

MEETING MINUTES

Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee

June 23, 2022

9:30 AM – 11:15 AM

Committee Members

Brett Andrews

Nina Catalano

Michelle Cunningham-Denning

Julia D'Antonio

Jennifer Friedenbach

Julie Leadbetter

Lena Miller

Ken Reggio

Shanell Williams

This meeting was held by WebEx pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders and Mayoral Emergency Proclamations suspending and modifying requirements for in-person meetings. During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emergency, the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee (OCOH) will convene remotely until the Committee is legally authorized to meet in person.

Note: The Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee meetings are live streamed at SFGovTV.org. The agenda, video recording, audio recording, and caption notes are posted at https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=209. Supporting materials including presentations and reports are posted at <https://sf.gov/meeting/june-23-2022/june-23-2022-our-city-our-home-oversight-committee-meeting>

1) ***Call to Order***

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 9:30AM.

Roll Call:

Member Andrews: Absent

Member Catalano: Absent

Member Cunningham-Denning: Present

Vice Chair D'Antonio: Absent

Member Friedenbach: Present

Member Leadbetter: Present

Member Miller: Present

Member Reggio: Present

Chair Williams: Present

Quorum confirmed.

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Chair Williams read the Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone, who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors, elders and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

2) Discussion Item

Presentation and discussion of OCOH related ballot initiatives and legislation.

Bill Barnes, Chief of Staff in Supervisor Safai's Office, described the proposed Homelessness Oversight Commission charter amendment. He said that establishing a Commission for the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing would ensure a public process around contracting and hiring decisions. In the current, revised version of the charter amendment the OCOH Oversight Committee would report to the Commission in addition to advising the Mayor and Board of Supervisors.

Member Reggio asked what reaction and input the Supervisor has received from the Mayor's Office and HSH? Chief of Staff Barnes said that neither the Mayor's Office nor the Department (HSH) have taken a position. A seat for Merchant Neighborhood and Business Organizations was added to the revised version at the request of the Mayor's Office. HSH provided recommendations that were not incorporated into the current version. At this point the charter amendment has one co-sponsor, President Walton, and expressions of support from several Members of the Board of Supervisors who are waiting to see the final product.

Member Friedenbach thanked Supervisor Safai's Office for their work on the Commission. She also said that if the Commission is created, the OCOH budget process will begin in September rather than February. She suggested that the composition of the Commission is an area for Community and Committee attention. Chief of Staff Barnes confirmed that the Commission would be formulating a budget through a public process for a February deadline.

Officer Leadbetter asked what authority the Commission would have, particularly around budget? Chief of Staff Barnes said that City Commissions have a responsibility to recommend a budget to the Mayor's Office. The Mayor's Office can make changes to the Commission's recommendation.

Officer Leadbetter said the Committee has been working closely with the Department to develop a data-driven system model. She would like to see stronger teeth in the Commission to align with a data-oriented approach to planning. Chief of Staff Barnes said the revised charter amendment includes a provision to include homeless services in the scope of the City Services Auditor division at the Controller's Office. Officer Leadbetter said she would like to see forward looking planning to

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identify specific investments that will move the City toward ending homelessness.

Jackie Thornhill, Legislative Assistant in Supervisor Mandelman's Office described the "A Place for All" legislation, which was unanimously passed earlier in June, 2022. The new law requires the City and County of San Francisco to offer a safe place to sleep to every person experiencing homelessness. The legislation requires HSH to submit a plan for implementing the Place for All program, including identifying/obtaining the necessary resources: shelter, PSH, prevention, safe parking, etc. The plan will include cost estimates for ending homelessness in 3 years. The plan must be submitted by December 31, 2022. Legislative Assistant Thornhill said the City and County cannot allow "housing first" to become "housing only," saying that providing shelter to people with no immediate path to housing is "an act of basic humanity." Legislative Assistant Thornhill invited OCOH Oversight Committee Members to contact her directly with questions or concerns about this legislation or other work in Supervisor Mandelman's Office.

Member Friedenbach said that amendments to the legislation expanded the scope of the law to include permanent housing. She said expanding shelter isn't helpful if no one can move out of those beds and into a permanent home. Member Friedenbach said that system flow is important to ending homelessness. Legislative Assistant Thornhill said that early versions of the legislation did not include permanent housing because of the policy gap around the right to shelter.

Member Miller said that people are living in dire conditions, and it is a mistake to let the perfect be the enemy of the good. She said the City must build an infrastructure, and something has to happen for people while this is happening. At one point the Navigation Center was the best model. But now people are thinking that congregate shelter isn't a good approach, so the models are changing.

Chair Williams thanked Legislative Assistant Thornhill.

Jessica Shimmin, Policy Analyst in the Controller's Office, presented on the Behested Payments legislation. Slides from that presentation are [available here](#) (slide 5-7).

Member Reggio said the Behested Payments legislation has significant, problematic implications for the homelessness services. He asked staff to [share the City Attorney's letter](#) with the Committee.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

3) ***Opportunity for the public to comment on any matters within the Committee's jurisdiction that are not on the agenda.***

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

4) Action Item:

Approval, with possible modification, of the meeting minutes from April 21, April 28, and May 6, 2022.

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Member Reggio requested a correction to the minutes of April 28, 2022 on page 4, 3rd paragraph. He asked that the 2nd bullet be changed to read: "Increasing the number of SRO subsidies by 50 at a total cost of \$6.2million for 150 families over 2 years."

Member Friedenbach moved to approve the minutes of April 21, 2022; April 28,2022; and May 6, 2022. Member Reggio seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Roll Call:

Member Andrews: Absent
Member Catalano: Absent
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Absent
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The minutes were approved.

[April 21, 2022](#)

[April 28, 2022](#)

[May 6, 2022](#)

5) Action Item:

Resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings under California government code section 54953(e).

[Full text of the Resolution can be found here.](#)

Member Reggio moved to approve the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings. Member Friedenbach seconded the motion.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Roll Call:

Member Andrews: Absent
Member Catalano: Absent
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Absent
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Yes

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Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The resolution was approved.

6) Discussion/Possible Action

Presentation of the crosswalk between Mayor's proposed budget and Oversight Committee's recommendations, with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Jessica Shimmin, Controller's Office, presented a crosswalk between the Mayor's proposed budget and the OCOH Oversight Committee's recommendations using [slides 14-21 located here](#).

Chief Deputy Director Noelle Simmons (HSH) presented proposed adjustments to the Our City, Our Home budget, [slides 22-23 located here](#). The proposed changes incorporate four of the OCOH Oversight Committee's recommendations into the budget.

Chief Deputy Simmons (HSH) provided context for the implementation of these strategies. The addition of 50 Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool units for women are added to the more than 1,000 units of flex pool that HSH is working to roll out.

Chief Deputy Simmons (HSH) said HSH will deploy the funding for Family Rapid Re-Housing Extensions to assist families in RRH programs who need an extension and do not have an alternative to remain stably housed. As permanent housing opportunities like vouchers and flex pool become available, families in this situation will be able to transition from the time-limited RRH subsidy to a permanent subsidy. Any dollars not needed for RRH Extensions will be redirected to increase the subsidy rate in the RRH program.

Chief Deputy Simmons (HSH) said that DPH will add \$0.3m in Dream Keeper funding to the hotel vouchers for families and pregnant people, bringing the total investment to \$1.5m.

Member Friedenbach asked if the \$2m for doubled up families in SROs will be targeted to SRO families or families that are doubled up, but not necessarily in SROs? Deputy Director Cohen (HSH) said the funding is intended to augment the MOHCD funding for families with children living in SROs.

Chief Deputy Director Simmons (HSH) said that in response to Committee discussion, the Department specified in its procurement document for Family Flex Pool that doubled up families, asylees, and refugees are eligible and encouraged to be served. Member Friedenbach asked for confirmation that doubled up families are included.

Officer Leadbetter said that in this year's budget process she sees a breakdown of communication with the Mayor's Office. She asked for information from the Controller's Office and Department as to why the lived expertise research program was not funded. She said that the City has a budget surplus, and what she views as the most important of the Committee's recommendations weren't

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funded. Jessica Shimmin, Controller's Office, said that work planning will be on the agenda in July. The Controller's Office shares the Committee's commitment to collaborating to bring the perspective, wisdom, and participation of people with lived expertise into stakeholder engagement, data collection, and analysis. The Controller's Office will be moving forward with a new solicitation for stakeholder engagement, as well.

Member Reggio, Permanent Housing Liaison, said he credits good communication with the Department as the source of widespread alignment across the Committee's spending plan and the Departmental budgets. He spoke with the Mayor's Office about his concern that they didn't incorporate Committee recommendations outside the Department's proposed budget. As a result, he is glad to see about the adjustments the Department has made to incorporate more of the Committee's recommendations. In particular, he was glad to see increased supports for families with children living in SROs. And the funding for PSH equity, even if the Committee disagreed with the source of funding, the move to fully fund services in PSH is a good thing. He supported directing balances in Family and Youth Housing to acquisition.

Member Friedenbach, Emergency Shelter and Hygiene Liaison, said she was glad to see the hotel vouchers returned to the budget, and with additional funding. She asked if there is room in the family bucket to add the flex pool for doubled up households. And, she asked about the Administrative Allocation, and the shift from the Committee's \$7.0m spending recommendation to \$5.0 in the Mayor's budget? Jessica Shimmin, Controller's Office, responded that adding the flex pool for doubled up households would decrease the amount directed to family housing acquisitions. In the Administrative Allocation, Ms. Shimmin said that although up to 3% of the Fund can be used for Fund Administration, that amount hasn't been reserved. Instead, only the budgeted amount is set aside, and the remainder of the fund is distributed across the categories. Increasing the Administrative Allocation would require rebalancing all the funding categories.

Director Kirkpatrick said that the Department of Public Health (DPH), has reached out to Chair Williams and Member Friedenbach to get more information about vision and goals of the transitional care program for women in the Bayview that the Committee proposed. Chair Williams directed Member Friedenbach to meet with the Department on that topic. Member Friedenbach agreed.

There were no public comments on this item.

7) Discussion/Possible Action

Work planning and proposing future agenda items, with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Jessica Shimmin, Controller's Office, said that she has been keeping track of the Committee's suggestions and requests for presentations. The lineup for the coming year will reflect those. As well, Ms. Shimmin said that she will be scheduling short meetings with Committee Members to gather their priorities for the coming year's work.

Member Miller said she understands the disappointment of her fellow Committee Members. She

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suggested engaging the Mayor's Office in exploring the things that didn't get into the budget, toward understanding the underlying issues.

Chair Williams said that she wants to see a fuller picture of the funding available through Federal, State, and Local sources.

Member Reggio said that understanding the product and timeline of the needs assessment and system modeling is a priority. Jessica Shimmin (Controller's Office) said she is working on refreshing the first two installments of the Needs Assessment with 2022 data from the Point in Time Count and Housing Inventory Count. She said the next two sections will focus on homeless response system performance to understand where there are barriers and success in the system. Racial equity- disaggregating outcomes and performance by race will make disparate outcomes clear.

Member Reggio said that feedback from the Departments about implementation of flex pool spending would be helpful. There is a lot of money allocated to this, and if it's proving difficult to implement, it may be wise to reallocate that funding.

Member Friedenbach asked for an update on implementation and spending, particularly in a form that's accessible to the public. She suggested social media may be a good avenue.

Chair Williams thanked Jessica Shimmin (CON) for her support.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

8) ***Adjourn***

Chair Williams thanked Committee Members for their work and dedication. She wished everyone a happy Pride Month and requested a motion to adjourn.

Officer Leadbetter moved to adjourn. Member Friedenbach seconded the motion to adjourn.

Roll Call:

Member Andrews: Absent
Member Catalano: Absent
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Absent
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Miller: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

The meeting adjourned at 11:15AM.