

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee
December 15, 2022
9:40 AM – 11:30 AM

Committee Members

Nina Catalano
Michelle Cunningham-Denning
Julia D’Antonio
Jennifer Friedenbach
Julie Leadbetter
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 (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/december-15-2022/our-city-our-home-oversight-committee-special-meeting>

1) ***Call to Order and Welcome***

Vice Chair D’Antonio called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Member Catalano: Present
Member Cunningham-Denning: Absent
Vice Chair D’Antonio: Present
Member Friedenbach: Present
Officer Leadbetter: Joined Late
Member Reggio: Present
Chair Williams: Absent

Quorum was not reached at the start of the meeting. Vice Chair D’Antonio began the meeting began with discussion items, holding action items until another member joined.

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.

Vice Chair D'Antonio skipped what had be agenda item two, approving a resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings. She moved the agenda to an overview of year-end reporting of OCOH Fund spending, utilization and outcomes.

2) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Overview of year-end reporting of OCOH Fund spending, utilization, and outcomes, with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Jessica Shimmin, Our City, Our Home Policy Analyst in the Controller's Office introduced the first Annual Report. She thanked the data experts, program experts, finance experts and leadership teams at the Department of Public Health, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, and the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development for their many hours of work on this project. As well, the OCOH Data Working Group played an important role in developing the questions and structuring the report. She thanked Laura Marshall for managing the project, and Reyna McKinnon and Jeff Pomrenke for making the report a reality.

The report is in the format of a website, which incorporates accessibility standards developed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Shimmin (Controller's Office) said that the Controller's Office is legislatively required to produce the OCOH Fund's Annual Report by February 15th of the following year ([see San Francisco Business and Tax Regulations Code Sec. 2810\(c\)](#)).

[The full OCOH Fund Annual Report FY21-22 is publicly available here.](#)

Reyna McKinnon, Senior Analyst in the City Performance unit of the Controller's Office, presented a preview of the Annual Report's executive summary using [slides located here](#).

The report describes the first 18 months of spending from the OCOH Fund, beginning January 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. The tables show the budget, amount spent, and the amount encumbered at the end of the year. "Encumbered" means that the funds formally obligated, like through a contract, but not yet spent.

Since January 2021, the OCOH Fund has added 2,172 units of permanent housing, 131 units of Mental Health capacity (treatment beds) plus additional services capacity, variable service capacity was added in Homelessness Prevention programs, and 401 units of Shelter and Hygiene interventions.

In total, these new resources have reached 18,517 households. Permanent Housing programs served 1,174 households. Mental Health interventions served 7,195 clients. Homelessness Prevention programs served 8,992 households. Shelter and Hygiene programs served 1,156 households.

The report disaggregates client data by race, ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Where data was available, the report provides the proportion of clients with a positive outcome from these service engagements.

Ms. Shimmin showed the Committee how to navigate the OCOH Fund Annual Report FY21-22 online, beginning with the Executive Summary. She noted that the summary tables below each

graph provide increased detail and make the information available to people who are using screen readers. Ms. Shimmin also acknowledged that the spending graphs unfortunately do not show any funding already committed to a project that is in the pipeline, but not yet at the contracting stage. Ms. Shimmin showed the Committee how to access reporting on particular populations using the filters in the charts. She said that the tables answer many of the questions the Committee Members have been asking over the past 18 months.

The table of contents provides quick access to each section of the report. The Appendix provides excel tables for all the data in the report.

Vice Chair D'Antonio opened the conversation up to Committee Members.

Member Reggio appreciated the work that went into the report and acknowledged that there's a lot to digest. He noted that the racial and ethnic demographics don't seem to account for the full universe of people served and may show a relatively low number of Black or African Americans being served (20%). Member Reggio noted that people who identify as Black or African American make up more than 40% of the people experiencing literal homelessness, so if the OCOH fund service population is only 20% Black, that is significant.

Ms. McKinnon (Controller's Office) said that the demographics Member Reggio referenced reflect people served across the entire OCOH portfolio. She said it would be a good next step to look at the racial demographics of service utilization in each of the four OCOH service areas. Ms. Shimmin (Controller's Office) agreed and said that there's a significant amount of missing data that wasn't pulled out before calculating the demographics. As well, the OCOH portfolio serves households across all four definitions of homelessness including doubled up, imminently homeless, victims fleeing domestic violence and families in SRO units. The Needs Assessment showed different demographic patterns across these definitions, and this is reflected in the Annual Report. There is a lot of information in the report, which will enable the Committee Members to do the deep exploration they've requested.

Member Catalano said she appreciates that the dashboard calls out missing data, because it raises questions and impacts the interpretation of the data. She asked that the Committee have an opportunity to discuss the content of the report at a future meeting.

Member Friedenbach suggested removing the unknown or missing data from the equations. Member Friedenbach said, and Ms Shimmin agreed, that not all of the capacity OCOH funds have added is available to clients right away. She encouraged bringing the new resources online as quickly as possible. Additionally, Member Friedenbach said that the capacity added doesn't include any of the spending that was reclassified into the OCOH Fund after the legal challenge failed and the fund unlocked. She said she is worried about the public optics of the demographics and the lower capacity added because it doesn't fully reflect the impact of the OCOH fund.

Member Friedenbach expressed concern and frustration about unspent funds when people are still homeless. She said that the length of time to implement, build, and get things done is a big barrier in San Francisco. She asked if the Controller's Office could look into this.

Last, Member Friedenbach said that the number of beds added in the Mental Health section is low compared with the number of people served. She said that the emphasis on street outreach and case management are important but limited by the very small number of resources available.

Chief Deputy Director Noelle Simmons with the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) acknowledged that system capacity is a top concern. She said that OCOH Funding provided a sizeable infusion of resources to the system and the Department and providers are

scaling up at unprecedented pace. Capacity is a real constraint and something HSH takes seriously. At the same time, she said the amount accomplished in the last 18 months is impressive.

Director Kelly Kirkpatrick with the Department of Public Health said that the reporting is through June 2022. DPH laid a lot of groundwork for service delivery during 2022. In 2023 they expect to see stronger service delivery. This shift from implementation to operation will be reflected in the FY22-23 6-month report. As an example, the report showed that at the end of June DPH had 131 open behavioral health treatment beds and as of the meeting (December 15, 2022) DPH has nearly 250 open behavioral health treatment beds.

Christin Evans made a public comment. She said that it is challenging to communicate the impact that the OCOH Fund is having in San Francisco. She said that it's important to make the message engaging, maybe not by hiring an advertising firm, but through the dashboard graphics and the impact reporting.

Because the Committee still did not have quorum, Vice Chair D'Antonio moved to a discussion of the Committee's work in 2023, including the budget timeline. Previously this was agenda item 5.

3) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

An overview of OCOH Oversight Committee work in 2023, including officer elections, liaison appointments, and the budget recommendation timeline, with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Jessica Shimmin, OCOH Policy Analyst with the Controller's Office, presented an overview of the Committee's work in the first half of 2023 [using slides located here](#).

At the January 26, 2023 meeting the Committee will hold Officer elections and Community Liaison appointments.

Looking at the budget recommendation process, Ms. Shimmin proposed that the Committee develop priorities for approval in March. This will allow the Committee to contribute to the early phases of budget development, when the opportunity to shape the budget is greatest. Ideally this shift will also simplify the period after the Committee receives the final fund balances.

Member Friedenbach said she liked the idea of starting the budget recommendation process earlier. She said that there has been some disconnection between the programs put forward in the budget recommendations and what later appears in the RFP. Member Friedenbach said that she'd like to capture more of the community's vision in the recommendations as written.

Member Friedenbach encouraged approaching the investment plan as a living document that should be adjusted according to impact and performance.

Member Reggio said the timeline that has the Committee developing priorities in March makes sense because the timeline gets so jammed at the end of the process in April.

Vice Chair D'Antonio thanked the Members for their participation.

There was no public comment on this agenda item.

Officer Leadbetter joined the meeting. Secretary Hom called the roll.

Roll Call:

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

Quorum confirmed.

4) Action Item:

Approve a resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings under California Government Code section 54953(e).

Jessica Shimmin, OCOH Policy Analyst in the Controller's Office summarized the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings under California Government Code Section 5493(e).

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

Vice Chair D'Antonio moved to approve the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings and Member Reggio provided a second motion.

There was no public comment on this item.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The resolution was approved.

5) Action Item:

Review and approve cover letter to accompany the needs assessment.

The Committee reviewed and revised a draft letter to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors, introducing the Needs Assessment. The draft letter [available here](#) reflects the Committee's discussion at the November 2022 retreat, input emailed to staff, edits from 3 members provided to staff in advance of the December 15th meeting, and adjustments the Committee Members made during the December 15, 2022 special meeting.

Jessica Shimmin, OCOH Policy Analyst in the Controller's Office, read into the record the draft letter with initial revisions.

Vice Chair D’Antonio opened the meeting to discussion and suggestions from the Members.

Member Catalano suggested clarifying the phrase “right-size contracting” to be more specific. Member Reggio said that phrase refers to adequate staffing, equitable pay, as well as operating costs, and maintenance costs.

Member Friedenbach proposed adding a line to the section about coordination, that says, “OCOH Funds cannot solve homelessness in its entirety.” She said that there is an over-reliance on the OCOH Fund.

Officer Leadbetter asked to add a sentence to the section about funding that speaks to looking at all possible funding sources to end homelessness: “Use of general Funds and other funding sources will be necessary to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness that are outlined in the Needs Assessment.” Officer Leadbetter also suggested adding a request that the Mayor and Board Members help to identify all possible funding sources.

Officer Leadbetter offered that the right-sizing concept may have a component of racial equity; making sure that organizations of color are competitive for City contracts. Committee members workshopped this idea. Member Reggio proposed that Jessica Shimmin, as staff, work with Chair Williams to finalize the exact wording and place that concept appears in the letter.

Members word-smithed the titles of the letter’s subsections and added language naming Black San Franciscans as a priority population.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Vice Chair D’Antonio moved to approve the letter with the revisions made during the meeting and the addition of one sentence about equitable contracting with organizations of color. Member Friedenbach seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The motion passed.

6) Discussion Item/Possible Action:

Committee discussion of items for future meeting agendas, with possible action by the Committee. (5 min)

Member Reggio asked for a report from the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development, or another City department, about barriers to swift, high-quality affordable housing development.

Vice Chair D’Antonio asked for a presentation from the San Francisco Housing Authority, perhaps with MOHCD, about the Rental Assistance Demonstration units.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

7) **Adjourn**

Vice Chair D'Antonio moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Friedenbach seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Catalano: Yes

Member Cunningham-Denning: Absent

Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes

Member Friedenbach: Yes

Officer Leadbetter: Yes

Member Reggio: Yes

Chair Williams: Absent

The meeting adjourned at 11:30AM.