

From: [Jennifer McCabe \(AIR\) \(she/her/hers\)](#)
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Cc: [Chou, Mary \(ART\)](#)
Subject: Civic Design Review and San Francisco Arts Commission Letter of Support
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Attachments: [img-46f649f5-b2fd-4826-865b-afb2844c2870](#)

Commission Streamlining Task Force City Hall
Room 362 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Commission,

I am writing in support of maintaining the Civic Design Review committee within the San Francisco Arts Commission. With nearly 50 years of experience commissioning public art within the airport setting, SFO is indebted to the democratic and equitable processes and procedures that SFAC oversees to provide the highest quality and caliber of artworks at the airport.

Aside from coordination with the Public Art Program, CDR's role in improving the built environment for the people of San Francisco has been noted by many architects and city agencies. Colleagues have opined on the importance of the work of this Committee whose members analyze designs from the perspective of the users and within the context of adjacent terminals and buildings. Commissioners provide context that leads to a more considered and thoughtful design. CDR also offers an opportunity for the public to attend and speak upon the design of a site.

The below are two main reasons for why it has been particularly beneficial for the Public Art Program to have CDR sit within SFAC:

1. In order to be calendared for presentation at CDR, the SFO project manager is required to meet with the SFAC Public Art Director to discuss the public art opportunity. This has been critical to the success of the public art program at SFO as it allows for early integration of the public art opportunities with the design of the site. For the Airport, this means a seamless experience for both travelers and employees where the art is not only a focal point but also functions as wayfinding or meeting points. It also allows for SFO to work closely with the Public Art Program on finishes, lighting, furniture - all the details that go into making a space functional, comfortable, and welcoming to the variety of people that travel through the terminals.
2. Having CDR within SFAC has been very beneficial for the Public Art Program as CDR Commissioners are aware of the importance of public art and inquire with the

presenting agency/architects during the various design reviews about the integration of public art on the site. There are two Commissioners that sit on both CDR and VAC so that there is continuity between the work of the two Committees and to ensure a unified approach to both art and architecture.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Jennifer McCabe



Jennifer McCabe (she/her/hers)

Director and Chief Curator | SFO Museum

San Francisco International Airport | P.O. Box 8097 | San Francisco, CA
94128

Office: 650.821.6795 | Mobile: 650.837.1368 | sfomuseum.org

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