March 4th, 2019

The Honorable London Breed
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Support for the SF Pretrial Diversion Project

Dear Mayor Breed;

On behalf of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, I write in support of the San Francisco Pretrial Diversion Project (SF Pretrial). For 43 years, the San Francisco Pretrial Diversion Project (SF Pretrial) has operated as an independent, non-profit organization, operating at the intersection of the county justice system and the community, advocating for and providing alternatives to detention, fines, and criminal prosecution.

Based in Oakland, the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights works to advance racial and economic justice to ensure dignity and opportunity for low income people and people of color.

We believe that a move in favor of a pretrial system that operates within law enforcement would be a step in the wrong direction for criminal justice reform efforts. The independence, neutrality, and community-based solutions are important and necessary attributes of any pretrial system, and we urge you to continue your county’s support of SF Pretrial.

For these reasons, the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights supports the work of SF Pretrial. Please contact our Policy Manager Tunisia Owens at tunisia@ellabakercenter.org or 510-285-8221 with any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Emily Harris
Senior Campaigner