



PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 21185

HEARING DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2022

Case Number: 2020 – 002065CWP
Project Name: Sunset Forward
Staff Contact: Carla de Mesa – 628.652.7476, carla.demesa@sfgov.org
Reviewed By: Julia Sabory, Community Engagement Manager – 628.652.7344, julia.sabory@sfgov.org
Miriam Chion, Director of Community Equity – 628.652.7437, miriam.chion@sfgov.org

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE “SUNSET FORWARD STRATEGIES” REPORT DEVELOPED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DISTRICT 4 YOUTH AND FAMILIES NETWORK, THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT 4 SUPERVISOR GORDON MAR, AND DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITY.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, The District 4 Youth and Families Network, a coalition of nonprofit organizations advocated for a comprehensive community needs assessment to elevate the needs of low- and middle-income families, youth, seniors, tenants, monolingual immigrant households, and other underrepresented groups in the Sunset; and,

WHEREAS, District 4 also known as Outer Sunset/Parkside or “the Sunset”, has historically been a neighborhood of change and a beacon for working-class families with waves of Irish, Italian, and Chinese immigrants; and,

WHEREAS, The Sunset has a higher proportion of seniors (26% vs. 21%) and family households (66% vs. 47%) compared to San Francisco as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, 52% of Sunset residents identify as Asian with 40% being foreign-born and have had to navigate the recent rise of violence against Asian Americans; and,

WHEREAS, In April 2020, The Planning Department, the District 4 Youth and Families Network, and the District 4 Supervisor’s Office launched Sunset Forward, a community planning and capacity building effort with a mission to stabilize low- and moderate-income families and seniors in the Sunset with a focus on housing, transportation, and neighborhood businesses and services; and,

WHEREAS, Over 2,500 community members participated in two phases of outreach from April 2020 until January 2022 and provided feedback on their neighborhood needs and priorities, and established strategies to improve housing, small businesses and neighborhood commercial corridors, and neighborhood services; and,

WHEREAS, Sunset community members shared their struggles to afford and secure housing that meets their current and future needs, have limited access to critical neighborhood services, and have seen a continual decline in the health of their neighborhood small businesses and commercial corridors; and,

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic further magnified the need to stabilize and support working-class families and aging seniors in the Sunset; and,

WHEREAS, Housing strategies were identified by the Sunset community to increase housing affordability, build new housing of varying types and sizes to meet changing needs, encourage more middle-income and family-friendly housing, provide housing that meets the needs of an aging senior population, and expand access to renter support services and homeownership opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, Small business and commercial corridor strategies were identified by the Sunset community to ease burdens on small business owners by changing zoning and improving the permitting process, strengthen coordination and activation along the commercial corridors, and enhance streets, sidewalks, and public spaces; and,

WHEREAS, Neighborhood services strategies were identified by the Sunset community to increase community connection, expand access to parks and open spaces and improve cleanliness and safety, provide access to affordable health and nutrition programs, and expand programs that serve low-income families, transitional aged young adults, seniors, tenants, monolingual immigrant households, and other marginalized groups in the Sunset; and,

WHEREAS, On June 11, 2020, the San Francisco Planning Commission adopted Resolution No. 20738 centering the Planning Department's work program and resource allocation on racial and social equity; and,

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission directed the Department to assess, strengthen and fund its partnerships with communities of color to center their voices in the development of plans, policies, regulations, and investment strategies, identify community planning priorities, and increase resources for participatory capacity building; and,

WHEREAS, Sunset Forward benefited from collaboration between City partners, nonprofit organizations, and community members to build capacity and increase community participation in planning for the future of the Sunset; and,

WHEREAS, The Housing Element 2022 Update, the City's first housing plan centered in racial and social equity, identifies policies to foster racially and socially inclusive neighborhoods through equitable distribution of investment and growth, provide sufficient housing for existing residents and future generations for a city with diverse cultures, family structures, and abilities, and promote neighborhoods that are well-connected, healthy, and rich with community culture; and,

WHEREAS, The Housing Element 2022 Update identifies the Sunset as an area of opportunity to expand housing and achieve the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) goals; and,

WHEREAS, New housing will need to be paired with critical neighborhood services and small business support, in coordination with infrastructure and transportation improvements, and address the needs of families, seniors, and other groups in the Sunset vulnerable to displacement, and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission endorses the Sunset Forward Strategies report as City Policy, to encourage community-planning and capacity building efforts that center racial and social equity and support the Sunset community's vision for a healthy, thriving, and inclusive neighborhood; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission reviews and considers the community needs and strategies outlined in Sunset Forward when taking future actions on projects in District 4 and directs staff to 1.) continue to work with the District 4 Youth and Families Network and other Sunset-based organizations to strengthen relationships and support community capacity building, 2.) use Sunset Forward as a model for community planning that removes barriers to participation and centers the needs of marginalized community groups, 3.) lead interdepartmental and interagency collaboration and monitor implementation of Sunset Forward strategies through annual progress reports.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Commission at its meeting on October 13, 2022.



Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES: Braun, Ruiz, Diamond, Imperial, Koppel, Moore, Tanner

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ADOPTED: October 13, 2022