

July 20, 2024

Supervisor Shamann Walton
Supervisor Ahsha Safai
Room 250
City Hall
San Francisco, California

Re: Rules Committee Meeting July 22, 2024 Items 7 and 8
Mayoral Appointments to Planning Commission

Dear Supervisor Walton and Supervisor Safai:

In the past 10 years there have been 16 different Commissioners on the Planning Commission.

In alphabetical order, Commissioners Antonini, Borden, Chan, Diamond, Fong, Fung, Hillis, Koppel, C. Johnson, M. Johnson, Melgar, Richards, Ruiz, Sugaya, Tanner and Wu have all served and resigned.

That seems like an extraordinary turnover for a Commission where institutional memory is very important.

Currently San Francisco is in the midst of a major Rezoning in the neighborhoods. There has been much testimony from the Public over the past several years, with specific concerns about preserving housing and preserving the small businesses in our neighborhood commercial districts.

The housing crisis is often discussed in terms of 82,000 units being built per the RHNA goals. But actually 20,300 units of housing are needed for low income households and 8,400 units of housing are needed for moderate income households per the Planning Department because so much market-rate housing has already been approved. (see pg. 3)

Additionally much of the power to review projects has been stripped away from the Planning Commission by the legislators in Sacramento.

Specifically SB 423 which has been unfairly imposed only on San Francisco has reduced the input from the Commission and the Public.

The two nominees, Ms. Campbell and Mr. McGarry should each be asked:

What is their opinion on the Rezoning generally?

Are they familiar with the Financial Feasibility Studies on the Rezoning?

What worries do they have about negative outcomes or unintended consequences due to the Rezoning? Do they have any worries?

How they see their role in working with and hearing from the Public as the Rezoning proceeds?

How would they work to protect existing housing in the Priority Equity Geographies SUD?

How would they define the Planning Commission's role under the new regime imposed by Sacramento?

Do they have any ideas for how the Commission can assert authority over Planning decisions given restrictions imposed by Sacramento?

How would they define the Housing Crisis?

What is their view on the RHNA goals set by HCD?

Thank you.

Georgia Schuttish

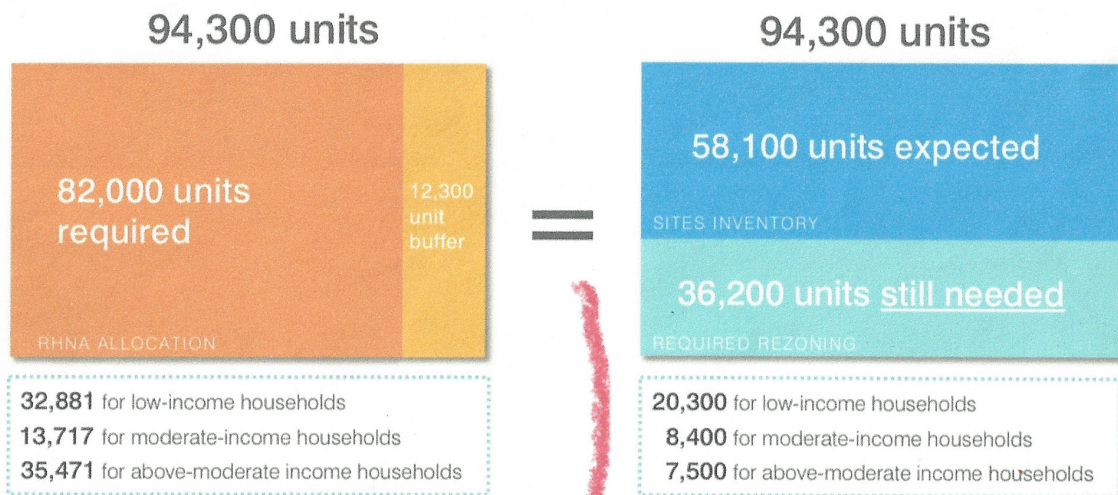
cc: President Aaron Peskin

How Much Housing Do We Need?

We are required by the State of California to plan for 82,000 more homes, including homes affordable to households with low-to moderate incomes, in San Francisco over the next 8 years.

San Francisco already has tens of thousands of units that are approved and expected to be built in this timeframe, so the adjusted amount that we need to plan for is 36,200 units.

SF's Housing Gap:



Graphic Source: San Francisco Planning Department

Photos: SFMTA, SF Planning, Cinderella Bakery