

Dear Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee,

My name is Heather Leach, and I am a Rapid Rehousing Navigator & Tenancy & Housing Stabilization Specialist at Episcopal Community Services.

To support Mayor London Breed's Homelessness Recovery Plan, San Francisco recently joined Governor Newsom's 100-Day Challenge, an initiative that invites Californian counties and cities to develop new and innovative solutions to end and prevent homelessness with a focus on equity that can then be replicated at scale in their communities. San Francisco's goal is in 100 days, to connect 175 shelter-in-place (SIP) single adult guests experiencing homelessness to safe and stable housing (leveraging rapid rehousing & flexible housing subsidy pool resources), with priority going to people who are chronically homeless and/or have disabling conditions. 70% will identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC).

I am writing to you on behalf of the San Francisco 100 Day Challenge team, which is a broad and diverse coalition of local non-profit organizations and city agencies. Just like this committee, our members all have day jobs and aren't paid for the extra time we are dedicating to this project. We are here because we deeply believe in the 100 Day goal's mission. Our coalition is continuing to expand our connections with community experts and develop a comprehensive supportive services portfolio through direct feedback from current SIP guests, rapid rehousing participants, and front line staff.

Rapid Rehousing should not be conflated with problem solving. Rapid rehousing is an evidence-based solution that has proven to change the lives of many of its participants. San Francisco has a robust family and youth rapid rehousing program. The single adult rapid rehousing portfolio has not yet been built. There are currently 43 subsidies for single adults and 40 for adults reentering from the criminal justice system. San Francisco should work to create a continuum of care providing unhoused with housing and services appropriate to their range of needs. As a member of the 100-Day Challenge team and a recipient of a rapid rehousing subsidy I have firsthand experience that this housing intervention can help someone stabilize and obtain employment with the correct supportive services.

On behalf of the San Francisco 100 Day Challenge team, we urge releasing Prop C funds for Rapid Rehousing and an expansion to the Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool because the 100-day challenge team is positioned to scale our work to meet the goal that no guest is exited from the SIP hotels to the street. The San Francisco 100 Day Challenge team would appreciate the opportunity to present the details of our work to this committee as soon as possible because our work is directly connected to HSH's Prop C Spending Proposal.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Heather Leach*

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