

**From:** [Denny David](#)  
**To:** [commissionstreamlining](#)  
**Subject:** Protect the Service Providers Working Group (SPWG)  
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Dear Members of the Commission Streamlining Task Force,

As Co-Chair of the Service Providers Working Group (SPWG), I urge the Commission to recommend that SPWG be maintained as a vital advisory body in the City.

When the Children and Youth Fund was reauthorized by voters a decade ago, the SPWG was intentionally created to give service providers an official voice in City decision-making—and to ensure that the OAC had access to content experts who could strengthen its work on behalf of children, youth, and families.

## Why This Matters

SPWG is a network of more than 200 youth-serving organizations that ensures nonprofits have a voice in policies and practices that directly affect San Francisco’s children, youth, and families. SPWG was written into the City Charter precisely because, without a formal advisory role, providers lacked direct access to decision-makers—and decision-makers lacked meaningful input from those closest to the work.

## What’s at Stake

We understand the Task Force is considering a recommendation to eliminate SPWG, citing Brown Act compliance concerns. However, SPWG has not had dedicated staffing support, and Brown Act compliance has not been raised as an issue in the past decade. This concern has only recently surfaced, and we view it as an opportunity for collaboration—not elimination.

We are eager to work with the Task Force, DCYF, and the OAC to clarify compliance requirements, address any gaps, and strengthen transparency while preserving a body that has been central to community voice and accountability.

## Key Points

- **No history of compliance concerns:** In over ten years, the City has never cited Brown Act compliance issues with SPWG. We are fully committed to ensuring compliance and transparency going forward.
- **City support is in place:** Both DCYF and the OAC have expressed support for SPWG, and DCYF is prepared to provide dedicated staffing to ensure Brown Act compliance.
- **SPWG delivers tangible value:** The group has identified issues and proposed solutions before they escalated—such as the incorrect allocation of the Student Success Fund (which led to Proposition J) and the monitoring of the Children & Youth Baseline

(which spurred a community working group with the Controller's Office).

- **Charter legitimacy matters:** SPWG's inclusion in the City Charter reflects its essential role in ensuring transparency, maintaining community trust, and keeping communication open between providers and government.

We respectfully urge the Task Force to recommend that the SPWG continue as an official advisory body of the City. Its preservation will ensure that San Francisco's children, youth, and families continue to benefit from a strong, coordinated network of providers who bring on-the-ground expertise to City decision-making.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing work to strengthen our public systems.

Sincerely,

**Denny Davidddd**

Co-Chair, Service Providers Working Group (SPWG)

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