
San Francisco Building and

825 VAN NESS AVENUE • SUITE 301
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109
EMAIL: rudy@sfbctc.org



*A Century of Excellence
in Craftsmanship*

Construction Trades Council

TEL. (415) 345-9333

www.sfbuildingtradescouncil.org

LARRY MAZZOLA, JR.
President

RUDY GONZALEZ
Secretary - Treasurer

JOHN DOHERTY
DAVID DE LA TORRE
Vice Presidents

December 2, 2025

San Francisco Commission Streamlining Task Force

Sent via email to: CommissionStreamlining@sfgov.org

Dear Chair Harrington and Members of the Task Force:

On behalf of the San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council (SFBCTC), representing thousands of skilled workers across more than 30 unions, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposals affecting the Building Inspection Commission (BIC) and the Code Advisory Committee (CAC). We share the City's goals of improving coordination, speeding up housing production, and strengthening the overall permitting system. At the same time, we have significant concerns about any changes that would weaken or narrow the authority of these oversight bodies.

For many years, the BIC and CAC have helped ensure that decisions about building safety, code interpretation, and inspection standards are shaped by people who understand the real conditions on job sites and in our buildings. Construction is complicated work, and choices made at the policy level have direct consequences for workers' safety, residents' protection, and the long-term stability of San Francisco's housing and infrastructure. Ensuring that industry professionals, inspectors, tenants, and community members have a seat at the table brings balance and real-world expertise to decisions that affect everyone.

The Commission's public meetings and the CAC's review process are also critical to maintaining transparency and public trust. Workers, contractors, tenants, and residents rely on these forums to ask questions, raise issues, and understand how decisions are being made. Moving these responsibilities entirely inside departments—or reducing the Commission to an advisory-only role—would limit public engagement at the exact moment when we need more of it, not less.

We recognize that the Task Force is focused on improving the efficiency of permitting and approvals. That is a goal we strongly support. But it's also important to be clear about where the delays are coming from. The BIC and CAC do not run the day-to-day work of City departments. The bottlenecks we all want to fix are rooted in interdepartmental communication, staffing, outdated technology, and broader administrative challenges. Reforms should focus on those areas while keeping independent oversight intact.

As San Francisco pushes to build more housing, support small businesses, and modernize its systems, the consistency and clarity provided by the BIC and CAC are more important than ever. Reducing their role risks creating uncertainty at a time when workers, residents, and the construction industry need stability and predictability.

For these reasons, the San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council respectfully urges the Task Force to maintain the current authority and essential functions of the Building Inspection Commission and the Code Advisory Committee. We support meaningful administrative improvements, and we believe those reforms can—and should—move forward without diminishing the expert oversight and public accountability that these bodies provide.

Thank you for your commitment to improving the City's systems and for considering the perspective of the workers and communities we represent. We look forward to continuing to work with you to strengthen permitting and oversight in ways that protect safety, fairness, and the long-term well-being of San Francisco.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rudy Gonzalez', written in a cursive style.

Rudy Gonzalez
Secretary-Treasurer