

**From:** [Michelle Cooke](#)  
**To:** [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mainardi, Jesse \(MYR\)](#); [Joanna Gubman](#)  
**Subject:** Rules Committee Consideration of Mayoral Nominee Joanna Gubman (Board of Appeals)  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 4, 2024 8:47:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [Michelle Cooke signature.png](#)

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Dear Rules Committee (care of Victor Young, Clerk) - I write to urge that the Rules Committee recommend that the Board of Supervisors confirm Joanna Gubman to serve as a Commissioner on the Board of Appeals. I understand that Mx. Gubman's appointment will be considered on Monday, December 9.

In my professional capacity, I had the opportunity to work with Mx. Gubman when I hired her as an Administrative Law Judge at the California Public Utilities Commission. I had prior exposure to her in her roles as a Commissioner advisor and staff analyst. As an Administrative Law Judge, she received training at the National Judicial College in Administrative Law: Fair Hearing and will be able to bring this extensive training to bear as a Commissioner on the Board of Appeals. Along with this training and practical experience, she will bring her commitment to effective and just governance to the Board of Appeals if she is selected to serve as a Commissioner.

When we worked together, I found Mx. Gubman to be a dedicated public servant committed to equity and justice. Given her government service, Mx. Gubman brings an understanding of how government and bureaucracy works and an ability to consider both the big picture and small details. She is able to build consensus with people from diverse perspectives and help them to feel comfortable and heard even when she disagrees with them on some points. Mx. Gubman is focused on common ground and creative win-win outcomes rather than confrontational approaches. Most importantly, she shows up and does the work and is willing to make hard decisions.

I hope that you will recommend Mx. Joanna Gubman to serve as a Commissioner on the Board of Appeals.

Sincerely,



Michelle Cooke

San Francisco Resident

\*Chief Administrative Law Judge, California Public Utilities Commission

\*For identification purposes only; author is signing as an individual and not on behalf of an organization