



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee

January 22, 2026

Mayor Daniel Lurie  
1 Dr Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
Room 200  
San Francisco, CA 94102

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Mayor Daniel Lurie and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Our City, Our Home (OCOH) Oversight Committee is pleased to provide the attached 2025 Homelessness Needs Assessment in fulfillment of our responsibilities defined in the Business and Tax Regulations Code Section [2810\(e\)\(2\)\(B\)](#). The report describes the characteristics and demonstrates the needs of people experiencing homelessness, those at risk of homelessness, and formerly homeless individuals who are housed and may require ongoing support to remain housed.

The analysis in this report draws on quantitative and qualitative data from the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, Department of Public Health, and other public sources. OCOH Oversight Committee Data Officer, Scott Walton, and Community Impact Liaison Jabari Jackson, collaborated with City departments to inform the analysis.

The OCOH Oversight Committee affirms the findings of the 2025 Homelessness Needs Assessment, and highlights the following considerations:

1. **Maintain a focus on designing equitable approaches to homelessness:** Marginalized populations continue to be overrepresented in the homeless population - City data indicates that Black and Latine/Hispanic individuals represent a disproportionately high share of unhoused households, and that older adults are especially at risk of experiencing homelessness. The City must promote strategies that reduce the impact and scale of homelessness on marginalized populations.
2. **Prioritize investment in homelessness prevention programs:** The rate of inflow into homelessness underscores the urgent need to prioritize investments in prevention efforts to reduce homelessness overall and promote housing stability. In particular, the City should target prevention efforts and support services to address the rising rates of family and youth homelessness.
3. **Align system capacity with scale of need and improve flow through the system:** Existing shelter and housing resources are inadequate relative to the scale of homelessness. System flow and exits into permanent housing continue to face persistent barriers. The City must improve flow to housing from street, shelter and treatment settings, as well as add to the overall inventory.

4. **Embed services within programs to align to complex needs:** Single adults experiencing homelessness report high rates of substance use disorders, serious mental illness, developmental disabilities, and chronic homelessness—conditions that are increasingly prevalent. Shelter, housing and treatment programs must be adapted to effectively respond to the complexity and severity of these needs, including ensuring appropriate behavioral health supports are embedded in shelter and housing. Using a Housing First model, the City should integrate behavioral health treatments and services into housing programs so that individuals can access the right supports while remaining housed.

The OCOH Oversight Committee believes housing is an essential tool for addressing homelessness. While calibration of the scale of housing may be needed, according to the results of this Needs Assessment, we prioritize approaches that bring support services into housing to keep individuals stably housed and integrated programming that allows households to maintain housing when more intensive support is needed, such as residential treatment.

The OCOH Oversight Committee also emphasizes that there is an ongoing need for more robust and integrated data systems that can track *outcomes across programs and jurisdictions*. High-quality, robust data, particularly outcome data for shelter, housing, prevention and behavioral health programs, enables policymakers to assess impact, allocate resources effectively, and make informed decisions. The Committee particularly encourages outcome reporting related to inflow into homelessness. Key measures include housing stability—such whether people who exit to a housing program remain housed a year later—and patterns in emergency rental assistance use, including whether individuals receive support once or repeatedly, and whether services reach new households or the same individuals cycling through the system.

In addition, because homelessness is a challenge that spans jurisdictions, the Committee promotes cross-departmental and inter-city collaboration—grounded in shared data, aligned goals, and joint accountability. This can lead to more strategic investments and better outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

The 2025 Homelessness Needs Assessment provides a data-driven foundation for aligning budget priorities with the characteristics and needs of people experiencing homelessness. In addition, by identifying the areas where demand for services exceeds capacity – whether in shelter, housing, or prevention – the Needs Assessment helps ensure that funding decisions are targeted, equitable, and responsive to current and emerging needs.

Sincerely,

Shanell Williams, Chair

Julia D'Antonio, Vice-Chair

Scott Walton, Data Officer

Jabari Jackson, Community Impact Liaison

C: Jennifer Friedenbach, Lindsay Haddix, Kezia Martinis, Bonnie Preston, Ruby Bolaria Shifrin, and Billy Lemon