

**From:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)  
**Cc:** [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment Re: Recognizing the Wild Parrots of San Francisco as the Official Animal of San Francisco  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 8:49:57 AM

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Hello,

Please see below for communication from Sarah Lemarie regarding File No. 230384, which is Item No. 32 on today's agenda.

**File No. 230384** - Recognizing the Wild Parrots of San Francisco as the Official Animal of San Francisco

Sincerely,

**Joe Adkins**  
**Office of the Clerk of the Board**  
**San Francisco Board of Supervisors**  
**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244**  
**San Francisco, CA 94102**  
**Phone: (415) 554-5184 | Fax: (415) 554-5163**  
[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org) | [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org)

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**From:** Sarah Lemarie <sarah.lemarie@mickaboo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 7:31 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** Judy Irving <films@pelicanmedia.org>; Pamela Lee <pam@mickaboo.com>  
**Subject:** Public Comment Re: Recognizing the Wild Parrots of San Francisco as the Official Animal of San Francisco

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Re: Public Comment re:

**230384 Recognizing the Wild Parrots of San Francisco as the Official Animal of San Francisco**

Dear Committee Members,

As I cannot attend this morning's 9:30am meeting I am sending in the following brief message for public comment re: file no. 230384.

I hope very much that this resolution shall be adopted, cementing the parrot's position as a beloved

feature of the city. This seems to be an appropriate time to bring to the board's attention that Mickaboo Companion Bird Rescue continues to see a steady annual intake of SF wild parrots suffering from exposure to rat poison (bromethalin). Mickaboo has been accepting and treating sick or injured SF wild parrots since 2003. We see approx 10-15 intakes a year via San Francisco Animal Care and Control. In recent years since 2019, Mickaboo has received 64 sick/injured SF wild parrots and 24 of those have died, almost all from suspected rat poison based on their symptoms. Mickaboo funded a research paper published in PlosOne in 2019 which proved bromethalin poisoning was the primary cause for illness seen in sick parrots turned in at SF shelter and subsequently handed to Mickaboo for treatment and care. Our monthly hospital bill for providing care for our cohort of 'wobbly wild parrots' currently runs at approx \$13k a month.

We met with Dr Chris Geiger as a city representative on 20 August 2019 after the paper was published. He confirmed the city only uses bromethalin in the sewers, and we suspect private use of poison scattered loosely on rooftops is a likely source of the issue. It is almost certainly also affecting other wildlife besides the parrots. Raising public awareness can help tackle this issue and help us avoid a growing collection of special needs animals who need safe and appropriate care in captivity to have a good quality of life.

We would appreciate any opportunity to continue this conversation to raise public awareness with the support of the city, and keep the parrot flock healthy and safe from human harm.

Link to PlosOne paper: <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0213248>

Thank you for your support!

Kind regards,

Sarah Lemarié, CEO Mickaboo Companion Bird Rescue

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Sarah Lemarié | email: [sarah.lemarie@mickaboo.com](mailto:sarah.lemarie@mickaboo.com)

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