



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

MINUTES

**Monday, November 12, 2024
5:30pm**

**IN-PERSON MEETING
City Hall, Room 278
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Members: Imaan Ansari (Chair, D11), Harper Fortgang (Vice Chair, D8), Winnie Liao (D3), Jin Valencia-Tow (D7), Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral), Ava Oram (Mayoral).

Present: Imaan Ansari, Harper Fortgang, Jin Valencia-Tow, Eloise Krehlik, Ava Oram.

Absent: Winnie Liao (excused).

Tardy: None.

The San Francisco Youth Commission's Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee met in-person with remote access, on November 12, 2024, with Chair Ansari presiding.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance

Chair Ansari called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

On the call of the roll:

Roll Call Attendance: 5 present, 1 absent.

Winnie Liao (D3) - absent
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - present
Harper Fortgang (D8) - present
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - present

Ava Oram (Mayoral) - present
Imaan Ansari (D11) - present

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

Commissioner Valencia-Tow, seconded by Commissioner Oram, motioned to excuse the absence of Commissioner Liao. Staff stated that Commissioner Liao gave 72 hours notice. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes, 1 absent.

Winnie Liao (D3) - absent
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye
Imaan Ansari (D11) - aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

2. Communications

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

3. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

Commissioner Oram, seconded by Vice Chair Fortgang, motioned to approve the November 12, 2024 Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee meeting agenda. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes, 1 absent.

Winnie Liao (D3) - absent
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye
Imaan Ansari (D11) - aye

Action: Agenda Approved.

4. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

a. October 28, 2024 (Packet Materials)

Commissioner Valencia-Tow, seconded by Vice Chair Fortgang, motioned to approve the October 28, 2024 Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee meeting minutes. No discussion. No public comment. The motion carried by the following voice vote:

Voice Vote: 5 ayes, 1 absent

Winnie Liao (D3) - absent
Jin Valencia-Tow (D7) - aye
Harper Fortgang (D8) - aye
Eloise Krehlik (Mayoral) - aye
Ava Oram (Mayoral) - aye
Imaan Ansari (D11) - aye

Action: Minutes Approved.

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

No public comment.

6. Presentations (discussion)

- a. Bay Area Community Resources (BACR) Smoke-Free Housing Policy Proposal
i. Presenters: Phia Halleen, BACR YPL Project Coordinator

The BACR Youth Policy Leaders presented their project proposal for smoke-free housing in San Francisco. Their asks are to endorse this proposal, write a resolution in support, and to recommend this policy to the SF Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Valencia-Tow asked what a safe place to smoke looks like in reality since residents wouldn't be able to do it inside their home, to which a youth presenter said that they can create designated areas near multi-unit buildings to allow smoking there.

Chair Ansari asked if that designated area was in their policy proposal, to which Phia said that it was. She added that there's an understanding that there would have to be a process to understand how to implement it.

Commissioner Oram asked if they have any strategies on how to make smoking more accessible to those who need to smoke for medical reasons, to which Angel said that there would have to be a type of requirement for buildings to manage this issue. Phia added that there are alternatives to smoking.

Vice Chair Fortgang asked what enforcement strategies they hope to see implemented and if they have seen other cities implement similar policies, to which Phia said they've

gotten feedback from various cities that these types of policies should be gradually implemented and heavily emphasize the educational aspect to the conversation. Fortgang followed up by asking if the concerns go down or remain after that feedback, to which Phia said that they saw a reduction in concerns in a city in Alameda County.

Commissioner Valencia-Tow asked if this policy proposal addresses if residents can smoke out of their window, to which Phia said that they can get back to the committee regarding that.

Commissioner Krehlik asked how this policy will ensure its intended purpose, to which Angel said this policy aims for an education-first approach and not to punish people.

7. Committee Business (discussion & possible action)

a. Icebreaker

Chair Ansari asked the question of “what’s your go-to drink?”, and commissioners and staff gave their answers.

b. Resolution Writing Training

Specialist Ochoa went over the resolution writing training, and answered commissioners’ questions about the resolution process.

c. Community Outreach Activity

Specialist Ochoa went over the community outreach activity, and answered commissioners’ questions about how to best do outreach to organizations.

d. HRT-related Updates

Chair Ansari opened discussion on the BACR’s smoke-free housing proposal. Commissioner Oram said that they see that it’s a problem, but they’d like to see different solutions to this problem since it seems that the solutions needed some more thought to be able to adequately implement. Commissioner Valencia-Tow said he sees that it’s not that hard to switch to safer alternatives, for the better of those around them. Commissioner Oram said that pushing people to change their behavior can get very complicated if it’s not fully supported for people to be able to do so. Chair Ansari said that the presenters did focus a lot on emphasizing education, and she said they can add concerns and different solutions if they write their own resolution. Vice Chair Fortgang agrees with what’s been said, but mentioned they didn’t fully address the issue of eviction, and she thinks this could make the issue worse, so a compromise might be necessary. Commissioner Krehlik said that having some smoke-free and smoking

housing units may create a disparity. She added that she wanted to see where the data they used was coming from, and if it was a diverse demographic sample. Commissioners agreed to move forward and start writing resolution language, and to follow up with the presenters with questions.

8. Announcements (this includes Community Events)

Specialist Ochoa mentioned that based on the current election results locally, the Youth Commission will continue to exist with the failure of Proposition D, which would have eliminated the Youth Commission from the City Charter.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business on the agenda, the Housing, Recreation, & Transit Committee adjourned at 6:53pm.