

**From:** [Ben Mahrer](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Castro Theatre: Support the HPC Recommendation and Reject Fixed Seating Amendment  
**Date:** Friday, June 9, 2023 11:01:50 AM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Secretary Board of Supervisors,

As a concerned citizen of San Francisco, I write to you today to express my strong support for Another Planet Entertainment (APE) and their proposed restoration of the Castro Theatre.

This restoration work, which would ensure the future of the building as a live events and film space, is imperiled by the Land Use and Transportation Committee's amendment to the landmark designation for the theater. This amendment, requiring the Castro Theatre to preserve the "raked floor and fixed seating in a 'movie palace' style", will tether this private business to an outdated and unviable business model.

Another Planet has outlined a thoughtful renovation plan that includes accessibility and ventilation upgrades, restoring the art deco ceiling and chandelier, preserving the interior murals, and transitioning the orchestra level into a tiered floor to maintain existing seated programming such as film, lectures and choral performances, while allowing the venue to also be used for standing room concerts, celebratory events, and other community-focused programming.

Opponents of the renovation plan would like it to be thought that they speak for all Castro Merchants, film-lovers, members of the LGBTQ community, or neighborhood residents. They do not speak for me, and I strongly believe they do not speak for the majority of the aforementioned groups they claim to represent.

The renovation plan has strong support among Castro Merchants, various film festivals, members of the LGBTQ community, and neighborhood residents, who are excited to see a treasured neighborhood landmark preserved for future generations. I have faith that Another Planet Entertainment will be excellent stewards of not only the Castro Theatre, but also the rich history it represents to cinephiles, the LGBTQ Community, and the neighborhood.

Please vote to replace the "raked floor and fixed seating in a 'movie palace' style" language in the amended landmark designation with the original "presence of seating" language proposed by the Historic Preservation Commission.

Ben Mahrer  
benmahrer@yahoo.com  
920 E 17th St  
Oakland , California 94606



**From:** [Carson Schultz](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Castro Theatre: Support the HPC Recommendation and Reject Fixed Seating Amendment  
**Date:** Thursday, June 8, 2023 9:20:46 PM

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Carson Schultz  
schultzcarson@gmail.com  
149 Winfield St.  
San Francisco, California 94110



**From:** [Jessica Heiges](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Castro Theatre: Support the HPC Recommendation and Reject Fixed Seating Amendment  
**Date:** Thursday, June 8, 2023 9:17:37 PM

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Jessica Heiges  
jessicaheiges@gmail.com  
430 65th Street  
Oakland, California 94609

