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DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH



SHELTER WAITLIST UPDATE:

As of October 15th there are 1,157 people on the waitlist for shelter in San Francisco. If Prop C passes this number could drop to ZERO.

NEWSFLASH

HOMELESSNESS HEADLINES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

DISTRICT ATTORNEY GEORGE GASCON ANNOUNCES AMNESTY ON TICKETS FOR SLEEPING

Gascon says his department will no longer prosecute people who are cited for sleeping on city streets or in public parks, in direct response to the 9th Circuit ruling that said cities cannot charge people for sleeping if they have no where else to go.

SAN FRANCISCANS PROTEST AS SALESFORCE CONTRACTS WITH US CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

Immigrants and advocates protested the Dreamforce conference, citing the contract with CBP, the agency responsible for carrying out Trump’s anto-immigration policies including the separation of families. Protestors also flew a blimp over the conference reading “#Failsforce”.

GOVERNOR BROWN VETOES BILL TO ALLOW SAFE INJECTION SITES IN SAN FRANCISCO

Brown rejected a California bill that would have allowed drug users access to safe injection facilities, which dramatically reduce the risk of disease and overdose. Brown argued that local officials and health care professionals could be subject to potential federal criminal charges.

SF CHRONICLE ANNOUNCES OPPOSITION TO HOMELESS HOUSING MEASURE; PARENT COMPANY WOULD BE SUBJECT TO TAX

The San Francisco published an editorial against local ballot measure Prop C, a tax on multi-million dollar businesses that will fund housing and mental health services. The editorial did not mention that the Hearst Corporation, which owns the paper, would be subject to the tax.



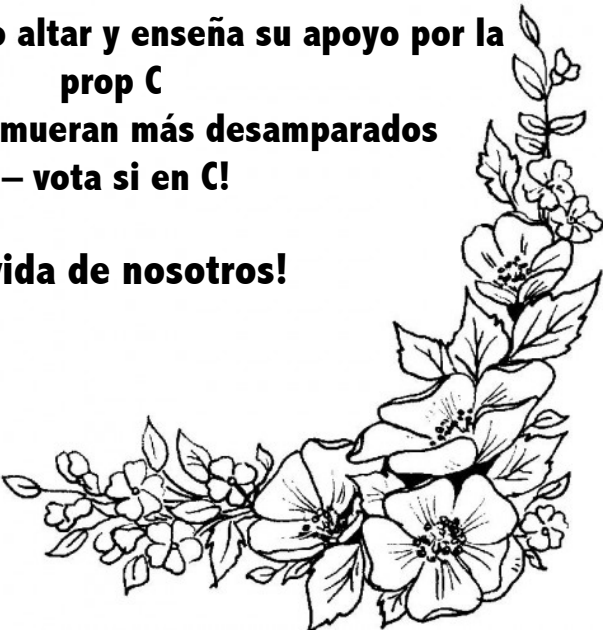
Sí en C

Día do los muertos - Altar
Noviembre 2nd • 4pm – 10pm @ Garfield park

Ven, mira nuestro altar y enseña su apoyo por la prop C
Provenir que mueran más desamparados – vota si en C!

La vida de nosotros!

COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS
T: (415) 346-3740



ASK US ANYTHING

HAVE A QUESTION YOU WANT US TO ANSWER ABOUT HOMELESSNESS OR HOUSING IN THE BAY AREA? ASK US AT STREETSHEET@COHSF.ORG OR (415) 346-3740 AND IT COULD BE ANSWERED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS

The STREET SHEET is a project of the Coalition on Homelessness. The Coalition on Homelessness organizes poor and homeless people to create permanent solutions to poverty while protecting the civil and human rights of those forced to remain on the streets.

Our organizing is based on extensive peer outreach, and the information gathered directly drives the Coalition’s work. We do not bring our agenda to poor and homeless people: they bring their agenda to us.

WORKGROUP MEETINGS

AT 468 TURK STREET

HOUSING JUSTICE WORK GROUP

Every Tuesday at noon
The Housing Justice Workgroup is working toward a San Francisco in which every human being can have and maintain decent, habitable, safe, and secure housing. This meeting is in English and Spanish and open to everyone!

HUMAN RIGHTS WORK GROUP

Every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.
The Human Rights Workgroup has been doing some serious heavy lifting on these issues: conducting direct research, outreach to people on the streets, running multiple campaigns, developing policy, staging direct actions, capturing media attention, and so much more. All those down for the cause are welcome to join!

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO OUR WORK GROUP MEETINGS. Unfortunately our space is not wheelchair accessible, but we will move our meeting location to accomodate people who cannot make it up the stairs. For access needs contact development@cohsf.org

To learn more about COH workgroup meetings, contact us at : 415-346-3740, or go at : www.cohsf.org

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

PHOTOGRAPHERS
VIDEOGRAPHERS
TRANSLATORS
COMIC ARTISTS
WEBSITE MAINTENANCE
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS
WRITERS & COPYEDITORS

DONATE!

LAPTOPS
DIGITAL CAMERAS
AUDIO RECORDERS
SOUND EQUIPMENT

CONTACT:

STREETSHEET@COHSF.ORG

STREET SHEET STAFF

The Street Sheet is a publication of the Coalition on Homelessness. Some stories are collectively written, and some stories have individual authors. But whoever sets fingers to keyboard, all stories are formed by the collective work of dozens of volunteers, and our outreach to hundreds of homeless people.

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SUBMIT YOUR WRITING

STREET SHEET publishes news and perspective stories about poverty and homelessness. We prioritize submissions from currently or formerly homeless writers but gratefully accept all submissions.

send submission to qwatts@cohsf.org

SF SUNDAY STREETS BUILDS COMMUNITY IN THE TENDERLOIN

Garrett Leahy

One common issue for urban households is lack of leisure space. Often, urban development emphasizes car traffic over pedestrian accessibility, Los Angeles is a case-and-point; it's very difficult to move around the city without a car. For kids, this often means more time spent indoors than exercising and spending time with their friends outside. This issue is compounded with kids who live in more dangerous neighborhoods, where parents may not feel comfortable letting their kids play outside alone.

However, the city of Bogota, Colombia has been taking a novel approach to solving this issue for decades. They established the Ciclovía in the mid 1970s, closing dozens of miles of streets to automobile traffic every Sunday, and setting up exercise classes and other activities allowing people to get outside and exercise.

Since then, cities around the world have tried to emulate the Ciclovía.

Paris closed 400 miles of road to cars last September in the Journée Sans Voiture and Ottawa closes 32 miles of roads every Sunday from May to September, which they call Sunday Bikedays. Bangalore, Cape Town, and Mexico City have all hosted similar events successfully as well. And since 2008, San Francisco has too.

Sunday Streets SF, a program under the nonprofit Livable City, began as a mayoral initiative under Gavin Newsom in 2008, with only 2 events along the waterfront per year. Ten years later, the program has grown to organize 10 events held throughout San Francisco annually. Recently, a Sunday Streets event was held in the Tenderloin, where 3 miles of streets were closed off to allow space for kids to ride bikes, do arts and crafts, or simply run around without needing to worry about traffic. In the Tenderloin especially, where there are a large number of school-age children, the Sunday Streets' visit to the Tenderloin is a welcome chance to stretch their legs

The initial idea behind creating these events in San Francisco was to combat climate change as well as address health disparities among residents of San Francisco's poorer neighborhoods. However, Sunday Streets has grown beyond this, striving to collaborate with hosting neighborhoods to reflect the culture and needs of the community. In organizing everything from the live music to the medical services offered by the Department of Public Health, nearly every aspect Sunday Streets is curated with the unique needs and culture of the neighborhood in mind.

In hopes of catering to hosting communities, Sunday Streets SF is conscious about creating a safe space for attendees. They ensure that SFPD has a minimal presence, using volunteers to monitor the area and only call for police intervention in the case of an emergency, as well as curating a heterogeneous mixture of activities throughout the areas to create inclusive spaces

for all who attend, whether it be a businessman to a homeless person. `

Looking forward, Sunday Streets SF hopes to create a "network" of sorts, Sunday Streets can organize with teams throughout San Francisco to maximize availability of public recreation events. While only hosting 10 events annually in San Francisco, Sunday Streets SF hopes to establish a continuing and more widespread presence, and in the process improve the lives of San Francisco urbanites by reducing car emissions, encouraging healthier eating, and increasing opportunities for children and adults to exercise outside.

If you are interested in volunteering or giving feedback, email programs@livablecity.org or call 415-344-0489. If you don't have access to a computer or telephone, you can also simply walk to the information booth at any of the events for a schedule and volunteer opportunities.

TENDERLOIN CANDIDATES BY THE ISSUES

Jack Rice

The D6 candidate forum at St. Anthony's opened with a few words from Marnie Regen, who serves as Director of Development at the heralded Tenderloin organization.

"Our Dining Hall is a special place to be holding this forum," reflected Regen. "Earlier today, in the same room, we were nurturing bodies."

Mission Local's Joe Eskenazi then mediated a loose, polite conversation between Matt Haney, Sonja Trauss, Christine Johnson, and the community.

"Before we get started, I've been asked to simplify Ranked-Choice Voting," Joe laughed, "which means that you're allowed to vote for your three favorite candidates in your order of preference. Don't overthink it."

The forum touched upon homelessness, affordable housing, bike lanes, policing, zoning regulations, drug use, clean streets, and much more.

To keep things unbiased, I have put together a brief summation of the candidates' answers on some of these topics, as well as a list of their stances on key local ballot measures.

CANDIDATE STANCES ON CLEANER STREETS IN THE TENDERLOIN

MATT HANEY

"We have a crisis of services in our community. It's hard to find a trashcan that works. We need public restrooms, particularly public restrooms that are open at night. We have a responsibility

to call the Mayor and the head of DPW in to demand accountability and results. We urgently need to pass Prop C and get people inside. We have an urgent public health crisis on our streets."

SONJA TRAUSS

"San Francisco spends more than 5 times than other cities on street cleaning. A big part of this is that we treat homelessness and drug addiction as a street cleaning issue. We are the worst in our country, and that has been because the chickens have come home to roost. The population has been growing for decades. We need to choose housing, rather than displacement and homelessness."

CHRISTINE JOHNSON

"As a supervisor your job is the laws and the budget. Street cleaning is about appropriate places for people to go. If you're living your life on the sidewalks, even if you're housed, we need to have public spaces and facilities to use that aren't the sidewalks. I spoke to the head of DPW and I was talking in circles because our logic is circular as a city."

CANDIDATE STANCES ON PROGRAMS THAT HELP SRO RESIDENTS MOVE ON TO MORE APPROPRIATE HOUSING

MATT HANEY

"I absolutely support these programs and that people should be able to move

into bigger and more comfortable spaces. We can create a better and comprehensive approach that is more individually designed to support people with a variety of housing needs."

SONJA TRAUSS

"I want to legalize affordable housing all over the city. There is just not enough affordable housing for all the people with vouchers, and for all the people that can't afford housing. Also, there are thousands of vacant units and I want to impose a vacancy tax."

CHRISTINE JOHNSON

"I definitely support the Step-Up program. I want to make sure that there are units that people actually can move into with the Moving On program. I believe in a vacancy tax or fee. I also want to make sure buildings remain livable, and that we can open up more units that are currently empty."

CANDIDATE STANCES ON SUPPORTING FOLKS WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND DRUG ADDICTION DISORDERS

MATT HANEY

"I think we need through DPH a point of entry around mental health services with case management and accountability that is attentive to individual needs. We have so many gaps in our city and a lack of coordination, and I want to address this so that people can get on the path to the

support that they need."

Sonja Trauss

We have a new coordinated entry system, and that will help to keep track of individuals who are using services across different non-profits, hospitals, and jails. I'm excited about the oversight committee in Prop. C. It will give people a window into how things are working."

Christine Johnson

"Access to knowledge of the services is important. We make it hard for people to know what they can be connected to. We need more outreach and information even for people who are housed. We need supportive housing in different neighborhoods, and we need more locked psychiatric beds."

CANDIDATE STANCES ON BALLOT MEASURES

LOCAL MEASURE C – HOMELESSNESS FUNDING
Haney, Johnson, and Trauss all say YES on C.

LOCAL MEASURE E – ARTS AND CULTURE FUNDING
Haney, Johnson, and Trauss all say YES on E.

STATE PROPOSITION 10 – PERMITS STRONGER LOCAL RENT CONTROL
Haney and Trauss say YES on 10; Johnson does not.

YES ON C

SAN FRANCISCO'S 10 POINT PLAN TO TACKLE OUR HOMELESS CRISIS



Yes on C is a strategic plan, crafted using proven approaches by the people working on the front lines of the crisis. Here's how it works.

- 1** Funded by the top 1% largest corporations by a small tax on revenue earned over \$50 million per year — will NOT impact small businesses or homeowners
- 2** Provides intensive mental health care and drug addiction services for over 4,000 severely impaired individuals
- 3** Moves more than 4,000 households including seniors, women, youth and families with children off the streets and into supportive and affordable homes
- 4** Expand shelters to give the 1,000 people on our wait lists each night a place to sleep off the street
- 5** Prevents additional homelessness, protecting 7,000 San Francisco households from losing their homes through rental assistance
- 6** Places mobile bathrooms and sanitation centers across the city to allow people to relieve themselves in a dignified and sanitary way
- 7** Expands Navigation Centers, one of the most effective, proven approaches to bringing people off the streets and into care
- 8** Brings back the clean, healthy streets that San Franciscans deserve
- 9** Requires an Oversight Committee comprised of experts who will review and report regularly on results generated by this strategic plan
- 10** Has broad support from the community including House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, San Francisco teachers, SPUR, Mental Health Association of San Francisco, San Francisco Democratic Party and the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods

BILLIONAIRE HOMELESS

BACKS TAX ON BILLIONAIRE

In late September, Katy Tang, incumbent District 4 Supervisor, and Jim Lazarus, Senior Vice President on the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, held a press conference outside City Hall urging voters to vote no on Proposition C. Supervisor Tang told the press that the homeless population has been stabilized at roughly 7,000 people the past decade. Tang also said that she wants an analysis of Prop. C from the Office of the Controller before considering a yes vote.

Firstly, Tang's insistence that the homeless population has been "stabilized" should be sufficient to understand her lack of commitment to ending the homelessness crisis in our city. In talking about the "stable population" of homeless folks, she

YES ON C: HOUSING

50% HOUSING. Will permanently house families, youth, and

10% CLEAN STREETS, BATHROOMS AND SHELTER.

100% ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT. The Our City Our Home nine experts created and equitable out

THE TIME IS NOW

Endorsed by: Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Rep. J. Research Association (SPUR), San Francisco Association of San Francisco, Sierra Club (DCCC), Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, San Francisco Tenants Union, Coalition

RE JOINS RANKS OF S ACTIVISTS ONAIRES

paints a relatively rosy visage of what is actually a crisis in San Francisco, in which homeless residents face a 1,000 person waitlist for a 90 day shelter bed in addition to criminalization while living on the streets and in encampments. Although it is true that the population of homeless folks has been consistently at 7,000 for over a decade, it should never be the government's goal to "stabilize" the number of people living on the streets; they should strive to end this disaster.

Lazarus focused more on the economic impact of Prop. C. Lazarus stated that Prop. C would have a significant impact on jobs and businesses in San Francisco. He stated that Prop. C would move jobs out of San Francisco and overtax businesses, endangering their growth and endangering general

fund business tax revenue. However, Lazarus' primary concern was put to rest by a report on the impact of Prop. C on businesses from San Francisco's Office of the Controller and Office of Economic Analysis. The report stated that the total job loss and gross domestic product loss incurred by Prop. C would only result in an average loss of 0.1 percent of jobs and 0.1 percent of San Francisco's GDP over a period of 20 years.

One of the main critiques put forth by the No on C campaign is Prop. C's impact on jobs and businesses, but the Office of the Controller's report proves that any negative impact would be negligible. This was the highlight of the Yes on C press conference, also held outside City Hall two days later, where District 1 supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer and District 9 Supervisor Hillary Ronen talked about the ways that Prop. C would help end homelessness in San Francisco.

Ronen discussed the importance of housing, mental health services and substance abuse treatment. Ronen also highlighted an important fact: that Prop. C would get back a small fraction of a 14 percent corporate tax break given by the Trump administration and reinvest it back into services for the homeless.

Fewer read a statement from San Francisco's chief economist, Ted Egan, concurring with the findings of the Office of the Controller's report which included additional positive impacts not quantified in the report. According to Egan, Prop. C's passage would result in an expected improvement of health outcomes, a reduction in acute service costs and an increase in "the overall attractiveness of San Francisco" due to a potential decrease in the homeless population. Furthermore, per Egan, the combined effects of these expected outcomes could result in an "economic impact better than (projected.)"

The primary concern regarding an exodus of businesses and jobs from San Francisco is not a concern, and the passage of Prop. C would likely reduce the homeless population, improve health outcomes and reduce the cost of homeless services. All signs point to the impact of Prop. C being positive and a force in ending the homelessness crisis in San Francisco. This November, you can be an agent of change in our city by voting Yes on C!

W IT WORKS

use 4,000 homeless adults.

25% MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES.
Will serve the most severely mentally ill people on the streets. 4,500 people will receive behavioral health and substance use treatment.

15% PREVENTION.
Will prevent homelessness for 7,000 people through rental assistance and eviction defense.

Will create emergency shelter for over 1,000 people and drop-in hygiene programs.

Home Oversight Committee is a panel of
ted to hold the city accountable to visible
comes with this funding.

OW. JOIN US!

ackie Speier, SF Planning and Urban
ncisco School Board, Mental Health
, The San Francisco Democratic Party
ighborhoods, Unite Here! Local 2,
on Homelessness, GLIDE, and more.

BILLIONAIRE JOINS RANKS OF HOMELESS ACTIVISTS BACKS TAX ON BILLIONAIRES

TJ JOHNSTON

The Proposition C campaign just took some interesting, if not altogether unexpected, turns. Just as three major San Francisco political figures announced their opposition to taxing multi-million dollar corporations to fund homeless services, a tech mogul whose company would be subject to it voiced his support.

San Francisco's latest political spectacle was a headline Mayor London tried unsuccessfully to bury. On Oct. 5, just before a holiday weekend, Breed alongside state Sen. Scott Wiener and Assemblymember David Chiu simultaneously announced their opposition to the local ballot measure which has the endorsement of eight city supervisors as well as broad public support.

Just days later, in a surprising move, Salesforce co-CEO and founder Marc Benioff declared that he is backing Prop. C, amidst headlines criticizing his company for maintaining contracts with Customs and Border Protections, the agency responsible for carrying out Trump's anti-immigration policies. But what was jaw-dropping about this endorsement was that it came on the heels of a late-night Twitter conversation between the billionaire CEO and local bookstore owner Christin Evans, who was advocating for Prop C, as originally reported by Mission Local.

Benioff's endorsement stands in sharp contrast to the City's Chamber of Commerce, a body representing the local business community. The chamber was one of the first organizations coming out against the measure.

The chamber said that the decimal-figure gross receipts tax would force companies to flee San Francisco. In sentiment and language, statements of the three politcos' disapproval of Prop. C mirror that of the Chamber of Commerce.

Breed cited the ineffectiveness of her own government as a reason to oppose Prop C, claiming the measure doesn't guarantee accountability of

funds and would deplete City coffers of up to \$240 million, citing figures from the City's Chief Economist. Wiener and Chiu said the measure is flawed because the tax is too large and proponents failed to collaborate with area businesses.

But the proposition's language says that the proposed tax is an average of 0.5 percent that would be levied only on companies' annual revenues beyond \$50 million. It also promises a nine-person review panel to oversee funds.

Benioff, whose cloud computing company is estimated by Forbes to be worth about \$8.4 billion and employs some 29,000 people, said that his endorsement comes from just being a good corporate citizen.

"Homelessness is all of our responsibility which is why we are supporting Prop C @OurHomeSF," he said on Twitter. "Together, as one San Francisco, we can take on our city's most complex & difficult problems. As SF's largest employer we recognize we are part of the solution."

In another development, tech workers who support Prop. C rallied outside the chamber's Financial District office building the day after Benioff's announcement.

Miriam Welling, a representative of the Tech Equity Collaborative, said that Prop. C would alleviate the disparity of wealth in the City and stem displacement of low-income community members.

"Prop. C ensures that the huge amount of wealth our industry has created in San Francisco can not just go to minting new millionaires, but to making sure all of our neighbors thrive," she said to ralliers. "A city that cares about of its residents, and where all can share in the prosperity we're creating together, is the kind of place we want to work, live, raise families and start companies."

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CITES RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OF SONOMA COUNTY HOMELESS

Police Brutality Coalition

The Sonoma County Commission on Human Rights announced on September 23rd that it has sent a strong message to local governments about human rights violations. The action was taken following the presentation of a detailed report and resolution presented to the Commission by Homeless Action!, a homeless rights advocacy group in Santa Rosa. The report cited evidence of systematic and pervasive violations of at least seven articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which safeguards basic standards of living for the health and well-being of people in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability and other circumstances beyond their control.

Human Rights Commission Chair Kevin Jones says that the Commission has heard from many homeless people, activists and policy makers locally and nationwide, as well as having made visits to encampments and shelters. In an official statement to Sonoma County Supervisors and the Santa Rosa City Council, Jones declared that "Through these experiences, what is clear to each of us is that members of our community face threats on a daily basis due to lack of shelter and that as a community, we are not meeting our responsibility to provide sufficient resources to ensure that each person's right to housing is met." He added that "Further, we have been witness to actions that we believe make individual situations worse among the shelterless, increasing risks to safety and health and reducing any sense of dignity and support of people for whom viable options for housing do not exist."

Articles 3, 5, 7 and 9 of the Universal Declaration demand equality before the law and right to life, liberty and security and decry inhumane and degrading treatment and punishment as well as arbitrary arrest and detention.

The 4th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which prohibits illegal search and seizure, is also violated regularly in cases involving the homeless. In

addition, the 8th Amendment, which prohibits cruel and unusual punishment of people, was reaffirmed in September by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. According to Judge Marsha Berzon, sitting, lying and sleeping on the streets is an "unavoidable consequence" of homelessness." She added that "As long as there is no option of sleeping indoors, the government cannot criminalize indigent, homeless people for sleeping outdoors on public property, on the false premise they had a choice in the matter." Sonoma County estimates that approximately 3,000 local people experience homelessness but there are only 1,000 shelter beds countywide.

Meanwhile, the City of Santa Rosa's aggressive clearing of a homeless camp off Corporate Center Parkway continues the very human and civil rights abuses the commission decried. According to signed declarations from those affected by a major sweep of RV's, trailers and tents on September 28, Santa Rosa police carried out the following:

1) *I took stuff away as I could to my ex's storage unit he was letting us use, like they'd told us to earlier. My partner was very sick with the flu, but he tried to help. We came back to nothing, even though our friend had been there to guard our stuff. There were piles of trash around the police left alone, but they took our neat piles that were obviously being moved. We lost all our clothes, shoes, coats, phone chargers and cords, speakers, two laptops, papers, all our pet*

food and gear, all our blankets, and our tent.

2) *They ripped my mother's tent and dragged it and everything in it across the street, and all her things came out and were left in the street. Now I feel really, really lost. We have been gathering and taking things away that were left in loads in this truck.*

3) *I had to go to the bathroom, so I went to Food Maxx [about a half-mile away. Portable toilets are forbidden by the city in the area]. When I returned, my tent was gone and my things were all over the street. A lot of people lost all of their belongings.*

4) *They really enjoyed doing that to us. You could tell. I've never seen such brutal cruelty, such hateful cops in my whole life. You stand there nearby and laugh, you think it's so funny.*

5) *Yesterday (9/26/18, 9:30 PM), I was getting ready for work that started at 10 pm, quickly cleaning myself with a little Dove and water. I was arrested for polluting by I believe [Cotati Police] Officer Kootz. My fiancé tried to film it, her phone was taken away and she protested, so they arrested her for interfering. They took away our phones, but put them in our van instead of bringing them to the jail, and laughed about it. They had the van towed for registration – I just got my paycheck today, we just needed less than \$200; we were so close.*

6) *Catholic Charities, when we need them, are gone. They could give hotel*

vouchers tonight, there's not that many of us left on site, it wouldn't have been that expensive.

7) *Lives were destroyed today. My friend is coming out of jail today to nothing. They took everything except what's in this wheelbarrow. I have no idea where I'm going. I'll wander around tonight, and figure out what to do tomorrow. I'm worried about my friends ____ and _____. They are elders. My friend _____ is very sick. They're both in bad health and I don't know where they are.*

The Human Rights Commission adopted the Homeless Action! resolution calling for the immediate granting of amnesty from arrest for sleeping on public property as well as immediate funding and creation of low cost villages with small living structures such as garden shed cottages or tiny houses with security, hygienic facilities, case management and wraparound services. Such villages are enjoying considerable success in Austin, Portland, Seattle, Yolo County and Oakland.

"It's high time to stop ignoring the elephant in the room," said Kathleen Finigan, lead writer of the Homeless Action! report. "The system so far has utterly ignored the immediate needs of some 2,000 unsheltered people in this County. The continuous persecution, evictions and arrests of people who have no place to go is nothing other than an inhumane revolving door of perpetual, wretched misery."



Since 1989, the STREET SHEET has been an independent media organization that provides a powerful platform to homeless people to reclaim and shift narratives about homelessness in San Francisco. visit www.cohsf.org and click "Donate Now" to help keep it that way!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO GET INVOLVED, CONTACT QUIVER WATTS AT QWATTS@COHSF.ORG

STREET SHEET THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!

SOCIAL JUSTICE CALENDAR

oct 18&25	Every Monday-Thursday	OCT 22	OCT 24
SI EN LA PROP 10 & C! BANCOS DE LLAMADAS EN ESPAÑOL WHERE: 2301 MISSION ST @5-8:30 Si está molesto por los desalojos, la falta de vivienda, y el crisis de rentas..esta es su oportunidad de hacer algo al respecto! Ayude a informar a votantes en San Francisco sobre las dos proposiciones más importantes en décadas! ACCESS: Access info not available	YES ON PROPS 10 & C PHONEBANK WHERE: 100 KANSAS ST @4-8:30 If you are upset about evictions, rising rents and homelessness this is your chance to actually do something about it. Help spread the word about the two most important propositions in decades! ACCESS: Wheelchair accessible space on the first floor	CLOSE 850 BRYANT! NO NEW COPS! NO NEW JAILS! WHERE: SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL, POLK STREET SIDE @4-6PM On the National Day to Stop Police Brutality, Repression, and the Criminalization of a Generation, we reject increased policing and declare that more cops on the street will only lead to more people in our jails. The city must end the criminalization of our youth, unhoused people, Black and brown people, sex workers, and queer and trans people. ACCESS: City Hall is ADA accessible	CLOSE 850! TESTIFY AT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WHERE: SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL, POLK STREET SIDE @10AM Turn out to the Board of Supervisors to support coalition demands: 1. Close 850 Bryant Now 2. Invest in cooperative housing and neighborhood based services 3. Support transformative justice practices instead of imprisonment 4. Reverse the increased size of police force ACCESS: City Hall is ADA accessible
oct 25	OCT 29&30	NOV 1	NOV 6
LGBTQ PHONEBANK FOR PROP. C WHERE: SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION 1035 MARKET ST STE 400 @6PM Join a broad coalition of LGBTQ organizations and AIDS service providers to call voters about this transformative ballot initiative that will seriously impact the homeless crisis and work to secure housing for LGBTQ communities in San Francisco! ACCESS: We welcome the opportunity to make this event more accessible! Please refrain from wearing scented products, so that people with chemical sensitivities can join us. The venue is wheelchair accessible via elevator. Please contact astone@sfaf.org, for more information.	TENANTS' RIGHTS COUNSELOR VOLUNTEER TRAINING WHERE: 474 VALENCIA ST @6-9PM Want to join the movement for housing justice? Join us at the Tenants' Rights Counselor Training & become a hotline volunteer! Both days are required. Sign up here: https://bit.ly/2y1EByr ACCESS: The building/ office is wheelchair accessible and is 2 city blocks from 16th and Mission BART . We will be taking regular breaks throughout the training. We have a gender inclusive bathroom. We are not currently a scent-free working space. If you have any accessibility concerns, requests or comments please email jessica@tenants.together.org	NO MONSTER IN THE MISSION - FIRST PUBLIC HEARING IN THE MISSION WHERE: MISSION HIGH SCHOOL 3750 18TH ST@3-6PM The planning commission is coming to the Mission for the first time and they want to hear how we feel about the Monster. So let's let them know that we want 100% community designed and controlled affordable housing, not luxury towers. La comisión de planificación va venir a la Misión por primera vez y quieren escuchar que pensamos del Monstruo. Entonces hagámosles saber que queremos viviendas 100% asequibles que son controladas y diseñadas por la comunidad, no torres de lujo. ACCESS: Access info not available	REMEMBER TO GO TO THE POLLS AND VOTE!

WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE YES ON PROP C

Garrett Leahy

It takes merely one walk through the Civic Center BART station to realize that homelessness is one of the most visible problems in our city. This is not an unsolvable crisis and there are ways to help. If you want to be a force of change in fighting this epidemic, you should vote “yes” on Proposition C, a local ballot member that will be up for vote this November.

Prop C would establish a 0.5% gross receipts tax on SF businesses earning more than \$50 million annually. This revenue would increase the budget for homelessness services from roughly \$383 million to about \$683 million every year. This money would be put towards building affordable housing, rental assistance programs, and other services like food, clothing, medical services, and outreach.

Despite the potential ben-

efits, there are many concerns regarding Prop C. One of them is the concern that an increase in business taxes would drive jobs out of the city, and that San Francisco already spends way too much on homelessness already with no results. The fact is that San Francisco’s homelessness budget is only 3% of the city’s total budget, and the bulk of that allotted money is spent on people who are already in housing. This extra \$300 million is targeted at helping people exit homelessness. Furthermore, a study published by San Francisco’s Chief Economist Ted Egan, concluded that the impact on moving jobs out of San Francisco would be minimal if Prop C passed.

As an intern with the Coalition on Homelessness, I have heard the stories of many people who are or have been homeless. The homeless population in San Francisco can’t be re-

duced to what you see on the streets; many of these people have families, jobs, and are busy advocating for themselves to try and find housing. They don’t deserve the stigma as being helpless, crazy, or that many of them have come to San Francisco from elsewhere. The fact is that 70% of homeless people in San Francisco previously had homes; the homelessness crisis is the result of factors within our city. As large businesses move in, increasing property values and a focus on luxury housing for those workers end up displacing renters who can’t afford higher rent. While it is great that businesses are helping to improve San Francisco’s economy, these businesses have contributed to the homelessness crisis, albeit indirectly, and they have a responsibility to help ameliorate it. As shown by the report from San Francisco’s chief economist, an additional 0.5% gross receipts tax would have a minimal ef-

fect on skilled job displacement from San Francisco. Plus, after having received a 14% tax cut late last year, a 0.5% additional tax levied hardly seems like it would hurt.

In short, Prop C would double the budget towards homelessness services and helping people find housing, with a minimal effect in displacing skilled jobs from San Francisco. Vote yes on C and help end homelessness in San Francisco.

Want to volunteer? Contact Sam Lew, the Prop C campaign manager at the Coalition on Homelessness at slew@cohsf.org to find out how you can get involved.

Want to see the full “Yes on C” press conference regarding the new report from SF’s chief economist? You can find it on the “Yes on C” Facebook page.

DEREK
WILLIAMS:
A SPECIAL
BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION
FOR A SPECIAL
PERSON

The Street Sheet is a powerful newspaper not only because it tells the truth about poverty and provides a platform for homeless writers and artists, but also because it is a tool that on a daily basis tears down the thick walls often built between housed San Franciscans and unhoused vendors. The relationship between Street Sheet vendor Derek Williams and housed resident Marco Bass is a perfect illustration of the connections the paper can help forge. Four months back Marco moved from Ohio to be closer to

his daughter and two granddaughters.

“I turned 65 in June and am receiving Medicare and my Social Security checks, after laundry, dishes, carpooling my two granddaughters, and walking my daughter to the MUNI I have quite a bit of free time during the day” Marco told the Street Sheet. “I’ve known homelessness is a challenge in San Francisco and I wanted to spend some of my extra time helping in any way possible.”

It was with this intention that Marco began befriending homeless people in his neighborhood, the Castro, and keeping track of them and their needs, offering supplies whenever possible. He also keeps track of his friend’s birthdays, because he thinks birthdays are very special and everyone deserves to be celebrated. So when he found out Derek was born on September 10th, Marco decided to buy a cake and throw Derek a party.

Derek remembers the night fondly, describing the party as lively, with a number of musicians and friends in attendance. He says Marco backed his car up

with a cake inside and lit two candles. “He said to make a wish and I did and he started offering people cake,” Derek recalled, “which kinda livened up the place, and we shared the cake with people who came up.”

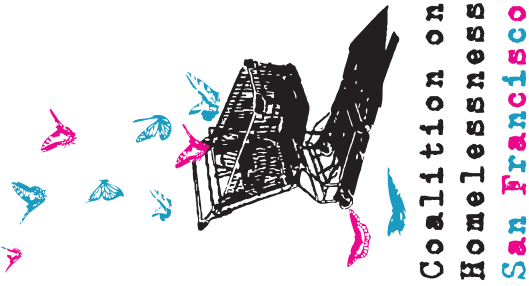
Readers may recognize Derek Williams as a prolific musician and the creator of “Strange Few” a comic that debuted in the Street Sheet this year. Derek carries his biography with him to give to readers, which details his music career and his work as a comic artist. He grew up in a musical family in Los Angeles and says he “was expected to play rock, jazz, dance music easily by ear and by memory, intuitively” and that he “played with very talented jazz musicians all the time”.

In a fast paced city where the divide between rich and poor is palpable and where many housed people look away from poor and homeless San Franciscans on the street, just a simple birthday gathering is a bridge between worlds. Marco think back happily to the small gathering and remembers “after the candles were lit, and Derek made a wish we all sang happy birthday to a special person on a most beautiful calm evening in September.”■

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



VOTER GUIDE 2018

- PROP C, YES: *Our City Our Home! Tax large businesses to fund homeless housing and services*
- PROP 1, YES: *\$4B bond for veterans and affordable housing*
- PROP 2, YES: *Allow previous bond money to be used for homeless housing*
- PROP 10, YES: *Repeal Costa Hawkins! Allow expansion of rent control!*