

File No. 210459

Committee Item No. 1
Board Item No. 16

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Comm: Public Safety & Neighborhood Services
Board of Supervisors Meeting:

Date: June 10, 2021
Date: June 22, 2021

Cmte Board

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resolution
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordinance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legislative Digest
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Budget and Legislative Analyst Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Commission Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Introduction Form
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOU
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Information Form
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Subcontract Budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contract/Agreement
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Form 126 – Ethics Commission
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Award Letter
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Application
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Correspondence

OTHER

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>CART Team Presentation – June 10, 2021</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Youth Commission Response – May 18, 2021</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Referrals FYI and YC – May 4, 2021</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Presidential Action Transfer Memo – May 25, 2021</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u> </u>

Prepared by: John Carroll
Prepared by: John Carroll
Prepared by: John Carroll

Date: June 4, 2021
Date: June 18, 2021
Date:

1 [Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team]

2
3 **Resolution supporting the establishment of a 24 hours a day / seven days a week**
4 **Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) in the City and County of San**
5 **Francisco for a safer and more effective response to homelessness.**

6
7 WHEREAS, The roots of our local homelessness crisis can be traced, in part, to federal
8 divestment from the funding of affordable housing, and local municipalities have been left to
9 manage the crisis without the tax base of the federal government; and

10 WHEREAS, In many municipalities, including San Francisco, local police departments
11 have acted by default as the front line response to homelessness; and

12 WHEREAS, Instead of creating and facilitating viable exits from homelessness, a
13 police based response creates a costly revolving door, circulating individuals experiencing
14 homelessness from corner to corner and in and out of the criminal justice system; and

15 WHEREAS, The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USIAC) issued
16 a report in August of 2015 outlining best practices for addressing homelessness entitled
17 "Ending Homelessness for People Living in Encampments: Advancing the Dialogue," which
18 includes guidelines on how to address homelessness and puts forward that linking unhoused
19 people to an appropriate level of housing is the only lasting solution; and

20 WHEREAS, The 2019 San Francisco Homeless Count and Survey found 8,035
21 unhoused individuals with 5,180 unsheltered and 2,855 accessing some form of shelter; and

22 WHEREAS, The number of individuals experiencing homelessness in San Francisco
23 far exceeds the number of available temporary shelter beds and transitional or permanent
24 housing; and

1 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco received more than \$44 million in
2 federal McKinney-Vento funding for projects addressing homelessness last year, and the
3 Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has created funding incentives for
4 communities to ensure that persons experiencing homelessness are not deemed criminals
5 because of their use of public space for survival; and

6 WHEREAS, The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals rejected an en banc petition by the City
7 of Boise in Martin v. Boise (formerly Bell v. Boise), upholding its September 2018 ruling that
8 homeless persons may not be punished for sleeping outside on public property in the absence
9 of adequate alternatives; and

10 WHEREAS, The number of police officers devoted to responding to homelessness has
11 increased from 24 in 2017 to over 80 in 2019, and on average, the San Francisco Police
12 Department (SFPD) responds to 179 homelessness-related incidents daily, or 1,253 per
13 week; and

14 WHEREAS, According to San Francisco's Department of Emergency Management
15 (DEM) data, SFPD was dispatched to 65,333 homelessness-related calls in 2019; and

16 WHEREAS, When calls are made to the city expressing concern for unhoused people,
17 SFPD remains the primary agency dispatched in response; and

18 WHEREAS, A report issued by the Budget and Legislative Analyst's Office (BLA) in
19 May 2016 found that police officers dispatched to incidents related to quality of life laws
20 produced limited results given the increase in homelessness on the streets; the BLA
21 subsequently recommended that the Board of Supervisors should implement a new strategy
22 to address these issues that shifts response to quality of life incidents away from the Police
23 Department to other City agencies including the Department of Homelessness and Supportive
24 Housing; and

1 WHEREAS, Currently, San Franciscans are advised to call the Police Non-Emergency
2 line for homelessness-related concerns such as encampments blocking the sidewalk or to
3 contact 311 for concerns about social distancing compliance in encampments; and

4 WHEREAS, In recent years San Francisco has relied more heavily on 311 to address
5 homeless encampments, which has led to a sharp increase in encampments being “removed”
6 or moved rather than the unhoused being supported with placements or services; and

7 WHEREAS, Alternative models such as Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets
8 or “CAHOOTS,” a mobile crisis intervention response and support team located in Eugene,
9 Oregon in which health workers, instead of police, act as first responders, already provide a
10 framework for an alternative to police response to homelessness; and

11 WHEREAS, In January 2020, the San Francisco Police Commission adopted a
12 Resolution urging the creation of a stakeholder group that would make recommendations to
13 the Board of Supervisors, Mayor’s Office, and appropriate commissions on how to transform
14 our response to homelessness from one led by law enforcement into one led by trained health
15 and human services workers based on exploring alternatives to a police response that exist in
16 the United States and other countries; and

17 WHEREAS, The Police Commission further urged that the stakeholder group would
18 identify funding sources, appropriate dispatch protocol, necessary system changes and
19 appropriate service model to move from a police response to a more effective health and
20 human services response to homelessness; and

21 WHEREAS, San Francisco is already exploring alternatives to police response to
22 psychiatric crisis in public spaces by establishing the Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT);
23 the program provides rapid, trauma-informed response to calls for service for people
24 experiencing psychiatric crisis in public spaces in order to reduce law enforcement encounters
25 and unnecessary emergency room use; the program has already successfully diverted more

1 than 79 calls for service from SFPD during its pilot period and demonstrated that utilizing a
2 service-based interdisciplinary team in response to street crisis is a powerful and effective
3 model; and

4 WHEREAS, The city's newly created SCRT by design and plan does not respond to
5 dispatch radio codes 910 (check on well being), 915 (homeless encampment), 916
6 (suspicious person in a vehicle), 917 (suspicious person), 919 (sit/lie ordinance violations),
7 and 920 (aggressive panhandling) leaving no current alternative other than a police response;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) proposal
10 provides a framework for CART to respond to C-Priority Calls involving unhoused people in
11 the City, on the street, or in temporary shelters including dispatch radio codes 800 (mentally
12 disturbed person) that SCRT does not have capacity to respond to, 801 (person attempting
13 suicide), 910 (check on well being), 915 (homeless encampment), 916 (suspicious person in a
14 vehicle), 917 (suspicious person), 919 (sit/Lie ordinance violations), and 920 (aggressive
15 panhandling) 24 hours a day 7 days a week ; and

16 WHEREAS, The CART model is made up of two components, the first being CART
17 Dispatch Response, which provides a specialized police-alternative to calls involving
18 unhoused people in crisis; CART Dispatch Response also establishes a new hotline for CART
19 and create a CART specific dispatch code; and

20 WHEREAS, The second component of CART, the Street Response, would serve,
21 engage, and problem solve with housed San Franciscans and businesses around
22 homelessness; and

23 WHEREAS, CART, being informed by a recent survey of homeless in San Francisco,
24 would hire Crisis Response Staff as well as Community Engagement Staff distinguishable
25 from law enforcement with backgrounds and lived experiences with homelessness, poverty,

1 crisis response, and the provision of services, and would seek to hire response staff that
2 match the racial and LGBTQ demographics of the unhoused clients being served; and

3 WHEREAS, CART would be funded and staffed 24 hours a day / 7 days a week; and

4 WHEREAS, The two-prong scope of the CART program will divert a significant number
5 of homelessness-related calls away from SFPD, while building capacity within San
6 Francisco's neighborhoods to de-escalate and compassionately resolve homelessness-
7 related conflicts, thereby reducing the total number of homelessness-related calls made to
8 dispatch, reducing police interactions with those experiencing homelessness, and improving
9 outcomes for those on the streets; and

10 WHEREAS, The CART response focuses on the well-being of the unhoused, an
11 approach that is foundational to the CAHOOTS model, and will affirm the civil rights of those
12 experiencing homelessness, as well as problem-solve issues faced by the housed and by
13 businesses; and

14 WHEREAS, It is recommended that CART be funded by a diversion of funds from
15 various carceral system budgets, which could be achieved by cost-savings associated with
16 implementing a non-police response; the BLA estimates that the City currently spends \$18.5
17 million on police responses to homelessness, the CART model would replace these services
18 at an estimated cost of \$6.8 million, which would provide the city with a projected \$11 million
19 cost savings; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors concurs with the Police Commission's
21 recommendation that the City must transform our response to street homelessness from one
22 led by law enforcement into one led by trained health and human services workers; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports the framework of the
24 Compassionate Alternative Response Team that dramatically expands the City's capacity to
25 respond to street homelessness through revising dispatch response; and, be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Mayor to include
2 additional funding for homeless outreach.

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**COMPASSIONATE
ALTERNATIVE
RESPONSE
TEAM**



“The program should be **staffed by homeless and formerly homeless people.**”

“I want to be treated like a
human being.”

“I think police **shouldn't** be dealing with homeless people.”

“I wonder why homeless people **cannot just rest outdoors without causing any trouble to anyone.** The new program staff should do nothing if the homeless person did nothing wrong.”

San Francisco's Police Response to Homelessness

- SFPD was dispatched to over 65,000 homeless related calls in 2019.
- Policing is a costly, ineffective, and punitive response to homelessness.
- Unhoused individuals have repeatedly fallen victim to police violence.

"You're being intimidated and interrogated."

SF resident, survey participant

"They don't respect us and make our situation worse often times."

SF resident,
survey participant



Violations of Civil and International Human Rights

- During the Obama administration, the displacement of homeless people who have nowhere to go was recognized as “cruel and unusual punishment.”
- Boise Case ruled that unhoused people cannot be displaced unless there is shelter for them.
- Local government applications for McKinney federal funding on homelessness were dinged when they didn’t address criminalization.
- The United Nations issued two reports condemning the US — and specifically San Francisco — for its cruelty and criminalization of unhoused people.
- Shifting our approach allows us to leverage State and Federal funds.

Building Consensus: Collaborative Learning & Adapting

95
Unhoused
Community
Members

Government:

Amy Sawyer, Mayor's Office
Robert Smut, DEM
Robin Chandler, DPH
Carolyn Goosen, PD
Supervisor Haney's Office, Honey
Mahogany and Courtney Macdonald
Supervisor Ronen's Office,
Santiago Lerma
Supervisor Preston, Jen Snyder, Avery Yu

Academics

Chris Herring, Harvard
Roma Guy, formerly SFSU
Dilara Yarborough, SFSU
Mike Stiel, International Human
Rights

More than Two
Dozen
Community
Organizations

Community
Organizers and
Activists

Inclusive and
Equitable
facilitation by
Patrick Brown,
Justice
Collaborative

911

CARTSF
Hotline



SCRT
Responds to psych
crisis **800** codes/
24AO
B-Priority Calls

Expanded Proposal
from Mayor: SWRT
Responds to
Wellness **910** codes

CART SF
Responds to ALL
homeless C-Priority
601, 916, 917,
919, **910**, overflow
800

CART offers compassionate,
government funded and
community led,
comprehensive homeless
people centered and effective
response that connects the
person to services

Traditionally, a
complaint-driven
response

A restorative-driven response

The Solution: A Compassionate Street Response

CART Employs a Two-prong Approach

CART would provide both *“Persons-in-crisis” response services* and *“Community-strengthening” services*:

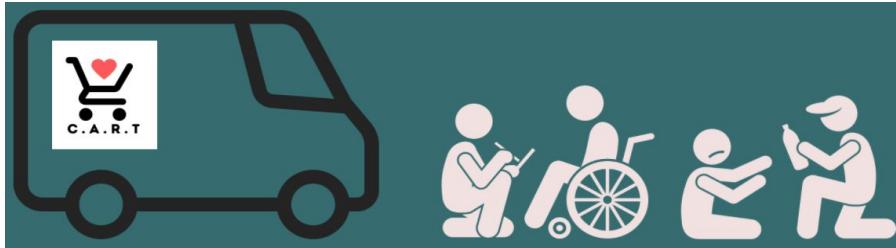
“Persons-in-crisis” response services:

- De-escalation intervention, interpersonal conflict resolution
- Street counseling and mental wellness referrals/resources
- First aid and street medicine services
- Substance use/addiction referrals/resources
- Acute/subacute transportation services
- Suicide prevention



“Community-strengthening” services:

- Identify, network, and support neighborhood-based “compassionate responders”
- Offer trainings to these “compassionate responders” to further educate them on the systemic causes of homelessness



CART - In Practice



Scenario 1 - Conflict resolution between two unhoused San Franciscans



- Trisha is unhoused and has been sleeping in a tent on the streets for months now
- One night she gets into a fight with another unhoused person
- The situation is getting increasingly tense
- Trisha decides to call the new CART hotline for help
- CART arrives and takes the time to provide conflict resolution and a compromise is reached

Scenario 2

Conflict resolution between a housed and an unhoused San Franciscan



- Jacqueline lives with her kids in a house in the Mission
- One morning, she finds a person sleeping in her doorway
- Not knowing how to approach the person, she calls 911
- The call taker identifies the situation as involving an unhoused individual and therefore re-routes the call to CART
- CART arrives and negotiates with Martín – the person in the doorway



Scenario 3

CART's community resilience and education services



- Eric lives in his house in Cole Valley
- He finds a person on the other side of the street accruing some trash, another time he also discovers what appears to be feces
- Eric calls CART directly to complain about the trash and the feces
- The CART call taker explains that Eric should call 311 to ask for trash pick up and bio cleaning of feces
- CART gives Eric some tips and action items, such as offering trash bags and calling the district supervisor to demand sanitation resources



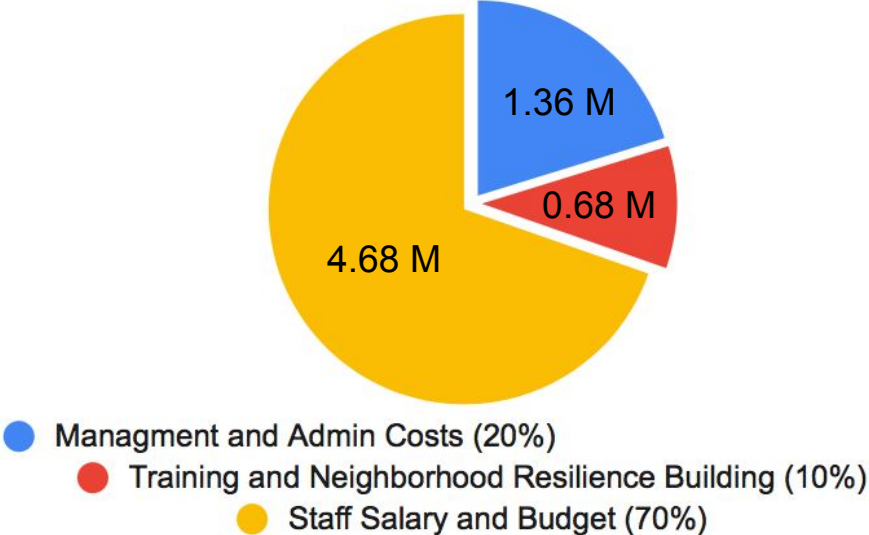
Q&A

Code	Does one of the Mayor's Proposed Program Respond instead of Police?	Does CART Respond instead of police?	Notes Calls going into 911 related to homelessness would be rerouted to CART. The initial phase of the program focus on responding only to C-priority calls involving unhoused people in the City.
800 Psych crisis (police) 85AO (medical)	Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT)	Yes (but only overflow)	SCRT is three-member team under paramedics/fire responding to B level psych crisis calls city wide. CART would handle overflow C level 800 calls that SCRT does not take.
910 - well being check	Street Wellness Response Team (SWRT)	Yes	SWRT is a two-member team out of Fire Department pairing with HOT expansion. CART is proposing a more comprehensive approach that is community centered as opposed to institutional. Well being checks are a key part of the CART response.
801 - person attempting suicide	No	Yes	CART is proposing a two-member peer based team which offers a more comprehensive approach that is a community centered approach as opposed to institutional.response. CART is specifically responding to calls that would otherwise lead to criminalization.
919 - sit/lie	No	Yes	
920 - aggressive panhandling	No	Yes	
915 - homeless encampment, currently routed to 311	No	Yes	
601 - trespassing - unauthorized person occupying others property	No	Yes	
916 - suspicious person in car	No	Yes	
917 - suspicious person	No	Yes	

Overdose	SORT - Street Overdose Response Team - <i>exception: not currently a police response</i>	No	SORT would continue the existing paramedic response, but add a Clinical team members from the Department of Public Health (DPH) to do follow up care. This includes a mix of peer specialists, medical specialists such as nurses; and behavioral health specialists such as counselors and psychiatrists.
Homeless Outreach Team	No	No	HOT has a case management caseload working on-going with folks on streets, and also does outreach to distribute food and resources when available. They do not respond to members of the public calls for assistance, but are at the mercy of political winds in terms of where they focus resources. Under CART they would focus entirely on case management and follow up care.

Extra information on SORT and HOT

CART Budget Breakdown



Demand of Calls	
Calls per Year	65,000
Calls per Week	1,250

Staff Capacity	
Staff Salary and Benefits	\$4,680,000
Staff Members at \$90,000 per Year	52
Shifts per Week	130
Time per Call	50 Minutes

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kiely Hosmon, Director
Youth Commission

FROM: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

Victor Young

DATE: May 13, 2021

SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors has received the following proposed legislation which is being referred to the Youth Commission as per Charter, Section 4.124 for comment and recommendation. The Commission may provide any response it deems appropriate within 12 days from the date of this referral.

File No. 210459

Resolution supporting the establishment of a 24 hours a day / seven days a week Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) in the City and County of San Francisco for a safer and more effective response to homelessness.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to **Victor Young, Assistant Clerk, Rules Committee.**

RESPONSE FROM YOUTH COMMISSION Date: May 17, 2021

☐ **No Comment**

☒ **Recommendation Attached**

Nora Hyatt

Chairperson, Youth Commission

Youth Commission
City Hall ~ Room 345
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4532



(415) 554-6446
(415) 554-6140 FAX
www.sfgov.org/youth_commission

YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Victor Young, Assistant Clerk, Rules Committee
FROM: Youth Commission
DATE: Tuesday, May 18, 2021
RE: Referral response to BOS File No. 210459 - [Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team]

At our **Monday, May 17, 2021, meeting**, the Youth Commission voted to support the following motion:

To unanimously support BOS File No. 210459 - [Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team]

The Youth Commissioners voted to include the attached motion as a response.

Youth Commissioners thank the Board of Supervisors for their attention to this issue. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (415) 554-6446, or your Youth Commissioner.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nora Hylton".

Nora Hylton, Chair
Adopted on May 17, 2021
2020-2021 San Francisco Youth Commission

[Youth Commission Response to Referral of BOS File No. 210459 - Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team]

Motion approving support for Board of Supervisors File No. 210459, a resolution supporting the establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team.

WHEREAS, On April, 19, 2021, the Youth Commission received a community presentation on the Compassionate Alternative Response Team ("CART") proposal to provide a community-led and trauma-informed non-police response to homelessness; and

WHEREAS, At the same meeting, the Youth Commission adopted a motion to support the CART framework and proposal; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors has referred BOS File No. 210459, a resolution supporting the establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team, to the Youth Commission for comment and recommendation; now, therefore, be it

MOVED, That the Youth Commission supports BOS File No. 210459, in line with the Youth Commission's prior motion of support for the CART framework and proposal.



Nora Hylton, Chair
Adopted on May 17, 2021
2020-2021 San Francisco Youth Commission



YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor London Breed
Honorable Members, Board of Supervisors

CC: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director, Board of Supervisors
Rebecca Peacock, Mayor's Government Affairs Team support
Sophia Kittler, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors
Jenny Lam, Mayor's Education Advisor
Legislative Aides, Board of Supervisors
Maria Su, Executive Director, Department of Children Youth and Their Families
Tilly Chang, Executive Director, Transportation Authority
Phil Ginsburg, General Manager, Recreation and Park Department
Jeffrey Tumlin, Director of Transportation, SF Municipal Transportation Authority
Chief William Scott, SF Police Department

FROM: 2020-2021 Youth Commission

DATE: Tuesday, May 18, 2021

RE: Six Youth Commission Actions from May 17, 2021: unanimous support for BOS File No. 210459 [Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team]; unanimous support for BOS File No. 210405 [Hearing - Food Insecurity and Hunger in San Francisco]; unanimous support for Resolution No. 2021-AL-11 [2550 Irving - Affordable Housing]; support for Resolution No. 2021-AL-12 [John F. Kennedy Drive & Great Highway Closures Resolution]; unanimous support for Resolution No. 2021-AL-13 [Seamless Transit Principles]; unanimous support for Resolution No. 2021-AL-14 [Student Pedestrian Safety During School Reopening - Slow Streets]

At its virtual meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021, the Youth Commission took the following actions:

1. Youth Commissioners unanimously voted to support BOS File No. 210459 [Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team]. A record of their response can be viewed in referral response no. 2021-RBM-17 ([PDF](#)) (attached).
2. Youth Commissioners voted to support BOS File No. 210405 [Hearing - Food Insecurity and Hunger in San Francisco]. A record of their response, with recommendations, can be viewed in referral response no. 2021-RBM-18 ([PDF](#)) (attached).

The Youth Commissioners voted to include the following questions and recommendations:



Questions:

1. What is the city doing to fund programs that are community funded, and how does the city plan to help these grass roots/mutual aid efforts?
2. How is DCYF integrating food programs into its service provider's program?
3. What is going to happen for the families that were relying on the free food programs that were offered during the pandemic?
4. In what ways can food insecurity be measured in SF?
5. What is being done financially and how is the city creating relationships with community?
6. What are possible collaborations for SFUSD to get involved for food insecurity and for healthier meals at public schools and meals that are culturally relevant to students of color?
7. How can we make sure that community folks who are doing the work right now are being acknowledged and paid?
8. How do City and County departments expand on how they talk about food insecurity? It is not binary. It doesn't always mean that someone doesn't have food. How do we talk about having these conversations with community members?

Recommendations:

- A compensated youth seat to the food security task force and be available to undocumented youth
3. Youth Commissioners unanimously voted to support Resolution No. 2021-AL-11 [2550 Irving - Affordable Housing] ([PDF](#)) (attached).
 4. Youth Commissioners voted to support Resolution No. 2021-AL-12 [John F. Kennedy Drive & Great Highway Closures Resolution] ([PDF](#)) (attached). This resolution references BOS File No. 191158.
 5. Youth Commissioners unanimously voted to support Resolution No. 2021-AL-13 [Seamless Transit Principles] ([PDF](#)) (attached).
 6. Youth Commissioners unanimously voted to support Resolution No. 2021-AL-14 [Student Pedestrian Safety During School Reopening - Slow Streets] ([PDF](#)) (attached).

Please do not hesitate to contact Youth Commissioners or Youth Commission staff (415) 554-6446 with any questions. Thank you.

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Shireen McSpadden, Director, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing

FROM: Victor Young, Assistant Clerk *Victor Young*

DATE: May 4, 2021

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee received the following hearing request and request to report:

File No. 210459

Resolution supporting the establishment of a 24 hours a day / seven days a week Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) in the City and County of San Francisco for a safer and more effective response to homelessness.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: victor.young@sfgov.org.

c. Dylan Schneider, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing
Emily Cohen, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Kiely Hosmon, Director
Youth Commission

FROM: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

Victor Young

DATE: May 13, 2021

SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors has received the following proposed legislation which is being referred to the Youth Commission as per Charter, Section 4.124 for comment and recommendation. The Commission may provide any response it deems appropriate within 12 days from the date of this referral.

File No. 210459

Resolution supporting the establishment of a 24 hours a day / seven days a week Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) in the City and County of San Francisco for a safer and more effective response to homelessness.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to **Victor Young, Assistant Clerk, Rules Committee.**

RESPONSE FROM YOUTH COMMISSION Date: _____

_____ **No Comment**

_____ **Recommendation Attached**

Chairperson, Youth Commission

President, District 10
BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-6516
Fax No. 554-7674
TDD/TTY No. 544-6546

Shamann Walton

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION

Date: 5/25/2021

To: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Madam Clerk,
Pursuant to Board Rules, I am hereby:

☐ Waiving 30-Day Rule (Board Rule No. 3.23)

File No.

(Primary Sponsor)

Title.

☒ Transferring (Board Rule No 3.3)

File No.

210459

Haney

(Primary Sponsor)

Title. Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team

From: Rules

Committee

To: Public Safety & Neighborhood Services

Committee

☐ Assigning Temporary Committee Appointment (Board Rule No. 3.1)

Supervisor:

Replacing Supervisor:

For:

(Date)

(Committee)

Meeting

Start Time:

End Time:

Temporary Assignment: ☐ Partial ☐ Full Meeting


Shamann Walton, President
Board of Supervisors

From: [Stella K](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment Re: CART Resolution at Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, June 10th
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 12:43:54 PM

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

Hello to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee!

My name is Stella Kunkat and I live in SoMA and work with Home Rise in the Tenderloin.

I am writing to provide public comment re: item #1 [Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team].

I urge the Committee today to support CART now, in order for CART to get funding and to get implemented as soon as possible!

I have myself conducted many of the interviews with unhoused folks which informed the CART proposal. So many of these people shared their traumatic experiences with police and also expressed the need for feeling safe and how a non-police, community-based response program would finally be a program that they could turn to in situations of crisis - one that would make them feel safe and dignified.

With CART there would finally be a response team out there that meets unhoused people with care and support instead of criminalization.

CART would work very well in collaboration and combination with the current SCRT as CART would take on overflow calls. SCRT in and of itself is very necessary and is doing important work, but it is not enough to meet the needs of unhoused folks on the street - as not all of the situations of crisis involve an unhoused

CART can be funded by reworking the proposed funding for the newly proposed Street Wellness Response Team or by reducing police and sheriff funding. While

Since the proposed Street Wellness Team is not community-based but an institutional response and since it will not be run by peers with lived experience the risk of criminalization, harassment and abuse remains.

With this I urge the Board to fund and implement CART. We cannot continue like this. We cannot disregard the lives and wellbeing of our unhoused neighbors on our streets any longer.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
Stella Kunkat

--

Stella Kunkat
PP&CO at Home Rise
she/her/hers
stellak@cohshf.org
718-964-3839

From: [Shiba Bandeeba](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: IN FULL SUPPORT OF CART RESOLUTION
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 12:11:17 PM

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Hello,

My name is Shiba Bandeeba. I'm a San Francisco resident in District 11, a Public Policy Manager at HomeRise (formerly Community Housing Partnership). and a coalition member of CART.

I want to speak from the perspective of a Black woman, an immigrant and long-term local San Franciscan, who has had family and friends of color, who have been directly and disproportionately impacted by Police/ Sheriff officers in response to non-criminal activity within our neighborhoods.

We (Black and Brown) community members advocate for the full funding, support, and resolution passage of the CART. CART is a compassionate alternative response team to homelessness (predominately and historically Black and Brown members). We understand the that the reallocation of the SFPD budget is very much needed to support and supplementary funding for CART.

In January 2020, the SFPD unanimously passed a resolution to move away from a police response to homelessness with support from Chief Scott and asked for a stakeholder's group to design that alternative. One year later, that alternative has been developed and it is called CART.

The following points give a bold, broad, and more detailed understanding for why CART should be supported by local legislatures such as the Board of Supervisors and Mayor's office:

1. CART would allow the city to reduce the carceral footprint by redirecting police resources away from homelessness and decreasing the practice of criminalizing homelessness. This item can be funded by reworking proposed funding for the proposed new Street Wellness Team or by reducing police and sheriff funding.
2. CART is a **practical realistic solution** to moving away from police response. This would center unhoused community members by connecting them to needed resources while providing a direct line for housed and unhoused San Franciscans to call for help.
3. CART would provide a **future of care not criminalization for unhoused residents of San Francisco**.

4. Funding CART is in alignment with the Mayor's effort to move away from a police response to social concerns and non criminal activity.
5. We should halt the practice of relying on police to respond to things that they should not respond to and are not trained to respond to. Currently SFPD responds to over 65,000 calls directly related to housing status and homelessness each year. The result is usually that the person has already moved on, or after police are there, move less than a block away.
6. A police response exacerbates homelessness by wasting resources, displacing unhoused community members away from their support system and issuing citations which destroy individuals' credit when those tickets go unpaid.
7. This would create well paid jobs and extensive training for black and brown community members, the result of whose work would be efficient, effective, and humane.
8. This proposal reduces the risk of tragic and violent outcomes for both unhoused community members and police officers.
9. This proposal will improve outcomes for folks on the streets because a CART response would focus on moving people off the streets permanently and addressing the immediate needs of all those involved.

****If you would like more information, feel free to reach out and set up a meeting with me or our coalition.**

In solidarity, we have power!

Shiba Bandeeba, M.A, M.Ed (she/her) | Public Policy Manager

HomeRise (Formerly Community Housing Partnership)

P: 818.987.9121

E: sbandeeba@chp-sf.org

www.HomeRise.org

20 Jones Street, Suite 200

San Francisco, CA 94102

From: [Pamela Tau](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); GordonMar@sfgov.org; [ChanStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: CART
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 11:29:53 AM

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

My name is Pamela Tau Lee, I live in District 1 and I am a retired 73 year old Asian senior with a 20 year career in public health. I am reaching out to ask for your support and fully fund CART, (Compassionate Alternative Response Team).

Last May I was assaulted in our local coffee shop. It was an anti-Asian hate incident and was written up in our local Richmond District newspaper. I felt something needed to be done to hold him accountable for his actions, but I was not going to call the police.

For close to a year I rarely ventured out, relying on friends and neighbors to buy groceries. Finally, I reached out to my local neighborhood group, Richmond District Rising, and shared my story; by the end of the day, I received back 21 replies from neighbors offering to be a walking buddy! I am now able to walk, feel safe. I am now working with the Richmond Senior Center, as these volunteers also wish to avail themselves to other seniors in the district. What does this have to do with CART?

I see CART as a venue that meets a basic human need; being treated with compassion and being viewed as a full human being. This trumps knee-jerk judgmental reactions that come from a place of suspicion, disdain and fear of others and can complement the work of City staff. This is not an either/or but for me a “both,” details can be worked out.

As a retired public health person, I know that it is hard to wrap one’s health around the savings from “prevention” and a “precautionary” approach to issues such as violence prevention, but I urge you to fully fund this program as the \$6.83 million allocated to this can “pay for itself.” I believe, when there is the political will, there can be a way.

Please fully fund CART.

Yours truly,
Pamela Tau Lee
16th Ave
<ptlee14@gmail.com>

From: [Rafi Bortnick](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Item 2: Support CART
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 11:28:29 AM

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

Hi John,

I wanted to share my public comment supporting CART:

Good Afternoon. My name is Rafi. I live in Lower Haight.

I wanted to speak in support of CART and specifically reallocating 4.8 million dollars in the SFPD budget to fund the program. I believe there are a lot of good reasons to support CART but I want to focus my comments on resource management.

In this discussion, I heard concern about government efficiency so I wanted to speak about the status quo. Yesterday outside my apartment 5 police cars and 2 fire trucks showed up to respond to 1 person who was quietly sitting on the sidewalk. I don't know all the details of the situation, but I can't imagine this response was a good use of public resources, nor was it the best way to help this individual. This type of response seems to be a regular occurrence in our city.

CART is a practical solution to moving away from police responses, centering care on unhoused community members. A police response exacerbates homelessness by wasting resources, displacing unhoused community members away from their support system and issuing citations which destroy individuals' credit when those tickets go unpaid.

I believe this proposal will improve outcomes for folks on the streets and hope you all will support it.

Thank you for your time.

Thanks!

- Rafi

From: [Anna Andresian](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment re: Compassionate Alternative Response Team
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 11:18:18 AM

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

My name is Anna, and I'm a resident of Hayes Valley. San Francisco in a state of emergency, and the emergency is that homelessness exist in the first place; that there are such disparities in people's access to resources, care, and safety. One aspect of this emergency is that unhoused people are regarded as the dangerous "other," and armed police responses are part of that dynamic. CART would be an important step toward shaping a new dynamic. It would be a step that focuses on prioritizing the humanity and the safety and the needs of people caught up in the crises of this emergency ... this emergency of wealth inequality, care inequality, safety inequality, homelessness. Please fund the CART program. Please invest in new tools for responding to the emergency of homelessness. As with pretty much every endeavor, there will be a lot to figure out along the way, but we have to get this thing started.

From: [John Stiefel](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment to support CART & 24-Hour Public Bathroom Access
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 11:13:45 AM

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

Dear John Carroll and San Francisco's Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

Good morning! My name is John Stiefel. I am a SF resident in the Mission District, as well as a Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (WASH) Consultant, a member of the San Francisco Outer Circle (a community-based response to our unhoused neighbors), and a member of the Human Rights Work Group at the Coalition on Homelessness.

I am writing today to ask San Francisco's Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee to SUPPORT funding of the Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART) and 24-hr Public Bathroom Access.

Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART)

I am asking for you to support prioritizing the funding of the Compassionate Alternative Response Team. There needs to be a reallocation in the SFPD budget, and 4.8 million dollars of the reduction should go to funding CART - in addition to the 2 million dollars that are already on reserve for an alternative response to policing.

In January, 2020, the SFPD unanimously passed a resolution to move away from a police response to homelessness with support from Chief Scott and asked for a stakeholders group to design that alternative. One year later, that alternative has been developed and it is called CART. We should halt the practice of relying on police to respond to things that they should not respond to, and are not trained to respond to. Currently SFPD responds to over 65,000 calls directly related to housing status and homelessness each year. The result is usually that the person has already moved on, or after police are there, move less than a block away.

I have spoken with a number of police officers as they have responded to my unhoused neighbors. They have told me that this shouldn't be their job. They have told me that they are on the scene because a housed neighbor wouldn't directly speak to their unhoused neighbor, so they outsource it to the city, which can't do anything effective about the situation. The CART program is specifically designed to address this. CART will mediate conversations and conflict between housed and unhoused neighbors. CART will build Community Resilience to mitigate these conflicts, so that eventually many of the current calls will not have to be sent to the city in the first place.

24-hr Public Bathroom Access

The thousands of San Franciscans who are forced to sleep on the streets every day are subject to many human rights abuses, which include a severe lack of access to water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities. Specifically, this city has an extreme deficit in accessible bathrooms, an internationally-recognized human right that allows people the ability to maintain personal

hygiene and dignity. Both the United Nations Human Rights Council and California State law acknowledge that access to safe drinking water and sanitation are a human right. This includes adequate access to bathrooms.

A community free of "open defecation" is one of the lowest-level indicators used by the international community to measure its progress toward the goal of universal access to sanitation facilities. The city of San Francisco has not only failed to invest in its sanitation system sufficiently to hit this basic target, it has repeatedly blamed unhoused people for its own failure to provide access to sanitation facilities. The city's failure to provide adequate sanitation has put unhoused community members at greater risk of many health hazards. Failure to apply the International Minimum Standards within the US has led to the further marginalization of historically marginalized communities.

I'm asking for this committee to approve the extension and expansion of the 24-hour Pit Stop Program. This is a basic human right that cannot continue to be neglected. This program is just a start, and we need to push for even bigger changes until all San Franciscans have adequate access to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene facilities.

Thank you!

Warm regards,

John

John Stiefel

Email: stiefel.john@gmail.com

Mobile: +1-206-550-9495

San Francisco Outer Circle

Web: www.sfoutercircle.org

Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (WASH) Consultant

LinkedIn: [John M. Stiefel](#)

From: [Eric Rodenbeck](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment on 24-Hour Public Bathroom Access
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 10:12:14 AM

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

I'm writing to support the expansion of San Francisco's Pit Stop Program in the strongest possible way. They are the best thing that San Francisco has done in the public realm in years. 24 hour stewards of our public realm are the answer to so many of our overlapping crises. They are a net saver of money in the City, not an expense. The Tenderloin (where I live with my family) wants more of them!

--

Eric Rodenbeck
CEO & Creative Director, Stamen Design
415.558.1610
<http://stamen.com/>
<http://hi.stamen.com/>

We won the [National Design Award](#)!

"One can easily imagine Sisyphus happy" - Kim Stanley Robinson

From: [Christine Wei](#)
To: [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on Items #1, #2, and #4 for 6/10 Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee meeting
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 10:14:57 PM

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

Dear Supervisors Mar, Stefani, and Haney,

I'm a resident of District 3 and a member of the No New SF Jail Coalition as well as Showing Up for Racial Justice SF (SURJ SF). I'm writing to express my support for the Compassionate Alternative Response Team and the expansion of 24-hour public bathroom access; and to urge an investment in long-term, community-centered solutions to fight violence targeting Asian Americans.

Support for Item #1 -- re: Compassionate Alternative Response Team

Removing police response from addressing homelessness is a matter of public safety and racial justice that everyone supports, from the community to the mayor to SFPD itself. CART is a practical and effective program that would connect people to services, focus on moving them off the streets permanently, and create infrastructure for addressing calls from both housed and unhoused San Franciscans in order to meet everyone's needs -- not just shuffle people around or exacerbate problems by criminalizing poverty.

It's important that we fully fund the program and set it up for success, and I support the community's ask to reallocate \$4.8 million from the SFPD budget for CART (in addition to giving it the \$2 million that are already on reserve for an alternative response to policing).

Priorities for item #2 -- re: 24-Hour Public Bathroom Access

I was glad to see the addition of extra Pit Stop facilities last year in response to COVID, and I support the expansion of permanent 24-hour public bathroom access throughout the city. The past year has shown us how important resources for good hygiene are to public health, and bathroom access helps keep city streets cleaner too. Rather than pour tons of money into sanitation, why not provide facilities that prevent the need for clean-up in the first place?

While 24-hour bathroom access will clearly improve the health and safety of unhoused San Franciscans, it also has a big impact on housed San Franciscans -- whether gig workers making deliveries all day or families enjoying a weekend out and about. As the city continues to open up, these facilities will make this place more accessible to visitors and tourists, too.

Priorities for item #4 -- Re: Violence Targeting Asian American Seniors

As an Asian American who lives right next to Chinatown, I share the concerns and fears of my API brothers, sisters, and elders. Like others, I want all of us to be able to live our lives, go to work and school, run errands, and enjoy being in the city free from racism. In addressing the increasing attacks on Asian Americans, particularly Asian American seniors, I strongly support the city providing financial assistance and mental health services for survivors and families.

Just as importantly, we must prioritize long-term and community-centered solutions that address inequities and prevention, because policing does not prevent violence and incarceration is not an effective tool for change -- both often exacerbate tensions and disparities. What we need instead are resources for anti-racism education and other efforts that fight stereotypes, scapegoating, and othering *before* things escalate to physical violence. This and transformative justice models are what will actually change perspectives and actions for a truly safe community.

Thank you,
Christine Wei

--

Christine Wei

Pronouns: she/her ([Why this matters](#))

From: [Jennifer Waggoner](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment: June 10 Public Safety & Neighborhood Svc Committee
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 4:10:44 PM

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

Dear Mr. Carroll,

I'd like to submit public comment for tomorrow's meeting.

I live and work in San Francisco, based in the D8 Castro Neighborhood. **My comment is in support of Agenda Item 1 (210459) Supporting the Establishment of a Compassionate Alternative Response Team (CART).**

By 2016, the San Francisco Police Department faced significant criticism over a series of high-profile deaths and injuries caused by police, misconduct scandals, & negative assessments by a Civil Grand Jury investigation and a Blue Ribbon Panel (among others). Then-Supervisors London Breed and Malia Cohen, with Mayor Ed Lee, and SFPD asked the U.S. Department of Justice for a voluntary, top-to-bottom review of the San Francisco Police Department's practices.

In October 2016, the U.S. DOJ's COPS office (for "Community Oriented Policing Services") released the most comprehensive independent assessment of the San Francisco Police Department in city history. The [432-page report](#) identified five areas of improvement in line with the principles of President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century policing. In total, the U.S. DOJ made 94 findings and 272 recommendations for improvement.

In 2017 then-U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions ended the U.S. DOJ's participation in collaborative reform partnerships nation wide. The San Francisco Police Department was the only major city police department to continue reforms as a voluntary state-level collaboration. **Since 2018**, SFPD has worked in partnership with the California Department of Justice and consultant Hillard Heintze, to implement the 272 recommendations.

An essential piece of the CRIs was to establish **Working Groups** with a wide range of stakeholders in the 5 areas of reform. The League of Women Voters participated in several of these working groups. Early on, the fundamental idea of CART was raised in those Working Groups. We need the community, not police alone, defining what safety is. Government works for us. For all of us. The police need to be transparent & accountable. Public Safety needs to be a collaborative effort. This is the most basic idea behind reform.

In January 2019, the San Francisco Police Commission passed a **resolution that called for an end to police response to homelessness**. It called for the Board of

Supervisors to create a stakeholders' group to develop an alternative. Because 37% of San Francisco's homeless population are black (compared to just 5% of the city's total population), removing police from the city's response to homelessness is also a **racial justice issue**.

CART was born from the city's community policing commitment.

Meetings started Feb 2020 under the leadership of Police Commissioner John Hamasaki to design an inclusive community process. Delayed for a few months when the pandemic hit, the formal process started in July 2020. A detailed plan was generated (which of course is open to negotiation as part of the implementation process): <https://www.cartsf.org/our-plan#h.dlldrta9glp>

YES! There are other slowly growing pilot programs run by government for a non-police (but still government) response to non-criminal calls for service. CART is the only one which is by and for the community. **We need *more* responders & we need this *very different* design.**

Given all the work that has gone into this, shouldn't CART be a shining example of San Francisco's community policing approach? Why would you refuse to fund the program you asked San Franciscans to create? And you'd be completely missing the point if you instead made this a government program, when a grassroots community program was how it was designed.

-JDub

Jennifer "JDub" Waggoner ([she/her or they/them](#))
jdublww@gmail.com

From: [Joshua Redel](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: PSNSCM Meeting Comment in Advance
Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 2:32:45 PM

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

Hello Mr. Carroll,

My name is Joshua Redel, I am a San Francisco Resident in Bernal Heights, and I would like to provide written comment in advance of the June 10 [Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee Meeting](#) starting at 10am. Here is what I'd like to say:

- I've called 311 many times in the hopes of getting help for unhoused people from the Homeless Outreach Team. Usually, the team's guidelines around not approaching people using drugs prevented them from taking action. Further, it was extremely time consuming to get a hold of the HOT in the first place, requiring multiple transfers and arcane knowledge of the government phone systems. Often I would just give up and call 911.
- [CART](#) is the clear, logical, community-endorsed alternative to street policing. This item can be funded by reworking proposed funding for the proposed new Street Wellness Team or by reducing police and sheriff funding. CART would give unhoused people needed resources while providing a direct line for housed and unhoused San Franciscans to call for help.
- There needs to be a reallocation in the SFPD budget, and 4.8 million dollars of the reduction should go to funding CART - in addition to the 2 million dollars that are already on reserve for an alternative response to policing.

Thanks,
Joshua Redel

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- ☒ 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- ☐ 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- ☐ 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- ☐ 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- ☐ 5. City Attorney Request.
- ☐ 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- ☐ 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- ☐ 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- ☐ 9. Reactivate File No.
- ☐ 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- ☐ Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission ☐ Ethics Commission
- ☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

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