

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\***

**SAN FRANCISCO FAIR LENDING WORKING GROUP PRESENTS  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LAND USE AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS**

**San Francisco, CA** – The San Francisco Fair Lending Working Group, tasked with studying and recommending responses to the mortgage foreclosure crisis in San Francisco, today presented their findings and final recommendations to the Land Use and Economic Development Committee, chaired by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell. Jane Duong of the Mission Economic Development Association and Heidi Mueller, a realtor with Prudential California Realty, co-chaired the working group and presented material from the group's final report. The hearing included comments from Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting.

The Fair Lending Working Group, established through the efforts of Supervisor Maxwell, Assessor-Recorder Ting, and Treasurer Jose Cisneros, is comprised of representatives from community-based organizations that counsel at risk homeowners, financial service institutions, the mortgage broker industry, real estate professionals, and advocacy groups. The group's recommendations fall within four policy objectives: preserving homeownership and preventing foreclosure; preventing predatory lending practices; protecting tenants rights during and after foreclosure; and ensuring that affordable housing development and retention remains a top City priority.

The report calls for a higher level of compliance with and better enforcement of existing State laws that seek to protect homeowners from abusive lending practices and establish procedural requirements for lenders processing foreclosure actions. Communication among City agencies as diverse as the Department of Building Inspection, the City Attorney, Assessor's Office, and the District Attorney is critical to ensuring lender compliance with these statutes.

“It is important to recognize that we do have measures currently in place that can offer a degree of relief to families burdened by foreclosure”, said Supervisor Maxwell. “We need to be more vigilant in our enforcement of existing protections.”

Additionally, the report suggest a number of measures to better protect tenants during and after foreclosure, including strengthening Just Cause eviction legislation, enhancing education for both tenants and lenders on local eviction laws, and training 311 operators to forward foreclosure-related calls appropriately.

“Foreclosures are not only impacting our families and neighborhoods, they're costing the city money in the form of lost tax revenue, decreased property values, an increased demand for social services, and costs associated with the foreclosure process,” said Assessor-Recorder Ting. “I hope the city moves to take action based on the Fair Lending

Working Group's recommendations so that we can help San Francisco homeowners in need," he continued.

"We want homeowners to know that there is help they can access right here in San Francisco if they are concerned about making their mortgage payment. We urge homeowners to call one of the counseling services listed below," said Treasurer Cisneros.

"The San Francisco Fair Lending Working Group has developed robust recommendations that are specific to San Francisco. They build on an existing infrastructure of housing counseling services, best practices from around the country, and state and federal legislation addressing foreclosure," said Jane Duong, Co-Chair of the Fair Lending Working Group.

### **Members of the San Francisco Fair Lending Working Group**

Maeve Elise Brown (Housing and Economic Rights Advocates)  
Ed Donaldson (San Francisco Housing Development Corporation)  
Jane Duong (Co-Chair) (Mission Economic Development Agency)  
Amanda Feinstein (Walter and Elise Haas Fund)  
Leon Huntting (California Association of Mortgage Brokers)  
Grace Mejia (Wells Fargo Bank)  
Heidi Mueller (Co-Chair) (Realtor)  
Kevin Stein (California Reinvestment Coalition)  
Chris Oldag (Patelco Credit Union)  
Jan Lynn Owen (Washington Mutual)

Additionally, the Working Group received staff support from Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting's office, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Treasurer's office, and the Office of the Legislative Analyst.

### **Resources for Homeowners**

Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA)  
3505 20th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
(888) 780-5850

San Francisco Housing Development Corporation (SFHDC)  
4439 Third Street  
San Francisco, CA 94134  
(415) 822-1022

### **Resources for Tenants**

Housing Rights Committee of San Francisco  
427 S. Van Ness, San Francisco, CA 94110  
415-703-8644  
Monday through Thursday, 1-5 pm  
[www.hrcsf.org](http://www.hrcsf.org)

Comite De Vivienda San Pedro

474 Valencia Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

Phone: 415-487-9203

Hours: Monday & Wednesday 1-5

Tuesday, Thurs & Fri 9-5

[www.comitedevivienda.org](http://www.comitedevivienda.org)

Asian Law Caucus

55 Columbus Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone : 415 896-1701

Hours: M-F, 9a.m. – 5 p.m.

[www.asianlawcaucus.org](http://www.asianlawcaucus.org)

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