

From: [REDACTED]
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment: Protect and Expand Film Commission Funding
Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025 12:03:01 PM

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Apologies but I realized I sent the letter below to the wrong email address. Please see my letter in support of the SF Film Commission.

Best,
Sam

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Samantha Bempong (she/her)
[#MakeItBay](#) | [The Bay List](#) | [Mindful Media](#)

“Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted, the indifference of those who should have known better and the silence of the voice of justice when it mattered most that has made it possible for evil to triumph.”

- Haile Selassie 1892 - 1975

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sam Bempong [REDACTED]
Subject: Public Comment: Protect and Expand Film Commission Funding
Date: September 15, 2025 at 11:55:27 AM PDT
To: commission.streamlining@sfgov.org

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to share feedback. I urge the Commission to ensure that the work of our Film Commission continues **unencumbered and with a fully protected budget**—if not an expanded one.

The Film Commission is not a luxury—it is essential infrastructure for our city’s cultural and economic vitality. Film and media are among the most powerful tools we have to:

- **Drive Local Economic Growth:** Productions bring direct spending into our hotels, restaurants, hardware stores, dry cleaners, caterers, and countless small businesses. For every dollar spent on film production, studies show significant multiplier effects throughout the local economy. Cutting the

Commission's budget risks losing these dollars to other regions actively competing for productions.

- **Create High-Wage Jobs & Career Pathways:** The screen sector is one of the few industries that provides high-wage jobs without requiring a four-year degree. The Commission's work connects residents—particularly young people, women, and people of color—to training and job opportunities that can lead to sustainable careers.
- **Showcase Our City's Identity:** Beyond economics, film captures and broadcasts the stories, landscapes, and culture of our city to the world. The Commission ensures that this happens in ways that are both authentic and beneficial to our community.
- **Ensure Equity & Access:** The Commission plays a crucial role in making sure productions hire locally, respect neighborhoods, and expand access to groups historically left out of the industry. This is not just an economic issue—it's about fairness and representation.

At a time when other cities and states are **doubling down** on film incentives and infrastructure, it would be a grave mistake for us to retreat. If anything, we should be **expanding the Film Commission's budget** so it can better compete, attract productions, and deliver even greater returns to our residents.

Our message is simple: **Film Commission funding is not expendable—it is a proven investment in our city's future. Protect it, grow it, and let this essential work continue without cuts.**

Thank you for your consideration,
Sam

Samantha Bempong (she/her)



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