

MEETING MINUTES
Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee
February 22, 2024
Hearing Room 416, City Hall
9:45 AM – 11:36 AM

Committee Members

Julia D'Antonio
Jennifer Friedenbach
Bonnie Preston
Scott Walton
Shanell Williams

Members of the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee attended this meeting in-person. The agenda, video recording, audio recording, and caption notes are posted at:

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/player/clip/45502?view_id=209&redirect=true

Supporting materials including presentations and reports are posted at:

<https://www.sf.gov/meeting/february-22-2024/our-city-our-home-oversight-committee-regular-meeting>

1) **Call to Order**

Data Officer Walton read the land acknowledgement and roll was taken.

Roll Call:

Vice Chair D'Antonio: Arrived late
Member Friedenbach: Present
Member Preston: Absent (excused)
Member Walton: Present
Chair Williams: Absent (not excused)

The Committee did not have quorum. The meeting was informational only.

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

There were no in-person or over-the-phone public comments.

3) Discussion Item

Presentation of the six-month report on OCOH fund spending and program implementation updates

Radhika Mehlotra, Homelessness Policy Specialist from the Controller's Office, provided a presentation on the FY23-24 OCOH Mid-Year Budget Update linked [here](#).

Member Friedenbach thanked Ms. Mehlotra for her work on the mid-year reporting and asked if there was a differentiation between one-time funds and ongoing funds for the year-end balance. Ms. Mehlotra explained that this differentiation is not included in the report but that she is working with departments to see if pulling together those numbers is feasible.

Member Friedenbach asked whether the mid-year report's unallocated dollars for TAY Permanent Housing reflect the most recent spending recommendations made by the Committee.

Ms. Mehlotra explained that the financial information was pulled on January 24, 2024 and that part of the unallocated funds do include the TAY Permanent Housing funds that the Committee provided recommendations on at the prior meeting.

Christine Rolan, Budget Director for the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH), added that obligated funds include funding for programs that have been put out in solicitations. In these cases, funds are committed to projects but may not be able to get out the door by the end of this fiscal year. Ms. Rolan confirmed that the current obligated funds do not reflect the spending plans approved by the Committee for both family and TAY housing. Moving forward, those unallocated and reserved funds will be committed to specific projects during the budget process, shifting the categories accordingly.

Member Friedenbach asked for clarification on when these updated spending plans would be finalized and expressed concern with the high need in the community that currently exists.

Ms. Rolan explained that due to the delayed renewal of the emergency ordinance which expedited HSH's contracting in prior years, HSH has had to take most of its contracts through the full approvals processes just to continue the base level of service being provided. Ms. Rolan added that administratively, the department is having a hard time renewing many of these current agreements and getting them through the Homelessness Oversight Commission for approval. Since many of these agreements are going to lapse in contractual authority at the end of the fiscal year, these have remained the priority before new solicitations and new programming.

Member Walton asked if there was a way to look at unallocated dollars that are pending proposal. Ms. Rolan clarified that the unallocated category in the report is only referring to TAY and family housing funding that was unallocated at the end of the FY23-24 budget process last year and was meant to identify funding that was not budgeted toward a specific program at the end of last year's budget.

Member Walton asked if the obligated funds for Shelter and Hygiene were earmarked for FY24-25 and FY25-26. Ms. Rolan explained that the obligated funding for prevention is to sustain a one-time investment in problem-solving programming. The Shelter and Hygiene obligated funding is set aside for the District 10 Cabin funding in the event that the State funding that HSH has applied for is not approved.

Member Walton noted that data around the TAY population being served may not be capturing those who are being served as part of a family. Ms. Mehlotra confirmed that this query has been circulated to HSH.

Kelly Kirkpatrick, Director of Administration and Operations for Mental Health SF at the Department of Public Health (DPH), provided a presentation (linked [here](#)) on implementation updates related to the Mental Health service area.

Vice Chair D'Antonio thanked Director Kirkpatrick for her presentation and acknowledged the difficulties around staffing for behavioral health workers.

Marion Sanders, Chief Deputy Director at HSH, provided a presentation on implementation updates for Permanent Housing, Shelter & Hygiene and Problem Solving linked [here](#).

Member Friedenbach noted the significant progress that has been made towards acquisitions as well as the success in serving a high proportion of the African American homeless population who are disproportionately affected by homelessness.

Member Friedenbach asked whether the Granada rehab includes a ramp at the entrance as an alternative to the steps. HSH confirmed that they are ensuring that the facility is accessible.

Member Friedenbach also noted that she does not believe that the safe sleep sites attracted encampments as many folks had already been camping in the area before the sites opened up including one woman who had been kicked out. She added that this is especially true for the Mission and Bayview sites that served a lot of people in the immediate area.

Member Friedenbach asked if HSH could confirm that the remaining vacant subsidy slots were rolling out for the rest of the year. Director Sanders thanked Member Friedenbach for flagging that and confirmed that the remaining vacant subsidies are rolling out this year.

Member Friedenbach asked if there were ways to draw down ongoing operating costs for the Jerrold Cabins as these numbers were much higher compared to the Oasis shelters. Ms. Rolan noted that the \$1.8 million for Oasis is only the amount currently funded by OCOH and not the full operating costs for that program. Additionally, the Jerrold cabin site also supports RVs which adds to the costs for that program.

Member Walton noted that since the OCOH funds are not proportionately used across programs, it could be helpful to have the total cost breakdown included in the presentation. Director Sanders agreed.

Vice Chair D'Antonio asked how implementation of rapid rehousing for adults is going and if there's been any success around the current model being used.

Vice Chair D'Antonio asked for an update on the capital of the selling of the trailers. Director Sanders explained that they have not sold the trailers but are still trying to decide what to do with them and can provide an update once this is decided.

Vice Chair D'Antonio confirmed with Director Sanders and Member Friedenbach that Jazzie's Place did not shut down.

Vice Chair D'Antonio asked for clarification on the number of households experiencing domestic violence (DV) being served in proportion to the \$300,000 allocated for the program. HSH confirmed that the DV program just launched in the fall but that they are working towards serving more households beyond the two served so far. St. Vincent de Paul is providing the urgent accommodation voucher program for TAY and DV survivors. Vice Chair D'Antonio expressed concern with the length of time it's taking to have DV survivors served by the program and HSH confirmed that they can take this question back to their department and look into this.

Vice Chair D'Antonio asked HSH to speak more about the workforce development pilot. HSH explained that the original funding allocated for the workforce development pilot was in the housing budget but has moved to the problem solving and prevention budget. HSH workorders the funding to the Office of Economic and Workforce Development to align these outcomes and work towards equity. As such, HSH recommends the committee invite OEWD to the conversation to provide more updates on this.

Vice Chair D'Antonio noted that they have come before and maybe the Committee can invite them back for an update on the pilot once it has been operating longer.

Helen Hale, Director of Housing Services at Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, provided a presentation with implementation updates on Eviction and Targeted Homelessness Prevention linked [here](#).

Member Friedenbach thanked Ms. Hale for the presentation and asked if ERAP funds showed all funds or just OCOH funds. Ms. Hale confirmed that it is showing all funds.

Vice Chair D'Antonio opened public comment.

Miguel Carrera with the Coalition on Homelessness provided a public comment. Mr. Carrera expressed his appreciation to everyone who worked on the Proposition C campaign in 2018. Mr. Carrera expressed concern with the amount of unspent funds from the Prop C budget and stated that he would like to know how and when this will be used to help families in need.

There were no additional in-person or over-the-phone public comments.

4) Discussion Item

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

Member Friedenbach expressed interest in hearing more about the equity of the LGBTQ population being served by OCOH funded programs.

Member Walton stated that the updates shared were great to hear and reiterated the importance of transparent reporting, especially with the complexity of the budgets, funding, and programs.

Member Walton added that it is important that the Committee actively work towards filling the vacant seats on the Committee so that they are able to vote on important matters. Vice Chair D'Antonio agreed and suggested a future agenda item that details the process to join the Committee so it is clear to the general public how they can join and be involved.

There were no in-person or over-the-phone public comments.

5) Adjourn

The meeting did not have quorum, and was never officially called to order. There was no need to make a motion to adjourn the informational meeting.

Committee staff and members can be reached at OCOH.CON@sfgov.org