

From: [A. Sparks](#)
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Support for the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women
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Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force,

I am writing to express my strong support for maintaining the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women as an independent body, with its full powers and responsibilities intact.

As a longtime San Francisco homeowner who has lived in District 8 for more than 20 years, I care deeply about the city's future. I live here with my wife, and together we are raising our newborn daughter. Like many families, we want to remain in San Francisco and build our lives here — but it has not been easy. The vast majority of my female and LGBTQ friends have been pushed out of the city due to rising costs and the search for a better quality of life. This reality underscores why representation of women, LGBTQ people, and families must remain at the forefront of city governance. We need real advocacy, influence, and voice in the decisions that shape our lives.

San Francisco has historically been a leader in gender equity — one of the first cities in the nation to establish a Commission on the Status of Women, and the very first to create a Department to implement its mission. The Commission's diversity and independence have always been its strength, ensuring that those most affected by inequities have a place at the table. Weakening or consolidating this body would not only diminish San Francisco's leadership, it would send a troubling message to other cities and communities that representation and equity are optional. If San Francisco retreats from its commitments, others may follow.

The Commission provides something rare and indispensable: a dedicated forum where community members can engage directly with civic leadership and shape public policy. Its independent voice ensures balance within our local government and keeps equity and inclusion central to decision-making.

For these reasons, I urge you to preserve the Commission's independence, its governing authority, and its appointment powers. These are not mere procedural details — they are the foundation of real democracy, equity, and civic trust.

Thank you for your time, attention, and commitment to San Francisco's future.

Sincerely,
Allison Sparks
District 8 homeowner, San Francisco

A. Sparks ([she/they](#))
Executive Director, Masto Foundation



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