Resolution urging the Mayor's Office and Department of Public Health to ensure no gap in services for the hundreds of people served daily by the Tenderloin Center.

WHEREAS, The Tenderloin Center, formerly known as the Linkage Center and located at 1170 Market Street, was launched in January 2022, pursuant to an emergency declaration by Mayor London Breed and her administration (the Administration), and was a landmark part of the Tenderloin Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Despite the expiration of the Mayor's declaration in March 2022, the Tenderloin Center has continued operating and has already served over 104,230 guests, serving up to 441 guests a day; and

WHEREAS, The Tenderloin Center offers a plethora of services, including meals, restrooms, showers, laundry, overdose prevention services, enrollment in treatment and state benefits, wound care, HIV/STI/COVID-19 testing, housing/shelter assessment, employment services, and other activities and services; and

WHEREAS, Although some of these services, such as some harm reduction services, have been offered by various providers for many years and continue being offered today, other services offered at the Tenderloin Center, such as overdose prevention, showers, and linkage to housing/benefits, are either unavailable in other locations or not as easily accessible for the population served by the Tenderloin Center; and

WHEREAS, Overdose prevention services are a key part of the Tenderloin Center: at least 249 overdoses have been reversed and thousands of doses of Naloxone distributed by staff at the Tenderloin Center, undoubtedly saving many lives; and
WHEREAS, The most recent report by the Medical Examiner’s Office shows that San Francisco’s overdose deaths remain at crisis levels, and 451 people have died from overdose as of the end of September 2022; and

WHEREAS, The Mayor has announced her plan to close the Tenderloin Center in December of 2022; and

WHEREAS, As of the writing of this Resolution, the Administration has yet to announce any plan to ensure no gap in services for the hundreds of people served daily by the Tenderloin Center;

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Health (DPH) prepared and recently released its Overdose Prevention Plan, which includes plans to invest further into harm reduction services, treatment, and create “Wellness Hubs” that will offer overdose prevention services, but has offered no public information regarding the locations and precise timing for these commitments; and

WHEREAS, Shutting down the Tenderloin Center without an operational replacement nearby to offer services to the hundreds of people who utilize the center every day would create an untenable situation in the Tenderloin, Civic Center, and surrounding neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Leaving the Tenderloin and Civic Center without an operational site nearby to offer overdose prevention services would place the people who currently rely on those services at higher risk of overdosing; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the Administration to commit to ensuring that there is no gap in services from the closure of the Tenderloin Center; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Administration to commit to ensure that a replacement site and services are opened by the anticipated date of closure for the Tenderloin Center; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Administration to commit to ensure that any replacements are reasonably situated to serve at minimum the people currently served by the Tenderloin Center; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board urges the Administration to immediately publicly release its plan for ensuring that the people who utilize the Tenderloin Center will be offered comparable services elsewhere upon closure of the Tenderloin Center; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That, in the event that no suitable replacements near the Tenderloin Center can be mobilized or opened by the date of the Tenderloin Center’s planned closure, the Board of Supervisors urges the Administration to commit to extending operations for the Tenderloin Center until such time as those replacement services become available to ensure that the hundreds of people who are currently served by the Tenderloin Center are not left without sufficient access to the resources currently offered there.
Resolution urging the Mayor’s Office and Department of Public Health to ensure no gap in services for the hundreds of people served daily by the Tenderloin Center.

November 03, 2022 Government Audit and Oversight Committee - RECOMMENDED AS COMMITTEE REPORT

November 08, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 6 - Chan, Mar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen and Walton
Noes: 5 - Dorsey, Mandelman, Melgar, Safai and Stefani

File No. 221090

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 11/8/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

11/17/2022
Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

11/17/2022
Date