

San Francisco Black Led Organizations
Coalition (SFBLOC)
Strategic Plan, 2021-2022

PRIORITIZING BLACK SAN FRANCISCAN'S ACCESS TO HOUSING



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WHY THIS STRATEGIC PLAN?

COVID-19 and the death of George Floyd have uncovered decades of policies and practices resulting in racial inequality in the Black American Community in San Francisco. There is now an urgency to begin dismantling the old systems and create new systems to build wealth and equity in the community. The question is how. What has never been adequately tried is investing in Black American people to undo the damage of racism and rebuild. The Black American community has an established grassroots movement that has never been fully funded. We are still here and maintaining with limited funding. There is an urgency to fund Black American grassroots organizations and leaders.

Over the past decades, San Francisco's government agencies and private organizations, acting through their positions of power, have advanced discriminatory planning policies such as redlining, urban renewal, racial covenants, exclusionary zoning, and freeway construction projects that have resulted in disproportionate negative impacts on communities of color, including the persistent displacement of the Black American community in San Francisco, which experienced a decline from 10.6% of the City's population in 1990 to 5% in 2018.

The legacy of these discriminatory policies is that San Francisco's Black American community have historically been, and many currently are, denied equal access to

essential services and means of creating wealth, including affordable housing and homeownership opportunities, high-performing public schools, adequate transportation options, safe parks and open spaces, affordable health care, access to financial capital and entrepreneurship opportunities, and grocery stores selling healthy food. Black American maternal mortality is 3 to 4 times the rate of their white counterparts and Black Americans overall have the highest mortality rate for all cancers combined compared with any other racial and ethnic group.

The SFBLOC agrees with recent [San Francisco Planning Commission Resolution No. 20738 Centering Planning on Racial and Social Equity \(June 11, 2020\)](#): “WHEREAS, San Francisco has a long history of creating and/or enforcing laws, policies, and institutions that have promoted white supremacy and perpetuated racial inequities in the City and County of San Francisco...much of which is difficult to document due to historical erasure. The conditions that have created such racial inequities are also compounded by the intersection of race with class, gender, sexuality, immigration status, disability, and other social identities and experiences that result in inequitable treatment or opportunities.”

The call to action is now!

OUR MISSION

San Francisco Black Led Organizations Coalition (SFBLOC) advocates collaboratively for equitable funding to build a thriving infrastructure supporting San Francisco's Black community.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES



If we are to begin the work of dismantling the impact of White supremacy and ensuring long term success in the Black American community in San Francisco, it is important that our core strategies be governed by a **practical means of using resources** to achieve our core priorities. Those guiding principles are Self Accountability and Capacity Building.

Capacity Building: This is an investment that requires collaboration between large, experienced organizations with a long history of engagement with smaller Black American grassroots organizations to identify a communications strategy, share methods to improve measures of progress and outcomes, support direct investments, and enhance access to information and technology. SFBLOC will employ a 3-month planning process and a 9-month implementation period to ensure that our programs, interventions, and messages within each of the core strategies are effective, specific, and culturally appropriate.

Self-Accountability: SFBLOC believes that Black Americans are in the best position to hold ourselves responsible and define the path towards economic, educational, and cultural self-reliance and freedom based on our unique experiences. Using a 3-month planning process and a 9-month implementation period, we will embed 3 essential self-accountability tools - autonomy, competence, and community into necessary performance measures that will not only quantify gaps and evaluate our progress but inform future priorities and get us to a place where our intrinsic strengths and approach are valued.

OUR CORE STRATEGY AREAS

We recognize the following 2 essential overarching categories that must be addressed to stabilize the Black American community in San Francisco:

	Housing
	Black Arts & Culture

For each overarching category, this strategic plan shares our vision of a just and healthy society for Black Americans in SF, paired with examples of key priorities that SFBLOC plans to implement within the next 12 months to move the needle toward that vision. Although the plan is focused on 2 core strategic areas, SFBLOC is committed to the empowerment of Black Americans in San Francisco in the categories listed below -

- Employment, Entrepreneurship and Economic Development
- Education
- Criminal Justice and Legal Services
- Health & Wellness Services
- Communications and Media Relations
- Political Empowerment
- Children and Youth Services
- Elder Services
- Ending Sex Trafficking
- Black Women Empowerment
- Black Men Wellness

The ultimate goal beyond this plan is for all of these categories to utilize the guiding principles to achieve success.



OUR VISION:

SFBLOC aims to advocate for major improvements to the existing stock of affordable housing, as well as new affordable housing options for Black Americans in San Francisco. For established homeowners, our goal is to sustain their homeownership and invest in expanded homeownership for future Black American residents.

KEY PRIORITIES

1. Analyze benefits and liabilities of public housing privatization and/or tenant management programs.
2. Negotiate a commitment to increased lending to Black American homebuyers and entrepreneurs on the part of banks and other lending institutions.
3. Preserve and enhance Black American equity in real estate through purchase of rights of first refusal and/or reverse annuity mortgages with Black American homeowners.
4. Encourage development of affordable housing with land write downs and sweat equity participation.
5. Negotiate land deals with SF Redevelopment Agency, Section 8 subsidization with SF Housing Authority, etc. and assess experience of local sweat equity housing.
6. Advocate to maintain public benefits and transfer payments at the current level, and secure additional housing benefits for families receiving assistance through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).



Black Arts and Culture

OUR VISION:

SFBLOC aims to ensure the preservation of a strong sense of community cohesion and self-identity among Black Americans. This includes maintenance of our public spaces (parks) and community outreach centers, and should be reinforced by increased resources to institutions that highlight Black American art and culture, and a heightened profile of Black Americans in San Francisco's Tourism Industry.

KEY PRIORITIES

1. Support a Black American Cultural District in San Francisco, to serve as the center of a new tourism area that will attract tourists in the same way as Chinatown, Fisherman's Wharf or other locations that are central to SF's tourism economy.
2. Build bridges with other communities in the African Diaspora to create dialogue, partnerships and discuss shared experiences.
3. Advocate for allocation of a percentage of taxes from the sales of cannabis to be re-invested in the Black American community, as this community has been disproportionately affected by the marginalization and criminalization of cannabis.
4. Advocate for the establishment of a Black American development foundation and fund it through a reallocation of .05% (half of one percent) of sales tax on gross revenues of businesses in SF to repair the damage done by past government acts.
5. Increase coordination between Black American-led organizations to avoid duplication of services and waste of resources
6. Institute a process for community recognition of high-achieving and civic-minded young Black American people.

PLANNING RESOURCES

During the 3-month planning process, SFBLOC will use relevant existing resources produced by the City to understand the current landscape of Racial Equity across the departments and develop a set of feasible activities that will serve as the foundation for the implementation period.

Centering Planning on Racial and Social Equity, S.F. Planning Commission (2020)
https://sfplanning.org/sites/default/files/documents/admin/R20738_Centering_Planning_on_Racial_and_Social_Equity.pdf

Williams, Shanell., Berry, Gloria., Baraka, Keith., Lovett, Li Miao., Thomas, AJ., Gallota, Peter., SF DCCC Resolution acknowledging systemic racial inequities and calling for coordinated response to support the Black community during the COVID-19 pandemic. San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (2020)

Darity Jr., William A., and Mullen, A. Kirsten., From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the Twenty-First Century. University of Northern California Press (2020)

Establish a City of Evanston Funding Source Devoted to Local Reparations (Marijuana Tax), City of Evanston (2019)
<https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showdocument?id=54614>

Report of the San Francisco Mayor's Task Force on African American Out-Migration, S.F. Mayors Office (2009)
<http://bmagic.sfpdr.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2010/02/AA-OutMigration-TF-1.pdf>

Nonprofits: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly, 2008-09 Civil Grant Jury of San Francisco. (2009) https://civilgrandjury.sfgov.org/2008_2009/Nonprofits_Good_Bad_Ugly.pdf

San Francisco Slavery Disclosure Ordinance, S.F. Board of Supervisors (2006)
<https://sfgov.org/ccsfgsa/slavery-era-disclosure-ordinance>

Violence in Our City: Research and Recommendations to Empower Our Community, S.F. Human Rights Commission (2001)
https://sfhrc.org/sites/default/files/Documents/HRC_Publications/Articles/Violence_In_Our_City_Research_and_Recommendations_to_Empower_Our_Community.pdf

The Unfinished Agenda: The Economic Status of African Americans in San Francisco 1964-1990, S.F. Human Rights Commission (1993)
https://sf-hrc.org/sites/default/files/The_Unfinished_Agenda...%20%281%29.pdf

[Racial Equity Action Plan of all San Francisco City Departments:](#)

Academy of Sciences (SCI)
Arts Commission (ART)
Asian Art Museum (AAM)
Board of Supervisors (BOS)
Building Inspection (DBI)
City Administrator (ADM)
City Planning (CPC)
Civil Service Commission (CSC)
Community Investment and Infrastructure (OCII)
Controller (CON)
Environment (ENV)
Ethics Commission (ETH)
Fine Arts Museums (FAM)
Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH)
Housing Authority (SFHA)
Human Rights Commission (HRC)
Library (LIB)
Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD)
Public Utilities Commission (PUC)
Public Works (DPW)
Recreation and Parks (RPD)
Rent Arbitration Board (RNT)
Status of Women (WOM)
Technology (TIS)
War Memorial (WAR)