

# CLOSE 850 BRYANT NOW! NO NEW JAILS!

## CLOSE 850 BRYANT: Everyone agrees county jail 4 at 850 Bryant is unsafe and needs to be closed now!

- In the sheriff's own words in October 2018 – "850 Bryant needs to be closed". All supervisors who have spoken about this issue agree that the jail must be closed.
- The city has been talking about its closure since 1996 due to earthquake unsafety, and city administrator Naomi Kelly announced in 2017 that the jail must be closed in 2019. In January of 2017, eight major unions in San Francisco filed a letter to the City Attorney claiming that the city would be liable for injury or death in the case of an earthquake. Despite this, there has been no action or plan from city leaders to close the jail and prevent such a tragedy.
- Meanwhile, folks inside of County Jail 4 continue to report dangerous health conditions, including noxious fumes and sewage on the floors.

## **NO TO NEW JAILS: We reject the sheriff's plan to renovate and reopen county jail 6 or to lease jail space from other counties. We also reject conservatorship and more locked mental health jailing. This is San Francisco's chance to be a national leader and move away from the system of imprisonment.**

- Even earthquake safe jails are unsafe and dangerous.
- In 2015, San Francisco's Supervisors were applauded by communities across the city for boldly and unanimously rejecting a plan to build a new jail to replace 850 Bryant St. It's time they follow through with that decision and work toward ending their reliance on imprisonment by investing in true and meaningful alternatives.
- City officials must take immediate steps to close the jail at 850 Bryant St by releasing people back into the community, starting with the 80% of people held pretrial and investing in community based resources that would support people's reentry.



### Who is impacted?



- Over 40% of people in jail are houseless
- 56% of the jail population is African American, while African Americans make up only 5% of the total population in the city.
- Over 30% of people in jail are currently receiving jail behavioral health services
- 25% of people in jail are Transitional Age Youth

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## **NO MORE ELECTRONIC MONITORING: EM is only expanding the reach of the jail beyond its walls.**

- Ankle monitors place severe physical and financial hardships not just on the people who have them, but on their loved ones.
- In the last year, the number of people with ankle monitors have tripled in San Francisco, but the jail population has grown, showing that monitors are being used as an expansion of surveillance rather than as a “replacement for imprisonment.”

## **Invest in community based resources, not jails and policing**

- Instead of hiring more police officers or renovating jails, the board of supervisors need to redirect that money towards community resources. With every expansion of policing on the streets, we have seen parallel rising jail numbers. In 2018, this was largely due to the policing and sweeps of homeless encampments. Funds for new police positions can instead fund the implementation of the recommended alternatives provided by the Jail Replacement Project, and the services outlined in the coalition’s Jail Closure report: co-op housing, community based co-located services, and a transformative justice center.
- There is already \$190 million allocated in the capital plan for a “prisoner exit plan” in 2021. Currently, the sheriff is discussing plans that include either re-opening and renovating the closed jail in San Bruno or transferring prisoners to Santa Rita until a new jail can be built at 850 Byrant. Neither is acceptable. Our prisoner exit plan includes housing and services, not cages.



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