

**From:** [Melanie Grossman](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 12:21:34 PM

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

**DEAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.**

**Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.**

**Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.**

**Alternatives exist:**

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments;
- 2) a 7 second delay (as is used in radio call in broadcasts);
- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;
- 4) Updating the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

Please vote "NO" today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited. Elderly people and San Franciscan's with disabilities will be particularly hurt by this!

Melanie Grossman, PhD, MSW

1

Thank you!

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**Melanie Durand Grossman, PhD, LCSW**

**Author and Speaker:** [Crossing Bayou Teche](#), A memoir about growing up in southern Louisiana in the 1940s and 50s.

*Book, Ebook, & Audio available on [Amazon](#).*

**From:** [Michael Stoutmire](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** SAVE REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE SF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 12:33:23 PM

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## **DEAR SF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment at the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.**

**Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.**

**Alternatives exist to avoid this overly broad overreaction, and they include but are not limited to:**

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments.
- 2) a 7-second delay (as used in radio call-in broadcasts).
- 3) expanding the capacity of a several-second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV.
- 4) Updating the cost estimate of an audio delay system and exploring philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

**Please vote “NO” today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to investigate alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.**

**We should not “throw the baby out with the bathwater” by**

eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may, for a significant number of reasons, not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by giving helpful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

Thank you!

Michael O. Stoutmire  
San Francisco, CA, 94115  
m. 404-904-3009  
e. [stoutmire@outlook.com](mailto:stoutmire@outlook.com)

**From:** [Serena Hughes](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** STOP TAKING OUR DEMOCRACY AWAY!!!  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:10:56 PM

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

**DEAR SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.**

**Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.**

**Alternatives exist to avoid this overly broad over reaction and they include but are not limited to:**

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments;
- 2) a 7 second delay (as is used in radio call in broadcasts);
- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;
- 4) Updatling the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

Please vote "NO" today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.

We should not "throw the baby out with the bathwater" by completely eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may for a great number of reasons not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by providing useful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

Thank You & Wishing You Excellent Health!

Pissed Off Taxpayer,

**Serena Hughes**  
**Pronouns: she/her/hers**  
Main: 415.728.5026

**From:** [Mikiko Huang](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mikiko Huang](#)  
**Subject:** "SAVE REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE SF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS AND ITS COMMITTEES."  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:11:08 PM

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

**DEAR SF Board of Supervisors:**

**Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.**

Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.

**ALTERNATIVES exist to avoid this overly broad over reaction and they include but are not limited to:**

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments;**
- 2) a 7 second delay (as is used in radio call in broadcasts);**
- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;**
- 4) Updating the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.**

Please vote "NO" today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.

We should not "throw the baby out with the bathwater" by completely eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may for a great number of reasons not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by providing useful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

Thank you!

Helen Mikiko Huang  
Resident of District 7

**From:** [David C](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Remote comment during Public hearings.  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:12:30 PM

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

**SAVE REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE SF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS AND ITS COMMITTEES. FIND ANY OR ALL SF BOARD MEMBERS' PHONE NUMBERS HERE**

**Please please save remote public comments to the SF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS and its' committees. I implore you to do the right thing and protect the constitutional right of peaceful assembly both offline and online. Not doing so is not only immoral but will also end up costing San Francisco the expense of litigation that will inevitably result if the banning of online commenting goes through. With our tight budget we can ill afford to do so. Thank you for your time.**

Sincerely,

**David Counts  
810 Eddy Street, #602  
SF, 94109  
415-875-0910**

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Justice Dumlao](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** SAVE REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:19:10 PM

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

Hi Supervisors,

**Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee. Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it. If remote public comment were to be removed then the type of people who would have access to public comment would be extremely limited and thus creating an even more stringent echo chamber. Only people who have the ability to leave their jobs/caretaking responsibilities would have this option.**

**Alternatives exist to avoid this overly broad over reaction and they include but are not limited to:**

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments;
- 2) a 7 second delay (as is used in radio call in broadcasts);
- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;
- 4) Updating the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

Please vote “NO” today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.

We should not “throw the baby out with the bathwater” by completely eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may for a great number of reasons not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by providing useful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

Kindly,

Justice Dumlao (Resident of District 1)

University of California Santa Barbara Alumnus, Class of 2020

Genentech

*Pronouns: He/Him/They/Them*



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C:650-576-5669

**From:** [Janea Jackson](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Engardio, Joel \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Sara Shortt](#)  
**Subject:** Save remote public comment – Vote No on agenda item #46  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:28:34 PM

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

Dear San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment at meetings of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and its Committees.

Remote public comment has been an improvement to accessible democracy that promotes equity, inclusion and civic engagement by ensuring that all San Franciscans – not just those with resources and privilege – can participate. Limiting public comment to in-person testimony excludes working people, parents, seniors, caregivers, people without transportation, and many others, with the greatest impact on communities of color.

We respectfully urge you to vote “NO” today, and to explore alternative legal and functional measures to mitigate the risk of abusive and discriminatory comments.

Thank you!

Regards,  
Janéa Jackson | CEO  
HomeRise

**From:** [David C](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Remote commenting during public hearing  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:28:41 PM

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A point that I left out is the specific harm that will come to people with disabilities if remote commenting is disallowed. I work with friends who have disabilities that are simply not able to physically be present during hearing. However they can be present online. Again to take the right away from me, my friends, and a multitude of San Franciscans will be immoral. It will be grounds for costly litigation because its' an affront to the ADA. Myself, my friend, and the multitude will act both with civic demonstrations and legal action. Please do the right thing.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

David Counts  
810 Eddy st. 602  
San Francisco, 94109  
415-875-0910

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [helainesf@aol.com](mailto:helainesf@aol.com)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** alternatives to ending remote public comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:42:46 PM

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

**DEAR SUPERVISOR Mandelman and all others:**

**Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.**

**Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.**

**Alternatives exist to avoid this overly broad over reaction and they include but are not limited to:**

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments;
- 2) a 7 second delay (as is used in radio call in broadcasts);
- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;
- 4) Updatlng the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

Please vote "NO" today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.

We should not "throw the baby out with the bathwater" by completely eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may for a great number of reasons not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by providing useful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

**From:** [Evelyn Posamentier](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [aaron.peskin@sfgov.org](mailto:aaron.peskin@sfgov.org); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [DorseyStaff \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE SAVE REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE SF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS AND ITS COMMITTEES  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:51:24 PM

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

Dear Supervisors,

**Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.**

**Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.**

**Alternatives exist to avoid this overly broad over reaction and they include but are not limited to:**

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments;
- 2) a 7 second delay (as is used in radio call in broadcasts);
- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;
- 4) Updatling the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

Please vote "NO" today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.

We should not "throw the baby out with the bathwater" by completely eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may for a great number of reasons not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by providing useful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

Thank you very much for listening,

Evelyn Posamentier  
District 8

**From:** [Eleana Binder](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Engardio, Joel \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Preserve Remote Public Comment – Vote No on Agenda Item #46  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:57:04 PM

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

Dear President Peskin and Board of Supervisors,

Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment at meetings of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and its Committees. Discontinuing remote public comment for everyone except for people with recognized disabilities would be an unacceptable obstacle to community participation in democracy. There are ways to address recent unacceptable incidents, without discontinuing access to everyone.

Remote public comment has made it possible for some community members to participate in meetings for the first time, and it should be allowed for all, rather than only as a “reasonable accommodation.” Government should desire and encourage more participation from constituents — not less — and be looking at ways to promote equity and inclusion, and remove barriers to access. Working people, parents, and people with immunocompromised household members all have legitimate reasons that make it difficult for them to come to City Hall in the middle of a weekday, including: work schedules, transportation challenges, childcare responsibilities, and risk of exposure to COVID-19. GLIDE serves many of these populations, and it is already difficult for them to call in for public comment, but it is nearly impossible for some of them to come in person. GLIDE also works with survivors of domestic violence, and they deserve a safe, secure, and private way to engage in meetings.

During a time when we need to increase connections and trust in government, ending remote public comment will only widen the divide between the community and its elected leaders. Eliminating this avenue to participate in our government would effectively shut down the voices of those who are unable to participate in person at City Hall. We respectfully request a NO vote on this motion.

Thank you,

Eleana Binder

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**Eleana Binder**

Policy Manager

Center for Social Justice

**GLIDE** 330 Ellis Street, Room 511, San Francisco, CA 94102

**OFFICE** (415) 674-6162 | **MOBILE** (510) 926-2834 | **PRONOUNS** She/Her

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**From:** [Calder Lorenz](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Item #46: Vote No on Limiting Remote Public Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 1:57:48 PM

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

Dear Supervisors,

I live and work in San Francisco and regularly use remote public comment in order to participate in our democracy. I am writing to ask that you please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.

Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.

Alternatives exist to avoid this overly broad over reaction and they include but are not limited to:

- 1) cutting off a person who makes inappropriate comments;
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- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;
- 4) UpdatIng the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

Please vote “NO” today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.

We should not diminish our democratic public comment system by completely eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may for a great number of reasons not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by providing useful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

In Community, Calder

--

Calder G. Lorenz

[calderlorenz.com](http://calderlorenz.com)

(415)-571-6391



**From:** [Alisha Zhao](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Engardio, Joel \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Save remote public comment – Vote No on agenda item #46  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 2:23:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-cov4cuba.png](#)  
[Outlook-s4ezqs42.png](#)  
[Outlook-uqq45jzr.png](#)  
[Outlook-ogolskua.png](#)  
[Outlook-cvmyva0v.png](#)  
[Outlook-zn3h134o.png](#)

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To: San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment at meetings of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and its Committees.

Remote public comment has been an improvement to accessible democracy that promotes equity, inclusion and civic engagement by ensuring that all San Franciscans – not just those with resources and privilege – can participate. Limiting public comment to in-person testimony excludes working people, parents, seniors, caregivers, people without transportation, and many others, with the greatest impact on communities of color.

We respectfully urge you to vote “NO” today, and to explore alternative legal and functional measures to mitigate the risk of abusive and discriminatory comments.



**Alisha Zhao**  
She/Her ([Why pronouns?](#))  
Policy and Organizing Manager  
Compass Family Services  
37 Grove Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 | tel 415-644-0504 x 1134  
[www.compass-sf.org](http://www.compass-sf.org)



**From:** [William R. Alschuler](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Please don't end remote connections to Supes meetings  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 2:56:36 PM

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

Please don't end remote connections to Supervisors and other public meetings.  
They are really valuable!

William R. Alschuler  
San Francisco, Ca.  
415-725-3800 mobile

**From:** [Herman \(Homer,Mort\) Hobi](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Please do not end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 10:19:56 AM

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

## DEAR SUPERVISORS

Please reject or at least delay any decision to end remote public comment to the SF Board of Supervisors meetings (and meetings of its committees) as recommended by the Rules Committee.

Remote public comment during the pandemic was an improvement in SF democracy that we should not so easily toss aside because a small number of individuals abused it.

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- 3) expanding the capacity of a several second delay that already exists in audio of SF Board and committee hearings by SF GOV TV;
- 4) Updatling the estimate of the cost of an audio delay system and explore philanthropic options and technical assistance from San Francisco tech companies.

Please vote "NO" today on this matter and/or at least ask for a delay to look into alternatives more carefully. If all else fails, please sunset this decision so it is not permanent and can be revisited.

We should not "throw the baby out with the bathwater" by completely eliminating (with few exceptions) remote public comment that would disempower many members of the public who may for a great number of reasons not be able to come to City Hall in person and are currently providing a public service to SF by providing useful feedback to the SF Board of Supervisors and its committees.

Thank you!

--

Herman (Homer, Mort) Hobi

*"Life is Life, Fun is fun, but it's all so quiet when the goldfish dies and ever so peaceful." "*  
*West with the Night" by Beryl Markham*

*"So potent was religion in persuading to do wrong." Lucretius died 50BC*

Doing my part to help people in the world. [www.rampusa.org](http://www.rampusa.org)

415 531-6158 cell