



LiUNA! LOCAL 261

Feel the Power

July 8, 2024

Rules Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 250
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Rules Committee Consideration of Mayoral Nominee Sean McGarry
(Planning Commission)**

Dear Supervisors Ronen, Walton, and Safai,

My name is Ramon Hernandez, and I am writing to you on behalf of LiUNA Local 261. We represent over 5,500 members of the working class in the greater San Francisco region.

It is my pleasure to submit this letter in fanatical support of Sean McGarry for the City's Planning Commission. His nomination by Mayor Breed is a testament to his years of advocacy in service of working-class San Franciscans, record of community engagement, and his deep commitment to the betterment of our city.

Throughout his 27 years as a member of the Carpenters Union, Sean has developed a comprehensive understanding of planning and development in San Francisco. From organizing in support of projects, to negotiating streamlining and labor standards on projects, to his early years in San Francisco as a working carpenter, Sean has experience at all stages of the planning and development processes. This unique perspective will add invaluable insight to the Planning Commission, as they work to serve the needs and aspirations of the City's diverse neighborhoods.

As the Senior Field Representative for Carpenters Local 22 in San Francisco, Sean manages a team of field representatives who provide services to the 4,000 members working within the City and County of San Francisco. He has worked hard to raise the living standards of carpenters in both the private- and public-sectors and brings that same passion and advocacy to issues of affordable housing and equitable community planning.

*Affiliated with the Laborers' International Union of North America
serving San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin Counties*

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Beyond his professional expertise, Sean's engagement in the local community informs his understanding of the lives of everyday San Franciscans. He currently holds elected office at local and regional levels of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters (UBC) and is a former board member of the United Irish Societies. Underscoring this, his personal journey as an immigrant underscores their appreciation for the opportunities and challenges facing our multicultural city. These experiences bring a unique perspective that will enrich the discussions and decisions of the City Planning Commission, ensuring that the voices of all residents are heard and respected.

For these reasons, I am confident that Mr. McGarry will be an outstanding addition to the San Francisco Planning Commission. As a San Francisco resident of over 30 years, Sean is deeply invested in the needs of San Franciscans from all backgrounds, and in so many ways, reflects the best this city has to offer. A renter, a construction worker, a union organizer, a community member, and now a homeowner. Sean's integrity, experience, and commitment to our community make him exceptionally qualified to join the Planning Commission and help make decisions that will shape our city's future for generations to come.

Thank you for considering my strong endorsement of Sean McGarry. Should you have any questions or wish to speak further, please feel free to contact me at rhernandez@liuna261.org.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ramon Hernandez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ramon" and last name "Hernandez" clearly distinguishable.

RAMON HRNANDEZ
Business Manager

July 20, 2024

Supervisor Shamann Walton
Supervisor Ahsha Safai
Room 250
City Hall
San Francisco, California

Re: Rules Committee Meeting July 22, 2024 Items 7 and 8
Mayoral Appointments to Planning Commission

Dear Supervisor Walton and Supervisor Safai:

In the past 10 years there have been 16 different Commissioners on the Planning Commission.

In alphabetical order, Commissioners Antonini, Borden, Chan, Diamond, Fong, Fung, Hillis, Koppel, C. Johnson, M. Johnson, Melgar, Richards, Ruiz, Sugaya, Tanner and Wu have all served and resigned.

That seems like an extraordinary turnover for a Commission where institutional memory is very important.

Currently San Francisco is in the midst of a major Rezoning in the neighborhoods. There has been much testimony from the Public over the past several years, with specific concerns about preserving housing and preserving the small businesses in our neighborhood commercial districts.

The housing crisis is often discussed in terms of 82,000 units being built per the RHNA goals. But actually 20,300 units of housing are needed for low income households and 8,400 units of housing are needed for moderate income households per the Planning Department because so much market-rate housing has already been approved. (see pg. 3)

Additionally much of the power to review projects has been stripped away from the Planning Commission by the legislators in Sacramento.

Specifically SB 423 which has been unfairly imposed only on San Francisco has reduced the input from the Commission and the Public.

The two nominees, Ms. Campbell and Mr. McGarry should each be asked:

What is their opinion on the Rezoning generally?

Are they familiar with the Financial Feasibility Studies on the Rezoning?

What worries do they have about negative outcomes or unintended consequences due to the Rezoning? Do they have any worries?

How they see their role in working with and hearing from the Public as the Rezoning proceeds?

How would they work to protect existing housing in the Priority Equity Geographies SUD?

How would they define the Planning Commission's role under the new regime imposed by Sacramento?

Do they have any ideas for how the Commission can assert authority over Planning decisions given restrictions imposed by Sacramento?

How would they define the Housing Crisis?

What is their view on the RHNA goals set by HCD?

Thank you.

Georgia Schuttish

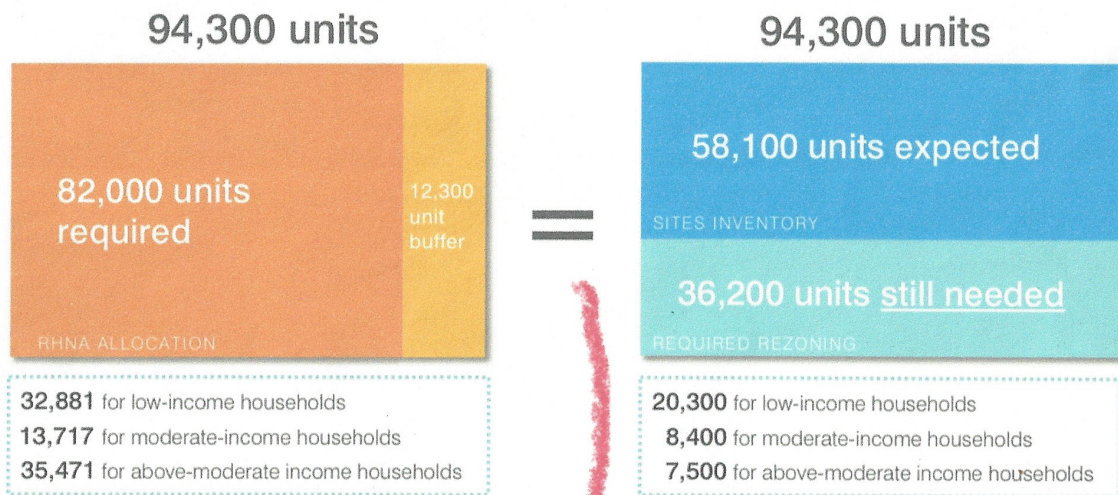
cc: President Aaron Peskin

How Much Housing Do We Need?

We are required by the State of California to plan for 82,000 more homes, including homes affordable to households with low-to moderate incomes, in San Francisco over the next 8 years.

San Francisco already has tens of thousands of units that are approved and expected to be built in this timeframe, so the adjusted amount that we need to plan for is 36,200 units.

SF's Housing Gap:



Graphic Source: San Francisco Planning Department

Photos: SFMTA, SF Planning, Cinderella Bakery