



February 4, 2020

Board of Supervisors
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl #244,
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

In the spirit of Larry Itliong and the United Farm Workers, the members of the San Francisco Latino Democratic Club are writing to express our heartfelt support for Theresa Imperial to be appointed to the San Francisco Planning Commission.

The San Francisco Latino Democratic Club has a 40 year history of working to empower Latinos by fighting for economic and social justice. Our most recent efforts have been to fight for civil rights for immigrants and ending the displacement of working class Latinx families. Theresa Imperial, a member of our organization for several years, has fought by our side and helped us build coalitions.

Theresa is eminently qualified for the position. As a co-founder, Case Manager and now Executive Director of the Bill Sorro Housing Program (BiSHoP), she has served the working-class, immigrant, Tagalog and Spanish speaking communities for many years to gain affordable housing opportunities and sustain their tenant rights. Her continued service for more than 10 years demonstrates her utmost commitment to public service.

Moreover, Theresa Imperial has been an expert resource to our community on land-use for neighborhoods impacted by gentrification and displacement, as well as City and State policies for affordable housing and tenants rights. As a graduate of Urban Habitat's Boards, Commissions and Leadership Institute (BCLI), former member of the Eastern Neighborhoods Community Advisory Committee, former staff member for the Western Regional Advocacy Project (WRAP), Theresa has more than the required discipline, aptitude and compassion to serve.

It is with a heavy heart that we lose our only Latinx Planning Commissioner, Myrna Melgar, who has served with great distinction for equity, immigrants and families. This Commission seat has distinguished history as one that has understood Latinx community voices and having deep knowledge of land-use policy starting with Christina Olague and followed by Cindy Wu, who both also served with excellence.

Supervisors, please continue their legacy and vote to support Theresa Imperial for the San Francisco Planning Commission. Thank you for your consideration.

Cordialmente,

San Francisco Latino Democratic Club