



BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: YOUTH COMMISSION BUDGET PRIORITIES

Presenters:

March 2nd, 2022

Adrianna Zhang, District 7

Vanessa Pimentel, District 10

Emily Nguyen, District 11

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BACKGROUND

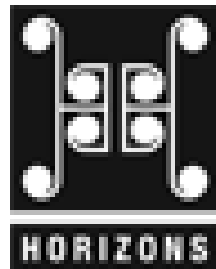
- The Youth Commission (YC) is charged by Charter Sec 4.124 to “report to the Board of Supervisors the activities, goals, and accomplishments of the Commission by July 1 of each calendar year [...]”
- Charter Sec 4.124 also explicitly states “The purpose of the Commission is to collect all information relevant to advising the Board of Supervisors and Mayor on the effects of legislative policies, needs, assessments, priorities, programs, and budgets concerning the children and youth of San Francisco.”

OBJECTIVES

- On January 4, 2021, the YC unanimously passed an Omnibus Preliminary Budget Priorities Resolution ([YC File No. 2021-AL-02](#)) setting out the Commission's budget priorities for the 2021 & 2022 budget cycle.
- Recommendations are based on the YC's prior advocacy as well as input from community partners.

YOUTH BUDGET TOWN HALL

- Additionally, on February 8, 2021, the Youth Commission held a Youth Budget Townhall to educate youth on the budget process and hear back from communities about their needs.
 - Over 100 participants joined the call or listened in (2/3rds youth and TAY)!
 - Department representatives answered questions and heard feedback from youth.
- Partner organizations included:



and more...

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Elections:
 - Continue funding youth voter outreach and voter pre-registration of 16- and 17-year-olds.
- Department of Children, Youth, and their Families:
 - Implement fee waivers for California ID and Driver's License applications at the California Department of Motor Vehicles.
 - Propose funding for socially distanced food and PPE distribution, programming and educational services for COVID-19 community pods, health and mental health care, substance use support, and other wrap-around services.
 - Particularly target youth, caregivers, and families who have had contact with the justice system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Children, Youth, and their Families (cont.):
 - Increase funding for justice programs that support leadership skill-building and workforce development.
 - Particularly target children, women, caregivers, and families who have had contact with the justice system.
 - Fund support for GED and college matriculation for TAY experiencing homelessness and/or youth who have challenges with remote learning, as well as tutoring services for TAY accessing higher education and attending virtual classes.
 - Increase technological support for TAY (with HSH):
 - Access to adequate technology and internet access
 - Resources for internet saving-programs for TAY experiencing homelessness in PSH and Transitional Living Programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Adult Probation Department:
 - Increase funding for re-entry programs and services that support youths' basic physical, mental, social-emotional, and educational needs.
 - Example: Interrupt, Predict, and Organize program for young adults.
 - Propose funding to maintain and expand the Young Adult Court
 - Compensate the TAY seat on the Re-entry Council.



*Youth Situation Town Hall
Young Women's Freedom Center
November 2019*

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Juvenile Probation Department:
 - Expand existing programming:
 - COVID-19 testing and screening measures;
 - gender-specific programming;
 - employment resources;
 - rehabilitative and educational programs;
 - mental health and counseling;
 - after-detention rehabilitation and healing services;
 - community-based programs for youth and families.
- Propose funding for alternatives to incarceration and the release of young people to local jurisdictions and/or community support hubs due to current COVID-19 conditions.
 - Respond to state Division of Juvenile Justice failure to adequately and safely respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on youth safety.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Police Department:
 - Fund mandatory in-depth youth and TAY rights training that incorporates youth brain development through an equity and trauma-informed lens.
 - Fund Know Your Rights trainings and community advisory workgroups.
 - Redistribute funds to youth who have experienced harm from contact with the justice system.
 - Fund community advisory workgroups to have in-depth community engagement and feedback on the reinvestment of funds.



*YC Youth Police Roundtable
March 2019*

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Police Department (cont.):
 - **Cut funding by at least 50%** and reallocate funds to programs outside of the SFPD that provide **public safety in a non-carceral, care-centered manner**, including, but not limited to additional mental health first responders and unarmed de-escalation specialists.
 - 1/2 for “Community and People’s Budget” for social and community-centered services (mental health, youth employment for undocumented and previously incarcerated youth, housing, etc).
 - 1/5 to hire social workers and trauma-informed counselors to aid victims of sexual misconduct.
 - 3/10 for SFUSD and Wellness Centers to hire mental health professionals, with an equitable focus for schools with a high percentage of Black and Latinx youth.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Police Accountability:
 - Increase community visibility and outreach on Know Your Rights trainings for youth and youth service providers.
- District Attorney:
 - Propose funding for alternatives to incarceration that center community health and safety:
 - Language capacity advocates;
 - Advanced legal support for undocumented individuals and TAY;
 - Victims' rights advocates;
 - Wrap-around services including but not limited to safety planning, relocation assistance, and restorative justice support;
 - Decarceration and early release initiatives, especially in light of COVID-19.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Public Health:
 - Fund COVID-19 pandemic relief, programming for food insecurity, and PPE distribution, for youth, caregivers, and families who have had contact with the justice system and frontline essential and agricultural workers.
 - Support DPH Must Divest's demands to end presence of Sheriffs in City hospitals.
 - Fund mental health and substance use treatment and counseling programs, particularly targeting TAY experiencing homelessness or living in supportive housing (with HSH, OEWD, and DCYF).
- Office of Economic and Workforce Development:
 - Establish business entrepreneurship investment and mentorship resources for youth previously involved in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing:
 - Complete the 2015 TAY Housing Plan: 400 units of PSH for TAY.
 - +100 units of PSH for girl shelters to avoid out of county placements after contact with the juvenile justice system.
 - Operate at least one TAY Navigation Center, with a focus on districts where there are many youth experiencing homelessness.
 - Ensure that there are TAY-specific mental health and other supportive services at TAY-specific Navigation Centers.
 - Equip TAY experiencing homelessness with first-aid survival resources, along with increased support services for nutritional food and laundry.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (cont.):
 - Collaborate with other agencies and CBOs to continue expanding employment training for TAY, life training/job readiness programs for TAY, and financial support for education for TAY.
 - Collaborate with other agencies and CBOs to build on employment programs for TAY during the pandemic-induced economic downturn.
 - Ensure that TAY-specific services are being provided at Safe Sleeping Sites and SIP hotels.
 - Hazard pay for employees of service providers during COVID-19, given current working situations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (cont.):
 - More accessible drop-in centers for TAY experiencing homelessness to enter a supportive system, including responding to concerns about the confusing and non-transparent nature of Coordinated Entry for Youth as a triage system (HSH #9).
 - Greater flexibility with Problem Solving dollars administered through Youth Access Points in the Coordinated Entry system (HSH # 10).

- Spend Prop C money dedicated to housing for youth and families experiencing homelessness on new housing.



*29-Sunset
YC Town Hall
Fall 2019*

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Municipal Transportation Agency:
 - Permanently fund the Free Muni for All Youth Program
 - Eliminate the nominal fare for youth up to age 23.
 - Fund a full-time youth development position to staff the SFMTA Youth Transportation Advisory Board and compensate youth and TAY serving on advisory bodies for the agency.
 - Increase funding for the 29-Sunset

Improvements Project in order to create a rapid bus service.

- Work with SFCTA to establish a strategy to build an effective, equitable, and sustainable transportation system for SF youth and students.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Board of Supervisors:
 - Increase salaries for all Youth Commission staff over 100% AMI to enable the commission to retain long-standing staff with valuable institutional memory
- All Departments:
 - All departments that contain Boards, Commissions, and other advisory bodies with one or more youth and/or TAY seat(s) should provide compensatory stipends for all youth and TAY serving on those advisory bodies.

THANK YOU

For more information, please contact Youth Commission Staff:

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