

**From:** [T Flandrich](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Item# 3. 251023 Our City Our Home Oversight Committee SUPPORT REAPPOINTMENT of Jennifer Friedenbach, Seat #8  
**Date:** Thursday, October 30, 2025 3:33:01 PM

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**From:** T Flandrich <tflandrich@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>; Rafael.Mandelman@sfgov.org <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>; Stephen.Sherrill@sfgov.org <stephen.sherrill@sfgov.org>; Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org <matt.dorsey@sfgov.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 30, 2025 at 12:44:53 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Item# 3. 251023 Our City Our Home Oversight Committee SUPPORT REAPPOINTMENT of Jennifer Friedenbach, Seat #8

October 30, 2025

Dear Chair Walton, Supervisors Mandelman, Sherill & Dorsey,

I am writing to support the reappointment of Ms. Jennifer Friedenbach, who currently holds Seat 8 on the Our City Our Home Committee. As you know, Jennifer was the primary architect for Prop C, *Our City Our Home*, and one of the most effective and active participants on the body.

Her work has led to over 5,000 people being housed, including 1,700 children. She has also worked to diversify the shelter system to serve 4,000 additional people and massively expanded behavioral health services to serve over 16,000 new clients.

Her impact through the Prop C Committee has also been tremendously impactful. Ms. Friedenbach has identified gaps in the system and successfully implemented change.

For example, there is a dearth of treatment options for women, Spanish-speaking people, and members of the transgender community. She has built support in the department of Public Health for interventions and new programs now exist to fill shortfalls in treatment for all of these communities.

Ms. Friedenbach works hard, looking at data, bringing diverse perspectives to the table, and respectfully building consensus around the right response. She has built positive relationships with community, providers, legislators and city officials and actively listens and responds to needs and concerns. She plays a unique role, bringing knowledge directly garnered from unhoused people regularly combined with constant communication with homeless service providers.

## front line

**She has single handedly moved the dial on homelessness**, and without her work San Francisco would be a much darker place, with 30 - 50% more homelessness in the city. Prop C would not have happened without her work.

San Francisco is only a great city because of hard working passionate contributors like Ms. Friedenbach. Civic participation of this level of excellence should be acknowledged and acted upon. The Board of Supervisors should halt the removal of citizen participants that are making a huge difference. Ms Friedenbach should be reappointed.

Thank you for your consideration,

Theresa Flandrich, North Beach Tenants Committee

**From:** [Eleana Binder](#)  
**To:** [Sherrill, Stephen \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** File # 251023: Public Comment re OCOH Appointment at Rules Committee  
**Date:** Friday, October 31, 2025 9:41:20 AM

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Dear Rules Committee,

I am writing in support of the reappointment of Jennifer Friedenbach to the Our City Our Home (OCOH) Committee. Jennifer currently holds seat 8 and is applying for reappointment. That seat is meant for an individual who has experience advocating on homeless or mental health issues, and Jennifer is extremely qualified for reappointment.

In my experience working with her, Jennifer has always been extremely dedicated, creative, and resourceful. She is effective at translating community needs into budget and policy recommendations. She has the ability to make practical choices that address systemic issues. Jennifer has an encyclopedic knowledge of Prop C funding. Losing her expertise and institutional knowledge would be a major loss for the OCOH Committee and the City overall.

Jennifer was the primary architect for Prop C Our City Our Home and is a very effective and active participant on the body. Her work has led to over 5,000 people being housed, including 1,700 children. She also has worked to diversify the shelter system to serve 4,000 additional people in three years and massively expanded behavioral health services to serve over 16,000 new clients over 3 years. Jennifer has championed homeless families, working closely with providers and families to ensure the city builds effective responses. Homelessness among families has increased dramatically and Jennifer has successfully advocated for an equitable response in the distribution of homeless dollars to make up for the disparate investment in solving families' homelessness.

Jennifer is the shelter liaison and has worked to ensure shelter dollars are used effectively. When programs have undue high costs, she has pointed that out and successfully reduced costs so that funds could be used for more shelter. Before her work on the committee began, the single adult shelter was by and large congregate, and Jennifer pushed to diversify the system so there are now non-congregate, semi-congregate, tiny homes and more. She also pushed for bringing behavioral health services to the shelter. This has meant that many more people with higher acuities can be served by the shelter system.

Jennifer has also advocated for improvements to the behavioral health system. She has identified gaps in the system and successfully implemented change. For example, there is a

dearth of treatment options for women, Spanish speaking people and members of the transgender community. She built support in the Department of Public Health for these interventions and new programs now exist to fill shortfalls in treatment for all three of these communities. In addition, she worked hard on the original Behavioral Health treatment investment plan that had disproportionate spending on street crisis response and very little in terms of beds and ongoing treatment access. As a result, new beds were added and new interventions were funded, such as ongoing behavioral treatment at San Francisco Community Health Center.

Jennifer comes prepared to each meeting, having already gathered the necessary information when important decisions are about to be made. She spends time gathering data, input and expertise working diligently to ensure every dollar is well spent. She works hard, looking at data, bringing diverse perspectives to the table, and respectfully building consensus on the right response. She has built positive relationships with community, providers, legislators and city officials, as she actively listens and responds to needs. She brings together information directly from unhoused people and constant communication with front line homeless service providers to make evidence-based recommendations. She has a unique and important perspective to make informed decisions and contribute to the OCOH Committee's efficacy.

Thank you,

Eleana

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**Eleana Binder**

Director of Public Policy and Legislative Research

Center for Social Justice

**GLIDE** 330 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

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**From:** [Chan, Angela \(PDR\)](#)  
**To:** [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Sherrill, Stephen \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Reappointment of Jennifer Friedenbach to Seat 8 of OCOH Committee  
**Date:** Sunday, November 2, 2025 9:02:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-1uwbmvt.png](#)

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Dear Members of the Rules Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the reappointment of Jennifer Friedenbach, Executive Director of the Coalition on Homelessness, to Seat 8 of the Our City, Our Home Oversight (OCOH) Committee. I offer this perspective both as a former San Francisco Police Commissioner and as a current Assistant Chief Attorney in the San Francisco Public Defender's Office, where I have seen firsthand how compassionate, data-driven, and justice-oriented leadership can create meaningful change for San Franciscans.

I have had the privilege of knowing and collaborating with Ms. Friedenbach for over fifteen years, beginning when I served as Policy Director and Senior Staff Attorney at the Asian Law Caucus. Even then, she stood out as one of the most principled and persistent advocates for unhoused and low-income communities. Her integrity, collaborative spirit, and unwavering dedication to equity have only deepened over the years. In recognition of her decades of advocacy, the California Women's Legislative Caucus honored Ms. Friedenbach as Woman of the Year — a testament to her extraordinary impact on housing, homelessness, and social justice in our state.

Ms. Friedenbach was the primary architect of Proposition C: Our City, Our Home, a transformative ballot measure that secured long-term funding for housing and behavioral health services in San Francisco. Her leadership has directly resulted in more than 5,000 people being housed, including 1,700 children, and she has helped diversify and expand the city's shelter system to serve 4,000 additional people over three years. Her advocacy also helped expand behavioral health services to reach over 16,000 new clients, ensuring that more San Franciscans receive the care and stability they need.

As a commissioner, Ms. Friedenbach exemplifies the purpose of Seat 8, which calls for a representative with deep experience advocating on homelessness or mental health issues. She has been a tireless champion for homeless families, working closely with service providers and parents to ensure that funding and programs reflect their needs. Her advocacy has helped correct long-standing disparities in how city resources are allocated across different populations experiencing homelessness.

As the shelter liaison, Ms. Friedenbach has demonstrated exceptional fiscal responsibility and effectiveness. She has closely examined shelter expenditures—such

as the high costs of safe sleeping sites and tiny home programs—and pushed for more efficient, equitable alternatives that preserved program quality while expanding capacity. Thanks to her leadership, San Francisco’s shelter system now includes non-congregate, semi-congregate, and tiny home options, creating safer and more accessible spaces for people with complex behavioral health and medical needs.

Ms. Friedenbach approaches every meeting prepared, informed, and grounded in data and lived experience. She engages deeply with stakeholders across sectors—unhoused residents, frontline providers, legislators, and city officials alike—bringing a rare combination of empathy, rigor, and pragmatism. She is unafraid to raise hard questions about resource use and policy direction, always with the goal of ensuring that public investments truly serve those most in need.

Quite simply, Ms. Friedenbach has reshaped the city’s response to homelessness. Without her vision and persistence, San Francisco would face far higher rates of homelessness—estimated at 30 to 50 percent more—and groundbreaking initiatives like Prop C would not exist. Her leadership has made San Francisco a fairer, more compassionate, and more effective city.

Our city thrives because of civic leaders like Ms. Friedenbach—those who pair moral clarity with tireless commitment to community. Her reappointment would ensure that this commission continues to benefit from her deep expertise, integrity, and collaborative approach. I urge you to reappoint her to Seat 8 without hesitation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Angela

**Angela Chan** (she/her)  
Assistant Chief Attorney | Confront & Advocate Team  
Office of the Public Defender | City & County of San Francisco  
*Confronting State Violence & Advocating for Community Empowerment*  
angela.chan2@sfgov.org



**From:** [lgpetty](#)  
**To:** [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [SherrillStaff](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Reappoint Jennifer Friedenbach to Our City Our Home Oversight Committee  
**Date:** Sunday, November 2, 2025 4:29:57 PM

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Dear Chair Walton and Rules Committee Members,

Please reappoint Seat 8 (Advocacy) Committee Member Jennifer Friedenbach.

In the OCOH Advocacy Seat it is absolutely essential to continue to have the very best and strongest advocate for the homeless that the City can provide.

That advocate is Jennifer Friedenbach. She was not only essential to the creation of the OCOH tax Fund, but since appointment to the Committee, has been crucial in providing oversight for assuring the Fund is transparent and laser-focused on responding to the needs of the homeless.

Ms. Friedenbach has a track record of combining hard-work, data-driven analysis, consensus-building skills, and passionate dedication to fulfilling the needs of the homeless through the voter-determined approach of balanced distribution of the OCOH Fund resources.

Please reappoint Ms Friedenbach to continue her immensely valuable contributions.

Thank you,

Lorraine Petty  
Affordable Housing Advocate  
Member, Senior & Disability Action and  
SF Tenants Union