

Community Equity Council Meeting Summary

Date: March 26, 2024

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Location: In-person at SF Planning Department HQ, 49 South Van Ness, Suite 1411

Councilmembers: Mary Travis-Allen, Tiffany Carter, Delano Seymour, Ben Wong, Lucia Obregon, Lara Kiswani, Mahsa Hakimi, and William Ortiz,

Staff: Oscar Grande, Rich Hillis, Aurion Wiley-Green, James Pappas, Miriam Chion, Giuliana Martinez, Destiny Arroyo, Lisa Chen, Sarah Richardson, David Garcia, Malena Leon-Farrera, and Dr. Kofi Akinjide

1. Welcome and Agenda Overview

The meeting was facilitated by Oscar Grande, who welcomed attendees and provided an overview of the agenda for the session.

Land Acknowledgment

A land acknowledgment was read by Malena to recognize the Ramaytush Ohlone land on which the meeting was held.

Black History Month and Lunar New Year

The council celebrated and acknowledged both Black History Month and Lunar New Year, noting their importance within the community.

Icebreaker

An icebreaker session was held where council members shared their visions for a repurposed Macy's, sparking creative discussions.

2. SF Planning Presentation on Rezoning

The SF Planning team presented an overview of the Housing Element Implementation, highlighting the Expanding Housing Choice, affordable housing funding strategies, and efforts to activate community priorities. The presentation also covered housing production improvements and a detailed review of the rezoning plans aimed at providing a wider range of housing options across income levels. Policy areas discussed included protecting residents, supporting small businesses, and balancing the benefits and tensions of rezoning. Councilmembers raised concerns about engagement fatigue within equity communities, expressing that their input often does not lead to meaningful decisions. The discussion also focused on ensuring equity across San Francisco's neighborhoods, emphasizing that rezoning should allow all members of equity

communities an equal opportunity to purchase homes. The Planning Department clarified that rezoning includes housing for all income levels, not just subsidized options.

Questions raised included why younger demographics support rezoning more than older generations, with the response being that younger renters are more receptive to affordable housing, while older homeowners seek stability. There were also concerns about potential tenant displacement, a lack of diversity in focus groups, and suggestions for better integrating the Black community into housing efforts.

Next Steps: The Planning Department will continue these discussions during the Housing Working Group sessions.

3. Affordable Housing Pipeline

The Community Initiatives and Housing (CI+H) Working Group presented three proposed actions to support affordable housing development and preservation over the next eight years: (1) supporting Affordable Housing Leadership Council recommendations, (2) guiding the creation of an Equity Communities' Affordable Housing map/portfolio to track the City's funding allocation and equity community priorities, and (3) advising on popular education materials to raise awareness around the need to deliver 46,000 affordable housing units. Councilmembers voiced concerns about the equitable distribution of affordable housing, particularly ensuring that projects are not concentrated solely in low-income areas. There was also strong support for creating a list of affordable housing projects to advocate for across equity communities, regardless of the outcome of funding bonds.

Next Steps: The Housing Working Group will work on developing this pipeline project and will continue to discuss and refine these strategies in future meetings.