From:	Board of Supervisors (BOS)
To:	BOS-Supervisors; BOS-Legislative Aides
Cc:	BOS-Operations; BOS Legislation, (BOS); Calvillo, Angela (BOS); Mchugh, Eileen (BOS); Somera, Alisa (BOS); De Asis, Edward (BOS); Ng, Wilson (BOS); Young, Victor (BOS)
Subject:	FW: PUBLIC COMMENT: 260536 [Charter Amendment - Department, Board, Commission, and Advisory Body Updates]
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:22:29 PM

Hello Supervisors,

Please see the below communication from Sophia Andary, regarding:

> **File No. 260536:** Charter Amendment (Second Draft) to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco by 1) requiring or authorizing the Board of Supervisors to amend specified initiative ordinances; 2) transferring from the Charter to the Municipal Code certain commissions and advisory bodies, in some cases with modified functions; 3) requiring that the Commission Streamlining Task Force be convened every ten years; 4) removing the general requirements that boards and commissions develop and keep an annual statement of purpose, appoint an executive secretary, and prepare an annual report; 5) changing the membership qualifications, composition, and member selection process for certain bodies; 6) eliminating, consolidating, and changing the functions and authorities of certain bodies; 7) changing the planning and reporting schedule of the Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families ("DCYF") and related policy bodies, and changing the names but not the functions of those related policy bodies; 8) specifying that elected members of the Retirement Board, Health Service Board, and Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board may be removed only for official misconduct; 9) making various changes to departments' operations and reporting requirements; 10) updating the Public Utilities Commission's exclusive charge over matters related to water, power, and sewer infrastructure and services; 11) providing that the Board of Supervisors shall approve settlements or dismissals of legal proceedings recommended by the City Attorney by resolution, rather than by ordinance; 12) authorizing the City Administrator to conduct real estate strategic planning and to negotiate and manage acquisitions, leases, and conveyances of City real property; and 13) making clarifying edits, deleting obsolete language, and updating out-of-date references in various sections; at an election to be held on November 3, 2026.

Sincerely,

Justice Alcantar
Office of the Clerk of the Board

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
justice.alcantar@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

From: Andary, Sophia (AHR) <sophia.andary@sfgov.org>
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2026 9:45 AM
To: Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Calvillo, Angela (BOS) <angela.calvillo@sfgov.org>
Cc: Andary, Sophia (AHR) <sophia.andary@sfgov.org>
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT: 260536 [Charter Amendment - Department, Board, Commission, and Advisory Body Updates]

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to respectfully ask that you vote no on the proposed Charter Amendment regarding Department, Board, Commission, and Advisory Body Updates.

These proposed changes would weaken civilian oversight, reduce transparency, and limit meaningful community engagement. San Francisco's commissions exist to ensure residents have a voice in the decisions that affect their communities by providing oversight, accountability, and a direct connection between City government and the people it serves.

As commissioners, we volunteer our time because we care about our communities and believe government works best when it listens to the people it represents. Commissions should have the authority to work with their departments to help establish goals, identify priorities, and advocate for the communities they serve. They should not be reduced to advisory bodies in name only or be subject to political influence that undermines their ability to provide independent oversight. When commissions lose authority, the public loses an important avenue for accountability and civic participation.

I am also concerned by the pattern of proposals that fail to gain public support but continue to return until voter fatigue sets in, and they eventually pass. That approach does not build public trust. Instead, it creates frustration, discourages civic engagement, and leaves residents feeling that their voices no longer matter.

These concerns are even greater when viewed alongside the Mayor's proposed Charter amendments. Together, they would expand the Mayor's authority over hiring and firing department leaders, allow commissioners to be removed without cause by the appointing authority, and increase the Mayor's ability to reorganize departments and shift oversight to deputy mayors.

My concern is that voters will see words like "efficiency" and "streamlining" without fully understanding the impact of these changes. Efficiency should never come at the expense of independent oversight, community representation, or the checks and balances that keep our government accountable. Concentrating more authority in one office while weakening commissions moves San Francisco away from the transparent, participatory government that has long been one of its strengths.

I urge you to vote **no** on the following proposals:

- **Requiring the Commission Streamlining Task Force to convene every ten years without requiring a report from the Budget and Legislative Analyst or a draft Charter Amendment from the City Attorney.** *Those requirements provide essential analysis, transparency, and accountability before significant structural changes are considered.*
- **Removing the requirement that boards and commissions maintain an annual statement of purpose, appoint an executive secretary, and prepare an annual report.** *These are basic governance practices that promote transparency, clarify each body's mission, and help the public understand its work.*

- **Authorizing the Board of Supervisors to change the name of any department, board, commission, or other unit of government by ordinance.** *While this may appear to be an administrative change, these names often reflect the history, purpose, and communities those bodies represent.*

San Francisco has built a strong tradition of public participation through its commissions. They provide residents with a place to ask questions, raise concerns, and help shape public policy. Preserving meaningful civilian oversight ensures that government remains

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Sophia Andary [Pronouns: She/Her/Hers]
Commissioner, Commission on the Status of Women
City and County of San Francisco