

# Updates on Commission Streamlining Taskforce

What impacts may this have on the Human Rights Commission?

November 13, 2025

# Background

- The Commission Streamlining Task Force was established by November 2024's Proposition E
  - Purpose: make recommendations to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors about ways to modify, eliminate, or combine the City's boards and commissions to improve the administration of City government
- Prop E Deadlines
  - Feb 1, 2026: approve final report with recommendations
  - Mar 1, 2026: submit legislation to Board of Supervisors (charter amendment and ordinances)
  - Apr 1, 2026: Board of Supervisors must hold a hearing on the recommendations
  - July 2026: Board of Supervisors will decide whether to place a Charter amendment on the November 2026 ballot.

# Task Force Decisions Impacting HRC

- At the October 15, 2025, Task Force meeting, members made the following recommendations:
  - Convert the Human Rights Commission from a Governance to an Advisory Body
  - Move the authority to make changes to the department from the Charter to the Administrative Code
  - Reduce term lengths from 4 to 3 years
  - Add 4-term limit

# About HRC Authority

- Born out of the Civil Rights movement, the Human Rights Commission was created by City ordinance in 1964 and established as a permanent charter commission via voter approval in 1990
- The Mayor appoints Commissioners, appoints the Executive Director (following nominations from the Commissioners), and sets the budget

# Potential Impacts on the Commission

- Advisory bodies: **bodies with no decision-making authority** that contribute expertise and advise City departments, the Mayor, elected officials, or decision-making bodies. These bodies may not direct staff or department activities.
- Governance bodies: **bodies that oversee departments and have the authority to make some binding decisions** to provide oversight and direction to the work of a City department.
- The duties of the Department would be **unchanged by the recommendations** from the Commission Streamlining Task Force

Body Structure	Nominate Executive Director	Appoint Executive Director	Terminate Executive Director	Review Department Budget + Contracts	Term Length	Term Limits
Governance	HRC	Mayor	HRC	HRC	4 years	N/A
Advisory	N/A	Mayor	Mayor	N/A	3 years	4 terms (12 years)

# What would not change for the Commission

- The Commission would still be subject to public meeting laws (e.g. Brown Act and Sunshine Ordinance)
- The Commission would not have to have a regular time and place for meetings
  - If setting a regular meeting time and place, define in bylaws
- All meetings must take place in San Francisco
- Quorum is still required to hold meetings

# Upcoming Commission TF Meetings

- In-person at City Hall (1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl), Room TBD or online via WebEx
  - November 19, 2025, 1:00 pm
  - December 3, 2025, 1:00 pm
- More info available at <https://www.sf.gov/commission-streamlining-task-force>