

From: [Brian Adam](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re: Public comment for Government Audit and Oversight Committee, special meeting 10/11/24
Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 7:34:46 AM

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Good morning Madam Crayton,

I hope all is well! I wanted to confirm my comment was received.

Since the minutes were uploaded, I noticed that only comments made in the chambers by city staff and members of the public were recorded. Do written comments need to be received before the meeting, or do no written comments get memorialized in the meeting minutes?

Any clarification would be greatly appreciated.

On Fri, Oct 11, 2024 at 10:42 AM Brian Adam <briansamadam@gmail.com> wrote:

Good morning Madam Crayton,

Please find my public comment I would like added to the file.

Regarding item number 1 (Temporary Shelter and Homeless Services - Behested Payment Waiver):

- I am Brian Adam, a resident of San Francisco and former employee of the San Francisco government, and I am now working in another city in San Mateo County.
- Regarding Chair Preston's comment on private contributions versus taxes -- ballot propositions up for vote this cycle reflect large businesses attempts to adjust specific taxes that were designed to target the largest businesses. After a report from the Controller's Office and the changing economic climate, the current administration is "willing" to peel back these new taxes, e.g. payroll per capita tax, the overpaid executive's tax.
- Last year, San Francisco raised 240 million dollars from the overpaid executive alone. If certain propositions passed, this amount would probably decrease by 80%.
- Thinking about my current jurisdiction, which is home to YouTube, they and Google granted us 5 million dollars. This paltry when compared to ONE tax San Francisco applies to target companies whose executives are compensated 100 times the median salary of an employee in their company.
- I hope the members of this committee will encourage their constituents to be cognizant of these issues when voting or supporting policy proposals.

Regarding item 2 (contract audit by Controller into the SFPD's relationship with SF SAFE):

- I am Brian Adam, a resident of San Francisco and former employee of the San Francisco government, and I am now working in another city in San Mateo County.
- SFPD has seen significant reductions in staff as a result of retirement, lagging

recruitment / academy training, and COVID-19 restrictions that led to multiple terminations.

- Multiple initiatives designed to appease local businesses and vocal residents have further stretched limited resources even thinner.
- I hope that the commission will pursue legislation that further civilianizes administrative functions of the police department.
- I hope that the commission will encourage or empower the Government Recovery taskforce of the City Administrator's Office and the Controller's Office to modernize departments use of technology, streamline their processes, and implement a centralized audit process that leverages technology.
- As it stands, law enforcement has a history of privileging sworn staff over civilian staff. It is highly unlikely that significant change will be accomplished without increasing the number of civilian staff in the department or shifting the administrative duties of sworn staff to civilian staff.
- As it stands, I think it is highly unlikely that outside of additional funding to support auditing and reform work, nothing will change. It is highly unlikely that initiatives on the ballot will accomplish much of anything without a stronger, empowered Controller's Office with the resources and vision to audit and consult internal departments to improve the way they operate.
- As it stands, the overreliance on contracting or granting to private vendors, nonprofits, or community benefit organizations (1.7 billion dollars of the budget for FY24-25) can only result in inefficiencies and an increased risk of corruption without the necessary capacity, knowledge, and expertise on the City & County government side.
- As it stands, current regulatory and contracting rules privilege well-established actors and insiders. These processes hinder the ability of novel, innovative groups to contribute, and contribute to requests for proposals that have limited bidders -- in the case of the contract being discussed -- one.

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Sincerely,
Brian Adam

San Francisco, CA

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Brian Adam

San Francisco, CA