

1 [Board Response - Civil Grand Jury Report – When Making Do Doesn’t Work: San Francisco
2 Jails in Crisis]

3 **Resolution responding to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings**
4 **and recommendations contained in the 2025-2026 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled**
5 **“When Making Do Doesn’t Work: San Francisco Jails in Crisis;” and urging the Mayor**
6 **to cause the implementation of accepted findings and recommendations through his**
7 **department heads and through the development of the annual budget.**

8
9 WHEREAS, Under California Penal Code, Section 933 et seq., the Board of
10 Supervisors must respond, within 90 days of receipt, to the Presiding Judge of the Superior
11 Court on the findings and recommendations contained in Civil Grand Jury Reports; and

12 WHEREAS, In accordance with California Penal Code, Section 933.05(c), if a finding or
13 recommendation of the Civil Grand Jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a
14 county agency or a department headed by an elected officer, the agency or department head
15 and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if requested by the Civil Grand Jury, but the
16 response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only budgetary or personnel matters over
17 which it has some decision making authority; and

18 WHEREAS, Under San Francisco Administrative Code, Section 2.10(a), the Board of
19 Supervisors must conduct a public hearing by a committee to consider a final report of the
20 findings and recommendations submitted, and notify the current foreperson and immediate
21 past foreperson of the Civil Grand Jury when such hearing is scheduled; and

22 WHEREAS, In accordance with San Francisco Administrative Code, Section 2.10(b),
23 the Controller must report to the Board of Supervisors on the implementation of
24 recommendations that pertain to fiscal matters that were considered at a public hearing held
25 by a Board of Supervisors Committee; and

1 WHEREAS, The 2025-2026 Civil Grand Jury Report, entitled “When Making Do
2 Doesn’t Work: San Francisco Jails in Crisis” (“Report”) is on file with the Clerk of the Board of
3 Supervisors in File No. 260676, which is hereby declared to be a part of this Resolution as if
4 set forth fully herein; and

5 WHEREAS, The Civil Grand Jury has requested that the Board of Supervisors respond
6 to Finding Nos. F1, F3, F5, and F7 as well as Recommendation Nos. R1.A(ii), R3.A, R5.A-D,
7 R7.A-B, contained in the subject Report; and

8 WHEREAS, Finding No. F1 states: “City and County leadership would benefit from
9 first-hand knowledge obtained through inspection of the jail facilities and operations to enable
10 them to better understand how policy changes affecting budget and operations for the Jails
11 impact the operation of the Jails;” and

12 WHEREAS, Finding No. F3 states: “The Jails are dangerously close to capacity, and
13 SFSO has not convened the Crowding Committee despite meeting the capacity triggers
14 outlined in the SFSO Custody and Court Operations Manual, Policy 511.2;” and

15 WHEREAS, Finding No. F5 states: “The Jails population has increasingly complex
16 health needs, particularly mental health and substance use problems, which require more
17 clinical and custodial resources than the system is designed to support;” and

18 WHEREAS, Finding No. F7 states: “For at least a decade, the City has declined to
19 make major capital investments in jail facilities, with the result that the Jails are operating in
20 aging buildings that do not meet current operational, clinical, or safety needs;” and

21 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R1.A states: “The Mayor (R1-A(i)), all members of
22 the BOS (R1-A(ii)), all members of the Capital Planning Committee (R1-A(iii)), and the District
23 Attorney (R1-A(iv)) should inspect the San Francisco and San Bruno Jails by March 1, 2027,
24 and at least once every two years thereafter. Any inspections involving one or more members
25

1 of bodies covered by the Brown Act or Sunshine Ordinance should be conducted so as not to
2 conflict with those laws;” and

3 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R3.A states: “By November 1, 2026, SFSO should
4 convene the Crowding Committee. In addition to the persons specified in Policy 511.2 (a)-(g),
5 representatives of the District Attorney, San Francisco Sheriff’s Department Oversight Board,
6 and the BOS should also be invited;” and

7 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R5.A states: “By January 1, 2027, SFSO and JHS
8 should jointly issue a report analyzing the greatest barriers to meeting inmate treatment needs
9 for medical care, including mental health care and substance use treatment, identify priority
10 actions within their respective areas of authority that could be implemented to better meet
11 those needs to improve support, and address potential sources of staffing and funding. Areas
12 analyzed should include, at a minimum, the feasibility of providing extended hours for mental
13 health and reentry services; processes for intake identification of inmates with a history of
14 prior bookings and potential of additional reentry services for this population; and assessment
15 of resources needed to provide re-entry services for inmates released in less than eight days.
16 If SFSO and JHS are unable or unwilling to jointly prepare the report, they should separately
17 prepare, issue and post a report covering all matters addressed above by January 1, 2027;”
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R5.B states: “The report should also assess,
20 prioritize, and develop a timetable for possible implementation of identified actions within their
21 respective areas of authority, including the feasibility of 24/7 mental health services. The
22 report should specify which identified actions could be achieved without an increase in
23 available resources, and which identified actions require an increase in resources. If SFSO
24 and JHS are unable or unwilling to jointly prepare the report, they should separately prepare,
25 issue and post a report covering all matters addressed above by January 1, 2027;” and

1 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R5.C states: "Beginning on April 1, 2027, SFSO and
2 JHS should issue regular updates, at least quarterly, and include a dashboard showing the
3 status of all items on the timetable (referenced in R5-B) and reporting whether the specific
4 action has been achieved, and if not, why not. Each such update should be posted on the
5 SFSO and JHS websites. If SFSO and JHS are unable or unwilling to jointly prepare the
6 updates, they should separately prepare, issue and post updates covering all matters
7 addressed herein;" and

8 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R5.D states: "The report(s) should also identify
9 priority actions not within the areas of authority of the SFSO and JHS that could possibly be
10 implemented by actions of the Mayor absent an ordinance, and/or the BOS by an ordinance;"
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R7.A states: "By October 1, 2026, the Mayor should
13 direct the DPW and the Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, in coordination with SFSO
14 and DPH, to develop a comprehensive jail resilience and capital plan. The plan should identify
15 needed improvements, funding requirements for facility modernization, and funding
16 mechanisms and recommendations, establish a priority sequence for needed improvements,
17 and address the long-term question of facility replacement or renovation at a scale adequate
18 to serve the current and projected Jail population;" and

19 WHEREAS, Recommendation No. R7.B states: "By March 1, 2027, the report should
20 be presented to the BOS, and by May 1, 2027, the BOS or a committee thereof should have a
21 hearing on the report;" and

22 WHEREAS, In accordance with California Penal Code, Section 933.05(c), the Board of
23 Supervisors must respond, within 90 days of receipt, to the Presiding Judge of the Superior
24 Court on Finding Nos. F1, F3, F5, and F7 as well as Recommendation Nos. R1.A, R3.A,
25 R5.A-D, R7.A-B, contained in the subject Report; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports to the Presiding Judge of the
2 Superior Court that they _____ with Finding No. F1 for the following reasons:
3 _____; and, be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports to the Presiding Judge
5 of the Superior Court that they _____ with Finding No. F3 for the following reasons:
6 _____; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports to the Presiding Judge
8 of the Superior Court that they _____ with Finding No. F5 for the following reasons:
9 _____; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports to the Presiding Judge
11 of the Superior Court that they _____ with Finding No. F7 for the following reasons:
12 _____; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
14 No. R1.A _____; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
16 No. R3.A _____; and, be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
18 No. R5.A _____; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
20 No. R5.B _____; and, be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
22 No. R5.C _____; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
24 No. R5.D _____; and, be it
25

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
2 No. R7.A _____; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors reports that Recommendation
4 No. R7.B _____; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor to cause the
6 implementation of the accepted findings and recommendations through his department heads
7 and through the development of the annual budget.