

## FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

### DRAFT MINUTES

August 13, 2025, 9:00 – 12:00 p.m.

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 416 ■ San Francisco ■ California ■ 94102

The meeting video can be reviewed by clicking the link below:

[https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=180&clip\\_id=50492](https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=180&clip_id=50492)

President Fraser called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Marcy Fraser	Present
Vice President	Paula Collins	Excused
Commissioner	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Commissioner	Armie Morgan	Present
Commissioner	Allan Low	Present
Chief of Department	Dean Crispen	Present
Patrick Rabbitt	Deputy Chief – Operations	
Patrick D’Arcy	Airport	
Chad Law	Prevention	
Marc Kasper	Training	
Garreth Miller	ESER Project Manager	
Tony Molloy	ADC EMS	
April Sloan	ADC Community Paramedicine	
Assistant Chiefs		
James O’Connell	Division II	
William Storti	Division III	
Staff		
Mark Corso	CFO	

#### RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Fraser read the land acknowledgment.

#### 2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was public comment from Jeanine Cotter, co-founder of Luminalt Solar Energy Solutions, regarding revoked tax credits.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES *[Discussion and possible action]*

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on July 23, 2025.

Commissioner Low moved to approve the minutes from July 23, 2025, and Commissioner Morgan Seconded. President Fraser, Commissioner Nakajo,

Commissioner Morgan, and Commissioner Low voted in favor of the Motion. The Motion passed.

There was no public comment.

#### **4. CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT *[Discussion]***

##### **REPORT FROM CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT, DEAN CRISPEN**

Report on current issues, activities, and events within the Department since the Fire Commission meeting July 23, 2025, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Crispin attended the H3L1/H3L2 Graduation on July 25. He thanked Chief Treff and the Division of Training (DOT) for training these new members. During the tsunami advisory on July 29, the Department followed the tsunami playbook. Fortunately, the advisory never escalated to an alert and there was no damage. In preparation for the events and concerts at Golden Gate Park, the Department held a press conference with SFPD, DEM, Sheriff's Department, and Another Planet, a private vendor. A battalion chief commanded 2 Hazmat team members; 8-12 BFP members; and a Tactical EMS (TEMS) team. Members provided medical assistance to one incident at Outside Lands. On August 1, the Chief addressed the 44 recruits of the 136<sup>th</sup> Recruit Academy. The Chief attended several events: South Asian American Heritage Month celebration (July 25); SFPD Officer of the Month ceremony (July 30); tour of Sunset District fire stations with Supervisor Engardio (August 1); Pistahan Parade (August 9); Nihonmachi Street Fair (August 3); Transgender Month flag raising event (August 5); Chinatown merchant walk with SFPD Chief Paul Yep (August 12); meeting with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce regarding public safety (August 12); and meeting with Consul General of Chile regarding disaster preparedness (August 12). Chief Crispin thanked Chief Pang for his work on General Order (GO) 25 A-76 regarding violence against members in the field. Other GOs included a posting for a lieutenant in the Bureau of Equipment (BOE), and FEMA Task Force 3. Chief Crispin acknowledged Chief Josh Smith in Homeland Security. Lieutenant Mark Mauberret will replace Chief Smith who is returning to the field as a Rescue Captain. The annual seniority list has been released. Command Staff attended a staff retreat on July 2. H3 interviews are complete, and a new Academy begins in September. Six relief PIOs have been selected to assist the current PIOs. On August 4, Chief Crispin met with the City Administrator regarding the 2028 Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response (ESER) Bond. A Station 7 rebuild is included in the proposal, but per a report from the Department of Public Works (DPW), Stations 2 and 40 require possibly a seismic upgrade or a complete rebuild. Chief Crispin continues to discuss these plans with Chiefs Rabbit and Miller. DPW engineers plan to conduct an additional study. Chief Crispin dedicated his report to Department Chaplain, Father Edward Reese, who recently passed away. Chief Crispin acknowledged Fr. Reese's dedication to the Department. Fr. Reese's services will be on August 20, 10am, at Saint Ignatius Church. Chief Crispin asked for a moment of silence to honor Fr. Reese. Chief Crispin's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3726/download?inline>.

Commissioner Low thanked Chief Crispin for his report, and inquired if the Fire Commission should adopt a resolution in support of Station 13's building plan. Chief Crispin responded that the Planning Commission has approved the plans and will present

them to the Board of Supervisors for approval. He appreciated Commissioner Low's support. President Fraser asked the Fire Commission Secretary to add Station 13 as an agenda item to the next meeting. Chief Crispen commented that Station 13 will be an important station if Station 2 is rebuilt or retrofitted. Commissioner Low inquired if there were any additional capital needs, and if an ESER Bond would cover the costs. Chief Crispen responded that the Department is working with the City Administrator and Capital Planning and has identified possible bonds in the next 10 to 12 years. The seismic study will be completed in about a month. The Department will submit a request for 2028 ESER Bond funds including a list of stations, and an estimate of construction costs for Stations 2, 7, 40, and BOE. The 2028 ESER Bond will be approximately \$350 million to be allocated to several public safety agencies like SFFD. Commissioner Low inquired about any service impacts considering the Mayor's family zoning plan. Chief Crispen responded that the Department will need more resources and personnel.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Crispen for his report, and appreciated Commissioner Low's comments. Commissioner Nakajo asked for the location of Station 40, and when it was built. Chief Crispen responded that Station 40 is a single engine company in Battalion 8 and is located on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Rivera Street. Station 40 was built in the 1950s. Commissioner Nakajo inquired about Fr. Reese's services. Chief Crispen responded that the service will be on August 20, 10am, at St. Ignatius Church.

Commissioner Morgan inquired if Station 13 and if the station at 530 Sansome Street were the same. Chief Crispen responded yes. The plan is to relocate Station 13 to 447 Battery Street. Commissioner Morgan offered his condolences to Father Reese's family and thanked him for his service.

President Fraser thanked Chief Crispen for his report. She inquired if the new Station 13 would be on the same block as the original location. Chief Crispen responded yes. The new Station 13 would be on the other side of the same block. President Fraser inquired if anyone was transported during the various festivals. Chief Crispen responded that there are three emergency room beds. Nurses and doctors onsite can administer medication and even perform surgery. If needed, Department members can transport patients in an ambulance. President Fraser inquired about violence against members. Chief Pang will cover this topic in his report.

There was no public comment.

#### REPORT FROM OPERATIONS, DEPUTY CHIEF PATRICK RABBITT

Report on overall field operations, including greater alarm fires, Bureau of Fire Prevention & Investigation, Training within the Department, and Airport Division.

Chief Rabbitt provided an Operations update for July 2025, including Homeland Security; Outreach, Recruitment, and Development (ORD); Health, Safety and Wellness (HSW); Behavioral Health (BHU); the Office of Employee Health (OEH); Investigative Services Bureau (ISB); Support Services (SS); and Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response (ESER).

Chief Rabbitt reported that there was a decrease in First Amendment activities, but companies continue civil unrest training. From July 31, 2023, to July 31, 2025, service calls increased by 7126. Alarm activations increased by over 156. There were over 490 outside fires compared to 80 in June. Chief Rabbitt commented this increase was likely due to 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday celebrations. There were 19 working fires, and one greater alarm at 746 Natoma Street. The Hazmat Team responded to a call at the US Customs Office, and eventually turned over evidence to the FBI's hazmat team. Chief Rabbitt thanked Assistant Deputy Chief Erica Brown and outgoing Chief Josh Smith for organizing coverage during the various concerts. Chief Rabbitt, along with Chiefs Mullin and Miller have met the City Administrator to discuss Operations and the ESER Bond. The Bureau of Fire Prevention (BFP) completed all 241 school inspections for school year ending June 2025. There were five pending notices of violations. Chief Rabbit congratulated three captains and six lieutenants recently promoted by BFP. Fire Marshal Law is hiring new inspectors and supporting the Mayor's permit approval initiative by approving permits efficiently and in a timely manner. Chief D'Arcy at the airport completed their annual FAA inspection, and is working with Chief Cannon to update the FRES pattern at dispatch. Six members completed ARFF driving training; six members attended advanced airport rescue firefighting class; and six members received Bay Water Rescue Swimmer Certification. Chief D'Arcy and Captain Balzarini are working on the vacancy bid which opened August 6. The drill on September 17 will simulate a failed runway takeoff into the water. Chief Kasper from the Division of Training (DOT) continued field training which produced over \$37,000 in California Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CJAC) funds. These funds went towards the purchase of two forcible entry doors for the Treasure Island training facility, and training classes. DOT held a Driver/Tiller Academy for the 133<sup>rd</sup> Recruit Academy Class at SFPD's Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC). DOT will be hosting the Orange County Fire Authority's annual Mobilization Exercise (MOBEX). This collaboration will help the Department develop a rescue task force which would respond to natural disasters like earthquakes and mudslides. The 136<sup>th</sup> Recruit Academy Class has been training for three weeks. The Fire Reserve logged over 140 hours of drills and training in July. Chief Rabbit thanked the Fire Reserve for assisting at the greater alarm at 746 Natoma Street. Captain Brandon Tom from NERT has been working on a Bay Area Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant to help fund training and equipment. The DOT hosted NERT Day on July 19 to demonstrate search and rescue techniques. Chief Rabbitt acknowledged the passing of Father Edward Reese. He thanked Fr. Reese for his service during the COVID-19 pandemic and for supporting members. Chief Rabbitt's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3724/download?inline>.

Commissioner Low inquired if there is a plan to expedite permits for solar panel construction and fire safety for lithium-ion batteries. Chief Rabbitt responded that Fire Marshal Law is working on battery storage systems, and streamlining the solar panel permit process. President Fraser proposed that lithium-ion batteries be placed on the agenda for a future meeting. Chief Rabbitt responded that he would be happy to present this topic at a future meeting. Chief Crispin commented that he and Fire Marshal Law have met with the community, and the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing regarding increasing awareness in SROs.

President Fraser thanked Chief Rabbitt for his report. She expressed concern about the increase in calls. Commissioner Low suggested this statistic be shared with the Planning Department. Chief Rabbitt concurred and will continue to track calls. President Fraser appreciated the information about MVA rollovers and inquired about solar inspections versus battery storage inspections. Chief Rabbit responded that both inspections are required. President Fraser enjoyed the pictures of the Rescue Task Force and appreciated the work of the Fire Reserve. She would like to attend the airport drill on September 17.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Chief Rabbitt for his report and inquired if the hazmat incident was at the greater alarm fire at 746 Natoma Street. Chief Rabbitt responded that it was a separate incident. Commissioner Morgan inquired if lithium-ion battery storage or lithium-ion charging stations were a hazard, and if there are permit or insurance measures in place. Chief Rabbitt responded that if batteries are not charged properly according to recommended guidelines, hot and toxic gas will be exposed. Unfortunately, there are no current insurance requirements, but units enforce limits on the number of batteries that can be stored in a building.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Rabbitt for his report, and commented on the lack of a siren system in case of a tsunami. He inquired about how the public is informed of a tsunami. Chief Rabbitt responded that City Departments have discussed putting a system in place. The Department of Emergency Management (DEM) would handle evacuations. The Department would assist with this, and have plans in place for how stations would be dispatched. Chief Rabbitt offered to share these plans with Commissioner Nakajo.

There was no public comment.

#### REPORT FROM EMS AND COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE, DEPUTY CHIEF SIMON PANG

Report on the EMS and Community Paramedicine (CP) Divisions.

Chief Pang reported there were 8007 ambulance dispatches in July, 74% of the total call volume. Call volume for Rescue Captains decreased due partly to canceled calls where a person declined assistance, and advocating for more efficient calls to 911. Callers are now asked to check if a patient is breathing to determine if a rescue captain is needed at an incident. There were on average four field pronouncements per day. Ambulance Patient Offload Times (APOT) improved due to increased awareness and offering the Sobering Center as an alternate destination which also provides medical care. There has been a 47% increase in transports to the Sobering Center. 204 people received Narcan in July. Thanks to a grant from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA), the Department held substance use disorder and de-escalation training for all paramedics. In July 28% of patients survived cardiac arrest. Chief Pang described an incident where members administered CPR to a patient who collapsed. Members from Engine 16 and Medic 59 found a shockable rhythm and were able to save the person. Chief Pang commented that teaching hands only CPR to the public and using AI generated narratives would also help cardiac arrest survival rates. Chief Pang reported there were 111 instances of violence towards members in the past year, with 93% occurring to paramedics and EMTs. General Order 25 A-076, "Response to Violence

Against Our Members,” outlines a policy on how members will respond when facing violence in the workplace. The Street Crisis team responded to 1444 calls while EMS-6 frequent 9-1-1 callers dropped by 32%. There were 40 5150 holds in July. Community paramedic teams referred 37 people to shelter. Chief Pang showed a video highlighting Community Paramedicine’s work. He thanked Lieutenant Hashim Anderson for coming up with this idea. Chief Pang’s report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/3723/download?inline>.

Commissioner Nakajo thanked Chief Pang for his report, and asked to be kept updated about the violence in the workplace policy.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Chief Pang for his report, and inquired about the types of clients utilizing the Sobering Center. Chief Pang responded that many people might have co-occurring medical events so it can be difficult to quantify. Commissioner Morgan commended EMS on saving the person with a shockable rhythm, and asked if there was a cause for the cardiac arrest. Chief Pang responded that doctors suspected it was COVID related. Commissioner Morgan enjoyed the video, and asked what the worst incident of violence in the workplace was. Chief Pang responded that an angry patient struck a member with a laptop, and broke an ambulance window.

President Fraser thanked Chief Pang for his report, and congratulated him on his hard work. She was pleased that 911 asked callers if a patient was breathing, and that the Sobering Center is a resource. President Fraser inquired if NERT would provide hands on CPR training. Chief Pang responded that NERT typically provides CPR training for people who want an American Heart Association Card. President Fraser commented that more people may prefer hand on CPR training. She asked how violence in the workplace was documented. Chief Pang responded that members complete a form that is submitted to Cal OSHA, and SFPD cites the actual person who committed violence. President Fraser inquired if the video will be shown. Chief Pang is working with the PIO on that. It is currently available on SFGOV TV.

There was no public comment.

##### **5. UPDATE OF THE CITY’S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 [Discussion]**

Presentation from Mark Corso, Deputy Director of Finance and Planning, on the Fire Department’s budget for Fiscal Years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027.

Director Corso reported that the Mayor’s office submitted a balanced budget to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on May 30. The Department maintained staffing levels and hiring plan, including two H-2 academies and corresponding EMS academies. There were no major operational enhancements or additional resources. \$3 million was allocated to equipment. Director Corso will provide updates on behested payment legislation as available. There is \$4.1 million allocated to facilities, an increase of \$1.5 million. There was a one-time project fund in the second year of the budget of \$500,000 to support cancer screening projects. Fortunately, there were no layoffs, but two vacant positions were deleted. Director Corso presented the budget to the BOS at a hearing on June 13,

and came to an agreement of \$525,000 in budget reductions. He commented that the budget process spans almost the entire year despite a balanced budget for the next two years. Director Corso continues to work with the Mayor's budget office and anticipates potential mid-year cuts. He thanked the Fire Commission for their support during the budget process.

Commissioner Low inquired about the status of the behested payment legislation. Director Corso responded that legislation is now approved. Commissioner Low offered the Commission's support and help if needed.

Commissioner Morgan thanked Director Corso for his report.

There was no public comment. Secretary Aguas-Aclan clarified that Director Corso's report was agenda item #5, not #6 as she previously stated.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

President Fraser adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.