

Thursday October 9th, 2025

Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force members:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee (SDDTAC). Established by the will of the voters, the SDDTAC reflects a clear public mandate to ensure that soda tax revenues are used transparently and equitably to improve public health. Its participatory process ensures that those most impacted by sugary drink consumption and diet-related disease benefit from the tax.

I have seen firsthand how SDDT-funded programs are making a real difference in underserved communities, particularly in District 10, where I have dedicated much of my work. Organizations like CARE, led by community leader Uzuri Pease-Greene, have long served youth and families in Potrero Hill, advocating for food security, workforce opportunities, and community empowerment. Other recipients, such as All My Usos, led by Christine Mauia, have supported the Pacific Islander community for over a decade, serving more than 10,000 families across the Bay Area through health, leadership development, and community-building initiatives. Losing this funding would be a major setback for communities that already struggle to compete for city funding alongside larger organizations.

The SDDTAC collectively dedicates hundreds of hours each year to review data, hear from residents, and make thoughtful, community-centered decisions. It is more than just a government body, it is a bridge between the city and the people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chika Mezie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chika Mezie
Commissioner, Southeast Community Center