

From: [REDACTED]
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Cc: [Mahmood, Bilal \(BOS\)](#); [MahmoodStaff](#); [Lurie, Daniel \(MYR\)](#)
Subject: Testimony Commission Streamlining Task Force Recommendations Date of Meeting Jan 14: Please file in public comment
Date: Monday, January 12, 2026 10:22:05 PM

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Testimony on Commission Streamlining Task Force Recommendations

Date of Meeting Jan 14 2026

Please file in public comment

Date: Jan 10 2026

To: Commission Streamlining Task Force

From: Teresa Palmer MD District 5
[REDACTED]

Task Force Members:

I urge you not to accept "streamlining" plans as they currently stand. The Mayor should not have sole power over so many bodies! Commission members should only be terminated for cause (NOT moved from charter to administrative bodies), and **should NOT serve "at will."** Asking these public servants to serve "at will" and giving the Mayor so much power to appoint and remove is an invitation to political corruption and cronyism.

Do not abolish or dilute the power of **The Shelter Grievance Advisory Committee** which is homeless people's best access to accountability. Removing this committee and tasking the Homelessness Oversight Commission to meet the same diligent standard is irresponsible and cruel to our communities in shelter.

Do not abolish or dilute the power of **The Shelter Monitoring Committee**. The vital role of monitoring shelter conditions will not be served adequately by the Homelessness Oversight Commission; conditions will deteriorate!

Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee is essential for transparency. The OCOH Oversight Committee was established by voter initiative as a means of accountability for the hundreds of millions in revenue it oversees. The committee is extremely active and by working with city and county staff has guaranteed that over 5,000 people have been successfully housed, over 15,000 people have received behavioral health services, almost 4,000 households have been sheltered, and over 22,000 households have received prevention services.

Democracy and participation are not inefficiencies! In a time of rising authoritarianism at the federal level and an obsession with “efficiency” regardless of harm, we cannot replicate that harm by weakening our own democracy. Public participation in government is good. It is what makes San Francisco a vibrant bastion of democracy and it is worth defending.

This Task Force was never meant to gut democracy. The Commission Streamlining Task Force was not created to dismantle public oversight. Voters already rejected that agenda when they voted down Prop D. Yet this proposal goes even farther, targeting commissions that were created by the people of San Francisco through the ballot box. Hear us now and change course!

Teresa Palmer M.D.