From: <u>Eleana Binder</u>

To: <u>Crayton, Monique (BOS)</u>

Subject: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee - Public Comment - File #250503 Treatment on Demand

Hearing

Date: Friday, October 3, 2025 12:31:41 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources

Dear Supervisors,

I write on behalf of GLIDE to urge full implementation of the vision of Treatment on Demand. San Francisco can be a city where those seeking services for substance use or mental health treatment easily access culturally appropriate, affordable care. In the face of the overdose crisis and pressing mental health challenges, our city must embrace evidence-based public health solutions, including well-funded and staffed low-barrier treatment services for all.

Providers need more support and funding to meet the level of need so that people are able to access treatment the moment the want it. Coercive and punitive methods are not the way forward; leading with love and inclusion over a sustained period of time is essential so that people feel safe accessing services. We must proceed with a fully funded public health approach so that we can improve health outcomes, save lives, and increase community safety and cohesion.

Sincerely,

Fleana Binder

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Eleana Binder

Director of Public Policy and Legislative Research Center for Social Justice

GLIDE 330 Ellis Street, Room 511, San Francisco, CA 94102

OFFICE (415) 674-6162 | MOBILE (510) 926-2834 | PRONOUNS She/Her

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From: <u>Melissa Matheney</u>
To: <u>Crayton, Monique (BOS)</u>

Subject: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee - Public Comment - File #_____

Date: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 8:47:38 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

My name is Melissa Matheney and I am a member of the Treatment on Demand Coalition. I urge you to support the recommendations and asks of the Treatment on Demand Coalition, in order for the City to take the necessary steps to ensure that it continues moving towards its mandate of providing treatment to any resident of the city that wants it.

We can only fully meet the treatment needs of our community when we have the behavioral healthcare capacity as well as an approach that truly meets people where they are at, meaning not only adequate residential and medically-based treatment services but also the harm reduction-based entry points and services for folks to survive and improve their health. If our approach to drug policy does not take this approach, we risk going down a path that punishes and criminalizes folks for not taking abstinence-based services. The way towards fulfilling the Treatment on Demand Act is one rooted in evidence and compassion.

I have spent my entire life in the Bay Area. I have experienced incarceration, homelessness, chaotic substance use, and have seen many of my friends die due to the stigma that drug users face. This stigma keeps people in the shadows—it attempts to erase their very existence, rid them of connection, and reduce them to an unfortunate statistic. Although there is no way to quantify the many people who have been transformed through harm reduction programs—I have bared witness to the experience of many over the years—people loved back to loving themselves, people taking actions to make healthier decisions for their lives and the lives of their loved ones; the glint of hope in the eyes of a person accustomed to being rejected when they see people at the door welcome them with open arms. These programs and the people within them have saved my life again and again. I implore you to continue prioritizing funding for harm reduction services to ensure all San Franciscans have the opportunity to access supportive services wherever they are in their journey.

Sincerely, Melissa Matheney From: <u>Tia Paneet</u>

To: <u>Crayton, Monique (BOS)</u>

Subject: Subject: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee - Public Comment - File #____

Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 12:06:22 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

My name is Tia Paneet. I am a registered nurse/public health nurse for SFDPH. I recently became a certified addiction registered nurse alongside the Addiction Care Team Nurse Liaison program at SFGH. I have spent a majority of my 15 year career working with people who use drugs. I have taken care of people in shelters, streets, homes, parks, hotel rooms, SRO's, clinics, and the hospital. As a San Francisco public servant I have saved many lives. I can not make public comments due to my dedication to take care of patients.

I am a supporter of the Treatment on Demand Coalition. I urge you to support the recommendations and asks of the Treatment on Demand Coalition, in order for the City to take the necessary steps to ensure that it continues moving towards its mandate of providing treatment to any resident of the city that wants it.

We can only fully meet the treatment needs of our community when we have the behavioral healthcare capacity as well as an approach that truly meets people where they are at, meaning not only adequate residential and medically-based treatment services but also the harm reduction-based entry points and services for folks to survive and improve their health. This is also key to preventing disease and saving lives. If our approach to drug policy does not take this approach, we risk going down a path that punishes and criminalizes folks for not taking abstinence-based services. The way towards fulfilling the Treatment on Demand Act is one rooted in evidence and compassion.

The harm reduction model has been my success in connecting people to the appropriate level of care. We know that "one size does not fit all." Providing support they WANT and need should always be considered. Creating barriers will lead to more overdoses, substance related harms, increased homelessness, incarceration, and deaths.

Sincerely,

Tia Paneet, RN, PHN, CARN

From: <u>Calder Lorenz</u>

To: <u>Crayton, Monique (BOS)</u>

Subject: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee - Public Comment - Item #2

Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 7:53:49 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

My name is Calder Lorenz, I live and work in the Mission District, and I am the Director of Operations for The Gubbio Project. We are a Member of the Treatment on Demand Coalition. I urge you to support the recommendations and asks of the Treatment on Demand Coalition, in order for the City to take the necessary steps to ensure that it continues moving towards its mandate of providing treatment to any resident of the city that wants it.

We can only fully meet the treatment needs of our community when we have the behavioral healthcare capacity as well as an approach that truly meets people where they are at, meaning not only adequate residential and medically-based treatment services but also the harm reduction-based entry points and services for folks to survive and improve their health. If our approach to drug policy does not take this approach, we risk going down a path that punishes and criminalizes folks for not taking abstinence-based services. The way towards fulfilling the Treatment on Demand Act is one rooted in evidence and compassion.

The Gubbio Project's mission is to be in community with and to provide a sacred space and sanctuary for unhoused people in need of safe, compassionate respite during the day. Our program is housed at St. John's in the Mission and currently provides critical services to 300 individuals daily through a highly unique and successful model that combines social justice, peer support, and harm reduction. The Gubbio Project calls for a more just, compassionate and non-punitive approach by public agencies and policymakers.

As homelessness trends in our city continue to increase, it is significant that our approach leads with a services approach. We want people who use drugs to be in places of care not sitting in jails awaiting treatment. We need deep investments in easily accessible wellness spaces where people can go for respite, primary care checkups, wound care, and referrals to residential care and housing, all key components to this approach.

In Community, Calder

 From:
 Ocean Blue Coast

 To:
 Crayton, Monique (BOS)

 Cc:
 Itzel Romero; Shaya French

Subject: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee - Public Comment - File #250503

Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 9:24:01 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors Dorsey, Bilal, and Sauter and other members of the Board,

My name is Ocean Blue Coast, a Community Organizer with Senior and Disability Action and member of the Treatment on Demand Coalition and a resident of San Francisco.

I'm writing to urge the Committee to advance San Francisco's commitment to **Treatment on Demand (Proposition T)** and to respond to our ongoing overdose crisis through a **comprehensive public health approach** grounded in equity, evidence, and dignity.

To build on the progress outlined in the Department of Public Health's FY 2023–24 Treatment on Demand Report, the **Treatment on Demand Coalition recommends** the following priorities:

- Advance access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and remove barriers to methadone access.
- **Build a stronger continuum of care** through supportive housing integrated with mental health services.
- Optimize community-based health supports by extending hours, deploying roving and home-based care teams, and creating a longitudinal case management pilot for high-risk clients.
- Integrate harm reduction, treatment, and recovery systems to ensure person-centered, continuous care and seamless transitions.
- Sustain Housing First, while expanding recovery housing options and ensuring no one loses housing for engaging in treatment.
- **Honor lived expertise** through targeted workforce development and the hiring of peers with lived experience.

In addition, we urge the City to:

- **Incorporate overdose prevention technology** into permanent supportive housing and residential treatment settings.
- Commit to ending stigma and misinformation that undermine care and harm people who use drugs.
- Ensure access to comprehensive healthcare, including HIV and HCV testing and linkage to care.
- Normalize recurrence of use as part of substance use disorder and adapt models accordingly.
- Open an additional low-barrier drug sobering center in a neighborhood with unmet need.
- Work to use every available public health tool—including low-barrier, evidence-based, and science-backed interventions—to prevent overdose deaths and promote recovery.

These recommendations reflect a simple truth: every San Franciscan deserves a path to wellness that begins with dignity, not punishment. By investing in the full continuum—from harm reduction to abstinence—we can turn the tide on preventable deaths and bring our City closer to realizing true Treatment on Demand.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to a healthier, more compassionate San Francisco.

In community,
Ocean Blue Coast

Senior and Disability Action

Housing and Transit Community Organizer

415-424-0957

From: <u>Teresa Palmer</u>

To: Crayton, Monique (BOS); Mahmood, Bilal (BOS); Dorsey, Matt (BOS); Sauter, Danny (BOS)

Cc: <u>MahmoodStaff</u>; <u>SauterStaff</u>; <u>DorseyStaff (BOS)</u>

Subject: Treatment and Housing-not a revolving door of jail and death! Public Safety and Neighborhood Services

Committee - Public Comment - File #250503

Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 11:44:55 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors Dorsey, Bilal, and Sauter and other members of the Board,

My name is Teresa Palmer M.D., I a resident of San Francisco and a long time resident of District 5, a physician, and a public health advocate.

I'm writing to urge the Committee to advance San Francisco's commitment to the <u>EVIDENCE</u> <u>BASED</u> **Treatment on Demand (Proposition T)** and to respond to our ongoing overdose crisis through a **comprehensive public health approach** grounded in equity, evidence, and dignity.

To build on the progress outlined in the Department of Public Health's FY 2023–24 Treatment on Demand Report, the **Treatment on Demand Coalition recommends** the following priorities:

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- **Build a stronger continuum of care** through supportive housing integrated with mental health services.
- **Optimize community-based health supports** by extending hours, deploying roving and home-based care teams, and creating a longitudinal case management pilot for high-risk clients.
- Integrate harm reduction, treatment, and recovery systems to ensure person-centered, continuous care and seamless transitions.
- **Sustain Housing First**, while expanding recovery housing options and ensuring no one loses housing for engaging in treatment.
- **Honor lived expertise** through targeted workforce development and the hiring of peers with lived experience.

In addition, we urge the City to:

Incorporate overdose prevention technology into permanent supportive housing and residential treatment settings.

- **Commit to ending stigma and misinformation** that undermine care and harm people who use drugs.
- **Ensure access to comprehensive healthcare**, including HIV and HCV testing and linkage to care.
- Normalize recurrence of use as part of substance use disorder and adapt models accordingly.
- Open an additional low-barrier drug sobering center in a neighborhood with unmet need.
- **Work to use every available public health tool**—including low-barrier, evidence-based, and science-backed interventions—to prevent overdose deaths and promote recovery.

These recommendations reflect a simple truth: **every San Franciscan deserves a path to wellness that begins with dignity, not punishment**. By investing in the full continuum—from harm reduction to abstinence—we can turn the tide on preventable deaths and bring our City closer to realizing true Treatment on Demand.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to a healthier, more compassionate San Francisco.

In community, Teresa Palmer M.D.

District 5/1845 Hayes St. SF 94117/415260-8446