



SHAMANN WALTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April, 9, 2025

Contact: Natalie Gee, natalie.gee@sfgov.org

*****SUPERVISOR SHAMANN WALTON CALLS OUT MISMANAGEMENT AT ALICE GRIFFITH APARTMENTS: RESIDENTS DESERVE BETTER*****

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Supervisor Shamann Walton is demanding immediate action from property managers McCormack Baron Salazar (MBS) and the John Stewart Company for their ongoing failure to provide safe, clean, and dignified living conditions at the Alice Griffith Apartments, a public housing community.

Over the past few years, residents have long reported issues to the respective management companies and the Supervisor’s office, including broken elevators, unresolved pest infestations, slow trash removal, and delayed maintenance—all of which have significantly impacted their health and safety. These concerns have persisted for months, and in some cases, years, with little to no progress made.

This past Monday, at a public hearing convened by Supervisor Walton at the Board of Supervisors Rules Committee, executives from MBS and John Stewart admitted that many of the problems remain unresolved. They cited financial challenges and claimed the property does not generate enough revenue to support necessary repairs. This admission confirms what residents have long suspected—that their needs have been deprioritized in favor of cost-saving measures.

Supervisor Walton directly requested that MBS take steps to ensure John Stewart Company meets its responsibilities. Rather than offering a commitment to improving services, MBS representatives deflected, stating that unless more money is received from the Housing Authority, conditions would remain the same. MBS defended the poor level of service instead of expressing any intention to address it.

The ongoing failure to repair elevators has had serious and harmful consequences, particularly for elderly residents and individuals with disabilities who, at times, have been physically unable to leave their homes. In some cases, the San Francisco Fire Department has been called to assist



SHAMANN WALTON

residents trapped on upper floors due to inoperable elevators. Meanwhile, persistent pest infestations and delayed trash removal continue to jeopardize both health and quality of life. This level of neglect by McCormack Baron Salazar and the John Stewart Company is not only unacceptable—it signals a blatant disregard for the well-being of low-income families, many of whom are Black residents who have long been marginalized and underserved.

“This is not just about broken elevators or missed maintenance requests—this is about how we treat people,” said Supervisor Walton. “The residents of Alice Griffith deserve to live in safe, clean, and dignified housing, and I will not stop until that becomes their reality.”

Several city agencies and community organizations were present at the hearing to address their roles and responsibilities at Alice Griffith. These included the San Francisco Housing Authority, the John Stewart Company, McCormack Baron Salazar, the Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure (OCII), FivePoint, Bayview Hunters Point Multi-Senior Services, the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD), and the San Francisco Port. Each entity was called to report on their involvement in the housing development and to explain what actions are being taken to address the ongoing issues. Supervisor Walton posed a series of critical questions focused on pest control, prolonged elevator outages, delayed maintenance responses, management oversight, and whether contractual obligations to residents are being fulfilled.

Alice Griffith was once managed by the City, but under guidance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), oversight was transferred to private companies with the goal of improving housing conditions. The intent behind this privatization was to provide residents with better service, safer homes, and faster responses to maintenance issues—not to create further hardship. McCormack Baron Salazar and the John Stewart Company willingly entered into contracts with the City, and they must now be held accountable for fulfilling their obligations to the residents they serve.

This situation at Alice Griffith represents a complete failure of oversight, accountability, and basic human decency. Supervisor Walton and fellow Committee Members are demanding immediate corrective action. Elevators must be repaired and maintained to ensure accessibility and safety for all residents, particularly seniors and individuals with disabilities. Pest control and sanitation issues must be addressed without delay. Maintenance requests and quality-of-life concerns must receive timely responses. Property management companies must fulfill the



SHAMANN WALTON

services they are contracted and compensated to provide. Above all, residents of Alice Griffith must be treated with the dignity, respect, and urgency that every human being deserves.

Supervisor Walton has committed to holding regular oversight hearings on the mismanagement at Alice Griffith—every other month or as frequently as necessary—until meaningful progress is made and residents' concerns are fully addressed.

The full hearing can be viewed here: <https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/player/clip/49415>

###