



**City and County of San Francisco
YOUTH COMMISSION
Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee**

MINUTES

**Monday, May 22, 2023
5:30 p.m.**

IN-PERSON MEETING with REMOTE ACCESS

Members: Hayden Miller (Chair, D5), Ann Anish (Vice Chair, D7), Chloe Wong (Member, D1), Allister Adair (Member, D2), Reese Terrell (Member, D3), Emily Nguyen (Member, D11).

Present: Hayden Miller, Allister Adair, Reese Terrell, Emily Nguyen.

Absent: Ann Anish (excused), Chloe Wong (excused).

Tardy: None.

The San Francisco Youth Commission's Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee met in-person with remote access for public comment, on May 22, 2023, with Chair Miller presiding.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

On the call of the roll:

Roll Call Attendance: 4 present, 2 absent.

Chloe Wong absent
Allister Adair present
Reese Terrell present
Emily Nguyen present
Ann Anish absent
Hayden Miller present



A quorum of the Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee membership was present.

Commissioner Adair, seconded by Commissioner Nguyen, motioned to excuse Vice Chair Anish and Commissioner Wong. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 4 ayes, 2 absent.

Chloe Wong absent
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell aye
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish absent
Hayden Miller aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

2. Communications

Joshua Rudy Ochoa, Community Engagement Specialist of the SFYC, shared communications and meeting announcements with Commissioners.

3. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Nguyen, seconded by Commissioner Adair, motioned to approve the May 22, 2023 Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee meeting agenda. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 4 ayes, 2 absent.

Chloe Wong absent
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell aye
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish absent
Hayden Miller aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

4. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

- a. April 24, 2023 (Packet Materials)



Commissioner Terrell, seconded by Commissioner Nguyen, motioned to approve the April 24, 2023 Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee meeting minutes. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 4 ayes, 2 absent.

Chloe Wong absent
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell aye
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish absent
Hayden Miller aye

Action: Minutes Approved.

5. Public Comment on matters not on Today's Agenda (2 minutes per comment)

No public comment.

6. Presentations:

a. Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing [HSH], Youth and TAY Homelessness (discussion & possible action)

- i. Presenter: Dylan Schneider, HSH Manager of Policy and Legislative Affairs; Bryn Miller (time certain: 5:40pm)

Dylan Schneider and Bryn Miller both presented their updated information regarding youth and transitional-aged youth in regards to homelessness. HSH said there would be a more streamlined process for youth to apply for a waitlist during the summer, in addition to their strategic plan goals over the next five years to address homelessness in San Francisco.

Chair Nguyen asked how people can find out about the resources that HSH offers, to which Bryn Miller said that they use their traditional methods as well as dedicated outreach teams to distribute easy-to-distribute information pamphlets to folks who need it throughout the community. Schneider added that there is a lot of communication that takes place between their community partners and they have monthly check-in meetings with CBO staff to ensure they're able to provide as many services as possible.



Commissioner Terrell asked if there's a big difference in cost between shelter and permanent supportive housing, to which Bryn Miller said that there's variable factors that can change the overall cost, but that they will have a more definite cost when they release their budget to the public in the coming weeks. Schneider added that the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything, but they're trying their best to understand the needs from before and after the pandemic.

Commissioner Adair asked what HSH is doing to ensure that the vacancy rate is reduced and what barriers exist currently from housing TAY and youth, to which Schneider said that they're trying to readjust post-pandemic, transforming the structures of permanent supportive housing into shelter under HSH, and staffing shortages that have taken place in many parts of the city's partners.

Chair Miller asked if youth goes through the same coordinated entry system as adults, to which Schneider said that they do have a targeted youth application system but that if youth go to an adult-serving service that they're likely to receive the adult entry assessment. Schneider said that staff need to be trained better to understand that there's separate and more applicable processes for youth to access.

Chair Miller asked about HSH's definition of homeless since there are youth who come to San Francisco to find shelter and safe spaces, to which Bryn Miller and Schneider said that they've heard about this in the past. Chair Miller asked if the definition of homelessness is defined here locally or statewide, to which Bryn Miller said that they try to align their definitions with the federal government as much as possible for consistency, but they would get back to the YC on those details, and that youth would have to spend at least one night on the streets or homeless before they qualify for any rehousing services.

Chair Miller asked what services are provided, to which Bryn Miller went over some of the many problem-solving and prevention resources that they offer such as travel assistance, financial assistance, etc.

Commissioner Nguyen asked what HSH believes and why homelessness is still a huge issue in San Francisco, to which Bryn Miller said that's a huge question and that this crisis has been created due to decades of housing policy, scarce resources, and not enough prevention to address the issue. Schneider added that it's funding and having conversations with communities to accept navigation centers or shelters in their neighborhoods, and overall community frustrations with street conditions across the City. Schneider said that they're always evolving to better address the needs on the street, but that continues to change.



Commissioner Nguyen asked what it would take to resolve these issues, to which Bryn Miller said many of the issues are the result of the partner organizations not being able to retain staff in low-paying positions, and the City is also going through those struggles in having the capacity to fulfill their duties. Schneider added that there were conversations about creating a wage floor for CBOs to follow and be able to adequately pay their employees and retain workers.

Chair Miller said that the Youth Commission looks forward to finding ways to support the much-needed services and resources, especially for youth and TAY.

b. San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority [SFMTA], Fare Enforcement (discussion & possible action)

- i. Presenters: Eliska Ferdinand & Gordon Wong, SFMTA Proof of Payment Unit Staff (time certain: 6:10pm)

Eliska Ferdinand and Gordon Wong both presented their fare enforcement plan from the SFMTA's POP division. They mentioned that they've been moving from a "fare enforcement" strategy to a "fare compliance" strategy.

Commissioner Adair asked what the actual process of fare compliance is when it comes to the Free Muni for All Youth program, to which Ferdinand said POP officers can ask further if they do not know if they're in compliance by providing their date of birth if they don't have the recommended ID in case they do not appear to be under 19 years old.

Chair Miller asked if there is a reason why fare inspectors do not wear cameras since BART and other similar agencies do, to which Ferdinand said that SFMTA isn't a law enforcement agency since those agencies do have police departments within their respective organizations. Chair Miller added that it would be helpful to still have body cameras to ensure that if an investigation takes place, it can be used to resolve any issues, to which Ferdinand said that's why there are video cameras on transit vehicles and stations that have that capacity.

Chair Miller asked how they can ensure that riders who enter through the back entrances have paid their fares, to which Ferdinand said that announcements are made throughout the route and that there are multiple points of payment. Chair Miller asked further that for riders who are unaware of the payment system, that rider is still expected to pay their fare, to which Ferdinand said that all riders are expected to pay when they board. Chair Miller said that the newer bus fleets do



not have the decals that indicate where to board and how to pay, which is more of an observation that they can address if possible.

Chair Miller asked how fare inspectors address the riders on buses that have broken or malfunctioning machines, to which Wong said the inspectors can make determinations on whether or not to ticket riders if they haven't paid in cash or can prove they have valid proof of payment. Chair Miller said he understands their procedure on paper but that there are times when fare inspectors do not explain the citation or there is a language barrier, to which Ferdinand says their fare inspectors do try their best to go above and beyond to give them the adequate information to proceed.

Commissioner Nguyen asked if fare inspectors are trained for difficult situations and de-escalation, to which Ferdinand said they do have de-escalation training and that those officers have a job to do when they inspect riders' fares.

Commissioner Terrell asked how fare inspectors deal with riders who aren't mentally stable, to which Ferdinand said the fare inspectors will deal with those types of situations as far as they can to still fulfill their job duties, but will eventually retreat if the situation becomes out of hand.

Chair Miller asked what legal authority fare inspection officers have to give a citation or detain someone, to which Wong said that their policy does not instruct fare inspectors to detain a rider but they can impose further fines.

Eliska Ferdinand, lastly, asked for the Youth Commission members to echo the new terms that SFMTA is now using (i.e. inspectors vs. officers; enforcements vs. compliance), since the tone and rhetoric can change situations and interactions between fare inspectors and riders. Chair Miller then responded with the recommendation that SFMTA also do the work to push this new terminology out there themselves through the media.

Chair Miller said he thought it was interesting, but that he intends to write a resolution to respond to the issue of fare compliance because it's been a recurring issue, especially for transitional-aged youth having to prove they're youth and not accepting student IDs. Commissioner Nguyen said that she doesn't think the presentation was very productive, and that she would help with research for a resolution as well because the conversation seemed to be more of a mission statement.

No public comment.



7. Legislation Referred (discussion & possible action)

a. **230519** - Hearing - Homeless and Supportive Housing's Strategic Plan

- i. Hearing on the HSH's Strategic Plan, to understand how the department prepares its approach to homelessness as far as available beds in the system whether permanent or temporary, the number of available openings on the waitlist for each program, how the department maintains its coordinated entry system with the number of individuals awaiting for housing and those who do not qualify for housing, and how the impact of the strategic plan's implementation will have on street conditions over the next five years; and requesting HSH to report.

Chair Miller said that this was in relation to what they heard earlier from HSH, and went over what the legislation does. Commissioner Adair said that he's curious about what their plan includes to win support from neighbors and community members in getting more shelter and housing space built. Commissioner Nguyen said she is curious if they can achieve the numbers that they're presenting to accomplish in the next five years. Chair Miller reflected that neighborhood NIMBYism, not enough resources or funding, and other measurables are important to focus on.

Commissioner Adair, seconded by Commissioner Terrell, motioned to support this referred legislation with questions attached. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 4 ayes, 2 absent.

Chloe Wong absent
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell aye
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish absent
Hayden Miller aye

Action: legislation referred with positive recommendation and questions attached, and forwarded to the full Youth Commission.

8. Support Letter (discussion & possible action)

a. AB 645 - Speed Safety Cameras

- i. AB 645 authorized, until January 1, 2032, the Cities of Los Angeles, San Jose, Oakland, Glendale, and Long Beach, and the City and County of San Francisco to establish a Speed Safety System Pilot Program if the system meets specified requirements. The bill would require a



participating city or city and county to adopt a Speed Safety System Use Policy and a Speed Safety System Impact Report before implementing the program, and would require the participating city or city and county to engage in a public information campaign at least 30 days before implementation of the program, including information relating to when the systems would begin detecting violations and where the systems would be utilized. The bill would require a participating city or city and county to issue warning notices rather than notices of violations for violations detected within the first 60 calendar days of the program.

Chair Miller introduced the support letter with some background information as to why this is being pushed forward. Commissioner Nguyen said she would present this letter at the next full YC meeting since Chair Miller will not be present.

Commissioner Adair, seconded by Commissioner Nguyen, motioned to recommend the AB 645 Support Letter to the full Youth Commission. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 4 ayes, 2 absent.

Chloe Wong absent
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell aye
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish absent
Hayden Miller aye

Action: AB 645 Support Letter recommended to full Youth Commission.

9. **Announcements** (this includes Community Events)

Chair Miller and Specialist Ochoa discussed other legislation that was referred to the Youth Commission, 230026-2, which amends Planning, Subdivision, and Administrative Codes and the Zoning Map to create a Family Housing Opportunity Special Use District. This legislation will be on the agenda at the next full Youth Commission meeting for discussion and possible action.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further business on the agenda, the Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee adjourned at 7:14pm.