

[Board of Supervisors Budget Process - FYs 2022-2023 and 2023-2024]

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**Motion establishing goals for the Board of Supervisors' Budget and Appropriations Committee, and the process to guide the Board's deliberations on the City budget, for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2022-2023 and 2023-2024.**

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors each year strives to design a budget process with broad involvement from not only all members of the Board but also the Mayor's Office, City agencies, service provider networks, labor partners, and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, Each year, it is up to the Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee to design a budget process that accomplishes the above goals; and

WHEREAS, A pandemic that has impacted communities for over two years has exacerbated and worsened inequalities, and it is imperative that the budget prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable communities that have been hit hardest by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, On December 10, 2019, the Board of Supervisors unanimously passed Motion M19-180, stating that, "By March 1 each year, the chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall introduce a motion for consideration by the Board, delineating the budget process for the coming months, including but not limited to: the Committee's anticipated hearing topics from March through June, the process for the Board to identify and publicly communicate its policy priorities for the budget; whether the Board will schedule Committees of the Whole to hold hearings on the Mayor's budget instructions, the Mayor's budget priorities, the Mayor's proposed budget, the Board's proposed spending plan, or other topics; and the Committee's guidelines regarding public transparency and decision-making;" and

1           WHEREAS, On December 17, 2019, the Board of Supervisors also unanimously  
2 passed Ordinance No. 294-19, requiring City agencies to hold public hearings prior to  
3 submission of their proposed budgets, requiring the Mayor to hold a public meeting on their  
4 proposed budget and Controller to maintain a centralized website with City budget information  
5 accessible to the public; and

6           WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors is committed to holding itself and City agencies  
7 accountable to actively engaging the public in budget meetings and committing not only to  
8 transparency but also to soliciting and incorporating meaningful feedback from every phase of  
9 the process into budget development; and

10           WHEREAS, The City's budget is made up of property taxes, business taxes, other local  
11 taxes, fees, charges for services, as well as intergovernmental revenue from the state and  
12 federal governments and a variety of other sources; and

13           WHEREAS, It is primarily local taxpayers who contribute to the City's budget and so it  
14 is to this public that the Board of Supervisors and more broadly the City and County of San  
15 Francisco must hold itself accountable during the budget process; and

16           WHEREAS, Homelessness, mental health and public safety remain among the chief  
17 concerns of San Francisco residents, workers and small business owners and significant  
18 investments must continue to be made to address these critical areas; and

19           WHEREAS, The City's FY2022-23 budget is significantly expanded due to voter-  
20 approved progressive tax measures, and the city's budget priorities should reflect the  
21 promises made to voters through those measures; and

22           WHEREAS, Despite concerns that the pandemic would result in a budget deficit last  
23 year, which fueled calls for austerity and underspending, the actual budget figures reflected a  
24 significant surplus; and

1           WHEREAS, The pandemic showed that investments into community resources and  
2           protections for our most vulnerable residents work, and will be crucial as we recover from an  
3           unprecedented global event; and

4           WHEREAS, The City has been battling multiple health crises in the last two years, with  
5           drug overdoses killing hundreds of San Franciscans each year and a mental health crisis that  
6           has left hundreds of people down the road to addiction and homelessness; and

7           WHEREAS, Despite millions of dollars spent by the City on housing and shelter there  
8           are thousands of people living on the streets of San Francisco, tents line entire blocks in  
9           certain neighborhoods and human suffering is rampant; and

10          WHEREAS, Proposition C was passed by voters to fund and support housing and  
11          resources for those experiencing homelessness; and

12          WHEREAS, Mental Health SF, passed by Board Supervisors in 2019 is intended to  
13          transform mental health care delivery in San Francisco and address the dire dearth of mental  
14          health resources and care, to make mental health care easily accessible, but has yet to be  
15          fully funded and implemented; and

16          WHEREAS, San Francisco faces significant unmet needs for affordable housing, with  
17          historic under investments in affordable housing development on the westside of the City, and  
18          must plan for more than 80,000 new housing units over the next eight years, including roughly  
19          33,000 low- and very low-income units and 14,000 middle-income units; and

20          WHEREAS, The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic magnified the harsh disparities that  
21          exist within the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) community, rooted in decades of anti-Asian  
22          laws, and has contributed to dramatic increases in anti-Asian hatred and violence; and

23          WHEREAS, The rise in anti-Asian attacks necessitate a call for investments and  
24          policies that are intended to upend and fundamentally shift the narrative to support collective  
25          healing, community resilience, and racial equity; and

1           WHEREAS, Our essential and public sector workers have kept San Francisco running  
2 through the early outbreak of COVID through to the recent Omicron variant, working day and  
3 night to support our families and their own, and are critical for our continued economic  
4 recovery; and

5           WHEREAS, There is a continued focus on investments in our commercial corridors in  
6 light of small businesses having struggled with public safety issues, including commercial  
7 thefts, commercial burglaries, and vandalism; and

8           WHEREAS, Small businesses have been greatly impacted by COVID-19 with the  
9 Budget and Legislative Analyst estimating in 2021 that there were roughly \$296 million-\$637  
10 million owed in Commercial Back Rent; and

11           WHEREAS, Women are more likely to be the primary caregivers for children and thus  
12 depend on affordable childcare options to participate in the economy as workers and job  
13 creators that has only increased during COVID-19; and

14           WHEREAS, The City's budget can serve as a road map to addressing concerns  
15 around a lack of affordable childcare and comprehensive paid family and medical leave costs  
16 workers and their families \$28.9 billion in wages each year, and this number has likely risen  
17 during the pandemic; and

18           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously declared a climate  
19 emergency in San Francisco and investments must be made in areas including public  
20 transportation and green building conversion to address the climate crisis with the urgency  
21 necessary to protect our children and future generations; and

22           WHEREAS, The City budget is the most important policy document deliberated by the  
23 Board of Supervisors, and is reflective of the values of this body as well as the Mayor of San  
24 Francisco; now, therefore, be it

1           MOVED, That the following goals are established for the Budget and Appropriations  
2 Committee's budget process:

3           To urgently act to ensure that the basic needs of San Franciscans are met, to assist  
4 families during the ongoing pandemic and to rebuild San Francisco toward a more equitable,  
5 gender just, and racially just future, by prioritizing:

- 6           (a) housing affordability, housing stability, and homelessness services,
- 7           (b) healthcare access including funding programs and resources to Mental Health SF  
8           to address the mental health and drug treatment issues,
- 9           (c) early care and education, youth educational services, expansion of family support  
10           services, and increased school support,
- 11           (d) Support and services for seniors and people with disabilities,
- 12           (e) Resources to address the climate crisis through resiliency, and city measures that  
13           reduce emissions in buildings, transportation, and equipment; open space and  
14           recreation improvements, and expedited pedestrian and vision zero improvements
- 15           (f) COVID recovery and relief for small businesses and restaurants,
- 16           (g) increased services for healthier streets (regular power washing, increased trash  
17           cans, new green infrastructure), public safety ambassadors, community safety  
18           plans; and, be it
- 19           (h) Commercial assets and historical preservation for API community and API  
20           cultural corridor preservation: Infrastructure Investments in our API communities to  
21           ensure our neighborhoods, cultural corridors, and community-based institutions can  
22           acquire and preserve key assets in API immigrant corridors.

23           MOVED, That the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall hold hearings in March  
24 of 2022 focused on key department budgets that are of most interest to all District offices;  
25 and, be it

1           MOVED, That the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall hold a series of issue  
2 based budget hearings in April and May of 2022 on key topics reflecting policy areas  
3 prioritized by the Committee, for which the Budget and Legislative Analyst will produce  
4 analysis for the Committee's consideration; and, be it

5           MOVED, That Budget and Appropriations Committee will hold hearings in May 2022 as  
6 determined by the Controller's Office pursuant to Administrative Code, Section 3.3; and, be it

7           MOVED, That all other agency budgets will come before the Budget and  
8 Appropriations Committee in June 2022; and, be it

9           MOVED, That all agencies present their progress in diversity, equity, and inclusion in  
10 public employment; departments will present their hiring and promotions of staff of color over  
11 the last year and what new programs are in place to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion;  
12 and, be it

13           MOVED, That in June, the Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall  
14 publish a list of all budget requests received and publish a proposed spending plan, upon  
15 which the public can comment prior to final deliberations of the Committee; and, be it

16           MOVED, That the Budget and Appropriations Committee shall hear public comment  
17 during the first Round of June Department presentations and shall hold at least one meeting  
18 in June dedicated to public comment.