



San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
Attn: Rules Committee  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**Re: Letter of Support for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board (SFMTA) Nominee, Manny Yekutiel**

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Luis Zamora and I am the Chair of Public Policy for the Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA). On behalf of the GGBA, I am writing in strong support of Manny Yekutiel for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) Board.

As the Nation's first LGBT Chamber of Commerce and the voice for the Bay Area's LGBT business community, our values are inherent to our identity: Service, Leadership, Passion, Diversity & Inclusion, and Success, all of which Manny has embodied throughout his public service. As there are currently no LGBT members on the SFMTA Board and acknowledging that LGBT businesses and business owners have been decimated by the pandemic, the GGBA feels that it is of the utmost importance to include someone who can represent these communities.

Manny has demonstrated a strong connection to the community, specifically the small business community. As the owner of Manny's, a staple in the Mission District, combining a restaurant, bar, coffee shop, political bookstore and civic events space.

Manny has organized over 500 civic events and has hosted upwards of 100 local nonprofits and advocacy groups. Through Farming Hope, Manny's has also hired 16 formerly homeless or incarcerated individuals, who have graduated from their training kitchen and now have full time jobs.

His role as a convener and provider of civic programming for the City has given him unique insight into how this City works, the needs of the community, and how to work collaboratively across City departments.

We at the GGBA are confident that as a community member, organizer, and small business owner, Manny will do an excellent job representing all of the various communities who have a stake in what happens within the SFMTA. He understands the needs of the community and that's exactly what we need on the board. He's a listener and a convener.



I believe the SFMTA Board will benefit from someone like Manny who can be the lynchpin between small business needs as it pertains to transit while also having deep connection and understanding on the needs of the community. It is for these aforementioned reasons, I urge you to support Manny's nomination to the SFMTA Board.

Sincerely,

Luis A. Zamora, Chair of Public Policy

Golden Gate Business Association