



Re: Follow-up: Southern District Bears A Disproportionate Burden

From Shaun Aukland <shaun.aukland@gmail.com>

Date Mon 12/15/2025 8:00 AM

To Lew, Derrick (POL) <Derrick.Lew@sfgov.org>; Lurie, Daniel (MYR) <daniel.lurie@sfgov.org>

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Dear Chief Lew and Police Commissioners,

I am writing to follow up on my previous notes regarding the structural inequity in Southern District staffing. While we await a concrete response to our request for equitable staffing now, the situation in SOMA has garnered significant public attention. An [ABC7 News segment](#) aired this week highlighting the "security gap" our neighborhood faces has already generated 55,000 views and over 700 comments in just three days.

The segment publicly validates the very data points I have shared below: **residents are forced to privately subsidize the public safety vacuum left by the City's current staffing allocation, within existing headcount.** The city-wide staffing shortage is not a sufficient explanation here.

Link to Segment: [SF residents spent over \\$800K on private guards, blame city for worsening conditions -- EXCLUSIVE](#)



SF residents spent over \$800K on private guards, blame city for worsening conditions -- EXCLUSIVE



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In San Francisco, a group of residents is having to pay for private security guards, as they say conditions in their area have deteriorated after a number of city services, like shelters, have opened in the area. <https://abc7news.com/18266020/>

I wanted to draw your attention to three key takeaways from the broadcast that underscore the urgency of our staffing request:

- **Response Times:** A resident explicitly stated on air: "Frankly, our building calls the CBD for safety patrols now instead of the police because we'll get response within a timely manner." This is not hyperbole. My previous messages focused on Calls per Sector Patrol officer, and % staffed to recommendation. However, a view into last 90 day response times show the devastating effects these staffing choices have on our neighborhood.

Southern station residents wait 39 minutes, on average, for Priority B crimes. This is 44% longer than the city average. Our most common Priority B call is "Fight No Weapon". You are essentially gambling that active violence will resolve itself.

We wait 1hr 52m for a Priority C call response, again 45% longer than the average San Franciscan. And when the officer arrives, they close the call in just 1 minute, 20 seconds -- this is not policing, it is clearing calls and leaving.

Better staffed police districts do not face these waits.

Police District	Priority A (8 minute goal)	Priority B (20 minute goal)	Priority C (60 minute goal)
TENDERLOIN	6.6	45.3	97.0
SOUTHERN	8.3	39.3	111.9
NORTHERN	8.8	35.4	104.9

CENTRAL	7.5	28.7	77.8
BAYVIEW	8.1	25.8	70.9
INGLESIDE	9.5	23.9	58.9
TARAVAL	9.5	21.5	68.8
MISSION	7.2	20.9	52.2
RICHMOND	9.5	20.7	55.9
PARK	8.7	18.5	54.9
CITY-WIDE AVG	8.3	27.4	77

Source: data.sfgov.org, Date range: Last 90 days, 9/14/25 - 12/12/25

- **Unserviced Calls:** These slow response times have real-world impacts. Over 60% of calls at key intersections result in no contact from the police, with response times so slow that the officer Disposition on the call is marked "Gone Upon Arrival", "Unable to Locate" or the call never receives an officer on-site (excluding those that are cancelled). This is essentially treating South of Market as a "Containment Zone", by permitting crime and reducing response times in specific areas that are deemed unmanageable.
- **Admission of Reliance on Private Security:** When asked if crime drops were due to SFPD or private security, Supervisor Dorsey shared: "It might be both." This is an acknowledgement that public safety in District 6 is currently dependent on private funding (\$850,000/year) rather than equitable police staffing.
- **"Pockets of Poverty" Dynamic:** The segment highlighted how the City is "designing pockets of poverty" by concentrating services without matching them with public safety resources. Even HSH admitted in their statement to ABC that their "recent investments" in shelters required increased security measures, yet SFPD staffing has not surged to match that increased burden.

The viral response to this story demonstrates that the public clearly sees this inequity. We reiterate our request for a written commitment to bring Southern District's officer-to-call workload ratio into parity with the citywide average **before** the new boundary changes take effect.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Shaun Aukland

On Tue, Dec 2, 2025 at 1:55 PM Shaun Aukland <shaun.aukland@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Interim Chief Yep and Mayor Lurie,

At last night's District 6 Safety Town Hall, I was very disappointed to hear your reactions to the "Staff Southern District" signs. Your talking points reverted to the city-wide staffing challenge, of which we are all acutely aware.

To actually understand the community's perspective and avoid speaking past one another, I would ask that your team re-review the below message. Our concern is that **current station allocations** within the available city-wide sworn officer headcount is not fair to Southern District. Our neighborhood is among the **least staffed within existing headcount**, and officers bear nearly 2x call load that of other stations. This affects public safety each and every day.

Continuing to revert to "we also want more staffing" and "we'll ramp it next August" are simply insufficient responses and come across as ignoring the concerns the neighborhood has raised.

Thank you.

Shaun Aukland

Soma West Neighborhood Association

On Thu, Nov 6, 2025 at 8:04 AM Shaun Aukland <shaun.aukland@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Police Commissioners and Interim Chief Yep,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at last night's meeting regarding the district boundaries, which the Commission subsequently voted unanimously to approve. As I stated, our goal is not to oppose realignment outright, but to ensure it does not dangerously worsen the existing workload inequity in Southern District.

Now that the realignment is approved, I am writing to ask for your immediate public commitment to address the very staffing inequities this change will magnify, and to follow-up with the specific data I cited for your benefit.

Your **2025 SFPD Staffing Analysis Report** (attached) clearly documents this existing inequity. As the analysis shows (pp. 31, 51, 55), Southern District's Current sector patrol officers handle a workload of 390 community-generated calls per officer. This is nearly **double** the workload in the Park District, which is 206 calls per officer.

District Station	Community Calls for Service (CFS 2024)	Current Sector Patrol Officers	Calls Per Officer (2024 Data)
Taraval	17,312	39	444
Southern	31,955	82	390
Mission	29,543	77	384
Northern	30,428	81	376
Central	26,515	72	368
Tenderloin	26,397	77	343
Richmond	12,879	47	274
Ingleside	17,807	69	258
Bayview	18,389	74	249
Park	9,698	47	206

This same report shows that Southern's sector patrol is staffed at only 78% of its "Recommended" level, one of the most under-resourced in the city.

District Station	Current Sector Patrol Officers	Recommended Sector Patrol Officers	% Sector Patrol Staffed
Taraval	39	74	53%
Mission	77	108	71%
Southern	82	105	78%
Richmond	47	60	78%
Central	72	90	80%
Northern	81	98	83%
Ingleside	69	72	96%

Park	47	48	98%
Tenderloin	77	76	101%
Bayview	74	66	112%

Even this official data undercounts the reality. Due to overwhelmed city services, our community benefit district's private security in Soma West responds to over 30,000 calls a year (approx. 600 per week) that never enter your dataset. As we have shared, we have mostly stopped calling.

While we all understand the citywide staffing shortage, the *equitable distribution of existing officers* is a policy choice that is controllable today. And your commitments to being data-driven in the future must start with being data-driven *now*.

The boundary change you approved adds an estimated 25% more call volume to Southern. Implementing this change *without* a written, funded, and simultaneous staffing correction would be ignoring the department's own data.

Verbal assurances that "staffing will be adjusted" are not sufficient. We ask for your leadership commit to three specific actions:

1. **A written commitment** to bring Southern District's officer-to-call workload ratio into parity with the citywide average, as defined by your own Staffing Analysis, ahead of the new boundary implementation.
2. **A written commitment** to staff Southern for the *additional* call volume that this realignment will create. I also ask that you use more recent data than the outdated 2023 data that was presented.
3. **A written commitment** to immediately fulfill the *already-promised* and unstaffed Soma West foot beats. This reports that other foot beats are staffed.

South of Market has always been comfortable bearing our fair share -- but we are often asked to bear much more and are right now. We are not asking for special treatment, we are asking for an equitable, safe, and sustainable plan for our neighborhood, now that you have voted to increase the burden on our already-strained resources.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Shaun Aukland
Resident, Homeowner
Soma West Neighborhood Association