

Reentry Council

City & County of San Francisco

Direct Action Subcommittee

AGENDA

Thursday, April 11, 2024
1:00pm – 3:00pm
CASC, 564 6th Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, California 94103

Note: Public comment will be taken throughout the meeting.

1. Introductions/Roll Call (*discussion only*)
2. Ohlone Land Acknowledgement (*discussion only*)
3. Direct Action 2/15/2024 Meeting Notes – Approval (*discussion and possible action*)
4. Recovery Summit – April 24, 2024 @ 9:30am – Koret Auditorium (*discussion and possible action*)
5. 2024 Reentry Event Calendar - Richard Beal, Jay Sutter, and Michael Aldana (*discussion and possible action*)
6. Non-Celebration CASC Events (*discussion and possible action*)
7. Juneteenth Event Planning (*discussion only*)
8. Member Roundtable and Agenda Items for Next Meeting (*discussion only*)
9. Adjournment (*discussion and possible action*)

Next Meeting:
Thursday, April 11, 2024
1:00pm – 3:00pm
CASC, 564 6th Street, 2nd Floor, Rm 226/227
San Francisco, California 94103

Reentry Council

City & County of San Francisco

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MEETING MATERIALS

Copies of agendas, minutes, and explanatory documents are available through the Reentry Council's website at <http://sfreentry.com> or by calling Victoria Westbrook, at (415) 930-2202 during normal business hours. The material can be Faxed or mailed to you upon request.

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Administrator
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
San Francisco, CA 94102-4683.
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Reentry Council

City & County of San Francisco

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DRAFT Direct Action Subcommittee Notes - February 15, 2024

Victoria Westbrook (“VW”) read the Ohlone Land Acknowledgement.

Events

-VW spoke about the **Black History Month Celebration Event** on **2/22/2024** from 12 to 3 PM.

-VM mentioned that the Salvation Army in conjunction with UCSF, us (APD), THC, possibly Westside, and other organizations will participate in the **Recovery Summit 2024** on **4/24/2024**. There will be a RALLY at the Steps of SF City Hall (1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.) at 8:30 AM. Then, the SUMMIT will follow at the SF Public Library (100 Larkin Street, the Koret Auditorium) from 9:30 AM to 1 PM.

-VM spoke about the **CASC Juneteenth Celebration** and its tentative date of **6/19/2024** from 12 PM to 3 PM.

-VM then spoke about the **4th Annual Recovery Day Boeddeker Park** and its tentative date of **9/6/2024** from 12 PM to 3 PM.

-VM spoke about the **Archdiocese Event: Reentry Conference & Resource Fair**. VM does not know when this event is and wants to make sure it does not coincide with the Annual Recovery Day Boeddeker Park event in September 2024.

(Update 4/4: The 12th Annual Reentry Conference, Resource and Job Fair will take place on 09/13/2024 from 8 AM to 4 PM. The address is St. Mary’s Cathedral -Event Center, 1111 Gough Street, SF, CA 94109)

-VM suggested doing a workshop/panel (or 2) for this event (within the Direct Action subcommittee) and planning it early rather than later.

-VM shared that Richard Beal (“RB”) also brought up that we should do other kinds of events at the CASC or other places. Some events do not need to be big celebrations that involve big budgets. VM gave an example of “The CASC Has Talent.” We can also have community speakers and panel discussions, Karaoke, a BBQ, etc. (So in other words, events that are on Page 4 of the Direct Action Subcommittee (“DAS”) packet.

-Destiny Pletsch (“DP”) showed up and RB asked her about “Coco.”

-VW mentioned speaking with me, Michael Aldana (“MA”) about monolingual Spanish speakers sometimes being left out. So possibly having events for the Latino/Hispanic community, in Spanish. Also, MA & VW talked about getting the community involved so maybe fewer in-person events and instead create a working group. If this happens, **one member of the DAS needs to be in the working group.**

-Jay Sutter (“JS”) mentioned the class that takes place at the CASC on Thursdays, *Semillas a Flores*. He also mentioned perhaps speaking with Sergio or Karen (Citywide staff) about getting their clients involved.

-VM then added that Mono Spanish speakers really do not come to the in-person DAS meetings, so instead DAS should create a working group that will be among the Spanish speakers where we can bring DAS in-person meetings info (whatever was discussed) to the Mono Spanish-speaking working group. The ultimate goal is to share info and to also get info from them (Mono Spanish speakers).

-RB then interjected and mentioned Ms. Joanna Hernandez. RB mentioned last year’s (CASC) event, **Día de los Muertos** (Day of the Dead) (Update 4/4: **Día de los Muertos is celebrated on Friday, 11/1/24 & Saturday, 11/2/24**). RB looked at the agenda packet and mentioned Hispanic Heritage Month. RB asked if Hispanic Heritage Month was celebrated in Sept. or Oct.

(Update 4/4: **National Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from Sunday, 09/15/24 to Tuesday, 10/15/2024**)

-RB added that **Recovery Day** is in the month of September. (Update 4/4: **Recovery Day is on Monday, 09/30/2024**).

-RB also mentioned that the Annual Reentry Conference is also in the month of September.

-RB cautioned that these two events (Recovery Day & the Archdiocese Annual Reentry Conference) not clash on the same day.

-RB gave DAS the option of still having the Recovery Day in August. RB moved the Recovery Day to September because President Biden in the year 2021 made September recovery month throughout the US.

-RB had made August (Recovery Day) because of the weather (less chance of rain), and RB wanted to have this event in good weather.

-JS chimed in and shared his experience with last year's event; there might've been too much sun (and no trees) where the event was held.

-RB gave the idea of having a canopy for this year's event (Recovery Day). RB told JS that he could lend him (Goodwill) a canopy for this year. RB has extra canopies and JS said that this would be nice.

-JS gave the idea of having a dedicated space at this location (Boeddeker Park) where people can sit and have some shade to cool off.

-RB added that Boeddeker Park is a great spot to host the Recovery Day event because we can keep everyone under control. JS agreed that this is a great space for this event, but for the people who stay longer, to give them shade.

-DAS agreed that we need to find out from Julio Escobar when the Annual Reentry Conference is to officially move Recovery Day from August to September. **Again, Update 4/4: The 12th Annual Reentry Conference, Resource and Job Fair will take place on 09/13/2024 from 8 AM to 4 PM.**

-RB added to the agenda: **The Fentanyl March.**

-RB shared that this march is sponsored by Reverend Burch, Cedric Akbar, and others. RB added that the march is called "One Pill Can Kill."

-RB mentioned that he has a flyer for the event. The event will be on Monday, **02/26/24 at 1 PM**. It will start at Boeddeker Park and they will march to SF City Hall. It's a fentanyl march (for fentanyl awareness).

-VW added that she would be out that day.

-VW stated for RB to share this flyer with MA and that MA would send it to everyone. RB stated that he would share this with MA.

-VW mentioned that we (DAS) could still have events that are not in person. VM mentioned an example like having a class or workshop that we could do remotely.

-VW would prefer to have events in person; to bring back people to the CASC.

-JS agreed and stated that it was a beautiful place, the CASC.

-JS mentioned that the CASC gets packed when Goodwill has its job fair events.

-JW also mentioned that DAS can connect with some monolingual Spanish speakers from Serio/Karen's classes (Semillas a Flores and Conexion Latina). These clients would be a good resource to spread CASC info and events.

-RB asked VW if can form a group for decorations when we have these types of events/celebrations at the CASC.

-RB stated that after today's DAS meeting, there will be a working group/meeting for Black History Month at 3 PM.

-VM then asked who funded the Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) event.

-RB shared that the drummer that he got, Brother Andrew Rims, Br. Andrew brings all the banners, buffalo soldiers, MLK banners, etc. It's all his stuff (Br. Andre comes early and hangs up all that stuff) for Black History Month & Juneteenth.

-VW asked what about Day of the Dead stuff (decorations, food, etc.). So, RB then said that DAS needs a **Decoration Committee** at the CASC (to help decorate) for each event that is held at the CASC.

-Mike Pasley ("MP") said she was sitting right there while pointing at Emmeline Sun ("ES").

-VW stated that UCSF staff decorated for last year's event. Priscilla Cortez (from UCSF) was also mentioned regarding this matter.

-VW also added that hopefully, MA will be on LTF (group) soon.

-RB officially made ES in charge of the decorations working group. Then, asked ES her thoughts.

-ES asked if it would be for every event at the CASC. ES also asked for how many events. RB said not her specifically but possibly someone on her team can help set up (or that it gets done) for the event.

-VW shared with DAS that she would like to have an event possibly for every month/history. Gave some examples such as Trans Day of Remembrance or Trans Awareness Day, etc.

Update 4/4: Trans Day of Remembrance is on Wednesday, 11/20/2024. November is Trans Awareness Month, mainly observed from 11/13 to 11/19.

-RB asked DAS if someone could take on the responsibility of putting together a calendar of the months and their corresponding Histories/Awareness(es) so that we know what's going on.

-ES volunteered. ES shared that she (or they, UCSF) started this a year ago, but that it has not been updated.

-VW asked if MA could make a calendar of the months and corresponding histories; MA agreed.

-JS mentioned having the Reentry Conference and Recovery Day two weeks apart (in the month of Sept).

-RB also mentioned adding any CASC events to the calendar, so that (outside) events do not clash.

Virtual Workshops/Panels

-VW mentioned virtual workshops but would rather have in-person events that talk about (and) provide some cultural context; in other words, diverse people coming together to celebrate a specific group and learn things together and have an appreciation for it.

-RB was also on board and emphasized having the dates (LGBT, Trans, Women, etc.) set to know when to celebrate.

-VW asked how well attended are the virtual groups. -ES added that they are somewhat well attended.

-RB emphasized again about coming up with very specific dates and that it would make it easier to know when to celebrate (plan accordingly) for that specific event/group/or history. RB gave the example of celebrating Juneteenth and a specific day to also celebrate LGBT pride in the month of June.

-VW mentioned that she wanted to do a women's event at the CASC in March.

-VW shared that she would like to have an event specifically geared for women (doesn't have to be in March), but that it's a bit harder to organize since events at the CASC are usually open to everyone, and more men (testosterone) attend these events since more men get incarcerated vs. formerly incarcerated women.

-VW suggested shutting down the CASC; ES said this would be possible.

-VW shared that she would talk to Citywide about this.

-VW also mentioned an important date: **Women's Equality Day. Update 4/5: Women's Equality Day, is on Monday, August 26, 2024.**

-VW added that she would rather have the Women's event (@ the CASC) in August rather than in March due to the planning that needs to go into it. -VW shared that at last year's event, there was a clothing closet, art room, yoga room, Mission Girls, etc.

-RB shared that for this event, we can spread the word and let all women know that this would be a safe space (for this event @ the CASC).

-VW shared that the best day to have events at the CASC would be on Wednesdays. **Wednesdays** are a great day for events.

-VW brought up a good question: **Figure out how to fund some events at the CASC.**

-VW emphasized that some events don't have to be as big where we would need to provide lunch.

-ES mentioned having movie screenings (in celebration of a certain month/history) and providing snacks (low-budget idea) for smaller events.

-Virtual workshops (and panels) can decide on what movie to show for each month/event.

-RB mentioned that we now have a PA system. VW agreed, however, we need to improve our PA system.

-RB stated that we need to buy some more speakers to extend it out so that we can hear it closer to the front.

-RB said he has some extra speakers (RB shared he was going to give them a trial on Wed during the CASC Black Hist. Month Celebration) to extend them towards the front.

-RB added that 2 additional speakers are needed and that we need to put them toward the front (of the CASC).

-VW asked Rachel Kinnon ("RK") if they (the library) wanted to come to the CASC events. The library is always a hit!

-VW highlighted the endless opportunities of getting a library card.

-RK mentioned that Mondays and Wednesdays are days when the library visits the jails (**SF Public Library's JARS Program**), so it might be harder to book them these days at the CASC.

-The library also helps ppl to use the computer and look for jobs. The library also offers classes, LinkedIn Learning certificates, and Hoopla.

-RB then pivoted the conversation and asked about the **Wall of Change ("WoC").**

-JS asked about the (WoC) committee and why his bio/paperwork was still pending.

-VW added the next WoC Committee will have its meeting in March 2023. VW is currently asking (will send an email) who wants to be on that Committee.

-VW shared that people can make recommendations (of who can be on the WoC) but they must be probation clients.

-JS wants to be on the WoC (he REALLY wants to). It's important to him!!! JS saw the GOSO website and it inspired him to see other people who were on there.

- RB made another suggestion: **SEOP used to do “In the Trenches Awards.”**
- MP agreed with RB that they are no longer having In the Trenches Awards in SEOP. RB would like to bring this back to recognize the changemakers in the community.
- VW added that we’ll see about this.
- SEOP is having a fundraising event: Black Cuisine.
- RB added that Kamala Harris gave RB his award back in 2004. VW asked who funded this event (the SEOP awards).
- RB shared that SEOP received donations to fund this event.
- VW then mentioned the **CASC End of The Year Celebration** and how we need to have more of these events more often. It doesn’t need to be big events, but it could be small events where we celebrate clients’ successes/achievements at the CASC.
- VW asked ES about whether lunch was served at these events or not. ES said no because of the pandemic and that lunch was perhaps provided during the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- Collaborative Courts do snacks rather than lunch for their graduation events.
- VW mentioned that she would like to have more events of recognition (at the CASC) not only for ppl on probation but for those ppl in APD’s associated programs. VW added that our associated programs should recommend at least 1-2 people who have completed programs. For those who are on probation, we should let their DPO know, so they can show up and support their clients.
- VW shared that 15-20 persons were recognized during the CASC’s End of the Year Celebration (ETYC), but there are many more success stories that need to be acknowledged/recognized.
- RB shared the same sentiment and said a lot of ppl enjoyed the CASC’s ETYC.
- VW also shared the idea that in these recognition events, we can have some clients who would feel comfortable sharing their stories (motivational speeches).
- VW shared that we need to make more inroads with the other communities (Latino, Asian, etc.)
- VW talked about connecting more with LTF & leaving them the door open with our events. Connecting with Joanna Hernandez and LTF, even if they might not want to connect with APD.
- ES shared that Citywide can make the promise (for the smaller events @ the CASC) is having movie screenings, snacks, and help decorate a little bit.
- DP pitched in about having funding events and also having group outings with (small group) clients. For example, going to Giants games, and creating a community.
- DP also pitched the idea of phone calling organizations/agencies and asking for donations/resources. “Hey do you have any donations, e.i., toilet paper, tickets to games...” since the budget is a bit tight.
- VW mentioned that APD cannot accept donations, but UCSF (Citywide) can because they’re a nonprofit.
- DP mentioned the power of social media and how we can use this tool to spread the word and hopefully secure donations.

On-going Groups/Classes at the CASC

- RB brought up the Courage Foundation and Bradley Russo.
- ES spoke a little bit on Bradley Russo and his progress, and also his peer-led class: Living Your Best Life. ES spoke about Bradley’s program, and how he’s also bringing food to the CASC (veggie options).
- DAS gave him kudos.
- RB spoke a little about Bradley and mentioned that Bradley is a harm reductionist. Bradley is a former client from probation and Citywide (who graduated from both programs) and has ideas.
- Bradley has a budget and is asking DAS to help him with his ideas. ES went into a little more detail about what Bradley is requesting.
- VW said that DAS would not be able to possibly fund his goal, and ES said Citywide could step in to help him with it.

- RB asked about the bullet point “Recovery Group.” MA clarified that this was tied to Bradley and his idea of creating a group/pamphlet regarding harm reduction (Bradley mainly wanted a group).
- ES spoke about a past Recovery (harm reduction) Group at the CASC. The facilitator was trained in harm reduction principles, her process, education, etc.
- VW gave her opinion on harm reduction and her experience with using substances (ultimately why it would not work for her).

- RB chimed in and shared that he is on board with the harm reduction group, but that he would not be on board with the facilitator handing out harm reduction paraphernalia at the group.
- ES shared that Ms. Kim's Group (STOP) is harm-reduction orientated. However, Ms. Kim's group is abstinence-based. ES spoke more in-depth about Ms. Kim's STOP group.
- There was then a discussion in DAS about harm reduction in using drugs vs. harm reduction on alcohol.
- RB reeled it in and said that there might not be a need for a Recovery Group since the CASC already has Ms. Kim's STOP group.
- DAS spoke about the Circle of Friends. VW spoke a little more in-depth about what Maggie Rivera meant with this group. "This would be an outlet for providers." We need places to process the crazy sometimes.
- Providers to come and support each other, to take a break.
- DS added that "creating a culture of checking in with one another."
- Conclusion: The Circle of Friends group is tentative.

Resource Guides/Flyers

- VW then spoke about a 2 to 3-page discharge paper that we can give to someone with resources once they're out of jail.
- DAS mentioned that GOSO is outdated, and we need to create something that clients can easily fold in their pockets.
- Richard Beal (RB) volunteered to take on this item of creating this **Reentry Resources Discharge Guide (RRDG)**.
- VW added and asked if RB can add the CASC, housing, and food resources.
- VW shared that once DAS creates this RRDG, **we need to first take it to the Reentry Council to approve it** and then have **the jail make copies of it to distribute to clients**.
- On the RRDG pamphlet, DAS shared that we can have a QR code (for those ppl that have phones). So, they can save the resources on their phones.
- RB added that it would be important to also have emergency numbers and resources on the RRDG.

Possible Working Groups

- DAS spoke about MA taking detailed notes.
- DAS then covered these items on the agenda:

-In-person CASC Events – Assigned to **Emmeline Sun**

~~-Remote Events – removed~~

~~-Virtual Workshops – removed~~

-Reentry Resources Discharge Guide (RRDG) – Assigned to **Richard Beal**.

-Housing and Detox flyers – This will be added to the RRDG, which was assigned to **Richard Beal**

Gaps in Services

- DAS spoke more about Golden Gate for Seniors. MP spoke in-depth about this program and also about SEOP's program/services.
- MP spoke more about Bayview Senior Services.
- ES spoke more about SSI and knows resources on how to get clients back on SSI (when benefits lapse, and when clients go to jail).
- VW also spoke more on this matter of SSI and mentioned an HSA mobile/van. VW will send DAS more info when she receives more intel from her HSA source on SSI info.
- VM mentioned speaking with Jessie (from HSA), who comes to the CASC on Wednesdays from 9-4 pm. When clients come in with Medi-Cal issues.
- RB spoke about his knowledge of Medi-Cal resources.

Other Matters Discussed/Need to Be Addressed

- MP further explained the "housing fee" and about move-in costs matter. Terminology needs to be correct and accurate (tenant rights).
- DAS spoke about a parade that Cedric Akbar ("CA") brought up. RB elaborated a little more and mentioned that it would take on Market Street, according to CA. RB is not familiar with this parade.
- Reaffirmed Fentanyl March will be on 2/26 from Boeddeker Park to City Hall.
- VM mentioned that most APD's programs have savings requirements.

- JS spoke about savings programs vs. grants. JS also mentioned a housing subsidy, and other great ideas regarding this matter.
- Bayview clients to resources and programs best way =?
- DAS spoke about the Homeward Bound program.
- DAS spoke about the APD 10% budget cut and 1/2% contingency.
- The best way to connect clients to resources would be YCD, CASC flyers, and the emails CheRonn receives from outreach (and other organizations).
- RB mentioned that we need media coverage/equal airtime for the good happening in SF (like the upcoming Recovery Summit), and not only air time for the bad in SF (drugs, homeless, etc.).
- DP chimed in and said she could work on this matter with Steve (coverage of the good events, like the Recovery Summit).
- RB said he would talk to Randy (from THC) to see if he has connections to get the word out and get recognition for the good events, too.

Next Agenda Items:

- Get updates on the tasks that were assigned today:
- The Events/Histories Celebration Calendar (EHCC)
- Reentry Resources Discharge Guide (RRDG)
- Got people together for x,y,z, committee for this event
- Send out invites for Committees getting (month/history) celebrations together, etc.



**PROTECTING THE HUMAN DIGNITY OF
JUSTICE-INVOLVED PEOPLE, VICTIMS
AND FAMILIES OF PRISONERS**

SAVE THE DATE


**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

**FREE ADMISSION, PARKING, CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST AND LUNCH**

**SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL
EVENT CENTER, 1111 GOUGH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109**



INFORMATION

 (415) 614-5572

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 www.sfarch.org/reentry-conference

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RECOVERY FIRST

RALLY

8:30 AM

Steps of SF City Hall
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 24**

SUMMIT

9:30 AM

SF Public Library
100 Larkin Street

Educate

Celebrate

Inspire

KEVIN SABET Ph.D

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Former three-time White House Office of National Drug Control Policy advisor

AWARDS

Shirley Lamar
Community Ambassador
Inspiring Change

Join us in building a community that inspires hope and offers solutions to the City's drug crisis!

BENNIE LEE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mentor and former Chicago gang leader and death row inmate

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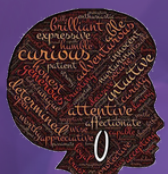
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San Francisco Public Library



UCSF
Citywide Case Management

Reentry Council of the City and County of San Francisco

2024 Meeting Calendar

Council Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the first month of each quarter 1pm – 3pm

- January 18, 2024- Zoom Meeting
- April 18, 2024 - Room 305, City Hall
- July 18, 2024 - Room 305, City Hall
- October 17, 2024 - Room 305, City Hall

Subcommittee on Direct Action: Thursdays, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

- February 15, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227
- April 11, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227
- June 13, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227
- September 5, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227
- November 14, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227

Subcommittee on Legislation, Policy and Practices: Wednesdays, 2:00-4:00pm (Additional Meetings may be scheduled as needed)

- February 28, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227
- March 27, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227
- June 26, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227
- September 25, 2024 - CASC, 564 6th Street, Upstairs Conference Room 226/227

Women 1st Subcommittee: Mondays, 11am – 1pm

- February 26, 2024 - Women’s Resource Center, 930 Bryant St, San Francisco, CA 94103
- April 15, 2024 – Women’s Resource Center, 930 Bryant St, San Francisco, CA 94103
- June 24, 2024 – Women’s Resource Center, 930 Bryant St, San Francisco, CA 94103
- August 26, 2024 – Women’s Resource Center, 930 Bryant St, San Francisco, CA 94103
- October 14, 2024 – Women’s Resource Center, 930 Bryant St, San Francisco, CA 94103

Slated Community Events supported and/or hosted by Reentry Council

- 2024 Recovery Summit at SF Main Library, 100 Larkin Street, Koret Auditorium Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 9:30am
- 4th Annual Recovery Day at Boeddeker Park (Jones St. & Eddy St.) – Friday, September 6, 2024, 12:00pm – 3:00pm
- 12th Annual Restorative Justice Reentry Conference and Resource Fair at Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption Event Center located at 1111 Gough St - Friday, September 13, 2024, 8:00am – 4:00pm

Direct Action Subcommittee

Reentry Council of the City & County of San Francisco

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