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2022-2023

San Francisco Youth Commission

# Budget & Policy Priorities

[sfgov.org/yc](https://sfgov.org/yc)

@sfyouthcom

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# About the Youth Commission

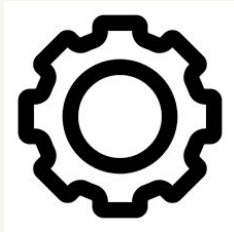


The Youth Commission is the youth voice in City Hall.

- Got our authority through the City Charter of San Francisco in 1995.
- Are made up of 17 young people (12-23) who advise the Mayor and Board of Supervisors on youth issues

# Committees

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**Exec**

**Executive Committee**



**HRT**

**Housing, Recreation, and  
Transit Committee**



**CEEC**

**Civic Engagement and  
Education Committee**



**TJ**

**Transformative Justice Committee**



**LGBTQ+ Task Force**

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# Budget and Policy Priorities



Every year the City creates and approves a Budget, creating a roadmap for what they will spend to provide services to residents.

To advocate for the needs of youth to be met in the Budget, the YC creates a Budget and Policy Priorities Report, which goes to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors.

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**HRT**

COMMITTEE



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## MAKE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ACCESSIBLE AND RELIABLE FOR YOUTH

- Suspended Muni lines such as 28R overwhelmingly served youth riders
    - **40%** vs system wide 20%
  - Youth can't or choose not to drive – thus need public transit
  - Muni services to schools are often overcrowded
    - 80% of students who ride the 29 have been passed up at least 1x ~ *The Lowell*
    - SFMTA provides empty “school tripper” buses that start at some but not all middle and high schools
  - Other public transportation such as BART are inaccessible – many youth lack discounted clipper cards required to get youth discount
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Provide funding to support 100% Muni service restoration**
  - 2) Provide additional funding for Muni service operations**
  - 3) Urge the SFMTA to expand the school tripper program**
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# EXPAND ACCESS TO YOUTH-CENTERED RECREATIONAL SPACES

## Car-Free Spaces

- Youth Commission supported Car-free JFK in 2021
- Car-free JFK became permanent
  - 36% more daily park trips of walking/biking on JFK

→ **Need for access to JFK by transit** (such as on 9th Ave)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **Direct agencies to develop a plan to reduce public transit delays on 9th**
  - 2) **Provide funding and direct agencies to complete a study on making other SF streets car-free**
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# EXPAND ACCESS TO YOUTH-CENTERED RECREATIONAL SPACES

## Slow Streets

- Youth Commission supported slow streets in 2021 + 2022
- December 2022 – SFMTA approved the permanent Slow Streets Program

## RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **Provide funding and support for the SFMTA to fully implement/maintain permanent slow streets**



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# EXPAND ACCESS TO YOUTH-CENTERED RECREATIONAL SPACES

## Public Parks

- Golden Gate Park receives more investment + visitors due to Museums and the Ferris Wheel
- Other city parks (ex: John McLaren) “underperform” as a citywide asset

→ **Need for investment in parks in every neighborhood**

## RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **Fund efforts to improve/promote large parks such as John McLaren, esp. those in equity neighborhoods**
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# EXPAND ACCESS TO YOUTH-CENTERED RECREATIONAL SPACES

## Public Spaces

- The Mix at SFPL has historically provided youth with unique opportunities
- The Mix's current hours of operation - All hours are currently only available after either 1 or 12 pm, restricting accessibility for all youth

## RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **Expand the Mix at San Francisco Public Library's working hours**



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# EXPAND ACCESS TO YOUTH-CENTERED RECREATIONAL SPACES

## Marin Headlands

- 1/3 households don't own a car – low income & BIPOC households are less likely to own a car
- Muni operated the 76X Marin Headlands Express
  - provided weekend & holiday services from Downtown San Francisco to the Marin Headlands
- Route suspension eliminated access for 1/3 of San Francisco households to Marin Headlands  
→ **Need for access to MH by transit**

## RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **Allocate funding to restore 76X service and seek grant from the GGNRA + more for operations**
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## EXPAND ACCESS TO YOUTH-CENTERED RECREATIONAL SPACES

### **Camp Mather**

- The San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department provides transportation during Camp Mather's Senior Session but not during the regular family weeks.

→ **Need for access to Camp Mather by transit**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) **Allocate funding to provide bus transportation from SF to Camp Mather for at least 25% of family summer sessions at Camp Mather**
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# SUPPORT YOUTH AND TRANSITIONAL-AGED YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Federal and Local inaction have contributed to a worsening homelessness crisis

- Youth
    - 1,073 Youth & Transitional-Aged Youth experience homelessness ~ 2022
      - 84% of SF Youth/TAY homeless population are unsheltered
      - Black and LGBTQ+ Youth are disproportionately likely to be homeless
  - Navigation Centers (*crucial to assisting unhoused people*)
    - Navigation Center on 700 Hyde Street (2021) is solely focused on serving the needs of TAY
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Consider opening additional Navigation Centers, especially one for Transitional-Aged Youth**
  - 2) Hire more case managers**
  - 3) Increase development funding for on-site services**
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# ADDRESS VISION ZERO

- Lack of progress on Vision Zero is evident
  - Traffic deaths risen since 2018
  - SF Ended 2022 with 32 deaths, tied with the decade high in 2016
- Speed is largest factor to traffic fatalities
  - Minor reductions in speed can improve outcomes
  - Automated speed enforcement reduces speeding-related fatalities





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# ADDRESS VISION ZERO

- SFMTA waters down its quick-build/safety/traffic-calming projects
  - Progress is needed on Valencia Street + San Jose Avenue
- SFPD does not focus on FOTF in Northern, Ingleside, Central, and Bayview districts as the percent of total traffic citations for FOTF is below 50%



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **Restart the Vision Zero Task Force**
  - 2) **Legalize Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras**
  - 3) **Deliver Street Safety Projects Quicker**
  - 4) **Prioritize Vision Zero Projects Near Schools**
  - 5) **Fund Vision Zero Initiatives**
  - 6) **Enforce “Focus on the Five” Traffic Violations**
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# MAKE FREE MUNI FOR ALL YOUTH PERMANENT

- The Youth Commission has long championed Free Muni for Youth
  - Initially a means tested program
  - Now free for all youth 18 and under
- 61% of current FMFAY users reported that they did utilize the previous means tested program
- FMFAY reduces youth contact with fare enforcement personnel



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **Continue the Free Muni for All Youth program**
  - 2) **Apply for Grants to fund the program**
  - 3) **Continue to Promote the Free Muni for All Youth program**
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# STUDY THE REMOVAL OF THE CENTRAL FREEWAY

## Issues with the Central Freeway

1. Community Division
2. Air pollution
3. Pedestrian Safety



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# STUDY THE REMOVAL OF THE CENTRAL FREEWAY

## Embarcadero & Octavia Freeway Removals

- The 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake damaged both freeways
- Both freeways were removed
- The boulevards are now beautiful community spaces
  - More foot traffic & walking/cycling
  - Increases in jobs, retail sales, and affordable housing
  - Encouraged public transit and various modes of transit
  - Car traffic failed to materialize ~ Caltrans Study



*Embarcadero Blvd before Freeway Removal*

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# RECOMMENDATIONS

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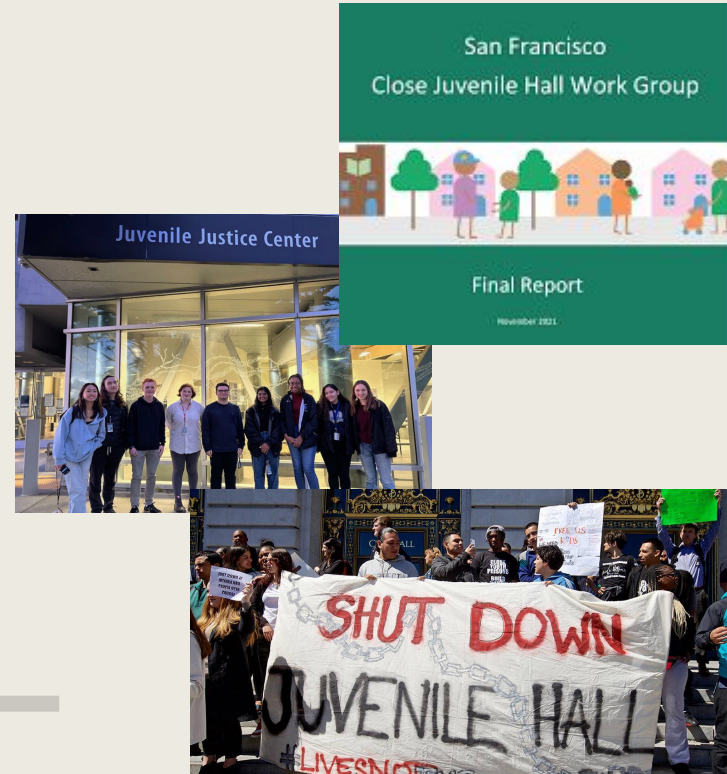
- 1) Study the Freeway**
  - 2) Source Grants for the Study**
  - 3) Solicit and Listen to Community Input**
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# ALTERNATIVES TO YOUTH AND TRANSITIONAL-AGED YOUTH INCARCERATION

- In 2019, BOS introduced legislation to close Juvenile Hall
  - Close Juvenile Hall Work Group published a report with 39 proposals
- 2022 – Commissioners met with JJC Chief Miller
  - Commissioners took a tour of Juvenile Hall
- As of today, San Francisco’s Juvenile Hall remains open!
  - The city is paying \$1.1 million to house each kid
  - No official plan for the facility or what to do with juvenile offenders



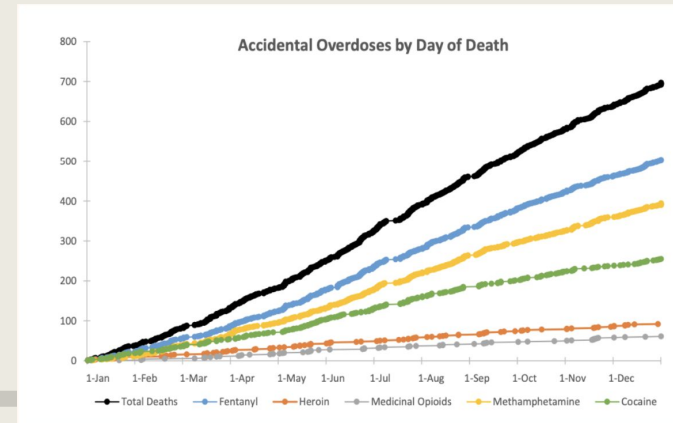
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Continue to fund City Departments and CBO's that support youth and provide violence prevention**
  - 2) Increase funding for the Juvenile Justice Center's basic needs and programs/resources**
  - 3) Work with the State and Courts to finalize a plan to improve and/or possibly expand the existing facility**
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## EXPAND HARM REDUCTION MEASURES FOR YOUTH DRUG USE BY FUNDING A NARCAN PROGRAM IN ALL SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOLS

- 1,360+ drug overdose deaths have occurred in S.F.
- Teen drug-use deaths are rapidly increasing
  - 253 in 2019, 680 in 2020, and 880 in 2021
- Fentanyl causes 77% of drug-related deaths in teens
- 16% of individuals who acquire Naloxone from schools have reversed an overdose
  - California Good Samaritan Law
- California passed SB 367 [Campus Opioid Safety Act] to prevent opioid-related overdoses on State University campuses by providing free naloxone to students



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Additional funds to the Department of Public Health for a Narcan Program**
  - 2) Apply for a grant from the California Department of Health Care Services**
  - 3) Implement a Narcan Program in all San Francisco schools**
  - 4) Include a pamphlet with steps/images on how to administer Naloxone and information on what an overdose looks like and its symptoms**
  - 5) Have a proportion of Naloxone approved by the DPH in schools**
  - 6) Increase availability/accessibility of substance-use services**
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# URGING SAN FRANCISCO TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION IN RESTORING BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT

- Bayview Hunters Point is currently a majority low-income and BIPOC community
  - Black residents comprise  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the area's population
- 27% of the community is within a quarter-mile of Hunters Point Naval Shipyard
  - This Naval Shipyard has undergone decades of exposure to toxic waste and contamination
- Lack of clarity on the undertaking of responsibility and next steps
  - The 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury created a report



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Implement the entirety of the 2021-2022 Civil Grand Jury report**
  - 2) Create policies to ensure the environmental safety of future infrastructure developments**
  - 3) Fund community initiatives**
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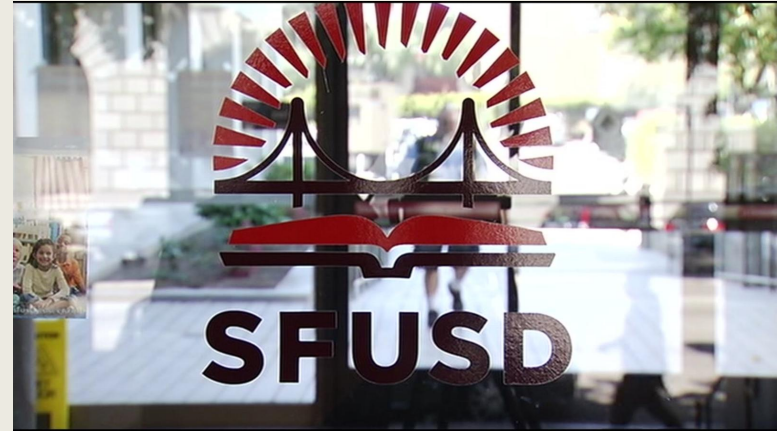


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# PROVIDE OVERSIGHT OF AND INVEST IN SCHOOL SAFETY MEASURES FOR SAN FRANCISCO STUDENTS

## Physical Safety Infrastructure

- SFPD has responded to 790 violent crime incidents at SFUSD school sites since 2013
- Many SFUSD schools lack public announcement systems, security cameras, and remote door buzzer systems
- Infrastructure funding has not been allocated
- Including necessary safety infrastructure in SFUSD schools will take years





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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Request a plan for school safety infrastructure upgrades.**
  - 2) Provide oversight on the implementation of this plan.**
  - 3) Partner with SFUSD to determine and meet funding needs for school safety infrastructure installation.**
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# PROVIDE OVERSIGHT OF AND INVEST IN SCHOOL SAFETY MEASURES FOR SAN FRANCISCO STUDENTS

## **Safe Firearm Storage Information**

- SF Police Code and CA Penal Code require gun owners to store their firearms securely
  - Most students who commit school shootings obtain firearms from their home
  - Assembly Bill 452 requires public school/charter schools to send safe firearm storage information home annually
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

## **Safe Firearm Storage Information**

- 1) **Ensure SFUSD is sharing safe firearm storage information**
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## PROVIDE OVERSIGHT OF AND INVEST IN SCHOOL SAFETY MEASURES FOR SAN FRANCISCO STUDENTS

- SFPD has responded to 25 calls reporting rape at an SFUSD school site in the last 10 years
  - 5/24 Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaints were investigated in 2022
  - In 2005, Youth Commission partnered with Student Advisory Council to produce a report on the issue
  - 2016 – BOS formed Safer Schools Task Force which did not produce specific recommendations
  - In 2021 hundreds of students walked out in protest
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

## **Sexual Harassment and Assault in Schools**

- 1) Restart the Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force + include youth representation**
  - 2) Adopt mandatory sexual harassment and assault training**
  - 3) Find data on current state of sexual harassment and assault + future effectiveness of the Task Force**
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# INCREASE VOTER PREREGISTRATION EFFORTS

- 52% of Californians ages 18-24 were registered to vote – only 8% voted
- Pre-registration can increase young voter turnout by up to 13 percentage points - *Path to the Polls*
- SF Voter preregistration is 15% - *The Civics Center*
- Results and/or implementation of 2016 SFUSD Board of Education Resolution “Encouraging Students to Exercise their Voting Rights” remain unclear.

**pre-register at sixteen.  
vote at eighteen.**

Online pre-registration is now available for eligible 16 and 17 year olds at [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](http://RegisterToVote.ca.gov)\* California youth who pre-register to vote will have their registration become active once they turn 18 years old.

1. VISIT

 [www.RegisterToVote.ca.gov](http://www.RegisterToVote.ca.gov)

2. PRE-REGISTER



Click the “Pre-Register to Vote” button.

3. TURN  
18



Become automatically registered on your 18th Birthday.

4. VOTE



Cast your ballot on Election Day!

\*Pre-registration is also available on paper voter registration forms.

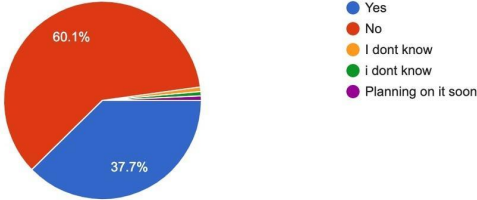


SECRETARY OF STATE ALEX PADILLA

# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

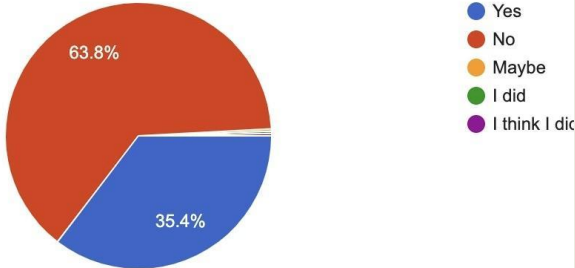
Are you preregistered to vote?

138 responses



Prior to this survey, did you know who your District Supervisor is?

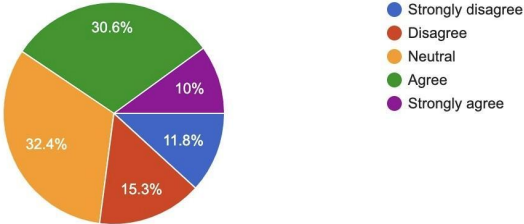
356 responses



**Ages 16-17**

Please select the answer you feel best represents your opinion about this statement, disregarding voter registration status: "I feel prepared to vote in a local election"

170 responses



**Ages 16-17**

**Over age 18**

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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **Continue funding the Department of Elections' Youth Voter Outreach**
  - 2) **Increase outreach + info about pre registration opportunities to youth**
  - 3) **Research current outreach efforts effectiveness to increase voter preregistration**
  - 4) **Plan to implement the goals outlined in Board of Education Resolution 162-23A3, and extend lessons on the voting process and political parties to Advanced Placement (AP) United States Government, which some students take in replacement of American Democracy classes.**
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## GRANT 16 AND 17-YEAR-OLDS THE RIGHT TO VOTE

- 74.33% of SFUSD Students will “Absolutely” or “Most Likely” register to vote at 16 and 17 years old if given the chance to – Youth Vote Student Survey 2016
- Builds habit of voting and boost overall voter turnout
- 16 and 17 year old youths are able to work and get taxed
- Vote16 Proposition lost by less than 1% in the 2020 election, up 30,000 votes from 2016



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Place a charter amendment on the ballot to lower the voting age to 16**
  - 2) Urge California legislators to place a constitutional referendum on the ballot lowering the voting age to 16**
  - 3) Host another Board of Supervisors and Youth Commission joint hearing**
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## INCREASE EXISTING FUNDING FOR WELLNESS CENTERS IN SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- 1999 – San Francisco Wellness Initiative implemented Wellness Centers in SFUSD schools
  - 30.2% of Black, 29.7% of Hispanic/Latino, and 22.4% of Asian SFUSD students in grades 7, 9, and 11 experienced depression-related feelings
  - SFUSD wellness centers do not meet the cultural and linguistic needs of its students and families – CPA 2017
  - Disconnect between services and students, fear of parents finding out about mental health issues
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Increase funding to hire diverse staff**
  - 2) Invest in preventative resources**
  - 3) Value student voices and skills as leaders and decision-makers**
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## SAN FRANCISCO LGBTQIA+ COALITION ON SAFETY FUNDING REQUEST

- Harassment, threats, and violence to organizations serving LGBTQ+ youth
- LYRIC received bomb threats and online harassment
- Coalition of LGBTQ+ organizations formed to advocate for new safety measure funding

### RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **Support + grant the LGBTQIA+ Coalition on Safety's funding request**
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## CREATE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LGBTQ+ AND SEXUAL HEALTH CURRICULUM FOR SFUSD SCHOOLS

- 450 classroom positions needed to be filled for the 2022 - 2023 school year
- 7/10 of LGBTQ students experienced verbal harassment
- 1/4 of LGBTQ students were physically harassed
- Anti LGBTQ+ rhetoric as surged by 400% online
- Students in schools with an inclusive curriculum are:
  - Less likely to hear negative remarks about transgender people
  - Less likely to feel unsafe because of their sexual orientation



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Implement inclusive middle school sexual health curriculum for LGBTQ youth**
  - 2) Hire health teachers with proper credentials + incentivize teachers to get proper health credentials**
  - 3) Urge the State of California to make the health education state mandates more comprehensive towards LGBTQ+ youth**
  - 4) Gather feedback on health education curriculum from SFUSD employees**
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## ESTABLISH SAFE SPACES IN SCHOOLS AND MAKE RESOURCES FOR LGBTQ+ STUDENTS MORE ACCESSIBLE

- ADL's 2021 Online Hate and Harassment showed:
    - 64% of LGBTQ+ respondents were harassed
    - LGBTQ+ respondents reported more overall harassment than other demographics
    - 21% of transgender and nonbinary kids have attempted suicide and 52% have seriously contemplated it
  - Over 35 States have adopted anti-transgender laws between January and June of 2021
    - Banning gender-affirming medical care for minors and transgender youth from sports
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Create safe spaces**
  - 2) Connect with organizations (such as LYRIC and LGBT Center) and form clubs to extend school resources for LGBTQ+ youth**
  - 3) Assess school climate to guide improvement strategies**
-