

**From:** [Rae Arradaza](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** 6/11/2024 Public Comment - LAO Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024 3:36:34 PM

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Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Rae, and I volunteer at the Filipino Community Center (FCC). I grew up in District 11, which has given me a deep connection to this community and its needs.

As an immigrant who moved to this country at a young age, I often found myself in the challenging position of having to interpret for myself and my family. We navigated various public assistance benefits and resources, facing numerous language barriers along the way. These experiences highlighted the critical need for language accessibility and support services for non-English speaking residents.

Being an active part of the Filipino Community Center, I have witnessed firsthand how community organizations like FCC fill vital gaps in our city's support systems. The FCC provides essential services, including immigration support in Tagalog for individuals like my mom, and works tirelessly to bridge the language barrier that many immigrants face. This not only helps individuals access the services they need but also fosters a sense of inclusion and belonging within our community.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Supervisor Walton for championing the LAO resolution. This resolution ensures that our city remains committed to working with the community to promote language accessibility. Such initiatives are crucial for the well-being and integration of immigrant families like mine. Additionally, I extend my sincere thanks to OCEIA and Supervisor Chan for their unwavering support and dedication to this cause.

Your efforts make a significant difference in the lives of many residents, helping to create a more inclusive and accessible city for everyone. Thank you.

-Rae

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jeannel Poyaoan](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** 6/11/24 Public Comment Re: LAO Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024 3:36:22 PM

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Good afternoon Board of Supervisors, my name is Jeannel and I am with the Filipino Community Center in District 11.

We are a member organization of the Language Access Network of SF and have filled in the gaps in Filipino interpretation and translation for migrant workers in the city.

We have assisted many LEP community members who have faced challenges with navigating housing, immigration, domestic violence, violations at their workplace, and other life threatening experiences that is exacerbated because of the lack of Filipino speaking staffing in city departments, despite Filipino being constituted as a threshold language in SF.

Providing public safety, emergent health and human services, and public programs in the languages that community members understand is essential for monolingual families to live safely and sustainably in SF.

We express our gratitude for Supervisor Walton, OCEIA and Supervisor Chan for driving the LAO Resolution for: increased bilingual staffing, paid opportunities for culturally responsive and community-based translators and interpreters, and prioritize language access funds in departmental budgets.

Access to quality language services ensures that our migrant community members are treated with dignity and respect. Thank you.

**From:** [Shara Orquiza](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** 6/11 Public Comment for LAO Ordinance Amendment  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024 3:32:14 PM

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Hi my name is Shara Orquiza and i work in district 11. I'm a current case manager at the Filipino Community Center which is a part of LANSF.

I'm one of the few staff that speaks tagalog and have had to assist our community members to apply for Medi-Cal, food stamps or calfresh, Unemployment insurance and immigration. While I enjoy doing my job helping the community to make sure they receive their help but it would be more sustainable to expand the capacity to expand the language capacity in city departments by recruiting more bilingual staff and recruit more translators for Filipino.

I express the gratitude for board of supervisors for supporting the amendment to the resolution and committing yourself yo make sure our immigrant communities of San Francisco, thank you.

**Shara C. Orquiza**  
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