Update on the City's Economy & Finances

Ted Egan Ben Rosenfield February 1, 2022

Unemployment Improvement Clear, But Challenges Remain



Comparatively Weak Local Job Recovery



Job Loss at the Start of the Pandemic vs. Job Loss as of November 2021: 100 Largest U.S. Metro Areas

Extent of Recovery: % Change in Jobs, Feb 2020 - Nov 2021

Initial Drop: % Change in Jobs, Feb - Apr 2020

Recovery in Some Office Industries; Most Sectors Still Down



Change in Employment by Industry Sector, Feb 2020-Nov 2021: San Francisco Metro Division

Source: Employment Development Department

SF Sector Recovery in State & National Context

Employment in November 2021 as a Percentage of Employment in February 2020, by



Source: EDD: BLS

Taxable Sales in the State Context



Taxable Sales Recovery Across San Francisco



Demand-Side Concerns: Remote Office Work

Weekly Office Attendance in Selected Metros, Through December 15, 2021



Office Market Suggests Work-From-Home May Persist



Demand-Side Concerns: Missing Tourists

Monthly Hotel Revenue Available per Room Night, Selected Cities, Through November 140% Revenue Available per Room Night as a % of 2019 -San Francisco/San Mateo 120% San Diego Los Angeles 100% Phoenix Seattle 80% Denver 60% 40% 20% 0% M. C. Land Par Si a 1)1 St OF 02.10 200 yes Nor.22

Demand-Side Concerns: Out-Migration



Supply-Side: Some Signs of Wage Pressures



Percent Change in Average Monthly Earnings of Newly-Stable Hires, by Industry Sector, 2019Q4 to 2020Q4: San Francisco and California

California San Francisco

Source: U.S. Census. Quarterly Workforce Indicators

* Accommodations Sector excluded for data quality reasons

Summary of Economic Conditions

Return to sub-3% unemployment is good news – but a smaller labor force than 2 years ago. San Francisco's growth lags virtually every other city.

Out-migration is not yet picked up in official data – means the city's population and economy is probably smaller than it seems.

Big Issue #1: Offices and ongoing work-from-home. Office industries are hiring but when will the offices get refilled? How much will they be worth when they do?

Big Issue #2: Tourism. Hotel revenues at ~40% of normal, supporting hospitality businesses and arts organizations are suffering, especially around downtown.

Disconnect: Economic & Financial Conditions

San Francisco is experiencing a slow economic recovery, but demonstrating strong financial resiliency.

Why the disconnect?

- Lags in certain tax revenue impacts.
- Pension fund improvement driving down employer contributions.
- New revenue streams offsetting stark losses in existing ones.

General Fund Budget Outlook



Pension Fund Improvement



Revenue Forecast

Overall, property,

local taxes are

but not to pre-

New sources

pandemic levels

including excess

and new taxes



Joint Report Revenue Projection (\$M)

Source: San Francisco Five-Year Financial Plan Update, January 2022

Wrap Up

The local economy is recovering slowly and lagging most peers.

The City's financial stability provides an opportunity to monitor long-term trends and respond accordingly.

This strength provides an opportunity to monitor key trends that are currently unclear – particularly the pace of the hospitality recovery and the reinflation of downtown.

Policy-makers should plan for financial and operational course corrections as these trends become clearer.