



MINIMUM SUGGESTED DONATION TWO DOLLARS.

STREET SHEET IS SOLD BY HOMELESS AND LOW-INCOME VENDORS WHO KEEP 100% OF THE PROCEEDS.

STREET SHEET IS READER SUPPORTED, ADVERTISING FREE, AND AIMS TO LIFT UP THE VOICES OF THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY IN SAN FRANCISCO.

STREET SHEET



CURRENTLY ALSO DISTRIBUTED BY HOMEWARD STREET JOURNAL VENDORS IN SACRAMENTO



INCARCERATED INSIGHT	2	TENANT EMPOWERMENT WEEK	3	POOR MAGAZINE'S STREET NEWSROOM & BOS VOTE WILL INCREASE HOMELESSNESS	CHANGE TO PROP C SPENDING RULES THREATENS LONG TERM HOUSING	6	BILLS TO WATCH RE: CALIFORNIA HOMELESSNESS POLICY	7
-------------------------	---	-------------------------------	---	--	--	---	--	---

INCARCERATED INSIGHT

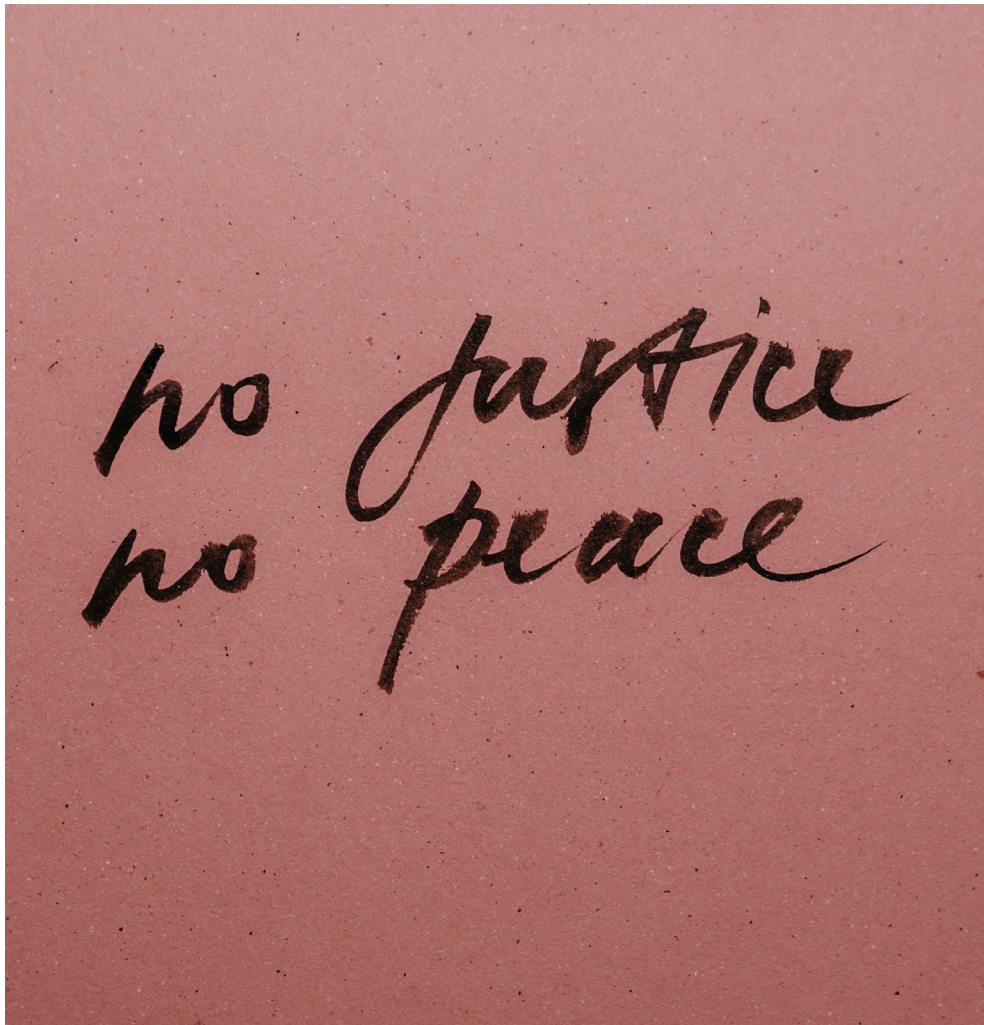
NICOLE SHEREE ROWLAND

Do you think the Department of Corrections even knows the trauma people have experienced at the hands of police? They have to. The real question is: Do they realize how experiencing this trauma, then living as an inmate under lock and key, can affect our people? Citizens of the USA!

It's obviously all about our perception and how to do your time. I choose to acknowledge this trauma and begin to heal. However, there are some of us that haven't the faintest idea of how to do so!

The limitation of actual corrective measures in a correctional facility is beyond contradictory. Inmates really are just a source of income. It's all about making money, not any sort of corrective action. We as a collective really should acquire and assess the data in regards to what we, all that are incarcerated, have experienced, gone through, do or don't know, and begin the work. Sounding an alarm, making the commotion of letting the government know there is a better way.

Just a rant 4 the day!



HELP KEEP STREET SHEET IN PRINT!



coalition.networkforgood.com

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 agendas to us.

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.

Editor: TJ Johnston
Artistic Spellcaster: Quiver Watts
Copyeditors: Kaveh Wadell,
J Cretella
Cover Art: Yo Soy Porque Tu Eres by William Estrada via Just Seeds
Contributors: Jordan Wasilewski, POOR Magazine, Nicole Sheree Rowland, Marisa Kendall / CalMatters, TJ Johnston, Lupe Velez

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

PHOTOGRAPHERS
VIDEOGRAPHERS
TRANSLATORS
COMIC ARTISTS
NEWSPAPER LAYOUT
WEBSITE
MAINTENANCE
GRAPHIC
DESIGNERS
INTERNS
WRITERS
COPYEDITORS

DONATE EQUIPMENT!

LAPTOPS
DIGITAL CAMERAS
AUDIO RECORDERS
SOUND EQUIPMENT

CONTACT:

TJJOHNSTON@COHSF.ORG

Street Sheet is published and distributed on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples. We recognize and honor the ongoing presence and stewardship of the original people of this land. We recognize that homelessness can not truly be ended until this land is returned to its original stewards.

ORGANIZE WITH US

HOUSING JUSTICE WORKING GROUP TUESDAYS @ 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! Email mcarrera@cohsf.org to get involved!

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP WEDNESDAYS @12:30

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! Email lpierce@cohsf.org

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN OUR
WORKING GROUP MEETINGS!**

SCENES FROM TENANT EMPOWERMENT WEEK

PART 1

JORDAN WASILEWSKI

From June 15 through June 18, I participated in Tenant Empowerment Week, which was one of the few opportunities for permanent supportive housing tenants to make their voices heard in City Hall. At first, I was a little nervous about it being organized by the Supportive Housing Providers Network, an organization that includes PSH landlords, as real tenant organizing should be independent of landlords. Still, I decided to attend, so I could connect with other PSH tenants, get face-time with policymakers, as well as salt the earth with a proposed PSH Tenant Bill of Rights that several of us tenants worked on back in 2022.

Orientation was on June 15. When I got to the space, I was pressured into wearing a nice T-shirt reading “Nothing About Us Without Us”, but I prefer a more business casual approach to meetings like this. I got a copy of the Resident Advisory Board’s talking points. I can’t say I disagreed with any of the points, which were mostly focused around making sure case management was consistent and had improved ratios of clients to case managers, and on providing different levels of care, pathways to workforce development, and food security, among other issues. I printed off copies, which I distributed to the 20 to 30 tenants who were there. I went through an orientation around messaging, signed up for nine of 10 meetings, then went home to prepare some legislative ideas for each supervisor based on their interest.

On Day 2, I rolled out of bed, printed out copies of the PSH Tenant Bill of Rights from the library, and then went to City Hall for a few morning meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors, beginning with Chyanne Chen’s legislative aide Jackie Prager. We talked about the decommissioning of permanent supportive housing, scattered-site housing—salient for a district with few PSH sites—and tenants who may need a higher level of care. Given that supervisor Chen called a hearing on the potential closure of permanent supportive housing sites, I decided to propose a “No Displacement

Without Real Replacement” and gave Prager a one-pager on it.

After that, we chilled in the conference room for a half hour, enjoying some snacks, before our meeting with Supervisor Danny Sauter and his aide Tomio Nagano, who I have met on City Hall walkthroughs and seemed to really care about what we said during those times. Sauter opened up talking about the importance of little things to help improve people’s life, like elevator repairs, an issue that I was deeply involved in with Senior & Disability Action before the pandemic. Several tenants, in addition to the provided talking points, brought up “Brave buttons” (similar to those alert devices advertised on the classic “I’ve fallen and I can’t get up” commercials back in the 1990s). I decided to present to Sauter a one-pager on the issue of us PSH tenants being carved out of statewide legislation (AB 628) requiring a refrigerator and cooking appliance in rental units and how to do a local version adapted to realities of SROs. For someone on the more moderate side of the SF political spectrum, Sauter and his aide seemed to take a genuine interest in it.

Then there was a two-hour break. To be honest, and I know this may sound silly, but the providers’ network should have at the very least gotten lunch for us. We are volunteering our time and while we may not be working in the formal economy, we are still working. Sharing lunch together could have been a community-building opportunity for us all. After the break, we went to the headquarters of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to meet with HSH staffers Kristina Leonoudakis

Watts, Ousha Reed, and Adar Kolpis. They did a presentation on the different types of housing services provided by the department, and tenants brought up issues around different levels of care, which was the Homelessness Oversight’s Commission’s focus of a presentation this past March. I gave the department people a copy of the PSH Tenant Bill of Rights, as well as a one-pager and they made copies to distribute.

Then, we walked back to DISH to meet with Joaquin Guerrero, the sole progressive member—and only transgender person—on the Homelessness Oversight Commission. We had a conversation on how to take back our power, as well as who to approach on the commission with proposals. He also talked about his work mediating disputes with the San Francisco Bar Association. I also presented him with a copy of the Right To Pay Rent By Check and Remotely policy proposal. It felt rewarding to make our issues known.

There were several themes presented across the week. On the

topic of workforce development, one individual described himself as a return on investment, and how one employed tenant can help support other tenants who are unable to work. Other tenants talked about being peer responders. When the issue of Matt Dorsey’s proposed sober housing legislation came up, everyone on the tenant side of things seemed to agree on there being options for recovery or drug-free housing, and the necessity for a space for harm reduction.

Given how much has gone on during this span of four days, I will expand on Day 3’s legislative meetings and Day 4’s departmental meeting, as well as giving reflections on how to drive the movement forward in next month’s article. Spoiler alert: Several times, a supervisor has actually thanked me for my ideas.

Jordan Wasilewski (she/her) is a long-term permanent supportive housing and SRO tenant advocate, former commissioner, and affordability activist. You may follow her on Instagram @sfpshtsro.



STREET NEWSROOM YELAMU CRIMINALIZATION OF HOMELES

BY POOR



Chocollo

I've been living on the streets for 15 years, suffering from unemployment and having no family. This is how I have met many people in the same or similar situations. I hope that one day I can resolve my situation and have peace in my life. I miss my family and my children very much, but I haven't seen them since I've been on the verge of becoming homeless.

Crystal Alley, one of the "unhoused" I have a friend named (Lindsay) who has a condition called congestive heart failure. One of the things that happens with this condition is swelling of the extremities. I also have a condition that causes similar swelling. Due to an injury so, with that being said, I came to visit my friend, and we decided to take off our shoes and sit on the curb in the sun. We were in Fresno, California, and there is a team called the HEART (Homeless Engagement Assistance Response Team) team that is supposed to go around and help "homeless" people relocate to shelter. Now, what they are commissioned to do as officers of the law brought to be in a special unit with a specific purpose of "helping the homeless." What their help is, is strong-arm robbery and assault. They pull up with a dump truck as officers of the law with physical violence and arrest the homeless. This incident was a direct reflection of abuse of power. So, I said my friend and I were sitting on the curb in front of a private business who had given us permission to be in front of their restaurant. My friend was sitting on the curb with shoes off and the "HEART," or HURT Team arrived. I was told to "get the fuck up" by an officer of the Fresno PD who was riding shotgun. In the dump truck, another officer got out of the pickup truck. And said and I quote "Didn't you hear me bitch? get the fuck up." I did not move. I was then grabbed and jerked to my feet. My friend, Lindsay, saw what was happening and tried to stand. Another officer made a move towards her while the third officer grabbed our purses and shoes and threw them in the dumpster. My friend tried to grab the one bag she had containing cans she was going to turn in. She was pushed from behind by the third officer, a corporal denoted by the stripes on his uniform. That cop pushed her so hard she fell and landed on her face losing her three front teeth. They also took the cans and threw them in the trash. They then ticketed us for

not having ID. And informed us if we were on the property that was owned by the City of Fresno, we were trespassing. Now what happened was bad. However, it gets way the fuck worse. We have got to stop the abuse of power and perversion of the law.

Catalin Stef

The City Board of Supervisors are looking at legislation in San Francisco, formerly Yelamu, in July 2026, to end supportive housing in the city for folks caught using various substances.

Well, my opinion, as of the last couple of years on this topic, stays the same. Housing first, what one uses, for whatever reason, (is) their responsibility.

Pamela Bullock

I'm a fifth generation SF native. I've been through the shady system since being a teenager due to my parents' heavy heroin addiction. I was blessed with land; a curse too, best of "both worlds." I lived and grew up with mom and dads on O'Farrell and Larkin (streets), but was blessed with an awesome education. I attended Catholic school my entire life due to Grandma being wealthy when I was growing up—a real estate agent—she lived at the top of Pacific Heights. I'm writing about something I want to say. I'm grateful for and can't forget to say how grateful I am, truly. A few months ago, I found myself once again homeless, living in my Mini Coop. I was smoking fentanyl! I was sick and tired of living like that—I was smoking fent for eight years. I decided to go to jail on purpose after many attempts at detoxing out here. I hadn't been to jail in 8+ years, and I knew it was what was needed to stop—handcuffs, sad to say. I stayed for 14 days. My dog went to a dog jail. I've been clean now for 90 days on the 15th of month. I was helped several times by Tiny, and I can't say how much it meant, keeping me safe inside. After jail I was stuck homeless, NO CAR! I found a place called Hummingbird on Valencia (Street) and have lived there now for 2 ½ months. I'm doing great. My housing voucher was approved. I'll be moving as soon as I get my place! I owe a big thanks to tiny and Hummingbird Valencia. They offer food, hot food, showers, tv... (a place) to chill, computer access. It's a great place.



MAJORITY CONSERVATIVE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS VOTE TO INCREASE HOMELESSNESS, REFUSE EVICTION PROTECTIONS IN DORSEY’S DRUG-FREE PSH POLICY

LUPE VELEZ

Junebug Kealoha
Housing is a human right. Housing is recovery, recovery from homelessness. From loss. Housing needs in SF should not be pivoted against each other. We have a housing crisis. Housing first helps people have stability. This stability is vital to overcome addictions in life that can lead us to use substances to cope.

Supervisor Matt Dorsey wants to create a new form of city-funded housing that evicts tenants for drug use in permanent supportive housing. These proposed changes can cause more evictions and isolation to getting support. I believe as someone who is still recovering from homelessness and a child of parents who used drugs, getting housing was always and is always the problem. The rents in SF are way too high. A one-bedroom right near City Hall is over \$4,000, where the ordinances, the po’ folks don’t always have options. PSH became the only option. When PSH has conditions of drug-free, it is not meeting people where they are at. Reduction support groups and contingency inside of PSH is meeting people where they are at. Saturday Night, I’m alive and the Supportive Housing Prevention Network currently is providing the community with education and resources. Housing First is the path to recover. Community is the hope to overcome.

Cirilo Nicola, Potrero Del Sol Park
The fascists removed the trash can because they don’t want to see us there, they are very discriminatory.

Mario E-M
It’s nothing more than ignorance; we can only pity those seders. Some are unfortunate, and a few are opportunists.

A human being who violates or infringes upon the moral or physical integrity of another human being reaches their fate. He who has manipulated or deceived. Product of the manipulation of very little analytical capacity, of a social psychology job that works in the mass media and lately in social networks. What to do? Realize and prepare at all levels to confront ideological manipulation schemes.

On Tuesday, July 14, the Board of Supervisors voted 7–4 to pass Supervisor Matt Dorsey’s Drug-Free PSH legislation. The passage was expected because five supervisors joined Dorsey as co-sponsors.

First drafted in late 2025, the policy called for the creation of drug-free permanent supportive housing from which tenants with a history of substance use disorder would be evicted if they relapse twice. The controversial policy has concerned substance use experts, permanent supportive housing providers and homeless rights advocates due to a lack in previous iterations of the policy of eviction protection and treatment opportunities, which allowed immediately evicting tenants to the street.

After a tense budget season, community leaders and advocates from San Francisco housing justice, immigrant rights and harm reduction nonprofits have felt the negative impacts of the conservative tilt of our self-proclaimed “moderate” city supervisors. Dorsey leads the pack, proposing a number of policies that have called for the criminalization of unhoused people with what he called “Drug-Free PSH”—a rebrand of what he previously called “sober housing”—for abstinence-only sober housing and transitional housing, threatening the development of permanent supportive housing in place. In his time as supervisor, Matt Dorsey has positioned himself as a recovery advocate, speaking publicly about his struggle with drug use and his subsequent recovery journey. Never having experienced homelessness,

he admitted to having access to private insurance that allowed him to begin treatment.

Not surprisingly, Dorsey did not include funding for treatment and overdose prevention in his legislation—instead, he proposed that residents be forced out of their homes on a second return to use. Christopher Mika, a PSH resident, said that lease requirements for most housing, public or private, render such a provision unnecessary.

“Drug use that causes disruptive behavior is already grounds for lease enforcement and this ordinance will only drive up evictions for drug use that does not impact other residents,” Mika said. “Eviction does not lead to recovery. It severs people from services, pushes them beyond the reach of care, and increases their risk of overdose and death.”

In the lead-up to the final vote, which involved months of advocacy efforts from a number of groups, Dorsey refused to meet with concerned community voices and refused to consider eviction protections. The All Housing is Recovery Housing Coalition, which supports drug-free and recovery housing options, worked tirelessly to push for amendments in order to reduce the harm of this legislation. This alliance includes Delivering Innovations for Supportive Housing, the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation, the PSH Supportive Housing Network, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Coalition on Homelessness, which publishes

Street Sheet. Supervisor Jackie Fielder proposed an amendment to ensure guaranteed offers to comparable permanent supportive housing in case of drug use-related evictions or displacement, but it failed to secure enough votes. Dorsey voted against it, as did Supervisors Alan Wong, Stephen Sherrill, Danny Sauter, Bilal Mahmood and Board President Rafael Mandelman.

The supervisors’ decision exemplified a refusal to embrace evidence-based and care-centered solutions from an unusually conservative board, said Jennifer Friedenbach, executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness.

“Everyone deserves the right to safe and dignified housing while they recover,” Friedenbach said. “Supervisor Matt Dorsey’s refusal of eviction protections will increase the rate of homelessness and addiction in the city of San Francisco.”

Voting against the legislation were Fielder, Shamann Walton, Connie Chan and Chyanne Chen.

The All Housing is Recovery Housing Coalition said that the legislation’s passage came as a devastating blow to many community-based organizations that organized alongside PSH tenants and homeless communities. But the fight is not over, members said, and the coalition remains committed to championing housing as a human right and fighting for vulnerable communities in the face of bad-faith policies.

BECOME
A VENDOR
MAKE MONEY AND HELP
END HOMELESSNESS!

STREET SHEET is currently recruiting vendors to sell the newspaper around San Francisco.

Vendors pick up the papers for free at our office in the Tenderloin and sell them for \$2 apiece at locations across the City. You get to keep all the money you make from sales! Sign up to earn extra income while also helping elevate the voices of the homeless writers who make this paper so unique, and promoting the vision of a San Francisco where every human being has a home.

TO SIGN UP, VISIT OUR OFFICE AT 280 TURK ST FROM 10AM-4PM ON MONDAY-THURSDAY AND 10AM-NOON ON FRIDAY

SUPERVISORS SAY PROP. C SPENDING CHANGE IS TEMPORARY. ADVOCATES SAY HOUSING STABILITY WILL ALSO BE SHORT-LIVED.

TJ JOHNSTON

Next year, the City may spend as much as it wants on short-term rental subsidies for permanent housing under changes to Proposition C, also known as the Our City, Our Home ordinance.

But even if lifting the cap wouldn't affect how Prop. C monies are distributed for other services such as behavioral health services and homelessness prevention, advocates for homeless people fear the City will shift from the measure's intent of keeping formerly homeless people housed over the long term.

Last month, the Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to amend the law governing funds for homelessness programs by suspending the 12% cap on short-term subsidies for fiscal year 2027–28. This alteration to Prop. C was part of a raft of budget-related measures passed en masse at the board's July 21 meeting.

While the supervisors were persuaded by budget activists to restore funding for most vital services, they couldn't be moved to grant more long-term subsidies.

While acknowledging a tough budget season, Supervisor Jackie Fielder told the board, "In a year with looming federal cuts and no easy options, this board held the line on critical safety net programs that tens of thousands of San Franciscans rely on, and that is a real win."

Still, Fielder never specified which safety net programs won and which ones lost.

Sixty percent of San Francisco voters passed Prop. C in November 2018. As originally written, the ordinance prescribes how gross receipts taxes on large businesses may be spent by proportion. Of the 50% raised for permanent housing, no more than 12% could be spent on subsidies lasting five years or less. The other half of Prop. C funds are earmarked for mental health and

substance use disorder services, prevention, shelter and drop-in services.

Under the new allocation, housing stability might be as temporary as the subsidies themselves: According to a Vanderbilt University study, families who only receive short-term subsidies face a greater risk of returning to homelessness.

The board's vote marks another significant change made to Prop. C in the last year. At the urging of Mayor Daniel Lurie, the board voted in 2025 to lower the threshold needed to revise the measure from an eight-vote supermajority to redirect homeless funding to a simple majority of six votes.

The redistribution of Prop. C funds also reflects the change in San Francisco's political winds since 2018. During the campaign, Prop. C received endorsement from seven sitting supervisors and a local Democratic Party that was largely progressive. Since then, both the board and party have shifted rightward.

At the Budget and Appropriations Committee on July 17, about 15 people spoke during the public comment period with most of them urging the supervisors to reconsider the proposed allocation.

One speaker, who identified herself as Lucia from the Latino Parity and Equity Coalition, cited the high cost of living in San Francisco in pleading her case. "This is a serious issue for us," she said. "Latinos are experiencing high levels of homelessness. In San Francisco's housing affordability crisis, hundreds remain just one missed paycheck, one rent increase or one subsidy loss away from homelessness. We shouldn't have to beg for housing stability. This city can do this. We can offer stability."

WHAT IS THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE DOING ABOUT HOMELESSNESS THIS YEAR?

THESE ARE THE BILLS TO WATCH

MARISA KENDALL / CAL MATTERS

As this year's legislative session speeds to a close, a handful of bills focused on the state's homelessness crisis have made the cut so far.

Though homelessness improved slightly last year, there are still an estimated 182,000 Californians with nowhere to call home. The issue is top of mind for many lawmakers in Sacramento, who are pushing a range of laws that would do everything from free up state funds for sober housing, dispose of RVs on city streets and create a plan for homelessness prevention.

Here are a few of the bills to watch as they approach their final votes and await a potential signature from the governor:

STATE-FUNDED SOBER HOMELESS HOUSING

Gov. Gavin Newsom hit Assemblymember Matt Haney with a surprise veto last year, blocking his bill that would have allowed state funding to pay for sober homeless housing.

Haney is back with a similar bill, which he says will give people recovering from drug and alcohol addiction the choice to live in an environment free from dangerous temptations.

"A lot of people who are on the street right now or exiting shelter programs would prefer drug-free housing options," the San Francisco Democrat said. "And right now there are few options, if any, for them."

Last year, Assembly Bill 255 would have allowed cities and counties to spend up to 10% of their state funding on "recovery housing" where people are required to stay sober. That was a tweak to California's "housing first"

strategy, which emphasizes a no-strings-attached approach to housing and generally frowns on barriers that require people to stay clean or participate in treatment.

In his veto message, Newsom said the state already allows the state to fund sober housing. His office pointed to a new set of guidelines on the subject, published online the day after Newsom's veto.

But Haney says that guidance is unclear, and housing providers still believe state funds are off-limits for sober housing. The proof: Haney said that as far as he knows, no one has used state funds to pay for sober housing since the governor's veto last year.

His new bill, Assembly Bill 1556, lays out the rules a sober housing provider must follow to be eligible for state funding. Each provider must have a policy to handle relapses, which is supposed to help the resident get sober again, but also can include evicting them if they continue to use alcohol or drugs and do not follow the policy. That worries critics, including Sharon Rapport, director of California state policy for the Corporation for Supportive Housing, who fears it could put people back on the streets.

Unlike last year's bill, AB 1556 doesn't limit the amount of state money that could go to sober housing. The bill comes with no additional funding, meaning the more money that goes to sober housing, the less will be left for the low-barrier housing needed for people who aren't ready to overcome their addiction, Rapport said. That's even more worrying because the Trump administration also is prioritizing sober housing for federal funds – creating an even bigger gap in low-barrier

housing, she said.

“We don’t really want to see Trump policy implemented in California at the state level,” she said.

This year, Haney is expecting a more positive reaction from Newsom.

“The governor’s office has been very collaborative and responsive from the beginning this time around,” he said.

SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS

Most people in California agree that homelessness is a problem. But exactly how much would it cost to solve it? And how could California get there?

It turns out, the state has never actually done that math publicly. Assembly Bill 1165 would force the state to do just that. The bill by Assemblymember Mike Gipson, a Gardena Democrat, would require the California Department of Housing and Community Development to create a financial plan to solve homelessness, as well as performance metrics for success, by January 2028. That would include determining how much money the state would need to meet the housing needs of everyone who is homeless now or expected to become homeless in the future, and how the state could achieve that goal.

The state has estimated California must plan for 2.5 million homes over the next eight years to meet demand and ease the state’s affordable housing shortage. AB 1165 would require the state to go into more detail about what resources are needed, and lay out a plan to meet that goal.

The Corporation for Supportive Housing estimates it would take \$8.1 billion a year for 12 years to solve homelessness. The budget the legislature proposed this month includes \$900 million for Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention funds – the state’s main source of homeless funding.

If it passes, AB 1165 could help hold legislators and the next governor accountable and push the state to spend its homelessness funds more wisely, Rapport said. A 2024 audit found the state failed to track its homelessness spending or measure results.

The bill doesn’t come with new resources to fight homelessness, meaning implementing a plan

to end homelessness could be tough in the current tight budget environment. (Update: On June 22, the Senate Appropriations Committee placed the bill in the suspense file after a 6-0 vote).

Another measure, Assembly Bill 1924, would require the California Interagency Council on Homelessness to establish a statewide strategy to prevent homelessness before it happens. If passed, the plan would need to be in place by July 2027.

Prevention has become an increasingly popular way to tackle homelessness, as it’s much easier and cheaper to help someone hold onto their housing than it is to re-house them once they wind up on the streets. Organizations already using this strategy have found that giving someone several thousand dollars can allow them to avoid homelessness.

Like AB 1165, the prevention bill also comes with no new funding.

FORCING CITIES TO REPORT HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING DATA

How much data on homelessness should California cities that aren’t getting state funds be required to report to the state? That’s the question behind a bill by Senator Catherine Blakespear, which has received pushback from some of her colleagues.

Counties, continuums of care (regional groups that coordinate homelessness services) and the 14 largest cities are eligible for money from the state’s Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention program. In exchange for the funds, those entities must report certain data about their homeless populations, the services they offer, and the progress they’ve made getting people off the streets.

Blakespear, a Democrat from Encinitas, wants the rest of California’s cities, even if they get no funding, to report that data, too.

“Homelessness is a regional problem that does not stop at city or county boundaries,” she said during a recent Senate floor hearing.

Senate Bill 866 alarmed some city leaders, who complained they don’t have the staff or money to compile that extensive amount of data. Dozens of cities oppose the bill, as does the League of California

Cities.

As a concession, Blakespear agreed to exempt all cities with 50,000 or fewer people – eliminating about half of California’s cities.

But that wasn’t enough to appease some of her colleagues, including Republican Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil from Modesto, who called the bill an un-funded mandate for cities.

“I have to ask,” she said, “if we have this level of opposition, not just from rural communities, not just from Republican-represented communities, but from cities across the state, why do we have a half-cooked bill on this Legislature’s floor?”

NO ARREST WARRANTS FOR PEOPLE WHO MISS COURT DATES

Assembly Bill 2122 doesn’t specifically mention unhoused Californians, but advocates say it would have big implications for people who sleep outside.

Cities around California are cracking down on street homelessness, leading to increasing numbers of arrests and citations in some places. People are ticketed for unauthorized camping, but they can also be cited for other offenses such as loitering, trespassing, public urination, violating park rules, and more. Typically, the police hand them a paper citation that says when they are supposed to show up in court.

It’s common for unhoused people to miss those court dates – they may lack transportation, be unable to leave their belongings or pets unattended, or simply lose track of the date amid the unpredictability of life on the street. When that happens, the court issues a bench warrant for their arrest. The next time they encounter the police, they could go to jail.

Not only does that cost the city money, but it also could make it harder for the person to get housing, Rapport said.

Assembly Bill 2122, by Assemblymembers Ash Kalra and Josh Lowenthal, would change that. If someone is cited for an infraction (which could include loitering or other minor offenses) and then misses their court date, they could not be jailed as a result. It would also prohibit courts from issuing arrest warrants for people who fail to pay traffic tickets.

The bill applies only to infractions. Different cities classify crimes differently – in some places, an offense such as loitering might be an infraction, while in other places it could be a misdemeanor.

The California State Sheriffs’ Association is opposed to the bill, and says it sends the message that it’s acceptable to fail to appear in court (Update: On June 29, the Senate Appropriations Committee placed the bill in the suspense file after a 7-0 vote).

RVS ON CITY STREETS

As unhoused Californians increasingly turn to vehicles for shelter, multiple legislators have turned their attention to addressing the resulting rows of RVs, trailers and lived-in cars lining streets up and down the state.

Last year, Assemblymember Mark Gonzalez, a Los Angeles Democrat, pushed through a bill intended to make it easier for local governments to dispose of inoperable RVs parked on their streets. The goal was to address vehicles that create blight in neighborhoods and are breeding grounds for bad behavior, he said.

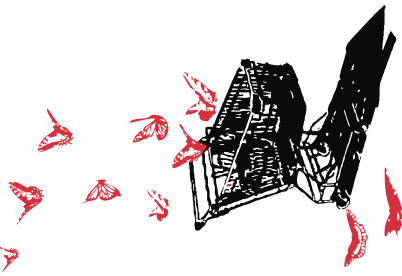
He ended up amending the bill to apply only in Los Angeles and Alameda counties. But by making that change, Gonzalez inadvertently made the law basically unusable. While the counties of Alameda and Los Angeles themselves could use the law to dispose of RVs, the cities within them could not. The Los Angeles City Council found that out the hard way, when it voted to establish an RV disposal program, only to have it shot down in court.

Assembly Bill 647 fixes that oversight by allowing cities within those two counties to destroy RVs valued at \$4,000 or less. Opponents worry the bill will lead local governments to seize more lived-in RVs, forcing people out of the relative safety of a vehicle and onto the street (Update: On June 22, the Senate Appropriations Committee placed the bill in the suspense file after a 6-0 vote).

Originally published on calmatters.org on June 25, 2026. Street Sheet noted updates of legislations’ progress on the the California Legislative Information website as of July 27, 2026.

Coalition On Homelessness
280 Turk Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
415.346.3740
www.cohsf.org
streetsheetsf@gmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Coalition on
Homelessness
San Francisco

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 3481
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94188

STREET
SHEET

JUNE 1, 2026

PAGE 8

Scan to Buy Tickets

SOMArts 934 Brannan
Sept 10th 5:30pm-10pm

ART AUCTION '26

United by Love: Transforming Art into Action

Coalition on Homelessness

CONTRIBUTE TO
STREET
SHEET

WRITING: Write about your experience of homelessness in San Francisco, about policies you think the City should put in place or change, your opinion on local issues, or about something newsworthy happening in your neighborhood!

ARTWORK: Help transform ART into ACTION by designing artwork for STREET SHEET! We especially love art that uplifts homeless people, celebrates the power of community organizing, or calls out abuses of power!

PHOTOGRAPHY: Have a keen eye for beauty? Love capturing powerful moments at events? Have a photo of a Street Sheet vendor you'd like to share? We would love to run your photos in Street Sheet!

INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING? VISIT
WWW.STREETSHEET.ORG/SUBMIT-YOUR-WRITING/
OR BRING SUBMISSIONS TO
280 TURK STREET TO BE CONSIDERED
PIECES ASSIGNED BY THE EDITOR MAY OFFER
PAYMENT, ASK FOR DETAILS!