

Advisory Council Meeting Summary DRAFT

October 26, 2021, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Council Members Present in person at 49th South Van Ness: Majeid Crawford, Norma Garcia, Oscar Grande, Lara Kiswani, Raquel Redondiez, Mary Travis-Allen, Ben Wong.

Council Members Present online: Tiffany Carter, Del Seymour, Malcolm Yeung.

Council Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Tameeka Bennett, Miriam Chion, Claudia Flores, Rich Hillis (Planning Director), Deborah Sanders, Maia Small.

Facilitator: Lara Kiswani

Topic: This meeting was focused on a presentation of the Equity Council working groups proposals and identifying priority changes in the Planning Budget and Work Program.

1. Opening

Lara welcomed Equity Council members to the hybrid meeting. Lara asked participants to each read one line of the acknowledgement of the Ramaytush Ohlone Land. Lara reviewed the common ground and agenda. She asked Rich to provide a review of Planning Budget numbers.

2. Review of Planning Department Budget numbers by division

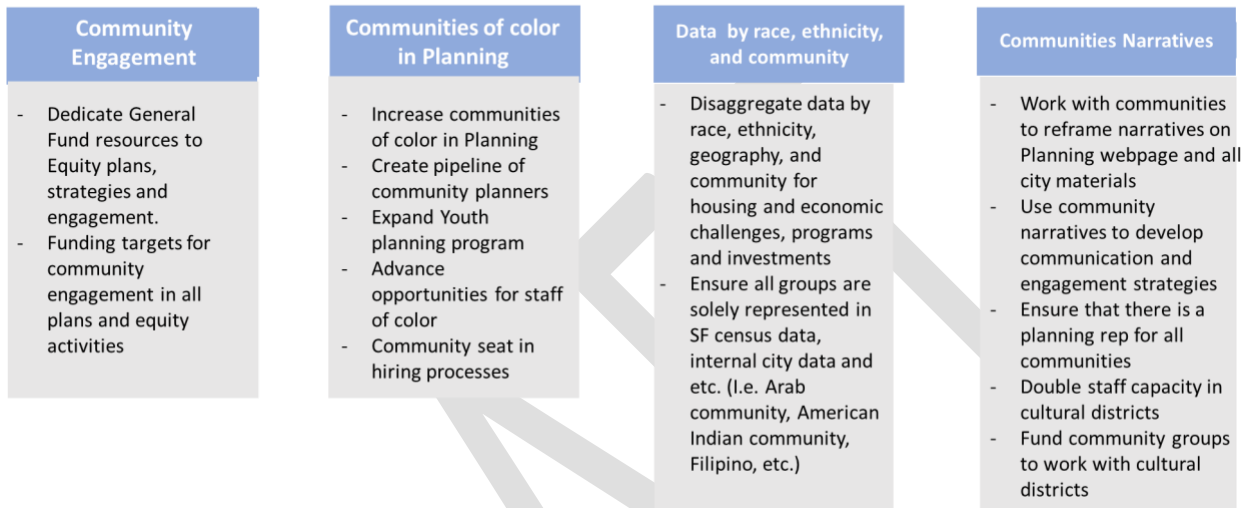
Rich provided additional information on budget requested by the Council, specifically the contracts and staff break down by division. He also mentioned the 8 million budget deficit and the implications for programming some priorities now and in later budget years.

DISCUSSION

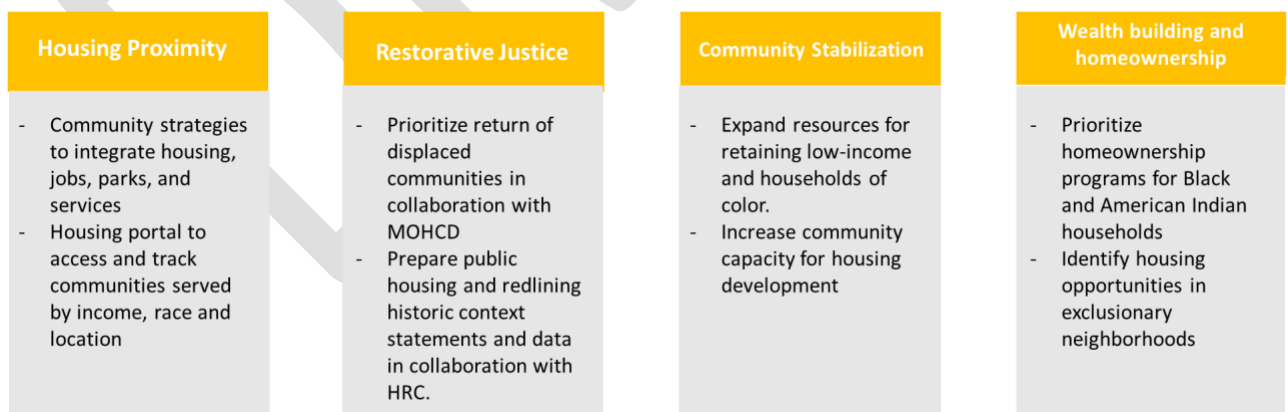
3. SMALL GROUP PRESENTATIONS

The four small groups presented a summary of their ideas (below) for strategies that could be supported through either the Planning Department budget, collaborations with other City agencies, or legislative action:

Community Visibility Strategies



Housing Stability Strategies



Integrated Community Strategies

Cultural Districts	City coordination and communication	Community / Localized Strategies	Community Engagement & Collaboration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand staff to support each Cultural District - Develop clear City-community accountability on community strategies - Expand capacity to deliver effective community stabilization strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open community learning possibilities for City staff - Coordinate within and across City agencies to provide clear communication to CBOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support on-the-ground/community strategies (not just City strategies) - Integrate health (including mental health), housing, jobs in community clinics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase engagement funding to compensate for private brain power - Funding for collaboration across communities to expand learning and accelerate collective solutions - Training for Equity Council

Wealth and Jobs Strategies

Community Economic Devt Strategies	Mixed-use Small Sites Acquisition	Job Opportunities	City contracts and partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land use regulations to support community businesses and organizations - Interventions in Cultural District - Cooperative/community ownership of land, housing and commercial spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop program and potential mixed-use focus (housing and commercial) - Exploring pilot program with OEWD and funding sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local hires through policies, land use. Permits. - Identify job pathways within construction, health and life science, and PDR industries - Tech alliance for jobs - Access to Planning jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procurement equity: require and support contracting of BIPOC biz for city-funded projects - Replicate collaboratives like La Cocina across neighborhoods

DISCUSSION

From the small group presentations, the following were the discussion themes:

Common strategies across groups:

- Job pipelines/access to Planning: how to get community into these spaces and gain more access to Planning
- Data: how can community access community data, create new data, control our data

- Cultural districts: this came up multiple times, how do we build capacity; what does better capacity mean for our communities
- Community engagement: making the work of the City relevant to our communities, including narratives, strategies, approvals
- Collaboration between different city agencies: how is that improved to get the things that community needs. We need other agencies at this table, what does that look like, and whose job is it to do this work?

Collective Space: We would like both collective space as a Council to discuss what our highest priorities and demands are, as well as continue to move the specifics in the small groups to avoid losing momentum.

Implementable and concrete actions, while also changing structures for long-term equity: The draft proposals feel very ambitious to some Council members and it is also a multi-year agenda. Some would like to define what can actually be accomplished within their 18-month Council tenure as well as concrete proposals that their communities can be excited about.

Some Council members highlighted the tension between choosing low-hanging fruit and things that can move along fast vs. things that fundamentally redefine and reframe how planning is done. Some expressed that they took on the Council role to see more fundamental, structural change to reframe how Planning serves the community to thrive not simply survive. Continuing to have 75% of the budget dedicated to status quo would not be good enough – how to get to changing capital and more radical/structural change as well as deal with the politics that would not allow a more radical transformation of the system.

There is also a tension with what is politically feasible but might be more like band-aid work and addressing symptoms instead of addressing the root causes of the key issues identified by the Council. There are also the challenges that State laws sometimes make Commissioners feel their hands are tied, and that City staff may risk their jobs for supporting structural change.

Some Council members feel that it's not possible to dismantle capitalism and the systemic issues through the Council's work but that staying focused on expanding the capacity to push for the community needs is critical. Also, redistribution of political power is a radical action. That is one proposal for how to think about the Council's work together.

Some Council members would like to do both challenge the system but also stand behind some accomplishments to make progress, particularly in stopping displacement such as of the Black population. They feel that many of the proposal do challenge the status quo, structural racism and supremacy.

Clarity on feasibility of tasks and investments: Equity Council members discussed the importance of clarifying responsibilities at staff and community leaders levels and sharing the impacts of the budget shortfall. It is important to be honest about what can and can't be

accomplished, particularly given the upcoming budget deficit. It is also important to define who is responsible for each item, their time-frame, which budget year each item belong to, and other concrete details.

Following the discussion by the Council Rich and Miriam provided the following response to the key points and asks:

- We heard concrete things we can put into place now, some that will require other agencies, and some that are longer-term
- The General Fund budget ask to fund work that advances community equity is doable and should be baseline
- We could create a document that outlines what are the root causes/main issues that lead to these strategies that are being prioritized in addition to the strategies document and a document to share with your constituents

4. Closing

Lara closed the meeting with some specific asks from staff for follow up:

- Build in space, in these meetings, for the Council to meet on our own collectively for political alignment, in addition to delving deeper in our small groups.
- Staff will be putting something together for us to share with our constituents, in addition to placing the ideas from the small groups in a shared Google document for us to review
- Set up relevant conversations with other agencies
- Provide us with a simple power mapping – who can give us what we want among these various demands

Next Steps

- Staff to share requested documents with Equity Council and schedule working group meetings in November.
- Discussion of Housing and coordination with MOHCD for next meeting
- Next meeting: November 30, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm