

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 544-5227

Application for Boards / Commissions / Committees / Task Forces INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATION

San Francisco is a diverse City and County with a wide range of people and issues affecting it. In order to take advantage of the extensive experience and knowledge available throughout our communities, various Boards/Commissions/Committees/Task Forces have been established to bring that knowledge together. These groups and their membership requirements are established by legislation approved through the local, state, and/or federal government.

In addition to setting up the purpose and goals of the various groups, the governing legislation outlines the type of person - in terms of desirable skills and/or knowledge - who can contribute their knowledge and perspective. In this manner, a group of San Franciscans, who are representative of the City and County, can be active participants in addressing issues affecting the entire City and County.

If you are interested in serving the City and County of San Francisco, the following procedures are provided:

1. A list of vacancies and expected vacancies, with their qualifications, can be found at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, at the San Francisco Main Public Library, and online on the Board of Supervisors' website (<http://www.sfbos.org/vacancy>). Please review this list for positions of interest.
2. Submit an application (http://www.sfbos.org/vacancy_application)
(List all of the appropriate seat number(s) and/or category/categories for which you qualify. We request applications be received ten (10) days before the scheduled hearing.)

Applicants may also need to submit a Form 700, Statement of Economic Interests (<https://www.fppc.ca.gov/Form700.html>), along with their application for all bodies listed in [Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code, Section 3.1-103\(a\)\(1\)](#).

3. If the seat(s) you are applying for is vacant and requires the Board of Supervisors' confirmation, the Rules Committee may schedule your application for review. Applicants should expect to appear before the Rules Committee to speak on their qualifications and answer questions during a public hearing.
(There are no set instructions on what you are expected to present to the Rules Committee; however, a brief description of how your qualifications distinguish you from other applicants, reasons for your interest in the subject, and/or a short summarization on why you would make a good candidate is appropriate.)
4. The Rules Committee may or may not make a recommendation for appointment. If a recommendation is made by the Rules Committee, the recommendation is forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for approval. It generally takes approximately 15 days from the date the Rules Committee makes their recommendation, for the individual to become officially appointed.
5. Depending on the type of organization, a new appointee may need to take an Oath of Office.

If there are no vacancies, your application will be retained for one year. If any openings occur during this time, your application will be submitted to the Rules Committee for review.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Rules Committee Clerk at (415) 554-5184. If you require detailed information concerning the operations of a particular Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force, please contact the administering department directly.

(Applications must be submitted to BOS-Appointments@sfgov.org or to the mailing address listed above.)

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Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board/Commission/Committee/Task Force: Planning Commission

Seat # (see Vacancy Notice for qualifications): 3

Full Name: Gabriella Ruiz

[Redacted] Zip Code: 94116
Occupation: Planner

Work Phone: Employer: Chinatown Community Development Center

Business Address: 669 Clay St. San Francisco, Ca Zip Code: 94116

Business Email: gabriella.ruiz@chinatowncdc.org Home Email: [Redacted]

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(2), Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of residents of the City and County of San Francisco who are 18 years of age or older (unless otherwise stated in the code authority). For certain appointments, the Board of Supervisors may waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Resident of San Francisco: Yes [X] No [] If No, place of residence:

18 Years of Age or Older: Yes [X] No []

Pursuant to Charter, Section 4.101(a)(1), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a San Francisco native who has been committed to serving my city, I am humbled to have the opportunity to apply for this vacant seat at the Planning Commission. While I have professional experience doing planning, I truly believe it is my personal experience that will add value to this position. My life circumstances have shown me the importance of deeply affordable housing and creating access to opportunities in order for our vulnerable communities to thrive, and I believe planning plays a crucial role in doing just that.
Growing up in this city has not been easy. I come from a low-income background with parents who truly struggled to keep up with the increasing cost of rent once the tech boom hit. My father was a taxi driver and my mother was a stay at home mom - two careers that simply could not sustain a family in a rising economy. Due to the lack of immediate affordable housing and limited economic opportunity for two people without a college education, we found ourselves homeless and struggling to get by. Thankfully due to an opening at Hamilton Families, my family was able to get into our city's homeless response system and found shelter until it was our turn to transition into permanent affordable housing. I remember vividly the incredible feeling of joy when we got our apartment in public housing. It was this experience that led me to understand why secure, affordable, and stable housing is so important to one's overall well being and ability to succeed. I know for myself, my mental health and grades in school improved tremendously once my family was given access to housing.
Now that I am an adult, I hold my adversity close to my heart and it is the reason I serve my community today. I knew when I graduated from high school I wanted to pursue higher education and embark on a career that was rooted in uplifting communities I feel close to. I feel honored that I have had the opportunity to achieve more than I ever could have imagined considering the obstacles that were put in my way. So to just be considered for this planning commission seat is more than enough for me. Yet if I am granted the honor of serving, I believe I would be able to represent the communities who have been fighting for an equitable planning process. One of my priorities as a community planner is to ensure community voices are front and center to the issues we are tackling. It would be a goal of mine as a commissioner to continue this work and represent sensitive communities who have been historically wronged by racist planning policies. Having grown up in neighborhoods like the Tenderloin and Bayview, I know firsthand that planning can either stabilize or destabilize a community; so as a commissioner, I would prioritize community voices and sensitive communities so they continue to be uplifted and centered in our planning process.
Lastly, I want to acknowledge my roots and where I come from. If it were not for the strong immigrant women in my family who took risks to come to this country so their children could have a better life, I would not be here today. I come from a line of strong single mothers - my great grandmother on my father's side emigrated from Mexico and my great grandmother on my mother's side emigrated from the Philippines. It is because of their bravery and strength that I stand here today and have the privilege to do this work. Their legacy lives through me and I hold that honor through my name. Having a seat on this government body would mean that I would not only be representing my personal experiences and the communities I have called home, but my ancestors who sacrificed so much to allow for future opportunities such as this one.
I look forward to the opportunity to speak to my qualifications in person shall you deem me fit for this role.
Best,
Gabriella Flora Marie Ruiz Martinez

(Applications must be submitted to BOS-Appointments@sfgov.org or to the mailing address listed above.)

Business and/or Professional Experience:

2021 - present: Senior Planner, Chinatown Community Development Center
 In charge of policy related efforts to address housing inequities and promote the construction of affordable housing for extremely low-income tenants in San Francisco. I have currently been leading our work in policy fixes relating to land use in Chinatown and the future of Single Room Occupancy hotels in San Francisco.

2020 - 2021: Policy and Planning Manager, Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation
 Led efforts to ensure community process in land use decisions in the Tenderloin. Facilitated community stakeholder groups to respond to proposed market rate projects in the neighborhood. This work led to outcomes that resulted in successful community wins that centered community voice and set an example for how equity can be considered in our planning process.

2019 - 2020: TAY Public Service Aide, San Francisco Public Library
 Led the Library's first efforts in developing programs for the city's Transitional Age Youth (TAY) population. I organized TAY across the city to participate in a governing body that would influence the services provided to this population.

2017 - 2019: Family Support Specialist, Epiphany Center
 Provided direct support and counseling for families dealing with trauma and at risk of losing their children to the Child Protective Services (CPS) system. Successes included building rapport with families who had distrust in the system and assisted them in closing out their CPS cases.

2013 - 2014: Tutoring Manager, Jamestown Community Center
 In charge of overseeing the tutoring program at Cesar Chavez Elementary that supported a minimum of 30 students needing educational support.

Civic Activities:

2022 - present: Board Member, Tenderloin Housing Clinic
 2021 - present: Board Member, San Francisco Safe House
 2019 - 2019: Legislative Intern, Supervisor Sandra Fewer
 2019 - 2019: Policy and Planning Intern, San Francisco Department of Public Health
 2019 - 2020: Mentor, San Francisco Education Fund
 2016 - 2017: Program Volunteer, 18 Reasons
 2015 - 2016: Survivor Support Advocate, W.O.M.A.N., Inc.
 2011 - 2013: Board Member, Jamestown Community Center
 2009 - 2011: Youth Organizer, Jamestown Community Center

Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying? Yes No

An appearance before the Rules Committee may be required at a scheduled public hearing, prior to the Board of Supervisors considering the recommended appointment. Applications should be received ten (10) days prior to the scheduled public hearing.

Date: 1/31/2022 Applicant's Signature (required): Gabriella Ruiz Digitally signed by Gabriella Ruiz
Date: 2022.01.31 14:11:41 -08'00'

*(Manually sign or type your complete name.
 NOTE: By typing your complete name, you are hereby consenting to use of electronic signature.)*

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Appointed to Seat #: _____ Term Expires: _____ Date Vacated: _____