

# Office of Racial Equity - Racial Impact Assessment

File No. 200372 Administrative Code – County Jail No. 4 Closure



Photo credit: SF Chronicle

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# Office of Racial Equity - Racial Impact Assessment

## File No. 190547 Administrative Code - Office of Racial Equity Analysis of Pending Ordinances

- Establishes that the Office shall analyze and report on ordinances introduced at the Board of Supervisors in the areas of housing/land use, employment, economic security, public health and public safety that may have an impact on racial equity or racial disparities. **In order to fulfill these requirements, the following brief assessment for racial impact is provided.**

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## File No. 200372 Administrative Code – County Jail No. 4 Closure

- Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require the City to close County Jail No. 4, located on the seventh floor of the Hall of Justice, by November 1, 2020; to require the Sentencing Commission to establish a Safety and Justice Challenge Subcommittee (Subcommittee) to plan for the reduction of the City's daily jail population and closure of County Jail No. 4; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

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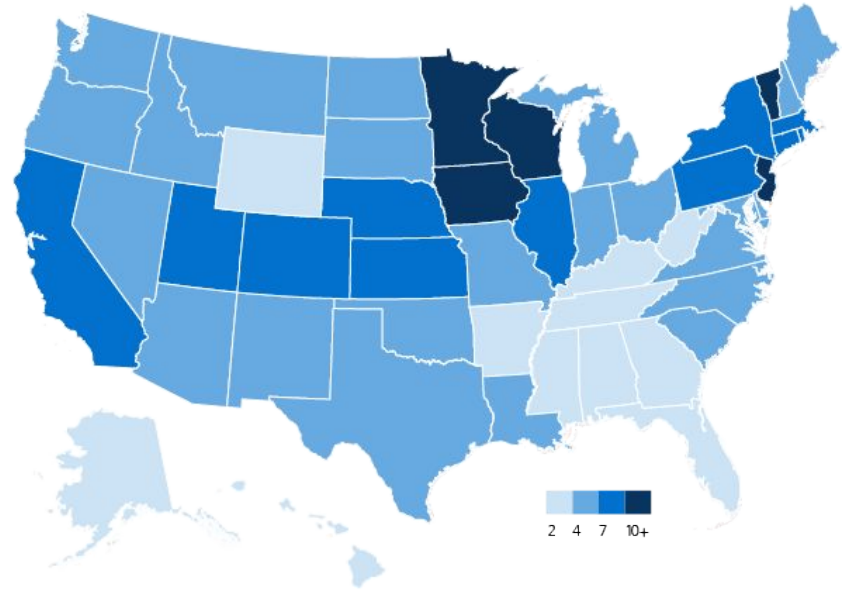
**Legislation must meet at least one of the following criteria:**

- Does the legislation explicitly address racial disparities and will its passage result in the reduction or elimination of racial inequities?
- Will the legislation protect against racial violence, racial profiling, implicit and explicit bias and discrimination?
- Will the policy help eliminate barriers to access to resources, social services, public benefits, and institutions?
- Does the legislation advance full inclusion, belonging and civic engagement for everyone in San Francisco?
- Does the legislation meaningfully improve the conditions of communities of color and/or preserve or strengthen the ability of San Franciscans to achieve their full potential?

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## Analysis Background:

- Racial equity is the just and fair inclusion in society, so that all people can reach their full potential, no matter their race, ethnicity or background.
- Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by the criminal justice system, often funneled into detention due to deeply embedded systemic racism and pervasive bias.
- Racial disparities are cumulative in the criminal justice system.



Black/white incarceration ratios

Data Sources: United States Department of Justice. Office of Justice Programs.

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## **Recommendation:** 200372 Administrative Code – County Jail No. 4 Closure

This policy **will reduce harm and reduce racial disparities** in the criminal justice system that have most critically impacted Black, Latinx, and Native American/indigenous communities.

The closure of County Jail #4 (CJ4) and a safe reduction of San Francisco's jail population will significantly mitigate racial disparities in San Francisco. This legislation **will reduce disparities by reducing unnecessary uses of detention** and encouragement of the **use of alternatives**, such as pre-trial diversion programs.

Passage of this legislation and the establishment of the **Safety and Justice Challenge Subcommittee** will promote more long-lasting and equitable public health and public safety measures for justice-involved individuals, deputy sheriffs, jail health employees, and the community at large.

# Questions?

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