From: Cassandra Costello
To: Perkinson, Jessica (BOS)
Subject: Letter for file 220649

**Date:** Monday, June 13, 2022 2:47:07 PM

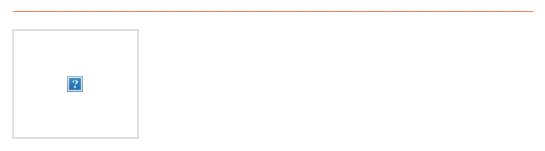
Attachments: BOS - TID 5-17-22.pdf

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Hi Jessica,

Can you please include the attached letter into file 220649 for the GAO hearing this Thursday? Thanks,

Cassandra



Cassandra Costello | EVP, Public Policy & Executive Programs E <a href="mailto:cassandra@sftravel.com">cassandra@sftravel.com</a> | T 415.227.2655

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## UNITE HERE!

May 17, 2022

To: Honorable Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors

From: Anand Singh, President, UNITE HERE Local 2

Dear Honorable members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

I am writing you today on behalf of the membership of UNITE HERE Local 2 to support the renewal of the Tourism Improvement District (TID). The TID has transformed how San Francisco competes against comparable destinations for leisure and business travel. Since the TID went into effect in 2009, it has generated over \$20 million each year prior to the pandemic that is used to market and sell San Francisco attracting leisure and business visitors globally. This has meant that job growth in the hospitality sector also grew.

After the launch of the TID, San Francisco led the top 25 markets from 2009-2018. In 2019, San Francisco welcomed over 26 million visitors who spent over \$10.2 billion in our local economy. This spending generated over \$819 million in taxes and fees for the City's General Fund.

It is more important than ever to ensure we are using every tool at our disposal to bring back the jobs in the hospitality industry, the hardest hit and slowest to recover due to the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic. The membership of Unite HERE Local 2 are ready to come back to work and support our economic recovery. Absent robust sales and marketing efforts to tell the world that San Francisco is open for business and ready to welcome visitors from every corner of the world, we will continue to struggle to bring back these important jobs.

Please join me in supporting the renewal of the TID.

Thank you,

Anand Singh President

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Anand Singh President Chito Cuéllar Vice-President

Tina Chen Secretary-Treasurer