

Reentry Council

City & County of San Francisco

APPROVED MINUTES Thursday, January 27, 2022 10am- 12pm

Members Present:

Mano Raju (Chair) (SF Public Defenders office), Chief Cristel Tullock (SFAPD), Tara Anderson for Chesa Boudin(DA), Sheriff Paul Miyamoto (SFSD), Angelica Almeida (DPH), Anthony Castellano (US Probation), Allyson West for (Superior Court), Onyanga Dean (State Parole, CDCR), Chief Katy Miller (Juvenile Probation), David McCahon for Susie Smith (HSA), Jasmine Dawson (DCYF), Freda Glenn for Director Karen Roye (CSS), Ken Nim for Tajuana Gray (OEWD), Antonio Napoleon (Mayoral Appointee), Allen Harven (Mayoral Appointee), Sheenia Branner (Mayoral Appointee), Michael Brown (BOS Appointee), Jabari Jackson (BOS Appointee), Commander Rachel Morran (SFPD).

Members Absent:

James Caldwell (for Mayor Breed), Representative for (HSH), Yolanda Morissette (BOS Appointee), Oscar Salinas (BOS Appointee).

Vacancies:

Representative from the Board of Supervisors.

1. Call to Order/Role Call.

Mano Raju, representing the SF Public Defenders Office, called the meeting to order. He thanked Council members and members of the interested public for attending the meeting. He also thanked Victoria for preparing the agenda. He acknowledged the other five Co-Chairs:

- Paul Miyamoto, Sheriff.
- Chesa Boudin, District Attorney.
- James Caldwell, representing Mayor London Breed's Office
- Cristel Tullock, Chief of Adult Probation
- Jabari Jackson, representing the Justice Involved members

Victoria Westbrook completed Reentry Council Roll Call.

2. Welcoming Chief Tullock – the new Chief of Adult Probation (discussion only)

Public Defender Raju introduced the new Chief of Adult Probation, Cristel Tullock

Chief Tullock said that she was looking forward to serving as the first African American Chief of Adult Probation.

Public Defender Raju asked for any comments from Council Members.

Sheenia Branner, Freda Glenn, Jabari Jackson, Ken Nim, Angelica Almeida, Tara Anderson, Allyson West, Chief Miller, Tony Castellano, and Jasmine Dawson welcomed and congratulated Chief Tullock on her new appointment

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3. Welcome new Mayoral Appointees, Antonio Napoleon and Allen Harven

Public Defender Raju introduced the new Mayoral Appointed council members, Antonio Napoleon and Allen Harven. Both Antonio and Allen made a few remarks introducing themselves.

Public Defender Raju asked for any comments from Council Members.

Freda Glenn welcomed new council members. Sheriff Miyamoto congratulated new members. Public Defender Raju welcomed the new members.

4. Findings to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings Under California Government Code Section 54953(e). (discussion and possible action).

- a. **The Reentry Council will consider adoption of a resolution making findings that newly-enacted Government Code Section 54953(e) requires in order to allow the Reentry Council to hold meetings remotely, as currently required under local law, without complying with infeasible Brown Act requirements.**

Public Defender Raju asked for a motion to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings under California Government Code Section 54953(e).

Sheenia Branner made the motion.

Seconded by Sheriff Miyamoto.

No Public Comment.

Motion Passed

5. Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement

Public Defender Raju read the Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement.

Public Defender Raju stated that in our last meeting Director Roy requested a presentation from pre-trial about services and outcome measures. Unfortunately Pre-Trial had a meeting at the same time as this meeting. They agreed to address that request in a future meeting

6. Public Comment on Any Item Listed Below as for “Discussion Only.” (NOTE: public comment on items listed as “possible action” will occur during that agenda’s time).

Public Defender Raju asked if there was any public comment

Cedric Akbar – Spoke on the Tenderloin Linkage Center. A medical triage and COVID Testing should be added to the center. Cedric explained that he saw open air drug use was visible allowing people to use drugs and he is concerned that this will not lead to successful outcomes. More oversight and accountability is needed – the money must be followed.

Cregg Johnson – Also spoke about Tenderloin Linkage Center. The community is saying what they need, but the City is providing more of the same than what the community really needs. He believed the Linkage Center is essentially operating an unsanctioned safe injection site. He advocated for offering a broader approach to how the City is addressing the challenges in the Tenderloin.

No other public comment

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7. Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2021 (discussion & possible action).

Public Defender Raju asked for a motion to adopt the minutes from October 28, 2021.

Chief Katy Miller made the motion to adopt.

Dean Onyanga seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

8. Staff Report on Activities of the Reentry Council and its Subcommittees (discussion only).

a. Staff updates

- i. Vaccination Requirements and Return to In-Person Meetings**
- ii. Fair Chance Ordinance Update**
- iii. APD Reentry: TL Linkage Center**
- iv. Billie Holiday Reentry Navigation Center**
- v. James Baldwin Mental Health Transitional Housing Program**
- vi. Housing Survey Update**

b. Subcommittee updates

- i. Direct Services Subcommittee**
- ii. Legislation, Policy, and Practices Subcommittee**
- iii. Women 1st Subcommittee**

Public Defender Raju asked Victoria Westbrook to provide the staff update.

Victoria provided an update about the vaccine mandate for all policy body members. She explained that all members must be fully vaccinated to attend in person meetings at this time. She said the next meeting is expected to be an in-person meeting.

Victoria Westbrook invited Steve Adami, Director of the Reentry Division of Adult Probation to speak about the additional updates.

Steve Adami stated that the San Francisco Fair Chance Ordinance dictates that the look-back period for an employer to review felony convictions is seven years. However, as a government employer, the City and County of San Francisco reviews felony convictions dating back thirteen years. Steve said that the facts and the data regarding this issue will be presented in a formal presentation to the reentry council at the April meeting and we will be requesting the reentry council to support our efforts for the City to amend this policy and be in line with the Fair Chance Ordinance.

Steve Adami provided an update on the Tenderloin Linkage Center. Steve commended the Department of Emergency Management for doing a great job opening the center in a short amount of time. Steve explained how excited they were to get people connected to services that will change their lives. He further explained that to date, nine people had gone into the Billie Holiday Center, two people into drug treatment, and one into the TRP Academy.

Steve Adami introduced Destiny Plestch, the Reentry Services Manager for the Reentry Division of the Adult Probation Department, who provided an update on the Billie Holiday Center which is a partnership between Westside Community Service and the Tenderloin Housing Clinic (THC) offering low threshold transitional housing as people connect to next steps and resources with onsite clinical support.

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Destiny also provided an update regarding the Direct Services Subcommittee's Housing Survey which launched in October 2021 to better understand the housing needs of justice involved people. Destiny indicated that once all the data has been collected and analyzed, it will be presented to the reentry council at a later date.

Victoria Westbrook provided an update on the James Baldwin Mental Health Transitional Housing Program which is a partnership between Adult Probation and Westside Community Services. She explained that as a leader in designing and implementing programs which address and meet the criminogenic needs of our clients, the Reentry Division of the Adult Probation Department developed this program as a proof of concept of a transitional housing program specifically designed to support justice involved clients who have serious mental health challenges or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse. The program continues to be at full capacity and all participants in the program are remaining 100% compliant with supervision requirements and meeting treatment goals.

Victoria gave an update on the Women 1st Subcommittee who is examining two surveys about the gaps in services for justice involved Cis and Trans women.

Public Defender Raju asked council members for additional comments

Sheneea Branner had a question regarding the vote for continued virtual meetings.

Victoria Westbrook responded that the vote was for the current meeting and that at this time, future meetings are expected to be held in person.

Nicol Popczuk from the public asked if future in-person meetings be broadcasted for the public?

Victoria Westbrook explained that future in person meetings will not be broadcasted because meetings are not held at City Hall.

9. Regular Update on Activities of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Sentencing Commission, Collaborative Courts, and Community Corrections Partnership, STARR (discussion only).

Chief Katy Miller provided an update on the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, explaining that the subcommittee has been figuring out what San Francisco's plan is to support the closure of DJJ.

Angelica Almeida provided an update on the STARR grant to fund dedicated residential and detox beds at Salvation Army and low threshold case management with Felton Institute. Capacity has been expanded to 40 residential beds for 6-9 months, 10 detox beds, 80 case management slots. The grant runs thru February 2023.

Freda Glen provided an update on the Sentencing Commission which last met on December 14th, 2021. The Criminal Justice Racial Equity Workgroup provided an update regarding their visioning sessions. The second cohort of Safety and Justice Fellowships has been launched and applications are now being accepted. The jail population review team continues to meet regularly. Finally, the corporation for supportive housing provided a presentation on expanding access to housing. The next meeting will be March 15, 2022.

Tara Agnese provided an update on the Community Corrections Partnership. The Public Safety Realignment Report is complete and has been submitted to the Board of State and Community Corrections and the SF Board of Supervisors. She thanked everyone for contributions and feedback for the FY21-22 report. The next CCP meeting is planned for mid February 2022.

Public Defender Raju asked council members if there were additional comments.
No additional comments.

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Victoria Westbrook requested that the meeting move to agenda items 11 and 12 then return to item 10. Public Defender Raju agreed and moved to agenda item 11.

10. DEM Tenderloin Emergency Initiative Presentation (discussion only).

Adrienne Bechelli, the Deputy Director of the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management (DEM), provided a presentation on the Tenderloin Emergency Initiative & the Tenderloin Linkage Center. She explained about the timeline for rolling out the Tenderloin Emergency Initiative. She further explained that the goals of the initiative were: to disrupt the illegal drug market, to incorporate public comment from the community meetings, to expedite requests for cleaning & services, create a safer & healthier neighborhood for all, and to open a Linkage Center for services and resources. She further explained that the 7 Priority Problems of the initiative were: drug dealing & violent crime, lack of shelter & drop-in resources, open air drug use, lack of safe passage & accessibility, waste & debris, high level of 911 medical calls, and illegal vending. She explained that the Linkage Center would be open 7 days a week from 8am – 8pm.

Council Member Jackson said that what the Director explained is not what he has seen at the Linkage Center. He asked how it is safe if people were still using and selling drugs. He also asked why Adult Probation was not identified as a key partner and collaborator for the initiative.

Director Bechelli apologized for her oversight, explaining that the Steve Adami and Chief Cristel have been key partners on the initiative. She further explained that the plan is to expand and have the Linkage Center open and available to help people 24 hours a day, setting it apart from other resources already in the community.

Council Member Brannon expressed concerns that service providers and volunteers are having to deal with drug use and overdoses and are often uncomfortable. She further explained that the Center needs to be a safe space for everyone.

11. Racial Equity Work Updates – Criminal Justice Racial Equity Workgroup Update and other Departments are welcome to provide a Racial Equity Update for their Department (discussion only).

Public Defender Raju introduced Victoria Westbrook to provide an update regarding the Criminal Justice Racial Equity Workgroup.

Victoria Westbrook provided an update on the Criminal Justice Racial Equity Work Group. Victoria explained that the Work Group held its 3rd and final visioning session facilitated by Marissa Arrona, the California Innovations Director for Californians for Safety and Justice. She pointed out that there was representation from most of the criminal justice partners, the courts, Jail Behavioral Health, among others. She further explained that rich, productive, and frank cross partner discussions took place in the session. Victoria clarified that the sessions were designed to help gain clarity about the CJREW's mission, vision, and role and to identify leverage points which could be used in establishing our strategic and actionable priorities. The next meeting will be on March 17, 2022 at 10:00am.

Precious Malone, Racial Equity Leader for SFAPD, provided an update on the department's racial equity efforts. She explained that APD hopes to hold several cultural events and transform their offices to make sure it is inviting to all staff, clients, and visitors. She further explained that they will be submitting the one year progress report by March 1, 2022. APD is exploring the possibility of creating one dedicated racial equity position within the department and plan to incorporate this request as part of their budget proposal.

Tara Anderson provided an update for the District Attorney's office, explaining that they were able to onboard several different staff over the last year, coming from a wide diversity of backgrounds. She further explained that they believe this increased diversity within their department will help them to better serve the diverse communities within San Francisco. Tara said that internship opportunities have been expanded over the last year and there is currently an unprecedented number of post bar clerks - a pipeline into entry level ADA office

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positions and that many had been onboarded. Tara also said that they too were working on their Racial Equity Plan and also working to implement the internal diversity and inclusion goals in our plan.

Angelica Almeida provided an update for DPH, explaining that DPH had been focusing on recruitment and hiring, as well as retention and promotion, particularly in leadership and management roles to ensure there was diversity and to make sure that DPH staff working directly with clients were reflecting the communities being served. Additionally, she explained that they had increased their equity work to include equity leads that cover all areas of DPH service, as well as equity champions, with over 80 participants. Angelica further clarified that DPH has continued to implement equity trainings and training requirements across their system and requiring that each section of DPH has an annual equity plan.

Tanzanika Carter provided an update for the Sheriff's Office, explaining that they were targeting the six pillars for their racial equity plan. She further explained that they were planning on an Asian American and Pacific Islander event coming together with the African American community. She also explained that the Sheriff's Office will be having several weekly events coming up highlighting minority leaders. She pointed out that she would be on the first one highlighting minority women who are in executive leadership roles. She said that the Sheriff's office is taking the racial equity plan seriously, focusing on diversity at all levels including promotions into leadership roles. She shared that NOBLE has a scholarship program for young people interested in the criminal justice related fields so that we can have new voices going forward in our criminal justice arena. In closing she said, that the department is reviewing and checking feedback about the plan to ensure everything is together by March.

Public Defender Raju provided an update for the Public Defender's Office, explaining that they had started a number of affinity groups in the office and had just completed a round of hiring. He further explained that they also had the young defenders program - a pipeline for highschool students in a paid internship allowing exposure to public defender work and that a diverse group of interns had been recruited to work in their office. Public Defender Raju said that all of their work is racial equity work because of the populations they serve.

12. OEWD - CityBuild - Workforce Presentation (discussion only).

Ken Nim, the Director of CityBuild at OEWD first introduced Workforce Director, Joshua Arce, inviting him to speak to the council. Joshua Arce introduced himself and shared a few thoughts.

Ken presented extensive information about the CityBuild Program, explaining that it was a 12 week hybrid program with both online learning and hands on skill building. He explained that participants had to have the GED or High School Diploma and a Drivers License. Ken also explained that participants were required to do drug screenings.

Victoria thanked Ken Nim and asked for public questions. Ken answered all questions fully.

Chief Tullock thanked CityBuild for their work and partnership with Adult Probation and the CASC.

Council member Napoleon asked if the requirements for City Build Pro were the same as the regular program? Ken said that they were not. He further explained that it did not require a highschool diploma or GED or a drug screening because it entails working in the office.

13. Presentation of the Public Defender's Clean Slate Program (discussion only).

Catherine Uong (Paralegal who works with the Clean Slate Program) provided a brief introduction, explaining that she was formerly incarcerated for 8 years in the San Francisco County Jail. She further explained that she had obtained a paralegal degree and an advanced paralegal degree and is not able to work for the Public Defender's Office assisting others involved in the criminal justice system after being home for only a year and a half. Catherine continued by presenting information about the Public Defender's Clean Slate Program which can help people expunge records, seal arrests, have actual convictions reduced, and submit petitions of rehabilitation for people with a history of violence. She further explained that the program cannot serve people who are actively fighting a case or on probation or parole.

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14. Presentation on the Public Defender's B'MAGIC and Mo'MAGIC programs, programs which serve families in the Bayview and in the Fillmore/Western Addition (discussion only).

Lyslynn Lacoste presented information about MAGIC (Mobilization for Adolescent Growth in our Communities) program started by Jeff Adachi and the Public Defenders Office. She further explained that MAGIC expanded to serve the Fillmore District and Western Addition communities through MO'MAGIC and in to serve the Bayview through B'MAGIC. Brittany Ford explained that the MAGIC COVID Response throughout the pandemic was extensive, providing PPE supplies, food, other supplies and various resources.

15. Council Members' Comments, questions and Requests for Future Agenda Items (discussion only).

Jabari Jackson requested that Pre-Trial Diversion present in the April meeting since they were not able to present. He further commented that it is alarming to me that 55% of people released pre-trial re-offend during release and furthermore that the ones with violent offenses are reoffending at an alarming rate. He continued by saying that the Reentry Division of SFAPD has built an amazing platform of reentry services and he pleaded that the Reentry Council advocate to expand the Probation budget to implement more reentry services.

Victoria responded that the April meeting will be taken up with legislation to vote on and that the Pre-Trial presentation is planned for the July meeting.

16. Public Comment on any item on today's agenda, or on other business within the purview of the Reentry Council (discussion only).

William Palmer stated that what the probation department is doing is outstanding. He requested that State Parole have an opportunity to present at a future Reentry Council Meeting.

Joseph Calderon requested that the Reentry Council adopt language which uses returning community member because language is important.

17. Adjournment.

Public Defender Raju asked for a motion to adjourn.

Chief Tullock made the motion to adjourn.

Jabari Jackson seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.