





Dear Tenderloin residents and communities,

Thank you for tuning in to the <u>Tenderloin Community Action Plan</u> (TCAP), a collaboration between community organizations, businesses, and non-profit partners, led by San Francisco Planning alongside numerous other City agencies. We're excited to present the latest developments in our cherished Tenderloin neighborhood. This newsletter will include the following updates:

- Highlights from our Community Action Grant Projects
- Strategic Priority Areas:
 - Public Space and Activation: Formation of the TCAP Public Space Working Group
 - TCAP Small Business Training Grants Awarded
 - Department of Children, Youth & Their Families (DCYF)
 Announces Final Funding Allocations for Youth and Family Services
 - Housing Priorities: Taking Stock of Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) Housing
- TCAP Outreach
- Street Conditions and Progress









SF Planning, the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation (TCAP's lead outreach partner), and 21 project sponsors gathered for a third session at the Salvation Army Kroc Center (240 Turk Street) to discuss the collective impact of their projects and how it can be leveraged for budget advocacy.

Tenderloin Advocates for Budget Priorities

June marks the time when the Mayor puts forth a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year (2024-25) for approval by the Board of Supervisors. Ahead of these budget discussions, in April, TCAP team brought together the Community Action Projects Cohort to discuss their priorities as part of their third quarterly meeting.

Cohort members reaffirmed their support for the four areas TCAP cohort generally fall under: street stewardship, youth services, public space activation and improvements, and community wellness.

The Cohort emphasized that funding for the Tenderloin needs to be rooted in addressing equity; that the solutions and investments for this neighborhood need to be at the scale of the issues on the ground. Consensus around "no cuts for the Tenderloin" was

clear and strong. In addition to the Cohort, small business stakeholders of TCAP have emphasized their support for a persistent need for small business support especially along Larkin Street, as the key commercial corridor in the neighborhood.

These conversations together highlight the following priorities amongst TCAP stakeholders:

Street Stewardship

Maintain resources and enhance coordination amongst various resources (Urban Alchemy, Clean teams, Safe Passage, Night Navigators) for 24/7 stewardship and cleaning to create clear north-south and east-west paths for families and children in the neighborhood (examples: Leavenworth, Larkin, Ellis)

Youth Services

Restore funding for youth programming (addressing the cuts announced as part of recently announced DCYF allocations) and elevate youth workforce development programs in the Tenderloin.

Public Space Improvement and Activation

Fund art and cultural programming on a weekly basis for activating alleyways and parks in the Tenderloin.

Community Wellness

Support the most vulnerable immigrant communities, specifically Arab community, with coordinated assistance to access housing and neighborhood resources.

Small Business Support

Coordinated investments and small business grants to revitalize Larkin Street as the main commercial corridor and Little Saigon.

In addition, a group of Executive Directors in the Tenderloin submitted a letter to the Mayor and elected officials asking for the proposed budget to prioritize the Tenderloin within the City's top three priorities. The letter also called for maintaining funding for street stewardship and programming for families and children, amongst other asks. The full letter can be found **here.**

Key hearings for budget approvals during the month of June are:

- Budget and Appropriation Committee hearings June 20-21
- Public Comment Day June 24

Budget and Appropriation Committee hearings June 12-14

TENDERLOIN COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2024

For the 2024 Community Action Grant Events Calendar

Community Action Grant Projects

TCAP continues to support delivering 21 Community Action Projects aimed at enhancing public spaces, promoting cultural events, supporting youth, and enhancing wellness and access to essential needs in the Tenderloin.

Project Highlights

Community Celebrations and Park Activities

The cohort identified the collective impacts as:

- Creating a new positive narrative about the Tenderloin.
- Increasing community connections.
- Increasing celebrations of Tenderloin creative and businesses.

Eid Celebration

The TL Muslim Youth Collaborative, in collaboration with community members funded by TLCBD mini grants, hosted the second Eid event on the 500 Block of Ellis and the Tenderloin Children's Playground. Over 300 people, including many youths and families from diverse backgrounds, gathered to celebrate Eid-Al-Fitr and partake in a variety of engaging activities. This Included a petting zoo, where many kids in the Tenderloin were able to see bunnies, goats, chickens and even ride a pony for their first time! Activities also consisted of a rock-climbing wall, street vending, raffles and inflatable games.

Tenderloin Flores De Mayo Festival

The Tenderloin Flores De Mayor Festival on May 26, 2024, hosted by the Filipino Community Development Center on Golden Gate Greenway and Saint Boniface Catholic Church, welcomed hundreds of enthusiastic community members. The festival featured a parade showcasing floral outfits and captivating performances.





Eid Cultural Celebration - April 20, 2024 🔺







Public Space and Activations

The cohort identified the collective impacts as:

- More available Green and Public Space.
- Increased Street Activation.
- Community capacity for ownership and maintenance.
- Improved neighborhood health and safety.



Jeff Miller and company commencing parklet construction in front of 111 Jones.

Golden Gate Greenway

The three proposed parklets have transitioned from design phase to installation. The 826 Valencia parklet will be completed in July 2024 and will offer a public space for people to sit. Fabrication of the green barricade movable planters is almost complete. The 111 Jones parklet, on the same side of the block, started construction on May 29th and it will be completed in mid June by Jeff Miller Company - it will offer seating and green areas with native plants. The parklet in front of Saint Boniface Church, designed by Fletcher Studio, will start construction in the summer and will offer a colorful seating area for the church patrons and everyone else to enjoy.

A mural, designed by University of San Francisco students will be installed on the blank wall on the 826 Valencia. Unveiling ceremony to be announced.

Numerous activities have been happening on the Greenway: a weekly food pantry run by Marin Food Bank; a weekly watering activity by Wu Yee preschoolers, facilitated by Alec Hawley of Fauvescraper Studios; and recreational activities run by the Boys and Girls Club during Spring Break are only a few examples of how the street has slowly become a neighborhood gathering spot.

Summer will bring more celebrations and opportunities to get together on the Greenway!



Children playing soccer on Elm before school begins.

Elm Alley School Street

The Tenderloin Community School partnered with Civic Center CBD to bring additional stewardship and to support staff during children play at drop-off. This 8 am - 8:40 am drop-off-and-play" pilot is the first step toward a fuller, more active utilization of the street starting from the beginning of the academic year 2024-2025.

"Every school-day morning, two to three dozen kids arrive early to use Elm Street for sports, socializing, making chalk art and just running around in a safe, car free environment stewarded by staff, a CCCBD ambassador, and volunteers. It's been a wonderful transformation and great to see kids take over the street."

 Scott Bravmann, Community Volunteer and Project Coordinator



Tenderloin National Forest at 509 Ellis Street.

Tenderloin National Forest Reopening

After a period of closure, the **Tenderloin** National Forest (TLNF) is slated to reopen its gates to the public on July 1, 2024 thanks to the dedicated efforts of The Luggage Store Gallery, also known as 509 Cultural Center, they are excited to welcome the community back to a rejuvenated and secure space where art meets nature. During the closure, the Luggage Store Gallery and TCAP team has been hard at work to improve the experience for everyone who visits the Tenderloin National Forest including hiring dedicated staff to maintain forest grounds and foster a sense of community within the forest. With its reopening, the TLNF will offer increased stewardship, cleanliness, and community programming.

Youth/Family Support

The cohort identified the collective impacts as:

- Improved education, career, and mental health outcomes.
- Reduction in crime and drug usage.
- Community leadership and awareness of housing and city resources.
- Expanded support for immigrant families.



3v3 Tenderloin Basketball Tournament at Kroc Center.

Teen Drop-In Center

The Salvation Army Kroc Center recently organized two soft launch events to announce the opening of the Teen Drop-In center. One event featured a thrilling 3v3 Tenderloin Basketball Tournament, while the other was a lively Spring Family Festival. "This place is amazing," said a youth at the Spring Family Festival. "I had no idea such a fun place existed," echoed a friend. The center is currently in the midst of hiring staff to operate the Teen Drop-In Center. Once staff is hired, it will provide teens access to an open gym, fitness gym, game room, dance studios, and more from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, Monday – Friday.



















Community Action Projects that are Building Capacity and Leveraging Additional Resources!

Through advocacy and collaboration several community projects are enhancing capacity and effectively leveraging resources outside of TCAP to support their projects.

Park Stewards

This program is now part of the City's proposed budget for up to \$1.2 million for the next fiscal year as part of OEWD's budget and overseen by Department of Emergency Management.

Clean Team (Neighborhood-wide)

The program received a major contract from the Department of Public Works for \$2 million for an expanded area of service. The new services have started in May 2024 for the Clean team to start as early as 5 am.

Elm Alley School Street

Through SF New Deal and the Department of Public Works, the project is slated to receive both a Shared Spaces Arts and Culture and Shared Spaces Technical Assistance Grant in Fall of 2024. This will fund the creation of an art installation on the sidewalks, some of the adjacent walls and to transform the chain link fence along the play area into a community mural.

Night Navigators (Neighborhood-wide)

Designed by Code Tenderloin and SF Community Health Center, TCAP dedicated half a million dollar to this program for the first time and partnered with Department of Public Health (DPH) to manage implementation. Since its inception in October of 2023, the Tenderloin Night Navigation program has been a success, filling a gap in health and social services engagement in the evening and late night.

In March of 2024, the program expanded services from 4 days a week to 7 days a week to support a new DPH pilot program that provides a real-time connection with a doctor via telehealth to prescribe medication (buprenorphine) for those ready for treatment for fentanyl addiction and other opioid use disorders and follow-up support. Medications for opioid use disorder are highly effective and reduce the risk of dying by at least 50%. Given the program's initial success, DPH will continue the program through the next fiscal year.

Golden Gate Greenway

The project received a Technical Assistance Shared Spaces grant to host a series of biking workshops for smaller kids organized by the SF Bike Coalition. Additionally, the project's San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) team was able to secure a \$1.05M grant from Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and \$1M in Prop L funding awarded by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority to support the first step toward the long-term project.

The funds allocated to this phase will cover the relocation of the overhead wires and of a fire hydrant to support Fire Department operations; additionally, the grants will fund a street survey and the installation of a new road geometry featuring a reduction from two to one travel lanes with required clearance to promote a more pedestrian oriented block. Construction of the first phase of the permanent project is slated to start in Summer 2025.

2 Arab Youth Center

In collaboration with UCSF, this project is conducting a needs assessment with Arab immigrant families in San Francisco. The needs assessment aims to elevate the challenges that the community faces and influence potential advocacy and funding support, especially for mental health.

Eid Festival

This program partnered with the Tenderloin Community Benefit District's mini-grant program to host a larger event on the 500 Block of Ellis. Project sponsors are now seeking additional collaborative opportunities and are considering teaming up with Sunday Streets in the Tenderloin for their next celebration.

CLICK HERE

For a look at all Project Descriptions and Timelines

TCAP Strategic Priority Areas

Public Space and Activation

Formation of the TCAP Public Space Working Group

The TCAP Public Space Working Group had their first meeting Thursday, May 30, 2024. This pilot working group will be compromised of 16 participants, including 2 youth participants.

The application for this working group received an impressive pool of 31 applicants. The selection process aimed to assemble a cohort with a wide range of perspectives and life experiences, enriched by passion and interest in Public Space. TCAP sought candidates from various racial, ethnic, and LGBTQ+ backgrounds, as well as spanning different age groups and educational and professional backgrounds.

Additionally, it was important to ensure representation from individuals less commonly engaged in other TCAP-related initiatives as a means of building capacity and bringing additional voices to the table. As a part of the selection process, we targeted specific

groups within the community, including youth, seniors, frequent public space users, artists, cultural leaders, street ambassadors, people with disabilities and those engaged with unhoused communities.

The group will focus on the following:

- A revitalization of the neighborhood alleys - Transform alleys into open space and recreational opportunities.
- The design of neighborhood gateways

 to mark and celebrate the identity and strengths of the Tenderloin.
- Placemaking on commercial corridors



and public safety hot spots - to support Tenderloin residents and local businesses.

 Activation of underutilized lots for recreation - to increase open space and recreational access.

Read our Official Announcement here.

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Small Business Support

First TCAP Small Business Training Grant Awarded!

For the first time in the Tenderloin business trainings will be provided in Vietnamese and Mandarin Chinese with this grant to serve non-English speaking business owners.



Pho 2000 at 637 Larkin Street.

In collaboration with the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) and New Community Leadership Foundation (NCLF), and other community partners, seven businesses were selected to receive specialized business training and individual grants of \$15,000 each, totaling \$105,000 in support.

Here are some key highlights:

- Following the announcement of the grant in our recent newsletter, our dedicated team collaborated with the Tenderloin Community Benefit District, NCLF, and Southeast Asian Community Center (SEACC) to conduct comprehensive door-to-door outreach. Utilizing English, Vietnamese, and Mandarin, we engaged with businesses along Larkin Street and the 100 Block of Hyde Street and assisted around 20 interested businesses owners to fill out the applications.
- Based on their years of operation and hours of operation per week, six

businesses on Larkin St between 400 Blocks and 700 Blocks and one business on 100 Block of Hyde St were selected: Saigon Sandwich, Pho 2000, Golden Kim Tar Restaurant, Golden Lotus, J & D Hair Studio, Quong Hoa Duong Ginseng Co, and Allstar Donuts and Burgers. These businesses represent a range of diverse services including restaurant, personal services, and an herbal store.

- NCLF has started the intake process for these businesses and is poised to deliver tailored business training to address their unique needs and challenges.
 Collaborating with TLCBD, SEACC, and other language partners, NCLF will be providing culturally sensitive resources to ensure the effectiveness of the training program.
- The businesses are expected to finish training and receive the grants by July / August.

Larkin Corridor Revitalization

Larkin Street, especially Little Saigon, emerged as a cultural center and commercial corridor in the Tenderloin for Southeast Asian community thanks to their decades of community organizing and community development.

Over the years, while Larkin Street remained a Southeast Asian culture center, it increasingly represented the diversity of the Tenderloin, with several Arab, Chinese, Latino entrepreneurs also contributing to the vibrancy of the corridor. However, once a bustling major commercial corridor in the Tenderloin, Larkin Street is now faced with many challenges.

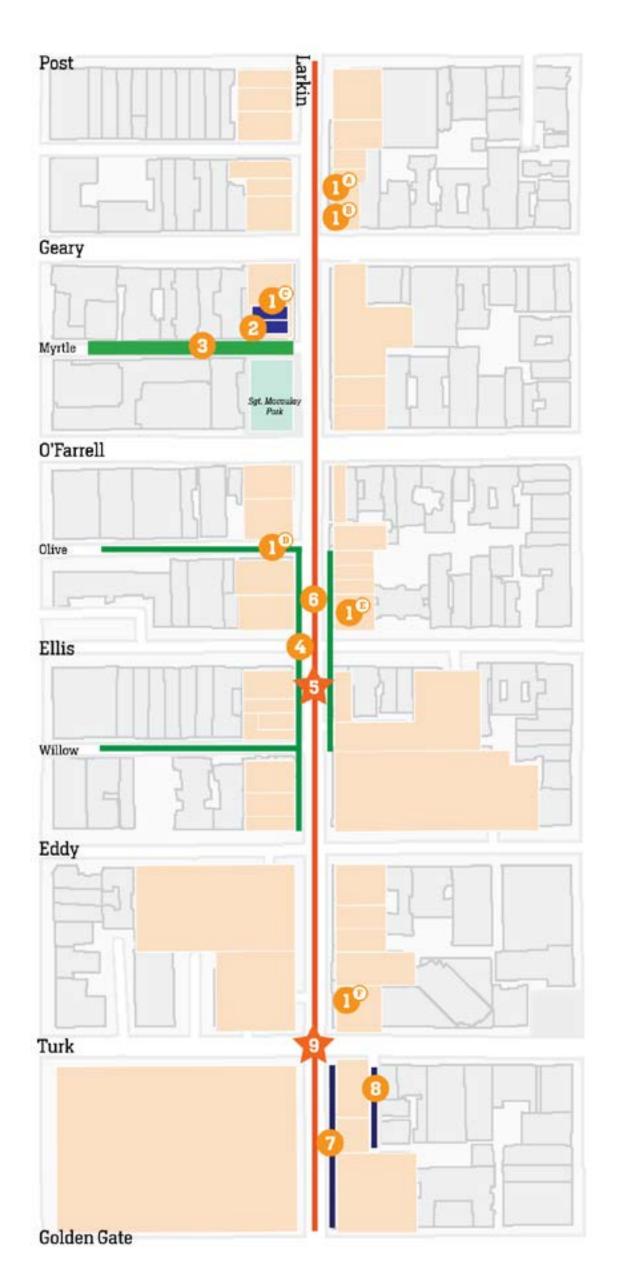
As mentioned in **previous newsletters**, building upon community voice on shaping TCAP's small business support, community partners have proposed a Larkin-Street focused approach to restore economic vitality of this once vibrant corridor. In tandem with the business training grant initiative mentioned above, SF Planning is collaborating with OEWD to craft two other TL specific programs to improve existing storefronts and fill vacancies along Larkin Street. These efforts underscore our commitment to building community capacity to support small businesses within the Tenderloin, with both grant programs slated for launch in the fall.

In addition to small business support grants, SF Planning and OEWD have funded several projects on Larkin Street. These include:

- Public space improvements: Improve public space to create an inviting and welcoming environment for residents and visitors. Examples include Larkin Street Canopy Project (#4 on Map) and Lower Larkin Gates Project (#8 on Map).
- Public space and cultural activations: Activate public space including alley and streets by offering music and cultural experiences to residents and visitors. Examples include First Thursday Art Walk (#1 on Map), The Compton's Café Play & Block Party (#2 on Map), Mrytle Alley and Dodge Alley activations (#3 and #9 on Map), and TL Tet Festival (#6 on Map).
- SF Planning in partnership with OEWD is also engaging in conversations within the city and community stakeholders to seek further support and resources for Larkin Revitalization.

More updates will be provided to the community in our next newsletter.

Read a Draft of the Larkin Street Revitalization Strategy here.



- 1. First Thursday Art Walk
- 2. The Compton's Cafeteria Riot Play & Block Party
- 3. Barklet + Myrtle Alley Activation
- 4. Larkin St Green Canopy
- 6. Tenderloin Tet Festival
- 7. Lower Larkin Decorative Gates Pilot
- 8. Dodge Alley Monthly Socials
- 9. SFMTA Larkin Street Quick Build

3 Youth Investments

Department of Children, Youth & Their Families (DCYF) Announces Final Funding Allocations for Youth and Family Services

In April, 2024, the Department of Children, Youth and their Families (DCYF), released their Request for Proposals (RFP) recipients for their 2024 2029 budget cycle, which includes over \$460 million in new grant funding to support children, youth and their families in San Francisco. In light of the current budget deficit, DCYF faced approximately \$52 million in cuts in RFP funds.



Youth gather for a group activity at the Tenderloin Children's Playground.

Funding decisions are guided by a
Community Needs Assessment (CNA) which
is implemented every 5 years. The TCAP
team has also prepared an **analysis of youth services in the Tenderloin** and is actively
engaged with the Tenderloin Afterschool
Program Collaborative. Together, we are
fostering collaborative opportunities aimed at
bridging the gaps in youth services mentioned
in the Youth Services Gaps Analysis and
anymore that are identified.

Furthermore, our team is diligently analyzing the impacts of these funding allocations and looking for opportunities to address youth service gaps in the Tenderloin. We are engaging directly with service providers through one-on-one meetings and active participation in the Tenderloin Afterschool Program Collaborative.

These meetings have highlighted several challenges faced by organizations including:

 Significant decrease in youth workforce development and leadership programs for

- multiple organizations, a critical need in the Tenderloin that was also highlighted in the TL Youth Gap Analysis
- Potential reduction of workshops, outside programming such as field trips, events, fellowship programs due to the need to reduce staff time allocated to transportation, another unique need to the Tenderloin highlighted in the TL Youth Gap Analysis for safe navigation of children and youth to and from program sites
- Reduction in summer enrollment resulting in unstructured time for youth during the summer and potential exposure to the open-air drug scene in the neighborhood, as well as being drawn to the margins of the open-air drug market.

Our team is actively engaging with providers to gain a comprehensive understanding of the service landscape and remain committed to collaborating with DCYF, the Tenderloin Afterschool Program Collaborative and youth service providers to enhance our efforts.



Housing

Taking Stock of Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) Housing

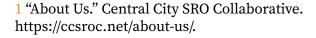
For the past few months TCAP's work on Housing Strategic Priority has been focused on understanding needs and resources for Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotel rehabilitation.

The Tenderloin is home to the largest concentration of SROs in the City. There are over five-hundred (500) SRO residential hotels in San Francisco that are home to more than 30.000 low-income residents.¹

Over decades most SROs have not received the needed maintenance and upgrades and the interest in living with shared bathrooms and kitchens have also shifted.

Improving conditions of deeply affordable housing assets was found as one of the community's **top housing priorities based on prior outreach**. This is a pressing concern among residents, non-profit owners, housing advocates, and the City, as SROs serve the most vulnerable residents and are also in the most disrepair.

In partnership with community organizations and city agencies, TCAP will be embarking on an effort to better understand the rehabilitation needs, and advocate for increased funding opportunities and improved policies.





Hamlin Hotel (385 Eddy Street) has 67 SRO units and is currently owned by the Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC).

TCAP Outreach

Partners Group

Aligned with TCAP's mission to amplify the voices of the Tenderloin community and translate them into action, the Mayor's allocation of \$4 million in June 2022 included \$300,000 specifically earmarked for ongoing, community-informed, and community-driven engagement. The Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation (TNDC) was awarded the RFP for this opportunity.

In order to maintain a diversity of voices in leading outreach and engagement in the Tenderloin, TNDC has brought on four community partner organizations including Glide, Chinatown Community Development Center, Tenderloin Community Benefit District, and St. Anthony's. Together the TCAP Outreach Partners will assist in developing a leadership framework, provide additional community engagement and outreach and support the development of a community leadership framework.

These partners may undertake various tasks based on their capacities, including hosting meetings and fostering leadership development.

TCAP Partners and the Planning Department currently meet bi-weekly to inform progress on the Tenderloin Community Action Plan (TCAP). Together, they have informed criteria for the public space working group member selection, and are currently conducting a thorough analysis of existing organized

groups within the Tenderloin to help develop a leadership framework for resident outreach. We are hopeful that these collaborative efforts bear abundant fruits and look forward to continuing to work with our partner organizations.

Street Conditions Progress

Tenderloin Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program

On April 23, in response to community concerns, Mayor Breed proposed legislation to create a 2 year pilot program as a tool to address night-time safety conditions in the neighborhood.

The "Tenderloin Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program" will limit the hours of operations for specific type of shops: those that sell prepackaged food (such as chips or soda) or tobacco products. The legislation will only prohibit these types of shops from being open to the public between 12 am to 5 am. The legislation will not affect restaurants, bars, or other types of stores.

The limitations will only apply to stores that are located between O'Farrell and McAllister and between Polk and Jones streets. Violators could be subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 per hour of violation. Significant outreach has been conducted to small business owners in the Tenderloin, and community stakeholders to draft this legislation. The intent of this effort is to increase nighttime safety in the Tenderloin, which has disproportionately high levels of drug related activity and crimes, especially during the night. According to SFPD, by being open so late, retail food and tobacco establishments may (1) unintentionally facilitate the late night-time drug market by providing a lighted gathering point for drug users and dealers, (2) enable drug user and dealers to take cover indoors to avoid police patrols, and (3) in some cases, by selling tobacco, tobacco paraphernalia, and other retail goods used by people engaged in drug use and sales. This legislation will be heard at the Land Use Committee of the Board on Monday, June 17, 2024.

Read the <u>draft legislation</u> and a <u>summary of</u> the <u>legislation</u>.

More information on the hearing can be found here.

Joint Field Operations (JFO) and Multi-Agency Efforts Yield Significant Results

The City provides various street outreach and response efforts throughout the City, with some efforts specific to the Tenderloin.



Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and Urban Alchemy's Homeless Engagement Assistance Response Team (HEART) field operations in action.

Over the last months, there have been significant progress reported in addressing streets conditions, as the City marks the one year of forming the Drug Market Agency Coordination Center (DMACC) and hits the lowest number of tent counts within the past year.

The Joint Field Operations (JFO), a multi-department effort led by the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) to improve street conditions in the Tenderloin continues to operate seven days per week from 9:00am – 1:00pm. The schedule for June 2024 can be found here. The work of JFO is dependent upon commitments from several city agencies. On a daily basis, staff from SFFD, HSH, MTA, DPW, SFPD, and DEM all work collaboratively. Additionally, several Community Benefits District staff (including TLCBD Clean Team) contribute to the effort as needed.

The JFO also works very closely with the Healthy Streets Opportunity Center (HSOC) for their operations in the Tenderloin.

- HSOC made 310 referrals in the Tenderloin Neighborhood in the last twelve months (May '23 – May '24).
- JFO made 323 referrals in the TL Neighborhood in the last twelve months (May '23 – May '24).

Comparing May 2023 to May 2024 indicates a 187% increase in shelter referrals, which also resulted in 41% decrease in tents and structures in the Tenderloin Neighborhood from April 2023 to April 2024.

Department of Public Health's BEST (Bridge and Engagement Services Team)
Neighborhoods team also continued their operation in the Tenderloin and SoMA. Launched in March 2023, BEST Neighborhoods is a neighborhood-based, multi-disciplinary, behavioral health team with peer counselors, clinicians, nurses, and psychiatric practitioners serving the Tenderloin and SoMa 5-days a week. The BEST Neighborhoods team provides behavioral health assessment, engagement, and community-based therapeutic interventions with the goal of transitioning people off the streets and into to long-term care and supports.

From March to May 2024, BEST Neighborhoods had 1385 engagements with people in the Tenderloin and SoMa neighborhoods, connecting 116 people to medical care, 204 people to behavioral health care, plus many others to shelter and other ongoing supports.

For more information on San Francisco's array of street response efforts and what to do when you observe someone in distress on the street, please go to the city's **Okaytocall/SF Coordinated Street Response Program website.**

What you should look forward to...

• Come find the TCAP Team table at Sunday Streets SF on June 23rd from 12pm to 5pm. Golden Gate Avenue between Jones and Hyde Streets

Looking forward to continuing advancing community-driven projects and priorities with you all!

~ SF Planning's Tenderloin Team

Sign-Up to subscribe to quarterly updates on our website.





For more info:

https://sfplanning.org/project/ tenderloin-community-action-plan

