

From: [Bob Fields](#)
To: [Ronen, Hillary](#)
Cc: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re-nomination of Sue Diamond
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:15:58 PM

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Dear Supervisor Ronen,

I am writing with great enthusiasm in support of Sue Diamond's re-nomination to the San Francisco Planning Commission. I have worked closely with Sue over the past ten years in connection with my involvement at the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco (JCCSF), first as a Board Member while Sue served as Board Chair, and later, in my role as Board Chair. During this time, I have seen first-hand Sue's intelligence, commitment, integrity, leadership, and strategic thinking.

Sue's longtime leadership role with the JCCSF reflects her commitment to the organization's vision of building an inclusive and flourishing community that serves and responds to a broad range of social and economic needs. During her tenure as Board Chair, she expertly led the JCCSF through numerous tough issues, always seeking a variety of opinions, showing respect for different perspectives, and demonstrating success at building consensus. For example, Sue skillfully navigated the JCCSF through a challenging financial period relating to both the 2008 financial crisis and prior debt-related obligations, arriving at solutions that greatly benefitted the organization and put it on a more solid foundation.

She also steered the JCCSF through the hiring of a new Executive Director. In whatever she does, Sue takes her fiduciary responsibilities seriously, always keeping in mind the best interests of the organization.

Additionally, in all her decision-making, Sue exemplifies integrity. She understands that fairness, transparency and the need to consider the impact on all constituencies are vital to decisions affecting the health of an organization. A strategic thinker, Sue is not just concerned with short term solutions to problems, but also on developing solutions that strengthen an organization over the long term. She recognized the importance of leading the agency toward positive community building. Under Sue's leadership, for the first time, the JCCSF hosted the 2009 JCC Maccabi Games – a six-day, City-wide Olympic style, youth sporting event, involving the participation of 1,800 people from across the world as well as 1,300 local volunteers. The event involved partnering with numerous local and civic organizations and was a resounding success.

More recently, during my own tenure as Board Chair, I worked closely with Sue as she represented the JCCSF in her professional capacity as project counsel, providing strategic counseling and support in connection with long term expansion options. Sue always had the best interests of the JCCSF as her top priority.

In conclusion, I highly recommend Sue Diamond without reservation, for her re-nomination to the Planning Commission. She is thoughtful, perceptive, incredibly intelligent, and a person of unquestionable integrity. I can't think of a more qualified person than Sue. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have questions or would like to discuss my comments in more detail.

Respectfully,
Bob Fields

From: [Doug Shoemaker](#)
To: [Ronen, Hillary](#)
Cc: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Reappointment of Sue Diamond
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:48:41 PM

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Supervisor

I want to offer my support for the reappointment of Sue Diamond to the Planning Commission.

Sue recently served as a Mercy Housing California board member, and I can attest to her incredible intelligence, understanding of the planning code, and commitment to social justice.

She is a strong supporter of affordable housing and has incredible working knowledge of affordable housing development and finance due to her service on Mercy Housing's real estate committee.

Sue has demonstrated her passion for improving our city as demonstrated by the legal practice that she developed prior to joining the Commission. As you go through the client list of her firm, you can see a resume of public service that is unrivaled.

Finally as I said at her first confirmation hearing, Sue offers fair and unbiased service to a diverse set of stakeholders.

Thanks

Doug

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November 18, 2019

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is Alexandra Morgan, and I am the CEO of Family House, a nonprofit organization in Mission Bay that provides free, temporary housing for low-income families whose children are being treated for cancer at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital. Founded in 1981, Family House moved into our new building in Mission Bay in 2016, thanks in large part to Sue Diamond. We now house 250 people per night or 4,000 families per year.

It is my pleasure to recommend Sue Diamond for the City's Planning Commission. In my opinion, there is no one who is better qualified or more appropriate to serve as a Commissioner.

During the process of acquiring Block 7E in Mission Bay to develop a new facility, Sue Diamond shepherded Family House through the dissolution of the State's Redevelopment Agency, the establishment of the City's OCII Commission and our subsequent acquisition of Block 7E. This was neither an easy or quick process, nor was I confident that we would be able to acquire the lot, but Sue's leadership resulted in a truly successful outcome.

We hired Sue to be Project Counsel with responsibilities overseeing a broad range of topics. In effect, she was the CEO of our project. I was immediately impressed with Sue's depth and breadth of knowledge as well as her outstanding reputation in San Francisco's land use sector. It was clear from the start that Sue is and intelligent and calm leader, who is admired and respected by our community.

The first characteristic to note about Sue is that she gave up a successful career as a big firm land use attorney in favor of creating a single attorney practice working with nonprofits on land use issues. The opportunity for a small nonprofit like Family House to work with someone of Sue's caliber is typically beyond our financial capability. But Sue's aim is to provide the same high quality legal and land use expertise to nonprofits that benefit common people. This is driven by an inherent commitment to the common good and fairness to all. In a word, this part of Sue's career is about service.

During our time working together, Sue displayed great integrity at every level. For example, she made sure that the selection of major vendors was conducted through an open and competitive bidding process. She encouraged transparency through every step of the project; and her judgment and discretion are without peer, which is why she was able to introduce our naming donors to Family House in a way that maintained everyone's integrity and to the benefit of all.

In addition, Sue's integrity, particularly as our land acquisition took place in the public domain was the cornerstone of her work with Family House. Her ethic of recognizing that integrity is vital to public governance, safeguarding the public interest and reinforcing such practices in both public and private land deals was our guiding principle throughout the project. You will not find anyone who will strengthen public governance, respond to diverse economic and social concerns in a more evenhanded way, furthering citizen's trust in San Francisco's Planning Commission.

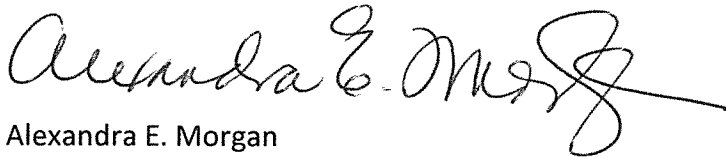
It's not just her leadership and legal skills that impress me, however. Sue Diamond was a joy to work with because of her amazingly positive attitude and focus. Her experience and knowledge were valued not just by myself, but by other attorneys on our team, who often relied on her to get the job done.

I am absolutely confident that Sue Diamond would be a great fit for the San Francisco Planning Commission. Not only will she bring the kind of skills and experiences you're looking for, she will quickly become an asset and help the Commission maintain the highest level of integrity, judgment and professionalism.

Should you wish further information, or if I may answer any questions, please contact me at amorgan@familyhouseinc.org or 415-476-1730.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexandra E. Morgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alexandra E. Morgan
Chief Executive Officer

From: [Ruth, Daniel](#)
To: [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Support for Sue Diamond's Re-Appointment to the Planning Commission
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2020 11:36:22 AM
Importance: High

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Dear Rules Committee Members:

My name is Daniel Ruth, and I am the President & CEO of the San Francisco Campus for Jewish Living and its senior living network of related entities. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to write you today in support of Sue Diamond's re-nomination to the Planning Commission. I have personally known and worked with Sue for well over 10 years ... and it is my honor to let the Rules Committee members know that our community enthusiastically endorses Sue Diamond's re-nomination to the Planning Commission.

I have worked with Sue on a wide variety projects, with the most significant/prominent project being the \$140-million re-development of our San Francisco campus. Over that period, Sue consistently demonstrated an unparalleled commitment and attentiveness to the diverse land use and community relations issues emanating from all of our different constituencies and stakeholder groups. Sue's proactive counsel has been critical in our project achieving the unparalleled level of community support that was realized for a project of its magnitude and complexity.

Sue is an experienced and universally highly regarded land use attorney, who concurrently worked directly with me, my senior staff, and the various Board Trustees on a wide range of other equally significant initiatives such as:

- Organizational Development;**
- Board Development & Succession Planning;**
- Non-Profit Corporate Governance & Best Practices;**

Strategic Visioning & Planning;

- **Corporate Compliance;**
- **New Business Development Analysis and Evaluation; and,**
- **Inter-agency Communication & Collaboration.**

Sue brings the highest degree of integrity, critical and independent thinking, judgement, passion, as well as a real sense of fairness to her work. The Board, staff and I confidently relied on her advice. It is our opinion that Sue would continue to be an outstanding asset to the Planning Commission, and to the City more broadly.

Please feel free to reach out to me if I can be of any further assistance in support Sue's re-nomination to the Planning Commission. I can be reached at (415) 627-7390.

Yours truly,

Jewish Senior Living Group
San Francisco Campus for Jewish Living
Moldaw Residences

Daniel R. Ruth
President & Chief Executive Officer

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Office: (415) 562-2675
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