

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE YOUTH FACILITIES AT JUVENILE HALL AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A MORE RECEPTIVE ENVIRONMENT AT THE YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, youth in the juvenile justice system have experienced disproportionate amounts of childhood trauma in their lives, both in and outside of the juvenile justice system, which may include mental health and substance abuse issues, which if unaddressed, may prevent them from leading healthy and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, if the trauma, mental health and substance abuse issues of justice-involved youth are not addressed, those youth are more prone to re-offend, and in increasingly severe ways; and

WHEREAS, youth in the San Mateo County (County) are detained at the San Mateo County Youth Services Center (YSC) in San Mateo, built in 2006 with a capacity to house 180 youth offenders and to provide a rehabilitative environment for juveniles,

featuring modern educational, athletic and medical facilities, including institutional detention design features such as metal furniture, concrete floors, and locked sleeping rooms ; and

WHEREAS, youth at the YSC continue to live in an institutional detention setting and the units they live on and the rooms they sleep in are sterile institutional environments ; and

WHEREAS, an increase investment in community-based preventative measures, detention reform efforts on the part of the Probation Department, increased community-based diversion opportunities, and decrease in juvenile crime have led to a decline of detained youth at the YSC, bringing the current detained youth population below the YSC's 180 bed capacity; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the County establish a committee whose purpose is to create a plan to modify the current institutional setting at the YSC, so it conveys a more supportive environment for detained juveniles in San Mateo County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of this committee shall be a Juvenile Court Judge, a representative from the Private Defender's Office, a representative from the District Attorney's Office, the County Manager and the Chief Probation Officer along

with two members of the public, selected by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission.

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