

From: heather@goroamtours.com
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Support for the Commission on the Status of Women
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Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force,

I am writing to express my strong support for the continued existence of the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women as a standalone body with its full powers intact.

Women, girls, and gender-expansive people continue to fight for basic needs, especially now after the fall of *Roe v. Wade* in 2022 and so many other assaults based on gender, specifically against female, female-identified, and nonbinary. We are still fighting for basic rights, bodily autonomy, equal pay, safety, and access to services. We need institutions specifically dedicated to advancing equity. The Commission on the Status of Women plays a critical role in ensuring San Francisco lives up to its values of inclusion, transparency, and justice.

San Francisco made history by establishing one of the earliest Commissions in the country, and became the first to create a Department to enact the Commission and City's goal of advancing and ensuring equity for all San Franciscans. The Commission on the Status of Women is deeply committed to creating a space for all voices, and is one of the most diverse in the city, despite its small size. Commissioners identify as trans and queer, come from a range of racial and ethnic backgrounds, are caregivers, and have a diverse set of backgrounds and expertise. That pioneering legacy should not be erased or weakened through consolidation or elimination. Representation and civilian oversight matters. True democracy depends on representation and balance, not on consolidated power in the hands of any one office.

The Commission on the Status of Women brings together diverse leaders, experts, and advocates who reflect the communities they serve. It provides a platform for public participation and a necessary counterbalance within our local government structure.

I urge the Task Force to preserve the Commission's independent voice, governance authority, and nominating power. These are not optional features; they are fundamental to real democracy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Heather Cassell
Inner Richmond (District 11)



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