



**31 October 2024**

Chair of the Rules Committee, Supervisor Shamann Walton  
Rules Committee Members, Supervisors Safai and Peskin  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

**Re: [File #241048](#): Amending Board Rules of Order - Providing Remote Public Comment Opportunities**

Dear Rules Committee Chair Walton and Supervisors Safai and Peskin:

The Race & Equity in all Planning Coalition of San Francisco (REP-SF) works to build a future with diverse communities, stable, affordable housing and equitable access to resources and opportunities. For REP-SF and our dozens of member organizations, racial, social and economic equity means identifying and executing policies, strategies and goals to ensure that race, ethnicity, income and access to resources do not determine the success of individuals or their communities.

Remote public comment has provided a critical opportunity for historically marginalized communities from throughout San Francisco to be involved and directly participate in the decision-making around important policies and issues that impact our daily lives. Allowing remote public comment promotes accessibility, equity, and the core values of a participatory democracy. Many disabled people, seniors, and low-income and working-class communities often are unable to travel to City Hall or cannot take time off from their day jobs to provide in-person public comment. Remote public comment allows our most vulnerable communities to have the same access to our decision-makers as those who have the time and ability to attend meetings in-person.

For these reasons, we urge your support for [President Peskin's motion](#) that would restore remote public comment at committee meetings of the Board of Supervisors. We request that the Rules Committee schedule this item for the next Rules Committee meeting, November 4, 2024.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Smooke  
on behalf of the Race & Equity in all Planning Coalition, San Francisco