

LOCAL UNION 6

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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Via Email

Commission Streamlining Task Force

CommissionStreamlining@sfgov.org

IBEW Local 6 is adamantly opposed to any proposed changes to the authority of the Building Inspection Commission such that it would serve in an advisory capacity only. In addition, we are also equally opposed to the elimination of the Code Advisory Committee.

By recommending that the Building Inspection Commission be simply an advisory-only committee, the Task Force risks moving public safety policy decisions away from experienced industry professionals and denies the public their voice in such policy decisions. Political influence will be more likely to wreak confusion and delay on the industry that employs thousands of workers, sustains hundreds of businesses, and that the unknowledgeable general public rely on to provide important services.

In the same vein, the Code Advisory Committee, and its subcommittees, are constituted with proven, vetted industry professionals that understand the often-complex interplay between the various CA Building Codes. Having a Code Advisory Committee has, in fact, benefitted the citizens and businesses of San Francisco. Their guidance is necessary to assist the City & County as it seeks to continue its ambitious goals for creating more housing all while reducing the environmental impact our buildings have on their surroundings.

Delays caused by the lack of transparent and effective communication between City departments is not the fault of the Building Inspection Commission or the Code Advisory Committee. Neither of those two entities run the day-to-day operations of City departments such as Planning Department or Department of Public Works. The efforts needed to fix the delays lies within the existing City structure and efforts should be properly focused there.

The last thing San Francisco needs at this time, when the new administration is actively trying to remove barriers to housing production and improve the speed at which businesses

can open, is to take down the two bodies that serve to provide the clarity as it relates to the building and construction industry.

Thank you for your efforts and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Doherty

Business Manager – Financial Secretary

IBEW Local 6

Cc: Honorable Daniel Lurie, Mayor of San Francisco

San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Larry Mazzola, Jr., President of SF Building & Construction Trades Council

Rudy Gonzalez, Secretary-Treasurer of SF Building & Construction Trades Council