



December 8, 2025

Commission Streamlining Task Force
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 408
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: League of Women Voters support for the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force

Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force,

The League of Women Voters of San Francisco (LWVSF) strongly supports the work of the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, a body it was instrumental in creating, and opposes any efforts to reduce its independence and oversight of public records in San Francisco. To take this appointment away from LWVSF is to deprive San Francisco of over a century of expertise and non-partisan, holistic support of all voters, and denies this impactful opportunity to a more diverse pool of vetted candidates.

Formed over 100 years ago, the League of Women Voters of San Francisco is a nonpartisan political nonprofit that defends democracy. We provide education to encourage people to vote in elections and participate in government. We also engage in advocacy to influence public policy that benefits the community.

LWVSF's collective, historical knowledge, equitable voter enablement, and rights protection cannot be denied. And in 1999, LWVSF co-authored the Sunshine Ordinance to protect residents' right to government transparency. LWVSF members have built expertise in Sunshine over these last 27 years. LWVSF's Board of Directors not only vets its nominees, but also provides opportunities to people who are underrepresented on government commissions.

Empowering voters. Defending democracy.

League of Women Voters of San Francisco

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Since its inception, League members have gone on to dutifully serve on the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force and often as Chair, Vice Chair, or committee Chairs.

“In June 2020, I had the opportunity to apply for and serve on LWVSF's seat on the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force. I had already been volunteering with LWVSF and San Franciscans for Sunshine for years. I had attended dozens of public meetings as an official League observer and studied the Sunshine Ordinance to contribute to a draft of improvements. I met with the current SOTF member in the LWVSF seat for education and knowledge transfer. Without this pre-qualification, I would have been immediately underwater as I tried to navigate government policies, meeting rules, and the Sunshine Ordinance itself.

During my three years on the SOTF, I achieved my goals of more in-depth learning about our government, and dedicated political volunteerism. I balanced citizens' rights to public documents and meeting access with government employees' workloads and obligations. I proudly served my government! This opportunity has informed my civic engagement and colored the lens from which I view politics. I vote, participate, and discuss with a more educated and nuanced view, and I share these learnings with everyone I interact with.”

- Jennifer Wong, former Sunshine Ordinance Task Force member and Vice Chair, LWVSF member

“As a League of Women Voters of San Francisco board member, I brought an ethos of access and education to my service on the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (2016-2020). By serving in Seat 5, the historic League of Women Voters of San Francisco seat, San Franciscans were assured that they were appearing before a Task Force member who applied the League’s values of accessibility, transparency, and adherence to the law to matters before the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force. Keeping Seat 5 designated as nominated by the League of Women Voters of San Francisco helps to maintain the integrity of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force as a city body that protects the public’s interest in open government.”

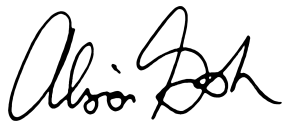
- Leuwam Tesfai, former Sunshine Ordinance Task Force member, former Complaints Committee Chair, LWVSF Board member

At a time when voting rights are under attack, San Francisco should be strengthening its commitment to advancing equity and representation of civic organizations dedicated to our fragile democracy. Removing the League of Women Voters' seat on the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force would not only undercut vital representation, but also broadcast to a watching nation that San Francisco's government leaders are abandoning their support of the long-fought and continually-defended right for women to vote and engage in our local government.

The League of Women Voters of San Francisco has been among the most committed organizations to the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, consistently ensuring that its seat is not only filled, but filled with a member of the highest caliber of diligence and commitment to implementing the Sunshine Ordinance.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

In unity,



Alison Goh
Co-President