup> and

WHEREAS, 3 out of 4 participants who took FEAR CAM's survey do not think that San Francisco residents should be able to purchase tobacco or tobacco related products because they have a negative impact on youth and other marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, 25 states plus the District of Columbia and New York City have adopted minimum price laws for cigarettes;<sup>10, 11</sup> and

WHEREAS, research proves that increasing the price of tobacco or other tobacco related products-- such as, cigarettes, hookah tobacco, little cigars, cigarillos, snuff, and other forms of chewing/smokeless tobacco -- would decrease tobacco use, particularly among minors and young adults;<sup>12</sup> and

WHEREAS, a 20 percent price increase on a pack of cigarettes would reduce tobacco consumption by 10.4 percent; decreasing adult tobacco use by 3.6 percent; and decrease initiation of tobacco use by young people by 8.6 percent;<sup>13</sup> now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, The Youth Commission and Youth Leadership Institute's Fearless Educators And Resisters (FEAR) urge the City and County of San Francisco adopt a

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<sup>9</sup> Xu X., Pesko, M.F., Tynan, M.A., et al. 2013. "Cigarette Price-Minimization Strategies by U.S. Smokers." *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 44: 472–476.

<sup>10</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2010). State Cigarette Minimum Price Laws—United States, 2009." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 59: 389–392. Available at: [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5913a2.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5913a2.htm)

<sup>11</sup> New York, N.Y., Ordinance No. 1021-2013 (2013) (signed into law on November 19, 2013.)

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2000). *Reducing Tobacco Use: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, p. 20. Available at: [www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/sgr/2000/complete\\_report/pdfs/fullreport.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/sgr/2000/complete_report/pdfs/fullreport.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> Community Preventive Services Task Force. (2012). *Reducing Tobacco Use and Secondhand Smoke Exposure: Increasing the Unit Price of Tobacco Products*. Available at: [www.thecommunityguide.org/tobacco/RRincreasingunitprice.html](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/tobacco/RRincreasingunitprice.html)

minimum retail price between \$13 to \$15 per pack of cigarettes and a gradient scale price for all other tobacco related products (based on other jurisdictions); and be it further

*RESOLVED*, The Youth Commission and Youth Leadership Institute's Fearless Educators And Resisters (FEAR) urge the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to adopt legislation to ban the use of price promotions to purchase tobacco or tobacco related products; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, The Youth Commission and Youth Leadership Institute's Fearless Educators And Resisters (FEAR) urge the Mayor and Board of Supervisors allocate adequate funding in the budget to support culturally competent cessation, withdrawal, and preventive services.

*RESOLVED*, The Youth Commission and Youth Leadership Institute's Fearless Educators And Resisters (FEAR) urge to allocate funding to further support the preventive and cessation services of community based organizations, such as BREATHE CA Ash Kickers; and

Be it finally, *RESOLVED*, The Youth Commission co-sponsors FEAR's Town Hall on May 30th, 2019, an event that will address the issues stated in this resolution.

FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO. 1819 - AL - 13

1 [State Grant Program - Homeless Youth - Assembly Bill 307]

2 **Resolution declaring support for Assembly Bill 307 by Assembly Member Reyes in the**  
3 **2019-2020 session of the California State Legislature to establish a grant program to**  
4 **support youth experiencing homelessness and to prevent and end homelessness, and**  
5 **urging the Board of Supervisors to support the aforesaid legislation.**

6  
7 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,300 Transitional Age Youth (“TAY”), defined as youth  
8 between the ages of 18 and 24, currently experience homelessness in San Francisco; and

9 WHEREAS, An estimated 49% of TAY experiencing homelessness in San Francisco  
10 identify as LGBTQ+; and

11 WHEREAS, The federal government has found that California accounts for one third of  
12 the nation’s population of youth under the age of 25 experiencing homelessness; and

13 WHEREAS, Existing available supportive services and infrastructure are not sufficient  
14 to serve and house the population experiencing homelessness in San Francisco and  
15 California; and

16 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 307 by Assembly Member Reyes in the 2019-2020 session  
17 of the California State Legislature (“AB 307”), would, if passed, require the state Homeless  
18 Coordinating and Financing Council to develop and administer a three-year recurring grant  
19 program to support youth experiencing homelessness and at-risk youth; and

20 WHEREAS, The aggregate annual amount dedicated to the AB 307 grant program  
21 would total \$100,000,000; and

22 WHEREAS, Both private nonprofit agencies with demonstrated records of success and  
23 experience delivering services to youth experiencing homelessness or at-risk youth and  
24 continuum of care entities with demonstrated records of success would be eligible to apply for  
25 AB 307 grants; and



1           WHEREAS, Grant applicants would be required to demonstrate that services would be  
2 provided within a framework of positive, culturally competent youth development, and would  
3 provide substance abuse treatment, education, prevention, and early-intervention services;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Grant funds would be required to supplement existing services, and would  
6 be prohibited from being used to replace existing local, state, or federal funding; and

7           WHEREAS, Numerous private nonprofit agencies currently offer services to youth  
8 experiencing homelessness in San Francisco; and

9           WHEREAS, However these existing private nonprofit agencies, as well as San  
10 Francisco's continuum of care entities, such as the Department of Homelessness and  
11 Supportive Housing, lack adequate funding and direction towards serving the full population of  
12 youth experiencing homelessness in San Francisco; and

13           WHEREAS, AB 307, if passed, would provide an additional source of state funding for  
14 expanded services for youth and TAY experiencing homelessness and at-risk youth and TAY  
15 in San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission of the City and County of San Francisco  
17 declares support for AB 307; and, be it

18           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the Board of Supervisors to  
19 support AB 307 for the aforementioned reasons, and with the intent to encourage local private  
20 nonprofit agencies delivering services to youth experiencing homelessness or at-risk youth  
21 and continuum of care entities to apply for an AB 307 grant if the bill is enacted; and, be it

22           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission directs Youth Commission staff to  
23 transmit copies of this resolution to the California State Assembly Committee on Human  
24 Services, the California State Assembly Committee on Appropriations, and further committees  
25 to which AB 307 is assigned as the legislative session progresses.

FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO. 1819-AL-14

1 [Urging to Lower San Francisco's Legal Voting Age to 16 years of age]

2 **Resolution urging the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to lower San Francisco's**  
3 **legal voting age to sixteen in municipal and school district elections**

4 WHEREAS, Vote16USA is a national campaign, organized by Generation Citizen, that  
5 aims to support efforts to extend voting rights to 16- and 17-year-old on the local level, help start  
6 new local campaigns, and elevate the issue's prominence on a national level; and

7 WHEREAS, On May 3, 2016, for the first time ever, the San Francisco Board of  
8 Supervisors and San Francisco Youth Commission held a joint Committee of the Whole meeting  
9 to hear from youth in public comment on putting Vote16 on the ballot; and

10 WHEREAS, 9 out of 11 San Francisco Supervisors voted to put Vote16, which became  
11 Proposition F, onto the ballot in November 2016, losing by the close margin of 2.1%; and

12 WHEREAS, Proposition F was endorsed by Former Board of Education Commissioners  
13 Sandra Lee Fewer, Shaman Walton, and Matt Haney, all of whom are now San Francisco  
14 Supervisors; and

15 WHEREAS, Proposition F was also endorsed by State Assembly Members David Chiu  
16 and Phil Ting in 2016, as well as by Former Supervisor and now State Assembly Member Scott  
17 Wiener; and

18 WHEREAS, the San Francisco Democratic Central Committee, along with 17 San  
19 Francisco Democratic clubs [endorsed Proposition F in 2016](#)<sup>1</sup>; and

20 WHEREAS, Numerous countries—Austria, Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Norway and the  
21 United Kingdom—have extended the right to vote to 16 year olds in national, state, and local  
22 elections or are considering doing so, and these efforts have resulted in higher turnout among  
23 voters ages 16-17 than among voters age 18 and older; and

24 WHEREAS, in March 2019, twenty-eighth Assembly District Assemblymember, Evan  
25 Low, introduced Assembly Constitutional Amendment 8 (ACA 8) which proposes to lower the  
26 California voting age from 18 to 17 and is a follow up legislation to his original ACA 10; and

27 WHEREAS, On March 14th, 2019, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA 12)  
28 publicly supported lowering the national voting age to 16, mainstreaming the lowering of the  
29 voting age; and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://vote16sf.org/endorsements>

1 WHEREAS, on March 6th, 2019, Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA 7) introduced an  
2 amendment to H.R. 1, or the *For the People Act* which would lower the national voting age to  
3 16, and 135 Democratic Representatives voted to support it; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2016, Berkeley voters passed Measure Y1, which lowered the voting age  
5 to 16 for Berkeley Unified School District elections; and

6 WHEREAS, In May 2013, Takoma Park, Maryland became the first municipality in the  
7 United States to reduce its legal voting age to 16 years of age;<sup>2</sup> and

8 WHEREAS, Voter turnout among these newly enfranchised voters in Takoma Park was  
9 44 percent, as compared to the overall voter turnout which was 11 percent;<sup>3</sup> and

10 WHEREAS, In December 2010, the Lowell, Massachusetts City Council proposed a  
11 resolution petitioning the Massachusetts State Legislature to lower the city's voting age to 17<sup>4</sup>  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Scottish government allowed 16 and 17 year olds to vote in its  
14 referendum on declaring independence from the United Kingdom;<sup>5</sup> and

15 WHEREAS, These 16 and 17 year old voters used this opportunity to exercise their  
16 newfound right to vote en masse, with over 90 percent of 16 and 17 year old voters registering to  
17 vote in the Scottish independence referendum;<sup>6</sup> and

18 WHEREAS, In 2016 the San Francisco Youth Commission adopted Resolution No.  
19 1617-AL-05<sup>7</sup> that supported the state legislation Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10 (ACA

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<sup>2</sup> Lindsay A. Powers, "Takoma Part grants 16-year-olds right to vote," *The Washington Post*, May 14, 2013. Accessed December 6, 2014: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/takoma-park-grants-16-year-olds-right-to-vote/2013/05/14/b27c52c4-bccd-11e2-89c9-3be8095fe767\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/takoma-park-grants-16-year-olds-right-to-vote/2013/05/14/b27c52c4-bccd-11e2-89c9-3be8095fe767_story.html)

<sup>3</sup> J.B. Wogan, "Takoma Park Sees High Turnout Among Teens After Election Reform," *Governing*, November 7, 2013. Accessed December 6, 2014: <http://www.governing.com/news/headlines/gov-maryland-city-sees-high-turnout-among-teens-after-election-reform.html>

<sup>4</sup> United Teen Equity Equality Center (Lowell, Massachusetts), "Vote 17." Accessed December 1, 2014: <https://www.utec-lowell.org/actnow/vote17>

<sup>5</sup> The Electoral Commission Lothian Chambers, 59--63 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1RN. (2014). *The 2014 Scottish Independence Voting Guide*. Accessed December 6, 2014: [http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0012/170400/The-2014-Scottish-Independence-Referendum-Voting-Guide.pdf](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0012/170400/The-2014-Scottish-Independence-Referendum-Voting-Guide.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Eichhorn, Jan, "Will 16 and 17 year olds make a difference in the referendum?" Edinburgh: Scot Cen for Social Research (2014). Accessed December 29, 2014. [http://www.scotcen.org.uk/media/205540/131129\\_will-16-and-17-years-olds-make-a-difference.pdf](http://www.scotcen.org.uk/media/205540/131129_will-16-and-17-years-olds-make-a-difference.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 1617-AL-05 "[Resolution Urging the Board of Supervisors to Support Assembly Constitutional Amendment 10, Allowing 17 year Olds to Vote in State Elections]," adopted April 17, 2017

1 10) introduced by twenty-eighth Assembly District Assemblymember, Evan Low, which would  
2 have “reduce[d] the minimum voting age [in California] to 17”; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2014 the San Francisco Youth Commission adopted Resolution No.  
4 1314—02<sup>8</sup> that called on the Board of Supervisors and Youth-Serving Commissions to create a  
5 “Youth Voice” Policy that would allow more young people to come to testify at public meetings  
6 to voice their concerns and opinions on legislation that would directly impact them; and

7 WHEREAS, Resolutions adopted by both the San Francisco Youth Commission  
8 (Resolution 0405-013)<sup>9</sup> and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (File No. 051215)<sup>10</sup> in 2005  
9 supported expanding suffrage to citizens of 16 years and older in city and county elections; and

10 WHEREAS, Upon turning 16, young people can drive, work without limitations on  
11 hours, pay taxes, take classes on government in school, are subject to adult criminal charges, and  
12 yet are denied the right to vote; and

13 WHEREAS, Young people often feel excluded from being engaged in their government  
14 and are underrepresented in local government; and

15 WHEREAS, Extending voting rights to youth of 16 years of age would empower young  
16 people to become engaged in our local government; and

17 WHEREAS, Undocumented and incarcerated young people in the City and County of  
18 San Francisco currently have no outlet to directly impact policy other than physical activism,  
19 which many undocumented people consider to be dangerous; and

20 WHEREAS, With the right to vote, young people would increase their knowledge and  
21 interest in politics and the issues directly affecting them; and

22 WHEREAS, 16 year olds possess roughly the same political knowledge as 21 year olds  
23 and come close to the average for all adults;<sup>11</sup> and

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<sup>8</sup> San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 1313—02 “Resolution Urging the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and Youth-Serving Commissions to Support the Creation of a Youth Voice Policy,” adopted March 3, 2014

<sup>9</sup> San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 0405—AL013 “Resolution Urging the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to Recommend to State Legislators That They Allow Local Choice, For Which City or County Could Permit Persons 16 years of Age or Older to Vote In City or County Elections,” adopted June 6, 2005

<sup>10</sup> See Board of Supervisor File No. 051215—Urging State Legislators to Permit Persons 16 Years of Age or Older to Vote in City and County Elections, Passed on July 21, 2005. Retrieved at: <https://sfgov.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=477237&GUID=8E3D3E05-BB1D-488F-A1D0-8F0B22AB0739&Options=ID|Text|&Search=538-05>

<sup>11</sup> Hart, Daniel and Atkins, Robert, “American Sixteen- and Seventeen-Year-Olds Are Ready to Vote.” *The Annals of the American Academy of Social Science*. Accessed December 1, 2014. Accessed at: <http://ann.sagepub.com/content/633/1/201>

1 WHEREAS, Young people who vote will make voting habitual, as voting is a life-long  
2 practice begun once one casts their first vote;<sup>12</sup>

3 WHEREAS, Young voters will be more likely to continue civic engagement throughout  
4 their lives than are those who begin voting later in life;<sup>13</sup> and

5 WHEREAS, Having young people voting at earlier ages would increase voter turnout in  
6 future elections and further stimulate interest in getting more involved in local government  
7 affairs; and

8 WHEREAS, Studies have proven 16 year old voters are competent and mature enough to  
9 make well-informed decisions that will influence their lives and the broader electorate;<sup>14</sup> and

10 WHEREAS, The median age of a San Francisco resident as of 2016 is 38, but the average  
11 age of the electorate has risen from 44.2 in 1980 to 45.8 and is projected to be 47.6 by 2025; and

12 WHEREAS, Young people have interests and priorities that differ from those of older  
13 voters and an aging electorate may neglect the interests of more diverse younger generations; and

14 WHEREAS, Between 2000 and 2013, San Francisco lost about 8,000<sup>15</sup> school age youth  
15 and now has the lowest percentage<sup>16</sup> of kids of any major U.S. city; and

16 WHEREAS, The young people impacted by these trends are best positioned to identify  
17 solutions, and their political enfranchisement is a vital step toward combating family flight; and

18 WHEREAS, The city has seen fit to make investments in the leadership and civic  
19 engagement of young people that DYCF's Youth Leadership and Organizing programs, Youth  
20 Empowerment Fund, and annual Youth Advocacy Day, among other initiatives; and

21 WHEREAS, thousands of SFUSD high school students have cast votes in mock elections  
22 and ballot measures through the Youth Vote program, gaining exposure to the electoral process  
23 and civic norms and practices; and

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<sup>12</sup> Elias, Dinas. "The Formation of Voting Habits." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*. Accessed December 6, 2014 at:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17457289.2012.718280?tab=permissions#tabModule>

<sup>13</sup> Bhatti, Yosef, and Kasper Hansen. "Leaving the Nest and the Social Act of Voting: Turnout among First-Time Voters." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 22, no. 4 (2012). Accessed December 29, 2014 at:

[http://www.kaspermhansen.eu/Work/JEPOP\\_Bhatti&Hansen\\_2012\\_young.pdf](http://www.kaspermhansen.eu/Work/JEPOP_Bhatti&Hansen_2012_young.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> Hart and Atkins, see supra note 2

<sup>15</sup> Heather Knight, "Families' exodus leaves S.F. whiter, less diverse," *The San Francisco Chronicle*, June 10, 2013. Accessed December 12, 2014: <http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Families-exodus-leaves-S-F-whiter-less-diverse-3393637.php>

<sup>16</sup> Aaron Sankin, "Families Flee San Francisco: City Has Lowest Percentage Of Kids Of Any Major U.S. City," *The Huffington Post; San Francisco*, March 11, 2012: Accessed December 12, 2014.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/09/families-flee-san-francisco\\_n\\_1335639.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/09/families-flee-san-francisco_n_1335639.html)

1           WHEREAS, the current political moment has galvanized civic involvement among  
2 young people in SF in resistance to the current administration, with hundreds of students walking  
3 out on Inauguration Day and thousands participating in the March For Our Lives protests to  
4 make their voices heard; and

5           WHEREAS, frustrated with the inaction of the U.S. Government to address the crisis of  
6 human-made climate change, young people in SF and around the country are increasingly  
7 organizing to make their support for green policy and environmental justice known; and

8           WHEREAS, San Francisco hosts a vibrant community of youth advocates, youth  
9 organizers, and youth philanthropists who play critical roles in advising local nonprofits and city  
10 departments on matters pertaining to the youth of San Francisco and policy affecting them; and

11           WHEREAS, these youth leaders play a key role in the formation and revision of the  
12 city's youth policy but remain disenfranchised despite being recognized by the city and local  
13 nonprofits as community leaders; and

14           WHEREAS, Staff from the San Francisco Department of Elections was on hand at the  
15 Young Voters Forum to register new voters and recruit young people to work the polls on  
16 Election Day, these youth poll worker make up  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the total amount of poll workers each  
17 election in San Francisco; and

18           WHEREAS, Research consistently indicates 16-17 year-olds make voting decisions  
19 based on reasoned consideration of their own and larger interests in a fashion similar to older  
20 voters;<sup>17</sup> and

21           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors added Rule 2.12.1<sup>18</sup> to the Board  
22 of Supervisors' Rules of Order in 2014, providing more opportunities for young people to  
23 meaningfully participate in public meetings; and

24           WHEREAS, Many states are enacting laws designed to severely limit communities of  
25 color and young people's voting rights, rolling back gains won through a proud history of  
26 struggle on behalf of African Americans and groups of young, multiracial activists; and

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<sup>17</sup> "Voting at 16: Turnout and the Quality of Vote Choice." *Electoral Studies* 31, no. 2 (2012). Accessed December 29, 2014. [http://ac.els-cdn.com/S0261379412000212/1-s2.0-S0261379412000212-main.pdf?\\_tid=1fa2eb02-9237-11e4-a398-00000aacb361&acdnat=1420172798\\_2b922ffa143eaa9603df4a3691b93c3e](http://ac.els-cdn.com/S0261379412000212/1-s2.0-S0261379412000212-main.pdf?_tid=1fa2eb02-9237-11e4-a398-00000aacb361&acdnat=1420172798_2b922ffa143eaa9603df4a3691b93c3e).

<sup>18</sup> "Motion amending the Board of Supervisors Rules of Order, by adding Rule 2.12.2, to establish communication procedures for hearings on matters related to the Youth Commission." San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Accessed December 6, 2014: <https://sfgov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=3276905&GUID=8ACEC527-F5C4-4E6B-99FF-450D9B60A3BE>

1           WHEREAS, San Francisco has an opportunity to take bold action to reverse these trends  
2 and stand for the political enfranchisement of young people; and

3           WHEREAS, As stated in Section 4.124 of the San Francisco City Charter, the Youth  
4 Commission is charged with identifying and proposing solutions to meet the unmet needs and  
5 concerns of San Francisco youth; and

6           WHEREAS, The Youth Commission believes that young people’s ability to engage in  
7 electoral processes that directly impact them is an unmet need; now, therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors  
9 to lower San Francisco’s city and school district voting age eligibility to 16 years of age or older;  
10 and be it further

11           RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors  
12 to urge San Francisco’s elected state representatives—State Senator Scott Wiener, Assembly  
13 members Philip Y. Ting and David Chiu—to prepare legislation that would provide for a state  
14 constitutional referendum to reduce the voting age to sixteen for all state elections; and be it  
15 finally,

16           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Board of Supervisors  
17 to pass a resolution in support of Assembly Constitutional Amendment 8 (ACA-8).

18           RESOLVED, That the Youth Commission urges the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors  
19 to prepare a charter amendment to relevant sections of the San Francisco Charter allowing  
20 citizens of 16 years of age and older to vote and register in municipal and school district  
21 elections held in the City and County of San Francisco.