

**/SAN FRANCISCO
LOCAL HOMELESS COORDINATING BOARD**



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The San Francisco Homeless Coordinating Board is the lead entity for the San Francisco Continuum of Care. The Local Board works to ensure a unified homelessness strategy that is supported by the mayor, the board of supervisors, city departments, nonprofit agencies, people experiencing homelessness, formerly homeless people, and the community at large.

The Local Homeless Coordinating Board's efforts are aimed at permanent solutions to end homelessness. To that end, the Local Homeless Coordinating Board examines and presents a range of services designed to meet the unique and complex needs of individuals threatened with or currently experiencing homelessness.

The City and County of San Francisco faces a homelessness crisis and continues its strong efforts to reduce unsheltered homelessness and connecting people to services and assistance. According to the 2017 Point in Time Count, 7,500 people experience homelessness on any given evening, and 4,300 of those people are unsheltered and living on the streets.

There is, therefore, a constant and immediate demand for shelter. The San Francisco Local Homeless Coordinating Board is pleased to offer its strong support to Mayor London Breed and the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing in their efforts to construct an Embarcadero SAFE Navigation Center at Seawall Lot 330.

To address the City of San Francisco's need for more shelter, in October 2018, Mayor Breed created a bold initiative to open 1,000 new shelter beds by 2020. The Local Homeless Coordinating Board supports the Mayor's vision of expanding upon the existing shelter response system. Specifically the Local Homeless Coordinating Board supports the Mayor's innovative to use the SAFE Center's, low-barrier, high-capacity navigation center model, to create a more scalable, sustainable, and effective, navigation center at the Embarcadero location.

The Local Homeless Coordinating Board understands the urgent need for additional shelter space within the City's homelessness response system and strongly encourages the development of both additional short and long-term, low-threshold programs to support those in our community who are in immediate need of shelter. The proposed 175–200-bed low-barrier Embarcadero SAFE Navigation Center is a furtherance of the City of San Francisco's innovative approaches to sheltering people who are in need of shelter.

The Local Homeless Coordinating Board commends Mayor Breed and the City of San Francisco for taking strategic steps toward implementing a diverse array of housing options with the ultimate goal of ending homelessness within our community.