From: Elizabeth Young
To: commissionstreamlining

Subject: We Need to Keep the SF Commission of Animal Control & Welfare, Please

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San Francisco needs & benefits from the Commission of Animal Control & Welfare!

San Francisco needs to do more, not less, in support of the animals with whom we share this region.

I am writing to strongly recommend keeping the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.

The Commission advocates for the protection and well-being of animals, and it serves a unique role by making recommendations and addressing issues affecting companion animals and wildlife in ways that a city department cannot.

Members of the Board of Supervisors and city departments often refer residents to the Commission, and many agenda items come directly from concerns voiced by the public.

Over the years, the commissioners (who receive no compensation for their work) have provided an essential public forum and compassionate, forward-thinking discussions and presentations. These have resulted in a number of recommendations that include the releasing of elephants from the San Francisco Zoo to a sanctuary, the banning of cat declawing, and ending pet store sales of dogs and cats from breeding mills.

At a time when the link between animal well-being, public health, and environmental responsibility is clearer than ever, we need the Commission's voice at the table. Please do not silence or take that voice away.

Please recommend that San Francisco keep the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Young, District 10