Motion directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to schedule a Committee of the Whole hearing on October 20, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. for the Members of the Board of Supervisors to hear and receive updates on the progress and implementation status of the Unites States Department of Justice recommendations regarding reforms within the Police Department; and rescinding and replacing Motion No. 20-085, which was approved to schedule a Committee of the Whole for the same purpose on September 22, 2020.

WHEREAS, After a series of officer involved shootings, the Police Department (PD) partnered with the United States Department of Justice’s Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (DOJ/COPS) to conduct an independent assessment through the Collaborative Reform Initiative for Technical Assistance (CRI-TA); and

  Whereas, In February 2016, the DOJ/COPS launched a six-month comprehensive review of the SFPD, with the goal to improve on the implementation of the principles of community oriented policing practices, transparency, professionalism, and accountability; and

  WHEREAS, On October 12, 2016, the DOJ/COPS released its initial assessment and provided 272 recommendations for improvement within the department. The areas of review included Use of Force, Bias, Community Policing, Accountability, and Hiring and Personnel Practices; and

  WHEREAS, On October 18, 2016, the Board of Supervisors adopted Motion No. M16-141, scheduling the Board to sit as a Committee of the Whole on November 15, 2016, in a joint meeting with the Police Commission, to hold a public hearing to consider the findings and recommendations of the Department of Justice Initial Assessment
WHEREAS, On October 18, 2016, the Board also adopted Motion No. M16-142, scheduling quarterly Committees of the Whole hearings regarding the final report, findings, and recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel, beginning in February 2017; and

WHEREAS, The Board held three such Committee of the Whole hearings in 2017, with the last being held on September 26, 2017; and

WHEREAS, On September 15, 2017, the Department of Justice announced its withdrawal from the Collaborative Reform Process, and on February 5, 2018, the California Department of Justice announced its agreement to publicly evaluate and report on the implementation of the US DOJ recommendations; and

WHEREAS, The following areas are stated to be the focus of the Collaborative Reform Initiative between the California Department of Justice, the City of San Francisco, and the Police Department: use of force policies and practices; policies, practices and training to address issues of bias in policing; community-oriented policing strategies and protocols; policies and practices regarding accountability processes; and recruitment, hiring and personnel practices; and

WHEREAS, In May of 2019, the California Department of Justice issued a progress report regarding Phase I of the Collaborative Reform Initiative between the City and County of San Francisco, the San Francisco Police Department, and the California Department of Justice, covering the period from September 17, 2018 through December 21, 2018; and
WHEREAS, The work of Phase I was focused on establishing the framework, processes and procedures to support the process of reform, and during this Phase, the Police Department prioritized 63 recommendations for review including those on Use of Force, Bias and Accountability of which DOJ found 13 recommendations to be compliant, largely because internal accountability controls were not in place; and

WHEREAS, As two years had passed since the September 2017 Committee of the Whole without formal updates to the Board of Supervisors regarding implementation of the DOJ recommendations, and given the release of the May 2019 DOJ report, the Board held a Committee of the Whole on October 22, 2019, featuring both the Police Department and Hillard Heinze, the consultant for the California Department of Justice who presented updates regarding the status of reforms; and

WHEREAS, In March of 2020, the DOJ released its report on Phase II of the Collaborative Reform Initiative, which covered the time period between December 22, 2018, through August 22, 2019; and

WHEREAS, The March 2020 DOJ report found that more progress had been made, pointing specifically to reduced use of force incidents, and that the Police Department had become substantially compliant with 40 recommendations related to use of force, bias free policing, and civilian complaints, and more still under review; and

WHEREAS, The report also noted that “Cal DOJ is concerned that SFPD’s progress is too slow. The failure to implement a greater number of the recommendations is delaying the SFPD’s fulfillment of its promise to the community to get this work done,” and pointed also to concerns relating to “reports of anti-Black bias within the department and with the persistent disproportionate use of force against African American and Latino individuals”; and

WHEREAS, The Police Commission has begun hearing monthly reports on reform efforts and the status of implementation of the DOJ recommendations; and
WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors sees a continued role for themselves in ensuring the full and timely implementation of the DOJ recommendations for the Police Department; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall schedule a Committee of the Whole hearing on October 20, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. for the Members of the Board of Supervisors to hear and receive an update on the progress and implementation status of the Department of Justice recommendations for reform within the Police Department; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this motion rescinds and replaces Motion No. 20-085, which was approved to schedule a Committee of the Whole for the same purpose on September 22, 2020.
Motion directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to reschedule the Committee of the Whole hearing to October 20, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. for the Members of the Board of Supervisors to hear and receive updates on the progress and implementation status of the United States Department of Justice recommendations regarding reforms within the Police Department; and rescinding and replacing Motion No. 20-085, which was approved to schedule the Committee of the Whole for the same purpose on September 22, 2020.

September 15, 2020 Board of Supervisors - APPROVED

Ayes: 11 - Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was APPROVED on 9/15/2020 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board