



**City and County of San Francisco
YOUTH COMMISSION
Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee**

MINUTES

**Monday, April 10, 2023
5:30 p.m.**

IN-PERSON MEETING with REMOTE ACCESS

Members: Hayden Miller (Chair, D5), Ann Anish (Vice Chair, D7), Chloe Wong (Member, D1), Allister Adair (Member, D2), Reese Terrell (Member, D3), Emily Nguyen (Member, D11).

Present: Hayden Miller, Ann Anish, Chloe Wong, Allister Adair, Emily Nguyen.

Absent: Reese Terrell (excused).

Tardy: None.

The San Francisco Youth Commission's Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee met in-person with remote access for public comment, on April 10, 2023, with Chair Miller presiding.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

On the call of the roll:

Roll Call Attendance: 5 present, 1 absent.

Chloe Wong present
Allister Adair present
Reese Terrell absent
Emily Nguyen present
Ann Anish present
Hayden Miller present



A quorum of the Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee membership was present.

Commissioner Adair, seconded by Commissioner Wong, motioned to excuse Commissioner Terrell for their absence. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes, 1 absent.

Chloe Wong aye
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell absent
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish aye
Hayden Miller aye

Action: absence excused.

2. Communications

Joshua Rudy Ochoa, Community Engagement Specialist of the SFYC, shared communications and meeting announcements with Commissioners.

3. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

No discussion, and no public comment.

Vice Chair Anish, seconded by Commissioner Adair, motioned to approve the April 10, 2023 Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee meeting agenda. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes, 1 absent.

Chloe Wong aye
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell absent
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish aye
Hayden Miller aye

Action: Agenda Approved.



4. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

- a. March 13, 2023 (Packet Materials)

No discussion, no public comment.

Commissioner Wong, seconded by Commissioner Adair, motioned to approve the March 13, 2023 Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes, 1 absent.

Chloe Wong aye
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell absent
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish aye
Hayden Miller aye

Action: Minutes Approved.

5. Public Comment on matters not on Today's Agenda (2 minutes per comment)

No public comment.

6. Presentation: Updates on Bike Storage and Safety

- a. Presenter: Madison Tam, D6 Legislative Aide; Time Certain for 5:40pm

Madison Tam went over minutes from the December 2022 meeting on the issue, and presented their information to the committee. Commissioner Nguyen asked what the D6 office is most focused on, to which Tam said the "pod" method on top of parking spots is more of the priority, in addition to the bike-share rebates. Chair Miller asked how the bike-share rebates would work, to which Tam said that since they have a partnership already with bike-sharing, they can work with that contract to help incentivize car-drivers to use bikes instead. Chair Miller said that they should focus on their low-income program more, especially since the e-bike rental prices have gone up. Commissioner Nguyen asked for more information regarding the contract with the bike-share deal with the City, to which Tam said that Lyft has a contract with the entire Bay Area region until 2027, and that there's different options once that contract expires. Commissioner Nguyen asked what the timeline is for bike storage, to which Tam said that it'll likely be a long-term goal as there is a budget deficit in the City's budget. Chair Miller asked if there has been any consideration of SFMTA allowing bikes onto the light rail trains, to which



Tam said that they haven't asked directly but can ask to see what policies may need to be changed or updated. Chair Miller asked details about the bike hangers, to which Tam said that the bike hangers don't fit larger bikes and that SFMTA is working on it. Chair Miller asked if the City is looking to install bike charging stations throughout the City, to which Tam said it hasn't come up yet, but that is part of the conversation that hasn't yet been addressed. Commissioner Nguyen asked how the Youth Commission can help have a say in what happens next with the contract situation, including the possibility of a publicly-owned bike share program, to which Tam said she would think about that and see how to better support youth in those decision-making spaces. Tam said that it might be worth exploring a partnership with SFUSD, but that could have a lot more regulations. Commissioners emphasized that they really want to see a collaborative effort for the City to accommodate youth being able to ride bikes affordably.

7. Legislation Referred

- a. **BOS File 230280** - Ordinance amending the General Plan by adopting the San Francisco Environmental Justice Framework and amending the Introduction to the General Plan (discussion & possible action)

Chair Miller summarized his thoughts on this legislation and some of the background on the ordinance and state legislation that was passed for this to be referred to the YC, but said it doesn't significantly impact the General Plan. Commissioner Nguyen said that it doesn't seem that any recommendation wouldn't make a big impact, so she prefers the YC to do no comment.

Chair Miller, seconded by Commissioner Nguyen, motioned to send BOS File 230280 to the full Commission with no comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes, 1 absent.

Chloe Wong aye
Allister Adair aye
Reese Terrell absent
Emily Nguyen aye
Ann Anish aye
Hayden Miller aye

Action: legislation referred to the full Commission.

8. Committee Business (all items to follow are discussion & possible action)

- a. Bike Coalition / Youth Commission Collaboration Event



The presenter from the San Francisco Bike Coalition unfortunately had to cancel at the last minute, but they are looking forward to having that conversation either at a later committee meeting or in an offline meeting outside of committee.

b. Upcoming Resolutions

Commissioner Adair and Commissioner Wong are still working on their 78 Haight resolution and are currently awaiting the response from the TNDC (Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation) on the questions they came up with. The commissioners talked about how to best advocate for funding towards these types of projects, since there's a lot of options and directions they can go in. Commissioner Nguyen said they can connect someone from Larkin Street Youth Services.

Chair Miller and Commissioner Nguyen said they haven't made much progress on the bike resolution in the past few weeks, but they can start working on that and the support letter for the Environment Department. Chair Miller also stated that he intends to write a resolution to ask SFMTA to allow bikes on their light rail trains, since they're outdated compared to other transit systems.

Commissioner Nguyen said that now that the Youth Commission has more time to do advocacy, they should follow up on some of the resolutions that they passed and pushed forward in previous weeks. Commissioner Nguyen said it's also worth following up on the Central Freeway community advisory board with the Livable City organization, and seeing how those efforts to study the removal of the freeway can bring together the community. Chair Miller also would like to see SFMTA present to the committee on several issues, and that on May 8th, they would be presenting to the Youth Transportation Advisory Board (YTAB).

c. Upcoming HRT Meetings

Commissioner Nguyen won't be able to attend the upcoming meeting, and they had already discussed moving the meeting to another date. With so many dates, Chair Miller said it would be best to keep the same date for Monday, April 24th.

d. HRT-related Updates

Specialist Ochoa said that they can compile questions and send them to Dylan from the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, to which Chair Miller said he can write up some questions to forward to staff.



9. Staff Report (discussion item)

Specialist Ochoa gave updates on his communications with staff from the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing and SFMTA. He asked Commissioners to let him know if there's anything they need him to do to ensure a smooth transition into the YTAB meeting on May 8th.

10. Announcements (this includes Community Events)

Chair Miller said there were a few events that were mentioned in Director Garcia's email update, especially the Sunday Streets sign-ups that are coming soon.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business on the agenda, the Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee adjourned at 6:42pm.

May 1st, 2023
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

Mayor London Breed
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 200
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Support the Department of Environment's Budget Request of \$5.03M for the Fiscal Years of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

Dear Mayor and Board of Supervisors,

The San Francisco Youth Commission supports the Department of Environment's \$5.03M budget request from the City and County of San Francisco for Fiscal Years of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

Through an amendment to the City Charter in 1995, the Youth Commission was created to advise the Mayor and Board of Supervisors on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is a body of 17 diverse youth between the ages of 12 and 23 who represent all youth in San Francisco. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comments and recommendations on all proposed laws that primarily affect youth before the Board takes final action.

The Youth Commission is driven to make San Francisco an equitable and sustainable city in which all youth can thrive. Specifically, we have been concerned with the worsening climate crisis. Youth are currently seeing and experiencing the harmful effects of climate change, and will continue to have to bear with these harmful impacts in many decades to come. Additionally, as an urban city, we believe San Francisco has a greater responsibility to address these climate impacts and provide creative and innovative solutions.

As a result, our Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee has worked on initiatives to make San Francisco more walkable, livable, and public transit-friendly such as permanent Slow Streets, the closure of the Great Highway to cars, and Free Muni for all Youth. We greatly value and appreciate the work of the San Francisco Department of Environment on this issue. Specifically, we believe in funding and implementing the Climate Action Plan.

The Climate Action Plan was first released in 2004, and updated in 2013 with a summary on the city's progress, its successful policies and programs, and necessary further action. In 2019, the

city achieved a 41% reduction in emissions from 1990. However, since these plans have been released, the city has been experiencing a worsening climate crisis with disproportionate impacts on marginalized communities. This crisis drove the development of the 2021 Climate Action Plan. The 2021 Climate Action Plan provides a general road map for the city to reach net-zero emissions by 2040.

For the Fiscal Years of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, the Department of Environment is requesting \$1.53M to retain staff and prevent cuts, and \$3.5M to secure existing and new budget requests for the Climate Action Plan. Staffing is necessary for the department to maintain and reach full capacity to implement their goals. It will also ensure the department can collaborate with other city departments on unified goals. The Climate Action Plan is a large initiative that demands funding to achieve its current vision and also advance forward meaningfully.

San Francisco needs to take immediate action to address the climate crisis. The climate crisis is an issue that affects everyone in the city, but it will especially affect youth who will bear all of the potential future consequences. The Mayor and Board of Supervisors must consistently invest in bold climate action by funding the Department of Environment and granting the total ask of \$5.03M. The Department of Environment's work is necessary to create a more livable, sustainable, and equitable city for youth.

Sincerely,

Emily Nguyen, Chair
Adopted on 5/1/2023 2022-2023
San Francisco Youth Commission

Motion to Support Larkin Street Youth Services Budget Asks for the Fiscal Years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025

April 7th, 2023

The San Francisco Youth Commission fully supports the mission of Larkin Street Youth Services (LSYS) and urges the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to consider and adopt their budget asks for the Fiscal Years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Since its founding in 1984, Larkin Street Youth Services has served over 78,000 transitional-aged youth (TAY) between ages 18 and 24. Over the years, their services have changed thousands of lives for the better and continue to play a crucial role in the fight against youth homelessness in San Francisco. Today, Larkin Street Youth Services continues to provide housing, health care, education, and employment support and receives its funding from a variety of partners, including the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH), the Department of Children, Youth, and their Families (DCYF), the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD), and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD).

In the past few decades, San Francisco's homeless population has steadily increased, and the crisis not only affects the thousands of individuals actively experiencing homelessness but also has profound economic and social consequences for the City. Youth living in San Francisco have been uniquely susceptible, with a 2022 point-in time (PIT) survey finding 1,073 youth under the age of 25 experiencing homelessness. This crisis, like many others, disproportionately affects the marginalized and disadvantaged segments of society—40% of youth experiencing homelessness in San Francisco are Black, and 38% identify as LGBTQ+. The City has long recognized the importance of facing this crisis, but past efforts and policies have largely been unable to stem the tide of rising homelessness. Today, homelessness remains one of San Francisco's most pressing challenges.

Meanwhile, Larkin Street Youth Services served 1,466 youth throughout 2022. For 429 of these individuals, this service meant being provided with long-term housing, and for 160 others, it meant short-term shelter. For many youth, it meant receiving high-quality education, and for many others, it meant finding stable employment and receiving an average wage of 19 dollars per hour. Truly, Larkin Street Youth Services helps youth in a variety of ways, but all of these services—regardless of the form they take—help youth find their place in the world and disrupt the cycles of poverty and homelessness. Thus, the Youth Commission commends their past and present work.

[Paragraph about specific budget asks and why they're important]

expand food pantries and meal distribution for TAY, support services at the new drop-in center at 730 stanyan (ready 2024/25), subsidies and, move-in assistance, barrier removal, and an outreach to find and protect TAY fleeing domestic/intimate partner violence, problem-solving funds and housing navigators to serve unique youth including immigrant and asylum-seekers and pregnant and parenting TAY, paid and sustained employment, training, job readiness, and career-focused employment prep for youth including immigrant/undocumented/asylum youth

One of their budget asks requests that there be funding for increased clinical staff/support and case management across all TAY systems. Clinical staff and service providers often work with caseloads that extend far beyond what's recommended (20:1 to 25:1) and these large caseloads can be extremely strenuous, leading to burn-out. However, the lack of support does not exclusively affect the staff, as it can also greatly affect the youth they work with. For youth and TAY, it can be difficult to form connections with those who may be fatigued by their workload, thus potentially hindering a person's recovery from homelessness.

Additionally, they are interested in expanding programs where they provide job readiness and career-focused employment prep for all youth, including those that are immigrants, undocumented, or are asylum youth.

The San Francisco Youth Commission is composed of seventeen members between the ages of 12 to 23. The Youth Commission was established after voters approved an amendment to the City Charter in 1995, and it is tasked with advising the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor of San Francisco on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comments and recommendations on all proposed laws that primarily affect youth before the Board takes final action.

The Youth Commission's Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee is particularly invested in exploring solutions to the homelessness crisis. Both past and present iterations of the committee have been involved in difficult discussions about how to best address the issue. Furthermore, our most recent Budget and Policy Priorities contained a section advocating for allocating more funds toward Navigation Centers and other supportive services. Our message remains the same - we must resolve this crisis, and in order to do that, we must continue to make it a top budgetary priority and support organizations such as Larkin Street Youth Services.

...

- What is the specific process that allows Larkin Street Youth Services to receive its funding?
- Of the departments that fund LSYS, which contribute the largest share?
- How much funding is LSYS currently receiving on an annual basis?
- Are funds expected to rise, fall, or remain stable in the upcoming fiscal years?
- How would any expected increase (or decrease) impact the ability of LSYS to continue serving vulnerable Youth?
- How has LSYS navigated the budget advocacy process to this point, and how do they plan to continue doing so between now and the finalization of the City's budget?
- Does LSYS's budget advocacy include a specific dollar amount that they are requesting from departments?
- **What should the Youth Commission (and the Housing, Recreation, and Transit Committee) do to assist in your aims?**