

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [commissionstreamlining](#)  
**Subject:** Streamlining Commissions - Small Business Commission (SBC) needs to stay  
**Date:** Thursday, October 9, 2025 2:24:16 PM

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Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors and Task Force on Commission Reform,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent recommendations to restructure the San Francisco Small Business Commission (SBC). While I understand the intent to streamline city governance, the proposed changes would significantly weaken small business representation, institutional stability, and public trust in the City's commitment to supporting small business owners.

The proposal to **remove the SBC from the City Charter and retain it only in the Administrative Code**, thereby subjecting it to automatic sunset every three years, poses a real threat to continuity and accountability. San Francisco's small business community relies on the SBC as a stable and consistent advocate—one that provides institutional memory, policy continuity, and a direct voice in city decision-making. Making the Commission's existence dependent on periodic renewal introduces unnecessary uncertainty into a sector already facing immense pressures from rising costs, post-pandemic recovery, and neighborhood disinvestment.

Equally concerning is the recommendation to **remove the Commission's oversight of the Department head's hiring and firing authority** and to **transfer approval of Legacy Business Registry applications to Office of Small Business (OSB) staff**. These changes would diminish transparency, public participation, and accountability in key decisions that shape the economic and cultural landscape of our city. The Legacy Business Registry, in particular, was designed to recognize and preserve San Francisco's unique small business heritage—decisions that deserve public deliberation, not administrative processing behind closed doors.

Finally, I strongly oppose the recommendation to **remove the specific qualifications required for SBC seats**. The current requirements—that the majority of commissioners be small business owners, operators, or representatives of organizations with direct experience supporting small businesses—ensure that decisions are informed by lived experience and grounded in the realities of operating in San Francisco. Diluting these qualifications risks turning the Commission into a symbolic body rather than a true advocate for small business vitality and neighborhood economic diversity.

At a time when San Francisco is working to revitalize its commercial corridors, strengthen

community-based entrepreneurship, and restore public confidence in local government, the Small Business Commission's independence and expertise are more essential than ever. I urge you to reconsider these recommendations and maintain the SBC's current charter status, authority, and composition requirements to ensure that small business voices continue to have a meaningful and consistent seat at the table.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

**Cynthia Huie**

President, SF Small Business Commission