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To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Retain decision-making authority of the Commission on the Environment
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To Whom It May Concern:

The Commission on the Environment is important for proposing new ideas during times of crisis; therefore, it should still be able to make decisions. In the past few years, San Francisco has faced problems that have never happened before, such as extreme heat days, smoke from wildfires that engulfed the city, and the urgent need to react to the pandemic. In every case, environmental decisions affected how the City responded, whether it was making sure that clean air centers were available, protecting citizens who were at risk, or modifying energy and waste systems to fit the new conditions.

The Commission should retain its power to make decisions here. It tells the Department of the Environment to quickly allocate resources, approve emergency plans, and put resilience measures at the top of the list. Advisory groups do not have the necessary authority to effect this kind of change quickly. If decision-making power were taken away, San Francisco would lose one of its strongest tools for dealing with emergencies that affect public health and quality of life right quickly.

In our time, public health and climate problems are getting worse. It would be foolish to weaken a body whose ruling authority is needed for swift creative response. Please preserve the Commission on the Environment as a group that takes decisions.

Thank You!