

MEETING MINUTES
Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee
October 27, 2022
9:34AM – 11:36 AM

Committee Members

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 California Government Code Section 54953(e) and the Mayor's 45th Supplement to her February 25, 2020 emergency proclamation suspending and modifying requirements for in-person meetings. During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emergency, the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee (COH) 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/october-27-2022/our-city-our-home-oversight-committee-meeting>

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.

1) ***Call to Order***

Roll Call:

Member Catalano: Present
Member Cunningham-Denning: Present
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Joined late
Member Friedenbach: Present
Officer Leadbetter: Joined late
Member Miller: Present
Member Reggio: Present
Chair Williams: Present

Quorum confirmed.

2) **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.

3) Action Item:
Approval, with possible modification, of the meeting minutes from September 22, 2022

Member Friedenbach moved to approve the minutes. Member Catalano seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The Minutes of September 22, 2022, were approved.

4) 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.](#)

Chair Williams asked staff for an update on meeting in person. Jessica Shimmin, Our City, Our Home Policy Analyst in the Controller’s Office said Committees are not yet authorized to meet in person.

Member Reggio moved to approve the Resolution. Member Friedenbach seconded the motion.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Member Reggio: Yes

Chair Williams: Yes

The Resolution was approved

5) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Presentation about the OCOH Fund Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Report content outline, development timeline and process, and key considerations with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

This agenda item originally was scheduled to appear later in the meeting. However, the Chair shuffled the agenda as the Committee was ahead of schedule and presenters for items 6 and 7 were not yet available.

Jessica Shimmin, OCOH Policy Analyst in the Controller's Office, outlined plans for the OCOH Fund Annual Report F21-22 using [slides posted here](#).

Member Catalano asked whether the dashboards would become available after the report? Ms. Shimmin said the plan is for the dashboards and reporting to be available at the same time.

Member Catalano asked about a communications plan for disseminating the report. Ms. Shimmin said the Controller's Office will publicize the report via its email lists and social media channels. She acknowledged that the report will contain a lot of information. The Committee may want to identify and lift up the most important findings.

Member Reggio asked how revenue shortfalls will be addressed, and what role the Committee plays in rebalancing the budget? Ms. Shimmin said the Committee does not have a formal role in rebalancing budgets. This is work completed by the Departments in conversation with the Mayor's Office. The Committee can make recommendations on spending. At this juncture the end of October, current year revenues are not yet clear. The November retreat will include an update on revenue collection and forecasting from the Budget Analysis Division in the Controller's Office. Departments will be prepared to speak to how they are approaching the shortfall at that time. Member Reggio said that even an informal input process at the November retreat would be "on target."

Member Friedenbach said she would like the Committee to have input on rebalancing adjustments that impact the investment plan. She affirmed the key questions to be answered in the Annual Report as the right questions.

Chair Williams thanked staff for their work on the Report. She said the Committee's Liaisons and Officers are available to read and offer help as needed.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

6) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Understanding the Needs of Older Women Experiencing Homelessness with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Sammie Rayner, Chief Operating Officer of Community Forward SF, presented, "Women's Housing in SF: Why we urgently need safe housing for chronically homeless women," using the [slides posted here](#).

Vice Chair D'Antonio thanked the presenter. Vice Chair D'Antonio said she would like to see full funding of services for homeless and housing insecure women, particularly those fleeing violence. Vice Chair D'Antonio asked whether Community Forward SF has seen an increase in interpersonal violence during the COVID-19 pandemic? Ms. Rayner said that Community Forward SF decided to operate a Shelter in Place hotel during the pandemic and closed the drop-in center. She said domestic violence organizations have had very long waitlists during the pandemic.

Office Leadbetter said that she has been inspired by the Women's Needs Center in LA. She noted that the Committee needs to go deeper and deeper in understanding of the population, because there's still many unknowns.

Member Cunningham-Denning asked whether Community Forward SF serve women of trans experience? Ms. Rayner said, "absolutely."

Member Catalano recalled the relatively small number of OCOH funded flex-pool slots dedicated to cis- and trans-women. She asked how these resources could be implemented most effectively for cis- and trans-women? Ms. Rayner said that because women have diverse needs, implementation will depend on making the right housing match.

Chair Williams thanked Ms. Rayner and said the Committee wants to support this work.

Member Reggio acknowledged the importance of addressing the needs of homeless women. He asked if there has been discussion of fair housing challenges that might be there with gender-specific housing or priorities? Ms. Rayner said that there is a process to ask for an exemption from fair housing through the Board of Supervisors. Additional steps may need to be taken if the housing is funded with other resources, however. Ms. Rayner said that where there's a will, there is a way.

Member Friedenbach said the scattered site flex pool has a lot of potential to meet women's needs. Member Friedenbach noted that homeless housing is not always safe for women, who frequently experience physical and sexual violence while they are homeless. Once in housing, women even have difficulty relocating for safety reasons.

Chair Williams noted that the Committee is passionate about finding solutions to homelessness that work for women.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

7) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Update on City-Wide Homelessness Strategic Planning with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Matthew Doherty presented an update on the City-Wide Homelessness Strategic Planning process using [slides located here](#).

Officer Leadbetter said she's excited for a cross-sector, city-wide plan. She expressed concern that the system model doesn't reflect a deep understanding of need. She also cautioned that coordination and efficiency without increased housing and resources won't be effective. She offered the Committee's assistance to ensure the modeling is being used in the most powerful way possible.

Member Catalano asked to learn more about homelessness prevention at the OCOH Oversight Committee retreat in November, particularly stakeholders involved. She also asked about the monitoring and evaluation structure that's being planned once the strategic plan is published?

Noelle Simmons, Deputy Director in the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) said the next phase will include developing an implementation roadmap and coordinating with partners to align implementation goals.

Member Cunningham-Denning said that it's important to implement quickly because there is so much need in the community. Mr. Doherty said the Committee's ideas about implementation would be welcomed at the November Retreat.

Member Friedenbach asked Deputy Director Simmons (HSH) whether the strategic plan will be building upon the existing system or overhauling the system from scratch? Deputy Director Simmons (HSH) said she wouldn't expect the strategic plan to go into details of closing programs or reallocating funds. The city-wide strategic plan will align departments around system objectives in addressing homelessness. The modeling will forecast the level of investment and the package of interventions needed to reach those objectives. Member Friedenbach said she supports those goals and would also like the City and stakeholders to take a critical look at the existing system.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

8) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Presentation about the proposed approval process for the OCOH Needs Assessment and plans for the November Retreat with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Chair Williams outlined a process for finalizing the Needs Assessment and provided an overview of the agenda for the two day OCOH Oversight Committee retreat in November using [slides located here](#).

Chair Williams said the Retreat will provide a much-needed space for strategic discussion.

Officer Leadbetter said the Needs Assessment is going to be a tremendous amount of information. She asked that the Committee make clear connections between the Needs Assessment and the System Model. And, she said it will be important that the letter is concise. It will be a challenging task, she said. Officer Leadbetter wondered about a reader guide or prioritization tool to help Members focus their reading.

Member Cunningham-Denning asked whether there will be an opportunity to introduce new strategies at the retreat? Perhaps the Committee could develop a strategy to work with property owners to clear barriers to get into housing.

Member Friedenbach asked to reduce the presentations at the retreat and prioritize Committee discussion. She noted that, in light of the current economic forecast and housing landscape, the Committee may want to adjust their investment plan strategies.

Chair Williams asked staff to send materials out in advance and asked whether a look at the investments will be possible. Staff said that information about implementation and outcomes will be provided in December as part of the Annual Report.

Chair Williams thanked Members for their suggestions.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

9) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Opportunity to propose future agenda items with discussion and possible action by the

Committee.

Chair Williams tabled this agenda item until the next meeting.

10) **Adjourn**

Chair Williams asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Officer Leadbetter moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Friedenbach seconded the motion to adjourn.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Catalano: Yes
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 11:36AM.