

Re: Support for the San Francisco Animal Care and Welfare Commission

Dear Members of the Commission Streamlining Task Force,

On behalf of the California Native Plant Society, Yerba Buena Chapter, we write to express our strong support for the San Francisco Animal Care and Welfare Commission and to urge the Task Force to ensure this Commission remains an active and empowered part of San Francisco's civic landscape.

As an organization dedicated to the protection, restoration, and appreciation of California's native plants and the ecological communities they support, we recognize that animal welfare and habitat health are deeply interconnected. Urban environments like San Francisco are home to a diverse range of wildlife — from native pollinators and birds to reptiles and mammals — many of which face increasing pressures from habitat loss, climate change, and human activity. Did you know that San Francisco has about 80 threatened or endangered species living here among us in the city? The Animal Care and Welfare Commission ensures that our city approaches critical wildlife issues with science, care and compassion.

The work of the Animal Care and Welfare Commission complements environmental stewardship, biodiversity protection, and the City's own Climate Action and Healthy Communities goals. Its role cannot be replicated by agencies whose core missions do not center animals or ecological relationships – and they've been doing a great job for well over 50 years.

We urge the Task Force to maintain and support the San Francisco Animal Care and Welfare Commission. A city without compassion for wildlife is cold place.

Sincerely,

**Chapter President** 

California Native Plant Society Yerba Buena