Dolores Street
Community Services
938 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110

March 7, 2024

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Rules Committee
via: victor.young@sfgov.org
Supervisor Hillary Ronen
Supervisor Shamann Walton
Supervisor Ahsha Safai

Re: Letter of Support for Gilbert Williams appointment to San Francisco Planning Commission

Esteemed Members of the Rules Committee,

My name is Saúl Hidalgo L., and I am the Deputy Director at Dolores Street Community Services (DSCS). I am writing on behalf of the agency in strong support of Gilbert Williams' appointment to the Planning Commission.

DSCS nurtures individual wellness and cultivates collective power among low-income and immigrant communities to create a more just society. As a multi-issue, multi-strategy organization, we work to improve lives on an individual level as well as affect broader social change by engaging in advocacy and community organizing. We work together across programs to address homelessness, lack of affordable housing, and to support immigrant rights in order to meet the complex needs of our communities and collectively address the root causes of suffering and injustice.

We believe that Mr. Williams, as a lifelong San Franciscan, neighborhood leader, union member, and through his profession as a carpenter, has acquired the technical skills necessary to serve in the role of planning commissioner. For over a decade, Mr Williams has been a strong advocate on behalf of working class communities in community planning and land use decisions. His experience as a homeowner as well as a tenant gives him a wide lens that helps him make decisions that best serve our most vulnerable communities. This, in particular, is critical to our organization given our work in supporting the housing needs of our most marginalized community members, and Mr Williams is an ideal candidate to fulfill that demands of the role.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of endorsement.

Respectfully,

Saúl Hidalgo L.
Deputy Director
Dolores Street Community Services

LOGO

March 7, 2024

To: San Francisco Board of Supervisors Rules Committee
via: victor.young@sfgov.org
Supervisor Hillary Ronen
Supervisor Shamann Walton
Supervisor Ahsha Safai

Re: Letter of Support for Gilbert Williams appointment to San Francisco Planning Commission

Esteemed Members of the Rules Committee:

My name is Bruce Wolfe, I am writing on behalf of CARE CLT in strong support of Gilbert Williams' appointment to the Planning Commission.

CARE CLT is a community land trust, a nonprofit entity that preserve affordability of real estate in perpetuity. By acquiring and stewarding land, we provide options for occupants to lease or have equity ownership of buildings that are on the land plus have a voice in community-ownership.

We believe that Mr. Williams, as a lifelong San Franciscan, neighborhood leader, union member, and through his profession as a carpenter, has acquired the technical skills necessary to serve in the role of Planning Commissioner. For over a decade, Mr. Williams has been a strong advocate on behalf of working class communities in community planning and land use decisions. His experience as a homeowner as well as a tenant gives him a wide lens that helps him make decisions that best serve our most vulnerable communities.

Mr. Williams has the intellectual acumen, historical and institutional knowledge and experience on significant decisionmaking bodies to be an excellent member of this august commission.

These are the qualities that are important to our members and our community and we urge your support and vote for Mr. Williams.

Respectfully,

LOGO

Bruce Wolfe, MSW
President, Care CLT
Treasurer, Care Association

March 7, 2024

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Rules Committee
via: victor.young@sfgov.org
Supervisor Hillary Ronen
Supervisor Shamann Walton
Supervisor Ahsha Safai

Re: Letter of Support for Gilbert Williams appointment to San Francisco Planning Commission

Esteemed members of the Rules Committee,

I am writing on behalf of People Organizing to Demand Environmental and Economic Rights (PODER) to express our strong support of Gilbert Williams' appointment to the Planning Commission. PODER organizes with Latinx immigrant families and youth in San Francisco's Mission and Excelsior neighborhoods to put into practice people-powered solutions that are locally based, community-led and environmentally just.

We believe that Mr. Williams, as a lifelong San Franciscan, neighborhood leader, union member, and through his profession as a carpenter, has acquired the technical skills necessary to serve in the role of Planning Commissioner. For over a decade, Mr. Williams has been a strong advocate on behalf of working class communities in community planning and land use decision making efforts. He has organized neighborhood residents and has joined them at Planning Commission hearings to advocate for affordable housing and equitable development in our neighborhoods. His experience as a homeowner as well as a tenant gives him a wide lens that helps him make decisions that best serve our most vulnerable communities.

These are the qualities that are important to our members and our community. We urge your support Mr. Williams appointment to the Planning Commission.

Respectfully,

Antonio Díaz
Organizational Director

People Organizing to Demand Environmental and Economic Rights (PODER)
255 Shotwell Street • San Francisco, CA 94110 • 415-431-4210
5000 Mission Street • San Francisco, CA 94112 • 415-857-9656, ext. 215

From: SF Public Bank
To: Young, Victor (BOS)
Subject: Letter of Support for Gilbert Williams appointment to San Francisco Planning Commission
Date: Friday, March 8, 2024 1:01:35 PM

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Esteemed Members of the Rules Committee:

My name is Misha Steier, I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Public Bank Coalition to express our strong support for Gilbert Williams' appointment to the Planning Commission.

We are a coalition of SF residents and organizations advocating for the creation of a San Francisco Public Bank to serve the people of San Francisco.

We believe that Mr. Williams, as a lifelong San Franciscan, neighborhood leader, union member, and through his profession as a carpenter, has acquired the technical skills necessary to serve in the role of Planning Commissioner. For over a decade, Mr. Williams has been a strong advocate on behalf of working class communities in community planning and land use decisions. His experience as a homeowner as well as a tenant gives him a wide lens that helps him make decisions that best serve our most vulnerable communities. Furthermore he has been a consistent advocate for economic justice.

These are the qualities that are important to our members and our community and we urge your support and vote for Mr. Williams.

Respectfully,
Misha Steier
San Francisco Public Bank Coalition

Chinatown Community Development Center
華協中心

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March 11, 2024

Victor Young
1 Dr.Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Legislative Chamber
Room 250
San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Re: 3/11 Rules Committee – Item 1 240171 [Presidential Appointment, Planning Commission – Gilbert Williams]

Dear Chair Ronen and members of the Rules Committee,

On behalf of Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC), **we would like to support the nomination of Gilbert Williams to the San Francisco Planning Commission.**

At CCDC, we provide leadership development within our community through education and opportunities to engage in decision-making processes around key community issues. Planning is an integral part of the work we do in Chinatown and our approach is centered in community-based neighborhood planning from the ground up. We organize and empower tenants to engage in citywide planning dialogue and bring together multiple stakeholders to build consensus around planning projects.

We know of Gilbert as an advocate for affordable housing and equity through his work with PODER and the Race Equity and all Planning Coalition. He is also a carpenter and experienced in elements of the planning process that we feel will be of benefit to the commission. With his commitment to the community and his professional experience working in construction, we are confident that Gilbert will bring an important voice that represents what our city needs.

Should you have any questions about Gilberts qualifications for this role, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best,

Rosa Chen
Director of Programs – Planning and Policy

NeighborWorks® CHARTERED MEMBER

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