

File No. 250902

Committee Item No. 4

Board Item No. _____

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Government Audit and Oversight

Date: October 2, 2025

Board of Supervisors Meeting:

Date: _____

Cmte Board

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| ☐ | ☐ | Motion |
| ☒ | ☐ | Resolution |
| ☐ | ☐ | Ordinance |
| ☐ | ☐ | Legislative Digest |
| ☐ | ☐ | Budget and Legislative Analyst Report |
| ☐ | ☐ | Youth Commission Report |
| ☒ | ☐ | Introduction Form |
| ☐ | ☐ | Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report |
| ☐ | ☐ | MOU - FY2022-2024 - Clean |
| ☐ | ☐ | MOU - FY2022-2024 - Redline |
| ☐ | ☐ | Grant Information Form |
| ☐ | ☐ | Grant Budget |
| ☐ | ☐ | Subcontract Budget |
| ☐ | ☐ | Contract / DRAFT Mills Act Agreement |
| ☐ | ☐ | Form 126 – Ethics Commission |
| ☐ | ☐ | Award Letter |
| ☐ | ☐ | Application |
| ☐ | ☐ | Public Correspondence |

OTHER

☐	☐	_____
☐	☐	_____
☐	☐	_____
☐	☐	_____
☐	☐	_____
☐	☐	_____
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Prepared by: Monique Crayton

Date: September 26, 2025

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

1 [Behested Payment Waiver - Fundraising for Services Related to Immigration, LGBTQ+
2 Rights, Environmental Protection, Reproductive Rights, and Racial Equity]

3 **Resolution authorizing the Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Attorney, Office of the**
4 **City Administrator, the head of each division, office, and department under the**
5 **supervision of the City Administrator, the Assessor-Recorder, and the Deputy**
6 **Assessors and Director of Policy and Government Affairs in the Assessor-Recorder's**
7 **Office to solicit donations from various private, nonprofit, philanthropic, and other**
8 **entities to support 1) the urgent provision of legal services related to the creation and**
9 **enforcement of immigration laws, regulations, and policies, including litigation and**
10 **regulatory reform efforts at the local, state, and federal level and non-legal services and**
11 **support for the City's immigrant communities; 2) goods and services, including legal**
12 **services, related to defending and supporting LGBTQ+ rights; 3) goods and services,**
13 **including legal services, related to defending and supporting reproductive rights; 4)**
14 **goods and services, including legal services, related to defending existing**
15 **environmental protection laws and promoting environmental protection efforts; and 5)**
16 **goods and services, including legal services, related to racial equity initiatives, all**
17 **notwithstanding the Behested Payment Ordinance.**

18 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco ("the City") has a longstanding
19 commitment to advocate for the fair and lawful treatment of all City residents, including hard
20 working people and families, notwithstanding their immigration status; and

21 WHEREAS, The City has long led the country in legal advocacy for the rights of
22 LGBTQ+ individuals and support for the community in a variety of ways, creating a place
23 where LGBTQ+ people feel safe and able to live their lives without fear of violence and
24 discrimination, and making the City home to a large and vibrant LGBTQ+ community; these
25

1 efforts include securing equal benefits and marriage equality, and providing health and
2 housing services targeted to support the community; and

3 WHEREAS, The City's laws and policies have made San Francisco a place where
4 people have the freedom to make their own reproductive healthcare decisions without
5 intrusion from the government; the City has advocated for these legal rights through litigation
6 as well as provided financial and other support to promote reproductive freedom; and

7 WHEREAS; The City has numerous policies and initiatives aimed at reducing the City's
8 impact on the environment, including policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve
9 water, and reduce solid waste; and the City has pursued legal action to enforce the City's
10 environmental laws and goals; and

11 WHEREAS; The City has a legal framework and numerous programs and policies to
12 remedy the effects of past racial discrimination and to eliminate such discrimination and
13 ensure racial equity for all City residents, including the efforts of the City's Office of Racial
14 Equity, and other initiatives and policies targeted to help underserved communities; and

15 WHEREAS, Consistent with the authority and duty of that office, the City Attorney
16 monitors federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies impacting the health, safety,
17 and day-to-day lives of San Franciscans including those related to immigration, LGBTQ+
18 rights, reproductive rights, environmental protection, and racial equity and, as necessary,
19 engages in advocacy and litigation regarding these issues; and

20 WHEREAS, San Francisco's private, nonprofit, and philanthropic community, including
21 members of the legal community, have a proud history of supporting the City in protecting the
22 rights of City residents, the environment, and the fair and equal treatment of all individuals
23 without regard to race; and

24 WHEREAS, While the City Attorney continues these efforts, we know that more
25 resources will be urgently needed in the near future to ensure that City residents are treated

1 fairly, with dignity, and consistently with local, state, and federal law, and that the City's efforts
2 to protect the environment and promote fair and equal treatment for all people are not
3 undermined; and

4 WHEREAS, In the past, the City Attorney has established successful and innovative
5 public-private partnerships to pursue these aims; and

6 WHEREAS, The City Attorney, Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Administrator,
7 and the Assessor Recorder from time to time partner and engage with philanthropic
8 organizations, nonprofits, and private entities including law firms and legal service
9 organizations; and

10 WHEREAS, The Office of the City Attorney, Office of the Mayor, Office of the City
11 Administrator, the head of each division, office, and department under the City Administrator's
12 supervision, the Assessor Recorder, and the Deputy Assessors and Director of Policy and
13 Government Affairs in the Assessor-Recorder's Office may seek to fundraise or engage in
14 philanthropic partnerships with law firms and other entities yet to be identified that may be
15 considered interested parties to one or more of these departments for the purposes identified
16 herein; and

17 WHEREAS, The Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Attorney, Office of the City
18 Administrator, the head of each division, office, and department under the City Administrator's
19 supervision, the Assessor Recorder, and the Deputy Assessors and Director of Policy and
20 Government Affairs in the Assessor-Recorder's Office seek a waiver of the City's Behested
21 Payment Ordinance (Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code, Section 3.600 et seq.) to
22 the extent it restricts the Mayor, City Attorney, City Administrator and employees under the
23 supervision of the Offices of the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Administrator, the head of
24 each division, office, and department under the City Administrator's supervision, the Assessor
25 Recorder, and the Deputy Assessors and Director of Policy and Government Affairs in the

1 Assessor-Recorder's Office from soliciting financial support or in-kind goods or services, from
2 persons or entities that would be considered interested parties, to support 1) the provision of
3 legal services to ensure the fair and lawful treatment of City residents notwithstanding their
4 immigration status and non-legal services and support for the City's immigrant communities,
5 2) goods and services, including legal services, related to defending and supporting LGBTQ+
6 rights, 3) goods and services, including legal services, related to defending and supporting
7 reproductive rights, 4) goods and services, including legal services, related to defending
8 existing environmental protection laws and promoting environmental protection efforts, and 5)
9 goods and services, including legal services, related to racial equity initiatives; and

10 WHEREAS, The Board previously granted six-month waivers for the purposes
11 described herein (File Nos. 250047, 250139), and the need for such waivers persist; and

12 WHEREAS, The parties receiving this waiver have agreed to report to the Board of
13 Supervisors donations to the City that were solicited under this waiver; such reports will
14 identify the donor, the amount of the donation, and the interested relationship the donor has
15 with the department that solicited the donation; the departments will submit the reports to the
16 Board within 60 days of the expiration of the six-month period authorized by this waiver; now,
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That under Section 3.620(f) of the Campaign and Governmental Conduct
19 Code, the Board of Supervisors hereby waives application of the Behested Payment
20 Ordinance for a period of six months from the effective date of this Resolution as to the
21 Mayor, City Attorney, City Administrator, officers and employees under the supervision of the
22 Offices of the Mayor, City Attorney, and City Administrator, the heads of each division, office,
23 and department under the City Administrator's supervision, the Assessor Recorder, and the
24 Deputy Assessors and Director of Policy and Government Affairs in the Assessor-Recorder's
25 Office, so that they may solicit donations from private, nonprofit, and other organizations and

1 philanthropists to support 1) the provision of legal services to ensure the fair and lawful
2 treatment of City residents notwithstanding their immigration status and non-legal services
3 and support for the City's immigrant communities, 2) goods and services, including legal
4 services, related to defending and supporting LGBTQ+ rights, 3) goods and services,
5 including legal services, related to defending and supporting reproductive rights, 4) goods and
6 services, including legal services, related to defending existing environmental protection laws
7 and promoting environmental protection efforts, and 5) goods and services, including legal
8 services, related to racial equity initiatives; and, be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That granting this waiver serves the public interest by
10 supporting the Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Attorney, Office of the City Administrator,
11 and division, office and department heads under the City Administrator, the Assessor
12 Recorder, and the Deputy Assessors and Director of Policy and Government Affairs in the
13 Assessor-Recorder's Office in the provision of legal services and other support to ensure fair
14 and lawful treatment of all City residents notwithstanding their immigration status, to support
15 and defend LGBTQ+ rights, to support and defend reproductive freedom, to bolster and
16 defend environmental protection efforts, and to protect initiatives that ensure all people are
17 treated fairly regardless of race, at a time when the provision of such services and support
18 may be more urgently required than ever before; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That granting this waiver does not create an appearance of
20 impropriety.
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Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- ☒ 1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
- ☐ 2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference)
(Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
- ☐ 3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
- ☐ 4. Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor [] inquires..."
- ☐ 5. City Attorney Request
- ☐ 6. Call File No. [] from Committee.
- ☐ 7. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
- ☐ 8. Substitute Legislation File No. []
- ☐ 9. Reactivate File No. []
- ☐ 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on []

The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):

- ☐ Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission ☐ Ethics Commission
- ☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission ☐ Human Resources Department

General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

(Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)

Sponsor(s):

Mandelman

Subject:

[Fundraising for Services Related to Immigration, LGBTQ+ Rights, Environmental Protection, Reproductive Rights, and Racial Equity - Behested Payment Waiver]

Long Title or text listed:

Resolution authorizing the Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Attorney, Office of the City Administrator, the head of each division, office, and department under the supervision of the City Administrator, the Assessor Recorder, and the Deputy Assessors and Director of Policy and Government Affairs in the Assessor-Recorder's Office to solicit donations from various private, nonprofit, philanthropic, and other entities to support 1) the urgent provision of legal services related to the creation and enforcement of immigration laws, regulations, and policies, including litigation and regulatory reform efforts at the local, state, and federal level and non-legal services and support for the City's immigrant communities, 2) goods and services, including legal services, related to defending and supporting LGBTQ+ rights, 3) goods and services, including legal services, related to defending and supporting reproductive rights, 4) goods and services, including legal services, related to defending existing environmental protection laws and promoting environmental protection efforts, and 5) goods and services, including legal services, related to racial equity initiatives, all notwithstanding the Behested Payment Ordinance.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: