



OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Ben Rosenfield
Controller
Todd Rydstrom
Deputy Controller

MEMORANDUM

TO: Madam Mayor London Breed
Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jessica Shimmin; Our City, Our Home Policy Analyst; City Performance
On behalf of the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee

CC: Ben Rosenfield, Controller
Shanell Williams, Chair, Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee

DATE: May 9, 2023

SUBJECT: **Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee FY23-24 and FY24-25 Investment Plan Recommendations**

San Francisco Business Tax Regulation Code § 2810 (e)(2)(A) requires the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee (the Committee) to, "develop recommendations for prioritizing the use of funds appropriated from the Our City, Our Home Fund." The Committee fulfilled this responsibility on April 27, 2023, by finalizing its recommendations for FY23-24 (FY24) and FY24-25 (FY25). The recommendations draw upon the Committee's Needs Assessment of Homelessness (2022) and its engagement with diverse stakeholders, including service providers, community members, and people with lived expertise of homelessness.

The Controller's Office respectfully submits the Committee's recommendations for prioritizing the use of funds appropriated from the Our City, Our Home Fund.

Permanent Housing

Adult Housing

The Committee supports many of the departmental proposals for OCOH funding of Permanent Housing for Adults/All populations in FY24 and FY25, and makes the following recommendations:

- The Committee recommends the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing create a pathway for women-serving organizations to place and provide services for 50 women in the adult Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool.
 - This recommendation is based on the premise that homeless, extremely low-income women without children have distinct, ongoing needs—including safety needs—that are best served through women-only space.
- The Committee recommends the City use General Fund or other funding sources to maintain and rehab existing Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) inventory and use OCOH funding to obtain and maintain new housing capacity.
 - This recommendation is based on the premise that the OCOH Fund is not an appropriate source for funding capital improvements in legacy/existing PSH buildings.¹
- The Committee recommends the City use General Fund or other funding sources to expand Money Management services.
 - This recommendation is based on the premise that the OCOH Fund is not an appropriate source for funding services in legacy/existing PSH buildings.²

Youth Under 30 Housing

The Committee supports many of the departmental proposals for OCOH funding of Permanent Housing for youth under age 30 years in FY24 and FY25, and makes the following recommendation:

- The Committee recommends allocating \$6 million in one-time site-acquisition funding and \$1 million annually in ongoing operating funding for a Bridge Housing program that provides shared housing with services for young people with high behavioral health care needs. Funding for both site acquisition and operations are recommended to begin in FY24.
 - This recommendation is based on stakeholder engagement, which identified a need for an open-ended, intermediate step of shared housing with services to support young people with high behavioral health care needs.

¹ Department proposed uses are eligible for the OCOH Fund, though the use of the Fund for this purpose is not recommended by the OCOH Oversight Committee.

² Department proposed uses are eligible for the OCOH Fund, though the use of the Fund for this purpose is not recommended by the OCOH Oversight Committee.

Family Housing

The Committee supports many of the Departmental proposals for OCOH funding of Permanent Housing for families in FY24 and FY25, and makes the following recommendation:

- The Committee recommends creating a Shallow Subsidy program for 60 homeless families with low support service needs to be administered by the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development. Ongoing funding in the amount of \$1.5 million should be taken from the existing budget for Family Rapid Rehousing in FY24 through FY26, with funding after FY26 coming from funds in the Family PSH Acquisitions line item.
 - This recommendation is based on stakeholder engagement, which identified a need for ongoing economic support for homeless families with low support service needs.

Mental Health

The Committee supports the departmental proposals for OCOH funding of Mental Health programs and services in FY24 and FY25, and makes the following recommendations:

- The Committee recommends expanding behavioral health services at the Youth Navigation Center using funding from the Mental Health Drop-In Services subcategory.
 - This recommendation is based on feedback from the listening sessions and the Committee’s Needs Assessment of Homelessness, which found that young people staying in the Youth Navigation Center need and want clinical services.
- The Committee recommends adding one six-bed Co-op program. The recommendation includes purchasing a site for the program using \$2.6 million of the reserved site acquisitions funding. The recommendation includes using OCOH funds to support ongoing funding for operating costs, initially by decreasing the existing budget for Assertive Outreach - Street Crisis Response Teams by \$110,000. The annual allocation should be adjusted for inflation each year in the future.
 - This recommendation is based on the need for additional options for ongoing housing for people with higher behavioral health care needs.

Homelessness Prevention & Diversion

The Committee supports the departmental proposals for OCOH funding of Homelessness Prevention & Diversion services in FY24 and FY25 and makes no additional recommendations.

Shelter & Hygiene

The Committee supports the departmental proposals for OCOH funding of Emergency Shelter and Hygiene services in FY24 and FY25, and makes the following recommendations:

- The Committee recommends adding 10 Hotel Vouchers for pregnant people and victims of domestic violence at a cost of approximately \$50,000. The Committee proposes delaying the start-up of the Cabin Shelter Program by one week as a way to create savings to fund the vouchers.
 - This recommendation is based on the premise that Hotel Vouchers are a flexible, low-cost emergency response that will have extraordinary impact for the people served.
- The Committee recommends that the City and the Port Commission extend the RV/Trailer Shelter Program wind-down at the Pier 94 site by one year, to end as of December 31, 2024. This will allow the Port to begin the rehab necessary to make the site maritime ready.
 - This recommendation is based upon the premise that the Trailer Shelter Program has high rates of participant satisfaction and is a cost-effective, high-quality intervention that successfully serves people with high health care needs and long lengths of time homeless.

Supporting Documents

All documents related to the Committee's recommendation process can be found on the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee website: <https://sf.gov/step-by-step/ocoh-oversight-committees-budget-recommendations-fy23-24>

If you have questions, please contact Jessica Shimmin, jessica.shimmin@sfgov.org or Laura Marshall, laura.marshall@sfgov.org.