OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SAN FRANCISCO

DANIEL LURIE
MAYOR

August 7, 2026

The Honorable Rochelle C. East
Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco
400 McAllister Street, Room 206
San Francisco, CA 94102-4512

Dear Judge East,

In accordance with Penal Code 933 and 933.05, the following is in response to the 2025-2026 Civil Grand Jury Report, *When Making Do Doesn't Work: San Francisco Jails In Crisis*. We would like to thank the members of the 2025-2026 Civil Grand Jury for their attention to conditions in the San Francisco County jails and for the time they devoted to inspecting the facilities and interviewing those who work in them.

The City agrees with the core intent of the Jury's findings, to bring attention to the conditions and operational challenges facing the San Francisco County jails and the needs of those in custody. The City also recognizes that the County jails pose a unique challenge because responsibility for custody operations, health care delivery, and facility conditions is distributed across multiple departments with differing scopes of responsibility and missions. The City agrees that direct observation of jail facilities provides valuable insight for City leadership and welcomes continued engagement on this basis, and remains committed to strengthening safety, health, and operations within Sheriff's Department facilities.

The City also acknowledges the underlying concerns that the Jury's report raises concerning San Francisco's jail facilities and in-custody services, and continues to work collaboratively across Departments to ensure infrastructure and staffing needs are addressed appropriately. At the same time, on several findings, the City respectfully disagrees with some of the Jury's characterizations. The jail population presents increasingly complex clinical needs, particularly as shifts in substance use patterns have intensified demand for detox and related care, and the City has responded with concrete operational improvements – including expanded medication-assisted treatment, telehealth access, exit-point Narcan distribution, and an expanded care coordination team. City Services Auditor reviews have investigated SFSO technology staffing and governance, as well as its overall staffing practices, and the Budget and Legislative Analyst's Office audit of SFSO operations, including staffing, is currently underway.

The City would also highlight substantial technological and capital investments in Sheriff's Department facilities, including current maintenance funding and future reserved capacity to replace the Hall of Justice and associated jail infrastructure. Regarding coordination and planning, the City notes that cross-departmental collaboration among the Sheriff, the Department of Public Health, and other partners is ongoing, even where a separate reporting structure is not being adopted. Similarly, the City's existing 10-Year Capital Plan process already incorporates jail facility needs in a citywide context, and the City believes this established framework – rather than a parallel planning

structure – remains the most effective vehicle for balancing infrastructure priorities across departments.

The City appreciates the Jury's diligence and looks forward to continued partnership in strengthening outcomes for justice-involved individuals.

We are including detailed responses from the Mayor's Office, in consultation and collaboration with the Department of Public Health and Office of Resilience and Capital Planning. The report requested responses from the Controller's Office, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Public Works, the Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, the Capital Planning Committee, and the Sheriff's Department Oversight Board. As a response from these entities is not required, each has elected not to submit an independent response, noted in the attached matrix.

Sincerely,



Daniel Lurie
Mayor of San Francisco

FINDINGS — Response of the Mayor's Office

Report Title [Publication Date]	F#	Finding	Respondent Assigned by CGJ	Response Due Date	Finding Response	Finding Response Text
When Making Do Doesn't Work: San Francisco Jails in Crisis [June 9, 2026]	**F1**	City and County leadership would benefit from first-hand knowledge obtained through inspection of the jail facilities and operations to enable them to better understand how policy changes affecting budget and operations for the Jails impact the operation of the Jails.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Agree**	
When Making Do Doesn't Work: San Francisco Jails in Crisis [June 9, 2026]	**F5**	The Jails population has increasingly complex health needs, particularly mental health and substance use problems, which require more clinical and custodial resources than the system is designed to support.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Disagree Partially**	The City disagrees with the finding that the existing system is unable to adequately support necessary clinical and custodial resources. However, the City recognizes that the jail population has highly complex health needs which require intensive clinical and custodial resources. While the proportion of individuals with mental health and substance use disorders has not increased, shifts in the types of substances used has intensified clinical needs, including detox support, of the jail population.
When Making Do Doesn't Work: San Francisco Jails in Crisis [June 9, 2026]	**F6**	Current resources and procedures do not allow for sufficient discharge planning and resource provision or connection for people repeatedly booked on, and rapidly released from, charges for low-level offenses, creating further destabilization in this population.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Disagree Partially**	The City disagrees with the finding that current resources do not allow for sufficient discharge planning. However, the City recognizes that evolving needs within the jail population necessitates continuous procedural improvement, and initiatives have already been implemented to support the short-term jail population, including offering injectable buprenorphine after 8 hours in custody, providing access to telehealth/BEAM to connect to treatment, installing Narcan distribution at the exit of jail, and expanding the care coordination team.

Report Title [Publication Date]	F#	Finding	Respondent Assigned by CGJ	Response Due Date	Finding Response	Finding Response Text
When Making Do Doesn't Work: San Francisco Jails in Crisis [June 9, 2026]	**F7**	For at least a decade, the City has declined to make major capital investments in jail facilities, with the result that the Jails are operating in aging buildings that do not meet current operational, clinical, or safety needs.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Disagree Partially**	The City has invested over $72M on maintenance and improvement of Sheriff's Department facilities, with approximately $61M invested directly in the jail facilities. In addition, $367M in future COP capacity is reserved to replace the Hall of Justice, which includes the court holding facilities, and replacement of CJ2 building systems located in the current Hall of Justice site. This funding is currently programmed in the FY27-FY32 budget years.

RECOMMENDATIONS — Response of the Mayor's Office

R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ	Response Due Date	Recommendation Response	Recommendation Response Text
R1-A(i) [for F1]	By March 1, 2027, the Mayor should inspect the San Francisco and San Bruno Jails, and at least once every two years thereafter.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Has been implemented**	The Mayor, and members of the Mayor's staff, have already completed site visits of the San Francisco and San Bruno Jail facilities in months prior to this report. The Mayor, or member(s) of the Mayor's staff, will inspect SFSO facilities at the invitation of that office on a regular and recurring basis.
R5-A [for F5]	By January 1, 2027, SFSO and JHS should jointly issue a report analyzing the greatest barriers to meeting inmate treatment needs, including mental health care and substance use treatment, and identify priority actions and funding sources.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable**	While a formal joint report will not be implemented, cross-department planning, alignment on priorities, and feasibility of options to meet inmate treatment needs continues among key City partners, including SFSO and JHS.

R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ	Response Due Date	Recommendation Response	Recommendation Response Text
R5-B [for F5]	The report should also assess, prioritize, and develop a timetable for possible implementation of identified actions, including the feasibility of 24/7 mental health services.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable**	See response to R5-A.
R5-C [for F5]	Beginning April 1, 2027, SFSO and JHS should issue regular quarterly updates with a dashboard showing status of all timetable items.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable**	See response to R5-A.
R5-D [for F5]	The report(s) should identify priority actions not within SFSO/JHS authority that could be implemented by the Mayor absent an ordinance, and/or the BOS by ordinance.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable**	See response to R5-A.
R6-A [for F6]	By November 1, 2026, the Sheriff and the Director of DPH should meet to assess the feasibility of funding and staffing evening re-entry support services and review the timing of the Release process.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Has been implemented**	The City has already implemented parts of this recommendation through the Department of Public Health and Jail Health Services. Re-entry support services are currently available until 20:00. As a result of the CalAIM Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative, Jail Health's discharge pharmacy has also expanded its hours until 20:00. Additionally, two new communication workflows have been established to support coordination during release: (1) the hiring of a Court Monitor to attend legal proceedings and determine when someone in custody is likely to be released, and (2) the SFSO Records Department notifying Jail Health of impending releases within a few hours of release.
R6-B [for F6]	Using the R6-A assessment, JHS, SFSO, and other appropriate agencies should create a system allowing for	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Will not be implemented because it is not**	Jail Health Services does not have a reliable way to determine in advance which individuals will remain in custody for eight days or less. JHS initiates release planning as early in the booking

R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ	Response Due Date	Recommendation Response	Recommendation Response Text
	earlier discharge planning for inmates at risk of recidivism.			**warranted or is not reasonable**	process as possible and prioritizes individuals who are at highest risk from a health perspective. While there may be overlap between health risk and likelihood of recidivism, these are distinct issues, and the healthcare system is not designed to address all factors that lead to recidivism. The City will continue to develop a broad vision for carceral health for individuals with high needs.
R7-A [for F7]	By October 1, 2026, the Mayor should direct DPW and the Office of Resilience and Capital Planning, in coordination with SFSO and DPH, to develop a comprehensive jail resilience and capital plan.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable**	The City already maintains a robust, legally established capital planning process, administered through the Office of Resilience and Capital Planning and the Capital Planning Council pursuant to Administrative Code Chapter 3.20, which produces a rolling 10-Year Capital Plan reviewed and updated biannually. This process evaluates Sheriff's Department facility needs alongside those of every other City department, and jail-related capital needs — including CJ1 holding space, CJ2 renovation, and Annex infrastructure — are already documented within it, as the Jury's own report reflects. Directing a separate "jail resilience and capital plan" outside this structure risks generating a second set of priorities and timelines that compete with, rather than inform, the City's existing and already-transparent capital planning framework. The City remains committed to ensuring Jail facility needs are fully and accurately represented within the existing 10-Year Capital Plan process. ORCP will present the next 10-year Capital Plan, including any relevant planned and emerging SFSO capital needs, to the Board of Supervisors in May 2028.

R# [for F#]	Recommendation	Respondent Assigned by CGJ	Response Due Date	Recommendation Response	Recommendation Response Text
R7-B [for F7]	By March 1, 2027, the plan should be presented to the BOS, and by May 1, 2027, the BOS should hold a hearing on it.	Mayor	Aug. 6, 2026	**Will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable**	See response to R7-A.

REQUESTED RESPONSES — STATUS

The following entities were asked by the Civil Grand Jury to provide a requested (non-mandatory) response. The Mayor's Office, as the compiling respondent, reports the status of each below.

Requested Respondent	Findings Assigned	Recommendations Assigned	Status
SF Controller's Office	F11, F12	R11, R12	No response submitted. Response is requested, not required, under Penal Code section 933.05 for this entity; SF Controller's Office has elected not to submit an independent response at this time.
SF Department of Public Health	F5, F6, F7	R5A-E, R6A-B, R7A-B	No response submitted. Response is requested, not required, under Penal Code section 933.05 for this entity; SF Department of Public Health has elected not to submit an independent response at this time.
SF Department of Public Works	F7	R7A-B	No response submitted. Response is requested, not required, under Penal Code section 933.05 for this entity; SF Department of Public Works has elected not to submit an independent response at this time.
Office of Resilience and Capital Planning	F7	R7A-B	No response submitted. Response is requested, not required, under Penal Code section 933.05 for this entity; Office of Resilience and Capital Planning has elected not to submit an independent response at this time.
Capital Planning Committee	F7	R7A-B	No response submitted. Response is requested, not required, under Penal Code section 933.05 for this entity;

Requested Respondent	Findings Assigned	Recommendations Assigned	Status
			Capital Planning Committee has elected not to submit an independent response at this time.
Sheriff's Department Oversight Board	F1, F3, F13	R1-B, R3-A, R13-A-B	No response submitted. Response is requested, not required, under Penal Code section 933.05 for this entity.