



## COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS

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December 12, 2025

Rob Givner Deputy City Attorney  
Rachel Cukierman  
Rachel Alonso  
Chair Ed Harrington  
Sophia Kittler  
Andrea Bruss  
Sophie Hayward  
Natasha Mihal

Dear Commission Streamlining Taskforce,

This letter is regarding the homeless related bodies under your review. These include Homeless Oversight Commission (HOC), Our City Our Home Oversight Body (OCOH), Shelter Grievance Advisory Committee (SGAC), Shelter Monitoring Committee (SMC) and the Local Homeless Coordinating Board (LHCB).

In previous communications, I outlined the distinctly important role each of these bodies play in garnering participation from subject matter experts who can fight for a just and successful system without the constraints a city employee faces under the authority of an elected official. This has dramatically offset the poor policy decisions that result from a system being designed based on polls, bad politics, and political scapegoating. Removing these bodies and combining into one body would concentrate a mountain of work on individuals who would be forced to drop many of the functions.

This letter, however, is to communicate our position that SMC, LHCB and OCOH should not be included in an initial ordinance planned for February. These bodies appear in the plain legal text of the November 2022 Prop C that led to the creation of the Homeless Oversight Commission (HOC). They both reference them and shift LHCB and SMC appointing authority to the HOC [Sec. 4.133 (h)(1)-(2)]. OCOH appears in both in November 2022 and November 2018 plain text. Therefore, it is our position that this language must be stricken by voters before changes can be made by ordinance. If the initiative fails at the ballot, the legal text in 2022 Prop C would remain intact, and there would need to be an ordinance in place that it refers to.

(h) By no later than May 1, 2023, the City shall enact an ordinance that:

(1) Amends Article XXXI of Chapter 5 of the Administrative Code, to provide that the Commission shall appoint all members of the Local Homeless Coordinating Board ("LHCB") and that the LHCB's sole duties shall be to serve as the Continuum of Care governing body and to advise the Commission on issues relating to the City's participation in the Continuum of Care program. This subsection (h)(1) shall not preclude the City by ordinance from amending said Article XXXI in a manner that is not inconsistent with this subsection or as necessary to comply with federal requirements relating to the Continuum of Care.

(2) Amends Article XII of Chapter 20 of the Administrative Code, to provide that the Shelter Monitoring Committee shall advise the Commission in lieu of advising the LHCB. This subsection (h)(2) shall not preclude the City by ordinance from amending said Article XII in a manner that is not inconsistent with this subsection.

If the voters approve the charter amendment, then an ordinance relating to these bodies could follow.

We continue to be concerned that this body is thinking in terms of "efficiencies" absent the true consideration of oversight, accountability, community power and inhibiting the ability of movements in San Francisco to effect social change by concentrating blind decision making in the Executive Branch.

This would be a travesty that continues far past this administration and inhibits collaboration into the future.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JFR', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jennifer Friedenbach  
Executive Director