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To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Cc: [Weiland, Maggie \(ADM\)](#); [Jen Reck](#); [Wyatt Robertson](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Feedback to Commission Streamlining Task Force about the Entertainment Commission
Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 6:12:53 PM

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Dear Members of the Commission Streamlining Task Force,

As Director of the Castro LGBTQ Cultural District, I am writing to strongly urge the Task Force to preserve the Entertainment Commission's current regulatory and enforcement authority. While I appreciate and support the intent of Proposition E to streamline government, I want to emphasize that the Entertainment Commission is unique among City commissions: instead of adding bureaucratic bloat, it increases efficiency, reduces legal exposure, and provides a transparent adjudicatory forum that strengthens both government and community trust.

This has been important in the Castro because there was recently a business that decided its business model should include amplified sound inside and outside of the business. MikroBlack at 2323 Market Street billed itself as a "new concept boutique and social club." It was actually antisocial in that it would not communicate with the residential neighbors of the building regarding its use of amplified sound (DJ music using loud speaker systems). It opened in January 2023, refusing to change its plans to adhere to sound restrictions until complaints from tenants were adjudicated by the Entertainment Commission. On June 20, 2023, the commission voted to continue the permit application to allow Mikroblack and its neighbors to have a conversation about the concerns. The commission eventually approved permit amendments with staff recommendations in July 2023. This depended on good communication and the business operating in good faith to respect the needs of residential tenants. The owners decided to close its doors in January 2024 rather than modify its business model to stay in the space. I share this with you because the longtime tenants (many of whom are older adults in the LGBTQ community) faced false narratives about them not supporting small businesses (not true) and that the MikroBlack owners were open to working with tenants on being a better neighbor (MikroBlack decided to leave instead). Thankfully, the Entertainment Commission provided a plan and decision that addressed problems facing the tenants. Often, disputes between everyday people living their lives in San Francisco and businesses or landowners can result in displacement and gentrification. This is precisely why my organization exists.

Mission: The Castro LGBTQ Cultural District is committed to preserving, sustaining, and promoting the rich cultural legacy of the Castro and its significance to San Francisco's LGBTQ+ community and beyond. Our goals are to highlight the structures and sites important to our history; foster racial, ethnic, gender and cultural diversity among residents and businesses; and create a safe, beautiful, and inclusive space for LGBTQ+ and allied communities, to visit from around the world and call the Castro home. The Castro LGBTQ Cultural District is a fiscally sponsored project of the San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center.

I respectfully urge the Task Force to recommend retaining the Entertainment Commission's full regulatory and enforcement authority. Thank you for your consideration and for your work to strengthen San Francisco's government. I welcome the opportunity to provide additional information or to present to the Task Force directly.

Thank you,

Tina

Mx. Tina V. Aguirre
Cultural District Director
Castro LGBTQ Cultural District
pronouns: they/them/theirs