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From: Claudine Cheng <claudine@apasf.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 3:35 PM
To: commissionstreamlining
Subject: SF Film Commission

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RE: The proposed reorganizing of the SF Film Commission

To the Members of the Streamlining Task Force:

Tourism and conventions are important economic drivers for San Francisco and historically, the SF Film Commission has played a unique role in the success of these drivers. Through attracting and facilitating film productions in our City, the Commission is able to market San Francisco visually on the world stage, promoting the City has a place for tourism and to do business in. And in the process of doing so, the Film Commission's work has also resulted in job creation and economic benefits to related business sectors.

Any perception, including the description In the budget report, that the Film Commission's purpose is just about facilitating permits is a gross mischaracterization.

While film is considered part of art and culture, the work of the Film Commission as summarized above has significant economic functions and does not share the core purpose of the Arts Commission which is about championing the arts and supporting a vibrant arts community.

Attracting film productions is a very competitive business in that many cities in the country and around the world are constantly considering how to enhance benefits for film productions to be in their locations. For the San Francisco Film Commission to achieve significant results, any streamlining has to take into consideration how that would help strengthen resources available so that our City can stay competitive.

We have multiple currents going on here, where actions must be implemented to spur economic growth and at the same time, to streamline government operations. I urge the Streamlining Task Force to take a holistic approach considering the means and the ends served by proposed changes. Combining and/or merging agencies cannot be simply be for the sake of reducing the number of agencies, but a key question is whether the agencies share the same core purpose, and whether the proposed change would help each agency to better achieve results.

Thank you for your consideration.

Claudine Cheng
SF Film Commissioner

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Join San Francisco in celebrating Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May!

apasf.org

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