RESOLUTION NO. 2223-AL-37

Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to urge the San Francisco Unified School District to release a timeline for the installation of critical school safety measures, provide funding for the installation of school safety measures, and support a new Memorandum of Understanding between SFUSD and the San Francisco Police Department.

WHEREAS, Schools have become a common target for gun violence in the United States; and

WHEREAS, According to Everytown for Gun Safety Research and Policy, in 2022 there were at least 176 instances of gunfire at school sites in the United States with 57 people killed and 148 people injured; and

WHEREAS, According to Everytown for Gun Safety Research and Policy, in 2022 there were at least 15 instances of gunfire at school sites in California with 3 people killed and 15 injuries; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) has responded 790 violent crime incidents at San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) school sites since 2013, averaging 77 instances per year, and when pandemic year outliers are removed, averaging 89 instances per year; and

WHEREAS, California Assembly Bill 3205, passed and signed into law in 2018, requires that any school modernization project using money from the state’s school facility bond program include installing Security Locksets if they are not already
present, building on 2010 legislation (AB 211) requiring these locks in all newly built

schools; and

WHEREAS, While the installation of Security Locksets is covered by current bond

funds, funding for other infrastructure such as updated public announcement systems,

remote buzzers, and security cameras have not yet been allocated by SFUSD; and

WHEREAS, These safety measures are currently dependent on the passage of

the next general obligation bond; and

WHEREAS, Plans to install Security Locksets in all SFUSD schools have been

repeatedly delayed; and

WHEREAS, The Youth Commission held a hearing on May 15, 2023 “to discuss

and understand the current status of school safety policies, procedures, and infrastructure

at SFUSD school sites”, with SFUSD and SFPD reporting (hereunto referred to as the

“May 2023 School Safety Hearing”), in which SFUSD confirmed that they did not have a

complete timeline or adequate funding for the installation of updated working public

announcement systems, remote buzzers, and security cameras; and

WHEREAS, In June 2020, the San Francisco Board of Education voted to not

renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SFUSD and SFPD, severing

formal and legally enforceable agreements between the San Francisco Unified School

District and the SFPD; and

WHEREAS, This MOU included formally written agreements on issues related to

cooporation between SFUSD and SFPD staff, SFPD community outreach, school staff

procedure for requesting police assistance, SFUSD providing SFPD training on youth
WHEREAS, In the Youth Commission’s May 2023 School Safety Hearing SFUSD’s Director of Planning, Preparedness, and Prevention Greg Markwith and SFPD Acting Commander Arran Pera confirmed that they hold weekly liaison meetings and “sometimes daily conversations” with other officers, but lack a formal written nor legally enforceable agreement on the relationship between SFUSD and SFPD; and
WHEREAS, the SFPD Acting Commander Arran Pera stated they believed it was better to have a written agreements; and
WHEREAS, SFUSD’s Director of Planning, Preparedness, and Prevention Greg Markwith stated their greatest concern was making sure student rights were observed, and emphasized the role SFPD has played in ensuring that; and therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission requests the Mayor and Board of Supervisors urge the San Francisco Unified School District to provide clear timelines on the installation of critical school safety measures in schools, including public announcement systems, remote buzzers, and security cameras; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Francisco Youth Commission requests the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to work with the San Francisco Unified School District to secure funding for the installation of these critical school safety measures; and therefore be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission requests a new Memorandum of Understanding between the San Francisco Unified School District and the San Francisco Police Department to ensure that their current working
relationship is upheld to ensure adequate safety measures and plans are in place and student rights are respected when police are involved, and that this new Memorandum of Understanding not include police presence at school sites as a matter of regular policy (not including community building events and emergency situations).