

**From:** [Robinson-Lugman, Keka \(MTA\)](#)  
**To:** [commissionstreamlining](#)  
**Subject:** commission streamlining recommendation response  
**Date:** Monday, September 8, 2025 10:28:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Good morning,

Below, please find my official response for the public record to the staff discussion regarding the SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council in the commission streamlining recommendations.

Please be advised that I am responding as an individual, and this response represents my own views and opinion as the person who has been the CAC Secretary for the last nine years. I'm speaking for myself, not the agency.

My response as the SFMTA CAC Secretary:

The assertion that overlapping reviews between the Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) and the MTA Board create delays in decision-making mischaracterizes the process. In fact, when staff are mindful of the CAC's meeting schedule and make timely requests to present their items in accordance with the POETS (Public Outreach and Engagement Team Strategy) timeline, the process functions smoothly and efficiently.

The CAC was intentionally integrated into the decision-making process to provide thoughtful, community-based feedback ahead of Board actions—not to delay them. Staff who follow the POETS timeline present to the CAC prior to seeking approval from the MTA Board. This ensures that the CAC has the opportunity to make informed recommendations, which the Chair then presents to the Board of Directors, adding an essential layer of public input before any final decisions are made.

Any instances of delay are not inherent to the structure itself but are instead the result of staff neglecting to coordinate with or consider the CAC's role in the process. These are avoidable issues, resolvable through better planning and respect for the established engagement strategy.

The SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council plays a vital role in ensuring that public voices are heard and considered as part of a transparent, accountable decision-making process. Reducing or removing its role would not only undercut community input but also diminish the integrity of the agency's checks and balances—ultimately doing a disservice to the residents of San Francisco.

Thank you for your time,

**Keka Robinson-Lugman**

CAC Secretary | Assistant Board Secretary

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