

From: [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#)
Cc: [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Written Public Comment in Support of Item #20 March 17, 2020 Agenda: A New Border Vision
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 12:09:19 PM

From: Erin Tsurumoto Grassi <erin@alliancesd.org>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 5:37 PM
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Cc: Andrea Guerrero <andrea@alliancesd.org>
Subject: Written Public Comment in Support of Item #20 March 17, 2020 Agenda: A New Border Vision

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Dear San Francisco Supervisors:

My name is Erin Tsurumoto Grassi and I work as a human rights policy advisor for Alliance San Diego, which is part of the Southern Border Communities Coalition (SBCC). On behalf of Alliance San Diego and SBCC, I write to urge the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to pass a resolution in support of a New Border Vision that expands public safety, protects human rights, and welcomes all people who live, work or travel to our region (Item #20 on the March 17, 2020 Board of Supervisors Agenda).

My entire life I have lived in the border region -- from when I was born in San Leandro, to my high school years in Vacaville, to when I attended college in Los Angeles County, and to San Diego, where I have lived the last 9 years. However, it wasn't until I moved to within 100 miles of the Southern Border that I began to understand what it really means to live within the 100 mile border enforcement zone.

There is not a single week that goes by that I do not see a Border Patrol or other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) vehicle. There are more Border Patrol agents in our region than there are San Diego Police. I have friends that have been stopped and harassed by Border Patrol and ICE for no reason other than the color of their skin. My freedom of movement is limited -- I cannot leave San Diego County without crossing through a border patrol checkpoint. Even if I were to try to go around the checkpoints on the main highways, Border Patrol has roving patrols and temporary checkpoints set up on all of the roads I could try to take to go around.

When we meet with the San Diego Border Patrol Sector leadership, they remind us that the San Diego Sector jurisdiction extends all the way to the Oregon border. In fact, if you look on the Border Patrol website, you will find that is indeed true. The only

difference when it comes to border enforcement in San Francisco and San Diego is that Border Patrol simply does not have the resources to operate in San Francisco the way they do in San Diego.

We ask San Francisco to stand with us and support the New Border Vision. However, we ask you to do so not because it will help those of us who live within 100 miles of the Southern Border, but because as a city that falls within 100 miles of the coast, San Francisco is a Border City. And, as such, San Francisco is subject to the same militarization that those of us in the San Diego region deal with every single day. The pending deployment of BORTAC to San Francisco is just one example of what that could look like. It is time to push back against the extraordinary jurisdiction, power and resources that Customs and Border Protection uses to harm our communities. It is time for a New Border Vision.

Thank you for your vision and leadership in moving forward a resolution in support of a New Border Vision.

Sincerely,

Erin Tsurumoto Grassi
Human Rights Policy Advisor, Alliance San Diego

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Erin Tsurumoto Grassi
Human Rights Policy Advisor
Alliance San Diego

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From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 5:05 PM
To: BOS-Supervisors
Cc: BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: EBSC statement in support of New Border Vision
Attachments: EBSC_Support for New Border Vision_03.20.pdf

From: Lisa Hoffman <lisa@eastbaysanctuary.org>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 4:52 PM
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Cc: Harris, David Maxson <dharris@clinical.law.berkeley.edu>; Manuel De Paz <manuel@eastbaysanctuary.org>; Sister Maureen Duignan <sistermaureen@eastbaysanctuary.org>
Subject: EBSC statement in support of New Border Vision

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Dear SF Board of Supervisors:

We attach our written public comment in support of the New Border Vision resolution introduced by Supervisor Hillary Ronen that will be voted upon tomorrow, Tuesday, March 17th.

EBSC enthusiastically supports this critical resolution.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hoffman on behalf of East Bay Sanctuary Covenant.



Lisa Hoffman | *she/her*
Development Director
510-540-5296 ext. 133

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March 2020

EBSC Supports the New Border Vision

East Bay Sanctuary Covenant strongly supports the New Border Vision Resolution which is every more urgent given the Trump administration's continued attacks on sanctuary cities and civil rights protections for immigrants.

EBSC's mission is to provide legal services, community organizing, and transformative education to support low-income immigrants and people fleeing violence and persecution.

As some of you know, EBSC was founded in 1982 by faith congregations who risked arrest and imprisonment to publicly declare their commitment to provide Sanctuary for the 60,000 Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees fleeing violence and persecution by their own governments.

EBSC has evolved over the past 38 years in direct response to the needs of the refugees and asylum seekers we serve. Now, we reach over 10,000 people every year with life-saving legal and social services.

We work primarily with recently arrived immigrants who come to the Bay Area to seek safety and begin to rebuild their lives. The people we serve have experienced atrocious violence and deserve to be welcomed and supported, not demonized and forced into the shadows.

The New Border Vision Resolution aligns with EBSC's mission and values and we are proud to be part of this initiative to protect our community members from abuse by federal border authorities with little accountability, to support humanitarian acts that proactively save people, and to keep families together.

Approving this resolution will bring essential protection to the vulnerable community members we serve.

San Francisco has long been a leader in providing safety and sanctuary to immigrant communities. We have the opportunity now to lead the way in embracing a New Border Vision that protects human rights, expands public safety, and welcomes residents and newcomers.

Thank you for your support of this resolution.

Contact: Manuel de Paz – manuel@eastbaysanctuary.org or Lisa Hoffman – lisa@eastbaysanctuary.org

