



November 1, 2024

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**RE: Letter of Support for Restoring Remote Public Comment at Committee Meetings**

Dear Rules Committee Members,

Thank you for all you do to support a more just and livable city for all. I am reaching out today to ask for your support again in making our democratic process accessible to everyone. Thank you to Supervisor Peskin for introducing a [motion](#) on 10/23 to restore remote public comment at Board of Supervisors committee meetings.

We are writing to urge all members of the Rules Committee to support this motion. We also urge the Committee to schedule this item for the next Rules Committee meeting when it can be on the agenda, which is November 18, 2024. Remote public comment is essential for equitable access for our Latinx and American Indian community and is widely supported by a diverse group of people and organizations, evidenced by the 80+ organizations that signed the [campaign letter](#) sent out to the Board of Supervisors last month.

As we have noted in previous letters and in discussions with Supervisors and other entities, including the Planning Department, it is a barrier for our BIPOC residents to have to travel to get to City Hall and wait to speak on an item. It makes public comment prohibitive to our working families who do not have the necessary benefits to be able to take time off and appear in person, elders, disabled, and immune compromised residents, as well as those who are caregivers to family members in a community where multi-generational households are a cultural standard.

**San Francisco should be a model of providing equitable access to the democratic process for our historically marginalized BIPOC communities.** We believe that remote public comment is possible in committee meetings by allowing the Board to manage comments that are not germane to the specific agenda item.

Sincerely,

United to Save the Mission