

From: [REDACTED]
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Public comment: Strongly support keeping the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 6:27:41 PM

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Dear Members of the Commission Streamlining Task Force,

I am writing to strongly advocate for keeping the San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare. As a 29-year-old San Francisco resident who has attended eight of the monthly meetings this year, I have seen firsthand the critical role this commission actively plays in our city.

This commission is the sole venue in San Francisco dedicated to discussing animal welfare issues alongside advocates and community members. These are animal specialists whom the media (SF Chronicle, SF Gate, The Standard) turns to as San Francisco's animal authority. The commission regularly interviews experts including wildlife rehabilitators and acclaimed animal law professors, reviews Animal Care & Control data to track trends with shelter animals, and monitors critical issues like public access to vaccination and health services for unhoused people's pets. Recent discussions have covered wildlife rodent poisoning, zoo animal neglect, Golden Gate Park horse neglect, and glue traps, all issues that have no other forum and this commission is uniquely paying attention to.

It is the only body with this specific priority and scope, and eliminating it would leave a glaring gap—there would be no other dedicated group giving voice to animals in the city and how they impact human health and wellbeing. The commission actively engages with the community, including involvement for example with USF School of Law's animal-focused law students. This commission brings together residents of all ages, from younger students to experienced advocates from across diverse demographics. More than a dozen people also attend each meeting virtually, demonstrating strong public interest. USF Law has gathered 60 petition signatures so far in October regarding the glue traps because of this commission's active work on the topic.

If anything, I would urge the task force to consider strengthening this commission's role, perhaps elevating it from an advisory body so its recommendations carry greater weight, and renaming it simply the "Animal Commission" to better reflect its scope.

Thank you for your consideration,
Ashley Hoffmann (District 1, San Francisco)