



Commission Streamlining Task Force

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair Ed Harrington and Members, Commission Streamlining Task Force

FROM: Rachel Alonso, Project Director, City Administrator's Office
Joanna Bell, Senior Performance Analyst, Controller's Office
Henry O'Connell, Senior Performance Analyst, Controller's Office

DATE: August 5, 2025

SUBJECT: List of Bodies That Fulfill State or Federal Legal Requirements for Future Discussion

Per Proposition E, approved by voters in November 2024, the Commission Streamlining Task Force ("Task Force") is responsible for making recommendations to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors about ways to modify, eliminate, or combine the City's appointive boards and commissions ("policy bodies") to improve the administration of government.

The Task Force will discuss legally required bodies in an upcoming meeting. This memo establishes a list of such bodies and briefly discusses some considerations for upcoming Task Force decisions.

Legally required bodies are those which fulfill some state or federal legal mandate. While most bodies have legal duties under the San Francisco Charter or local codes, the Task Force may suggest amendments to these laws and direct the City Attorney to prepare draft legislation enacting those changes. However, the Task Force cannot amend state or federal laws. This restricts what actions the Task Force may recommend for bodies required by state or federal code.

In consultation with the City Attorney's Office, we identified 27 legally required bodies. These bodies may themselves be legally required, or they may fulfill some purpose which is legally required. Legal requirements limit what actions the Task Force may take with respect to these bodies:

- If the body itself is legally required, the Task Force may not eliminate it.
- If the body fulfills a legally required function, the Task Force must identify a suitable alternative to carry out that function in order to eliminate the body.
- If state or federal law prescribes details about a body (e.g., membership or qualifications), the Task Force may not alter those details.

This memo does not issue recommended actions for the bodies listed. Instead, the Task Force should continue its work to develop evaluation criteria and templates which will allow staff to issue recommendations for these bodies in the future by policy area.

Version History

Version	Date	Description
1	07/18/2025	Original
2	07/24/2025	Added Board of Examiners and Health Commission
3	08/05/2025	Updated descriptions of legal requirements and segmented list into two groups: 1. bodies that are required by state or federal law and 2. bodies that fulfill state or federal legal requirements

List of Bodies That Are Required by State or Federal Law

The 16 bodies listed below are all required to exist under state or federal law. The Task Force may not vote to eliminate them. In some cases, it might be possible to combine these bodies with others, but any combinations would require further legal analysis.

Name of Body	Code Authorization	State or Federal Legal Requirement(s)	Description
Asian Art Commission	Charter §§ 5.102, 5.104	Restatement (Third) of Trusts §2 (2003)	This body must exist with members serving as fiduciaries of the trust.
Behavioral Health Commission	Administrative Code § 15.12	Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code §§ 5604 et seq.	This body must exist; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Children and Families First Commission	Charter §§ 16.123.1-16.123-10; Admin. Code Chapter 86	Cal. Health & Safety Code sections 130100	This body must exist; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Commission on Aging Advisory Council	Administrative Code § 5.6-4	42 U.S.C.A. §§ 3025, 3026	This body must exist; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Community Corrections Partnership	Cal. Penal Code §§ 1228-1233.8	Cal. Penal Code § 1230	This body must exist as long as we receive Community Corrections Performance Incentives funds; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District Public Financing Authority No. 1	Administrative Code § 5.48-2	Cal. Govt Code § 53398.51.1	This body must exist if the EIFD exists; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Fine Arts Museums Board of Trustees	Charter §§ 5.102, 5.105	Restatement (Third) of Trusts §2 (2003)	This body must exist with members serving as fiduciaries of the trust.
Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council	Cal. Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 749.2-749.27	Welf. & Inst. Code § 749.22	This body must exist; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Law Library Board of Trustees ³	Charter § 8.103	Cal. Assembly Stat. 1869-70, ch. CLXXIII and Cal. Business and Professions Code § 6363	This board is not a City body. The board must exist under State law, and cannot be combined with another City board. But there is no requirement for the board to be established in the Charter or any City ordinance.

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Name of Body	Code Authorization	State or Federal Legal Requirement(s)	Description
Port Commission	Charter § 4.114	Section 12 of the Burton Act (Chapter 1333, Statutes of 1968)	This commission must exist; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission
Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee	Administrative Code § 8.24-5	Cal. Gov't Code § 27388	This committee must exist but only needs to meet in certain situations; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board	Charter § 12.204	Cal. Constitution Article XVI, § 17	This board must exist with members serving as fiduciaries of the trust; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Retirement Board	Charter § 12.100	Cal. Constitution Article XVI, § 17	This board must exist with members serving as fiduciaries of the trust; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.
Treasure Island Development Authority Board of Directors	Cal. Health & Safety Code § 33492.5		This board cannot be combined with another body. It must exist as long as the TIDA is incorporated as a nonprofit, but if that status changes then it will no longer be legally required.
War Memorial Board of Trustees	Charter § 5.106	Restatement (Third) of Trusts §2 (2003)	This body must exist with members serving as fiduciaries of the trust.
Workforce Investment Board	Admin. Code Chapter 30	29 U.S.C. § 3101 et seq., Cal. Unemployment Insurance Code § 14200 et seq.	This board must exist; its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission.

List of Bodies That Fulfill State or Federal Legal Requirements

The 11 bodies listed below all fulfill some function that is required by state or federal law. These particular bodies are not required to exist, so long as the legal requirements are met by some other body or City department. The Task Force may vote to eliminate any of these bodies but first must identify a suitable alternative to carry out the body's legally required function.

Name of Body	Code Authorization	State or Federal Legal Requirement(s)	Description
Abatement Appeals Board	Charter Sec. D3.750-5, Building Code § 105A.2	Cal. Building Code § 1.8.8.3 and Health & Safety Code § 17920.5	May be combined with another body, or the Board of Supervisors may handle appeals.
Access Appeals Commission	Charter Sec. D3.750-5, Building Code § 105A.3	Cal. Health & Safety Code § 19957.5	May be combined with another body, but membership qualifications are constrained (two members must have disabilities, two members must be experienced in construction).
Assessment Appeals Board	Administrative Code § 2B.1	Cal. Constitution, Section 16, Art. XIII	The Constitution requires the AAB to exist, unless the function is carried out by the Board of Supervisors.
Board of Appeals	Charter § 4.106	Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 17920.5, 17920.6, 17925	May be combined with another body, or the Board of Supervisors may handle appeals.
Board of Examiners	Charter Sec. D3.750-5, Building Code § 105A.1	Cal. Building Code § 1.8.8.1	May be combined with another body, or the Board of Supervisors may handle appeals.
Child Care Planning and Advisory Council	Administrative Code § 5.200	Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code sections 10480, 10485–10487	The City must have a local child care and development planning council, with seat qualifications and appointment authority set in state law. But the City could designate another existing child care planning council or coordinated child and family services council as the local planning council.
Citizens Committee on Community Development	Administrative Code § 2A.290	24 CFR 91.105	No formal body is needed, but the City must have a citizen participation plan approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which must include at least 2 public hearings in order to receive certain federal grants.

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Name of Body	Code Authorization	State or Federal Legal Requirement(s)	Description
Health Commission	Charter § 4.110	42 C.F.R. § 482.12 Cal. Health & Safety Code § 1250(a); 22 C.C.R. § 70701; 42 C.F.R. § 483.70(d)	The commission's functions may be transferred to another board or commission or to the Board of Supervisors.
In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority Governing Board	Administrative Code § 70.2	Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code §§ 12301.6, 12302.25	The governing board must exist, and its functions cannot be transferred to another board or commission—unless (1) the Board of Supervisors designates itself as the governing body and establishes a state-mandated advisory body, or (2) the City contracts with a nonprofit consortium to provide for the delivery of in-home supportive services.
Local Homeless Coordinating Board	Administrative Code § 5.31-1	24 C.F.R. 578.5 et seq.	Another City body could carry out the functions of this board, but that body would need to comply with federal regulations, which require the board to be representative of the relevant organizations and of projects serving homeless subpopulations and include at least one homeless or formerly homeless individual.
Relocation Appeals Board	Admin. Code §§ 24.7, 24B.1	Cal. Health & Safety Code § 33417.5	The board's functions may be transferred to another board or commission, subject to some appointment requirements in state law: five members appointed by the Mayor or President of the Board of Supervisors, subject to the approval of the Board of Supervisors.