

Budget Presentation Response

San Francisco Planning &
Department of Building Inspection

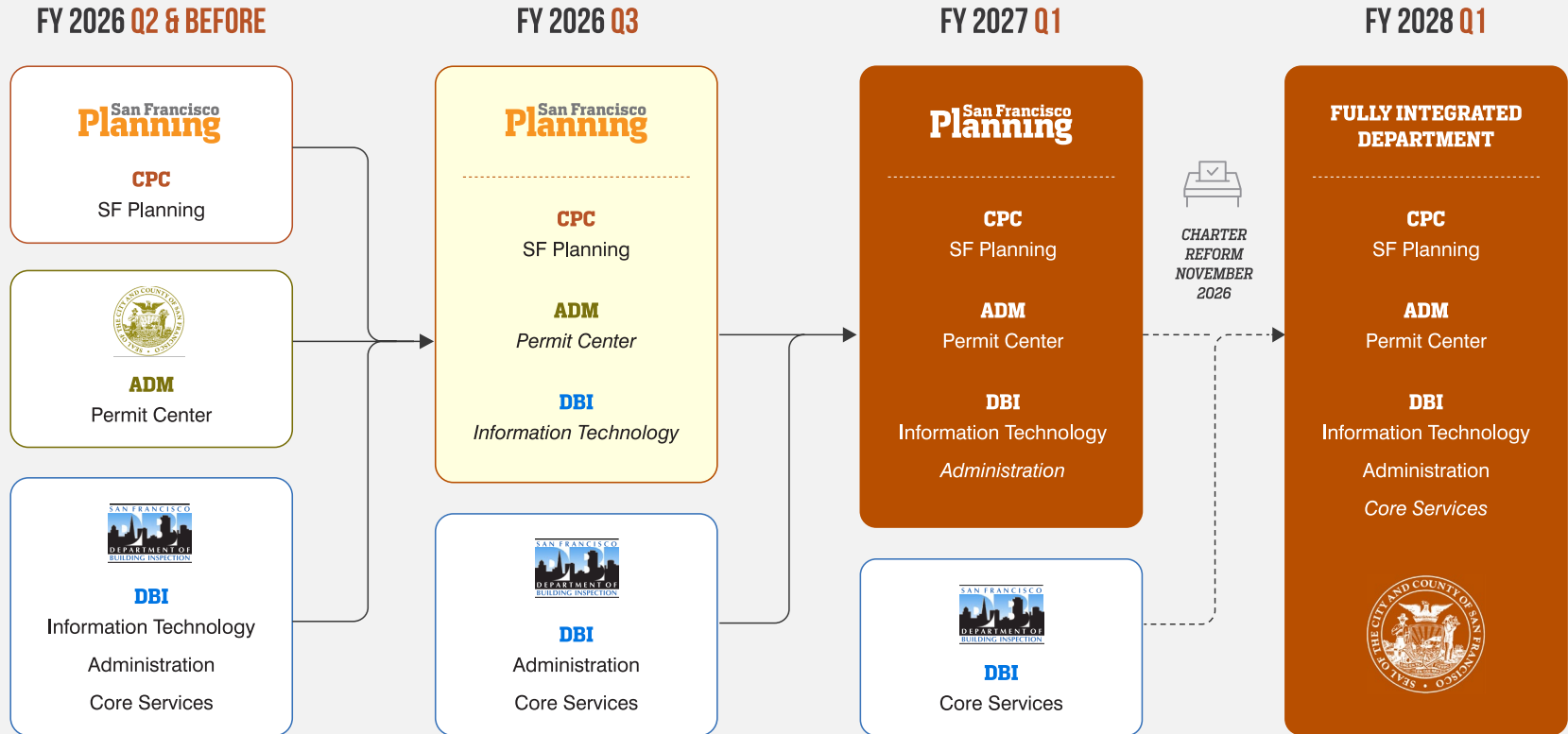


San Francisco
Planning



May 20, 2026
Board of Supervisors
Budget and
Appropriations
Committee

Implementation Roadmap



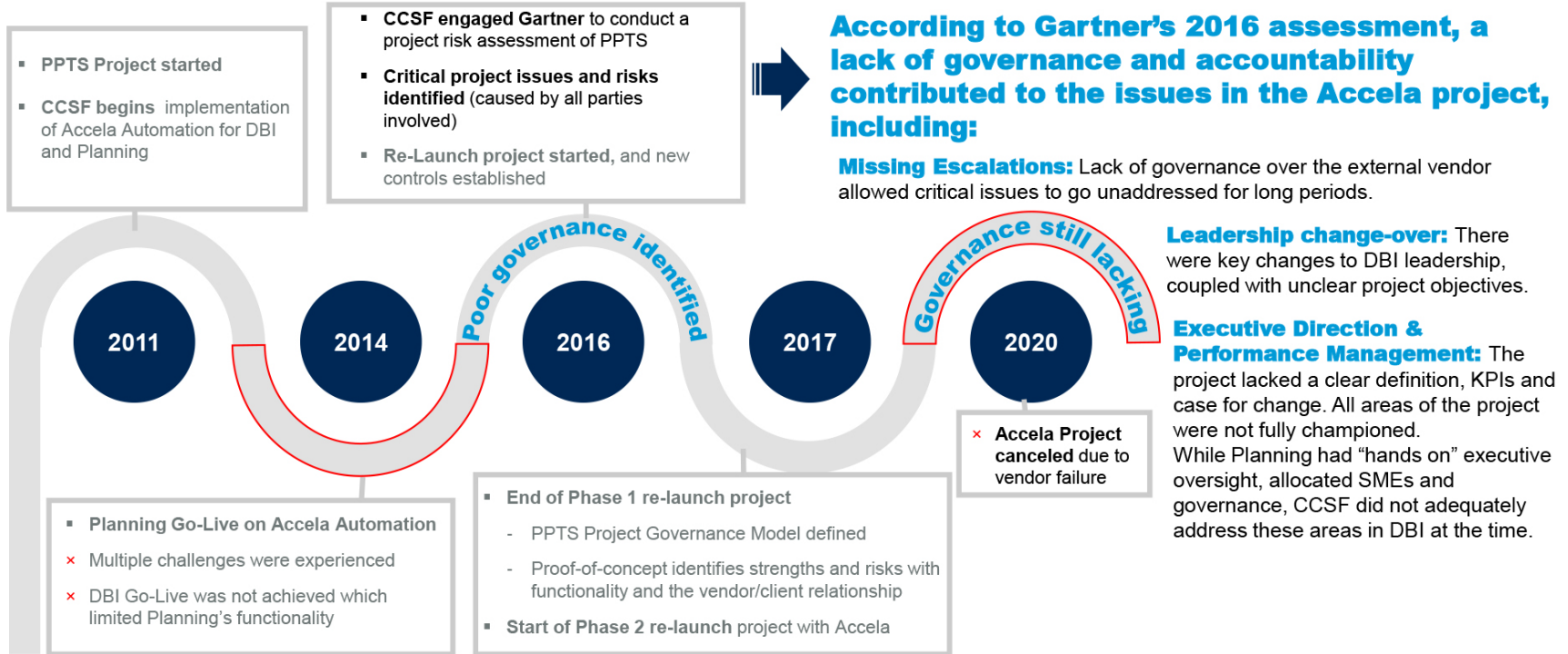
Key Principles – Supporting & Enhancing Critical Functions

- **Chief Building Official should have authority over permit review and inspections**
 - **Planning Commission and Building Inspection Commission should retain oversight over respective portions of budget**
 - **Fees charged for various services shall be spent in support of those services, and not used for other purposes**
- **Safety and habitability should be paramount**
 - **Housing inspections and community partnerships must remain a departmental priority**
 - **Permits should be issued promptly and on time**
 - **Long Range & Community-Based Planning needs to continue**

Key Opportunities – Working Better Together

- **Unified intake and plan check (pre-review) process**
 - **Improved customer service – POCs, requests between colleagues rather than departments**
 - **Better integration – pre-entitlement and at PIC**
 - **Synthesized policy and implementation regarding housing – unit mergers, hotels, SROs**
- **Planning/Building/Housing Code legislation > common goals**
 - **(Even better) joint enforcement**
 - **Consistency with respect to service fees and impact fees**
 - **Joint technology team enables cross-functional service, including direct involvement in OpenGov**

Permit Modernization: What, Why, and Lessons Learned



Permit Modernization: Planning To Get Here

Improvement Workstream	Budgetary Cost Estimates					Total
	2H of FY22-23	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26+	
1. Strategy and Governance	1-2 FTEs for 1 year	1-2 FTEs for 6 months	Future project work to be defined in FY23-23			2 FTEs now
2. Organizational & Process Change	Assumption: No addnl. roles to staff – currently resourced projects	2 - 3.5 FTEs for 9 months	1 - 2 FTEs for 6 months (transition rest to Tech initiatives)	Project resources transition to long-term tech. initiatives		Ramp to 2 - 3.5 FTEs in FY23-24
3. Data Management	Assumption: No addnl. roles to staff – currently resourced projects	1.5 - 2.5 FTEs for 6 months	4 - 6.5 FTEs for 1 year + charge from DT/DT's vendor for Enterprise Data Migration to Cloud			Ramp to 4 - 6.5 FTEs + charge from DT/DT's vendor for 3.3 in FY24-25
4. Technology	Need to confirm budget for Accela upgrade(s) & support and PTS & Fire DB maintenance for next 3+ years	6.5 - 8 FTEs for 1 year + \$3M - \$4M (implementing 4.2 & 4.3, sourcing 4.4 & 4.5)	16 - 20 FTEs for 1 year + \$6M-\$8M	16 - 19.5 FTEs for 1 year + \$6M-\$8M	16 - 19.5 FTEs for 1 year + \$6M-\$8M	Ramp to 16 - 20 FTEs in FY24-25 + \$21M - \$28M + TBD legacy maintenance
Total	2 FTEs + TBD Tech Maintenance	13.5 - 18 FTEs + \$3M-\$4M	21 - 28.5 FTEs + \$6M-\$8M + Cloud Data	16 - 19.5 FTEs + \$6M-\$8M	16 - 19.5 FTEs + \$6M-\$8M	21 - 30 FTEs \$23M - \$30M

Performance Metrics (median days to completion)

Planning Applications: Accepted to Approval

CURRENT TARGET

90 

CURRENT PERFORMANCE

154 

In-House Building Permit Applications: Filed to Issued

CURRENT TARGET

60 

Exempting high-rise

CURRENT PERFORMANCE

94 

Over-The-Counter Permits: Filed to Issued

CURRENT TARGET

1 

CURRENT PERFORMANCE

2 

Current performance metrics are based on last month's data.

Performance Metrics (median days to completion)

Planning Applications



CURRENT TARGET	CURRENT PERFORMANCE	POST-IMPLEMENTATION TARGET
Completeness Review		
21	14	7 days
First Plan Review		
30	23	7 days
Resubmission (aka Revisions)		
14	11	2 days

Building Permit Applications



CURRENT TARGET	CURRENT PERFORMANCE	POST-IMPLEMENTATION TARGET
Completeness Review		
21	13	7 days
First Plan Review		
30	14	7 days
Resubmission (aka Revisions)		
14	4	2 days

Current performance metrics are based on last month's data.

Performance Metrics (median intake response time)

Building Permits

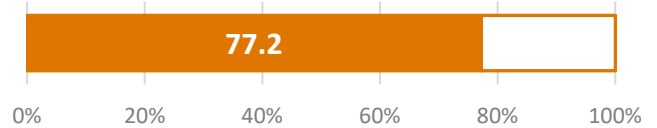
Doors, siding,
windows

INTAKE FIRST RESPONSE

1.58 hours



% INTAKE STEPS FIRST CLOSED



Fire Permits

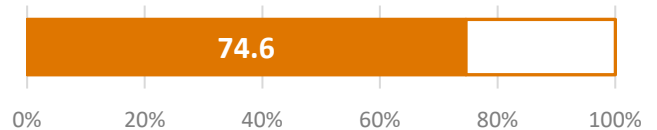
Alarms, sprinklers,
water flow

INTAKE FIRST RESPONSE

2.62 hours



% INTAKE STEPS FIRST CLOSED



What's Coming

Remaining Phase 1 Permits	Permit Volume (approx per year)	Launch Timing	Comments
Reroofing	2,000	June 2026	Replacing instant online and in-person pathway for no-plans, expanding the qualified applicants for instant (R2)
Signs & Awnings	600	June 2026	Process improvement, consolidating permit pathways
Electrical	17,000	Summer 2026	High volume permits
Plumbing/Mechanical (Boiler Permit to Operate)	15,000	Summer 2026	High volume permits
Kitchen & Bath	5,000	Summer 2026	Replacing instant online and in-person pathway for no-plans, expanding the qualified applicants for instant (R2)
Solar	1,400	Summer 2026	Process improvement, consolidating permit pathways

Performance Metrics (customer satisfaction)

**% of customers
satisfied with
permitting
experience**

CURRENT TARGET

85%

CURRENT PERFORMANCE

38%

**POST-IMPLEMENTATION
GOAL**

76%

Double customer satisfaction with our services to 76% or meet the target of 85%.

Budget and Legislative Analyst Recommendations

BLA Recommendations

- CPC 1-3 – \$45k Materials FY28 – \$5.3M attrition was added to FY28 which may create a significant operational impact, merge uncertainty, reassess next year.
- CPC 5 – 0953 - This position has already been deleted.
- DBI 1, 2, 18, 20 – Four replacement vehicles – Disaster response, inspection capacity, electrification, age.

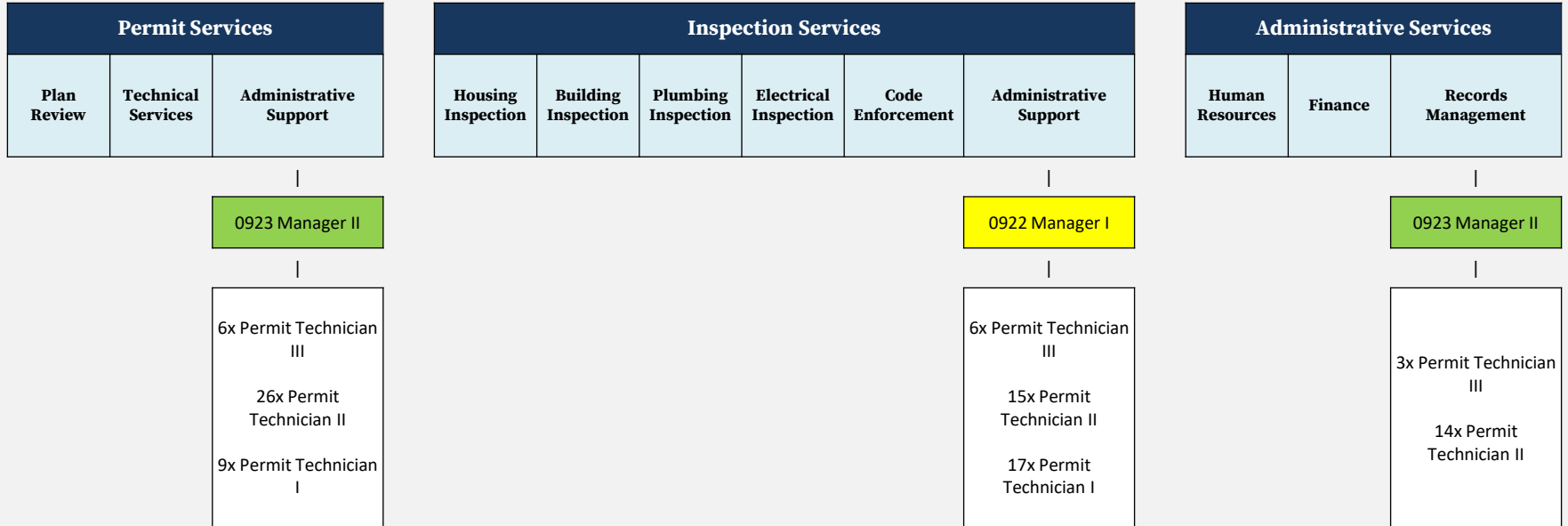
Policy Recommendations

- CPC 7 – 1824 for Enterprise Addressing System – EAS cleanup needed regardless of permit system, citywide effort, don't want to contract out.
- CPC 8 – 1054 for PermitSF – Needed regardless of which system chosen, process documentation, cleanup, architecture, don't want to contract out.
- CPC 9 – Permit system replacement project reserve – Please adjust reserve amount to \$3.175M, \$4M may be needed for current contract extension.
- DBI 23 – 0922 to 0923 for Inspection Services Admin - Already TX'd and hired, DHR supports, consistent with other managers, 38 staff.
- DBI 24 – 0963 Department Head – This is premature, discuss next year, likely to transition to "Building Official".
- DBI 25 – 9976 for PermitSF - Needed regardless of which system chosen, process documentation, cleanup, architecture, don't want to contract out.

Recommendations DBI 1, 2, 8, 20

Equip #	Model Year	Make/Mode	Mileage	Total Maint. Cost for 5 Years	Notes
DBI27001	2014	Smart ForTwo	18,137		Turned in 02/02/26 due to high cost to repair PTC
DBI27002	2014	Smart ForTwo	15,244		Turned in 04/29/25 due to high cost to replace HV battery
DBI28008	2006	Toyota Prius	38,206	\$10,395	
DBI28010	2007	Toyota Prius	36,546	\$6,337	

Recommendations DBI 23





THANK YOU



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