

# California Legislature

July 12, 2025

John Trasviña  
President, Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear President Trasviña:

We write in strong support of the appeal to rescind the Letter of Determination issued to GEO Group to operate at 111 Taylor St. The historical significance of 111 Taylor St, the location of Compton's Cafeteria and the heart of the Transgender Cultural District, make this location ill-suited to be used by a multibillion-dollar for-profit private prison corporation with a documented history of zoning violations and deep contractual ties to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The use of this site for a private carceral corporation is wholly inappropriate because of the historical and cultural significance of the site itself. In 1966, trans women stood up to police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria, this precise location in San Francisco's Tenderloin. This was one of the first known acts of collective queer resistance in the country. This is not just any parcel of land. It sits at the heart of a community that has been a sanctuary and stronghold for transgender people for generations, before the historic Stonewall riots, and long before the city formally recognized the Transgender District.

Our intent is to honor the legacy and future of the Transgender District by preserving it as a resource for the LGBT community. The Letter of Determination makes clear that this location is not currently zoned for this use. Planning Code SEC 180 (c) allows for the continuation of nonconforming uses, but grants broad discretion by stating that such uses "may" be allowed, not "must" be allowed. We urge you to grant the appeal and support the efforts of the LGBT community to protect the integrity of this community and help preserve one of the most historically important LGBT historic sites in the United States.

We urge you to side with the community, protect the integrity of this neighborhood, and take meaningful action against the further expansion of private prison interests in our city.

Sincerely,



**Scott Wiener**  
Senator, 11<sup>th</sup> District



**Matt Haney**  
Assemblymember, 17<sup>th</sup> District

CC: Members of the Board of Appeals, City and County of San Francisco

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

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**From:** AEdCS <aedcs7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 10, 2025 2:12 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Support for Compton's x Coalition – 111 Taylor Appeal

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear San Francisco Board of Appeals,

I am writing to express my unequivocal support of Compton's x Coalition and their work to have the city zone this space so that it can be a trans inclusive, trans-led sanctuary in the city -- in the Transgender District no less. Please support them in returning 111 Taylor Street to the community. This space should not be occupied and operated by a private prison corporation.

As a San Francisco resident who cares now, more than ever, in our city's need to continue to be a sanctuary city, I urge you to support the transformation of this space into a trans-led sanctuary for the community. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ana Elisa de Campos Salles

MAY 22, 2025

To The Board of Appeals:

My name is Chenoa Nishida and I am currently employed  
with GEO Reentry Services-Taylor Street Ctr at  
111 Taylor St, San Francisco, CA.

I have been with GEO as a Job Developer for eight years now.  
During my time here I have been rewarded by the residents who  
have paroled here and who have successfully left the program  
with a journey of a new life ahead of them.

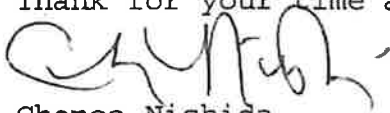
We have helped thousands of paroled residents rebuild their  
lives. They were able to obtain employment due to San Franciscos  
2<sup>nd</sup> chance ordinance and resources that I was able to provide  
them.

They learned time mgmt. as well as money mgmt.

While in the program they were able to establish employment,  
their very 1<sup>st</sup> bank account, achieve credit, as well as getting  
their very 1<sup>st</sup> apartment. And the best part of my job is when I  
see them leave with a smile on their faces filled with pride  
because they have accomplished something of value that will aid  
them in their new journey.

**LET'S KEEP GEO OPEN!!!**

Thank for your time and consideration,



Chenoa Nishida  
Job Developer

GEO Reentry Services-Taylor Street Center  
111 Taylor St  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Cell: 650-346-4214

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Wilder Zeiser <hellozeiser@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2025 6:27 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Written Comment for 111 Taylor St

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

My name is Wilder Zeiser, and I am writing today to urge the Board to revoke the January 28 Letter of Determination for 111 Taylor Street.

This site is more than a zoning issue, it's a landmark of national LGBTQ+ history, the birthplace of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, and part of both the Transgender Cultural District and a designated Article 11 Conservation District. Under Article 10 and Article 11 of the SF Planning Code, uses that undermine the historical and cultural character of a site must be subject to heightened scrutiny. GEO Group's operations, marked by surveillance, coercion, and carceral programming, are incompatible with the site's legacy and violate the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, which require preserving both a building's physical integrity and its cultural associations.

Under CEQA, any adverse change to a recognized historic resource like this triggers environmental review. Yet the City approved this use without public input, proper permitting, or reclassification. That is a failure of process, of law, and of stewardship.

This Board has the opportunity and the obligation to correct it. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Wilder Zeiser

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

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**From:** Kabella, Dan <Danielle.Kabella@ucsf.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2025 7:17 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor St - Appeal

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing to today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Dan Kabella

Dan Kabella  
Opioid Industry Document Archive (OIDA) Postdoctoral Fellow  
Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education  
Department for Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of California, San Francisco  
[UCSF Profile](#) [OIDA](#) [STS Border Laboratory](#)

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Oliver Mills <mxolivermills@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2025 7:44 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 6.11.25 BoA Hearing Item Concerning 111 Taylor St

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing to today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. A site meant to commemorate trans resistance has become a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company known for anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

Sincerely,

*Oliver Mills, MLIS*  
*they/he/ey/xe*  
[ollieoof.co](http://ollieoof.co)

*"An army of (ex-) lovers cannot lose." - Various*

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Bridget Bertrand, LMFT <bridget@bridgetbertrand.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2025 12:01 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor St.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing to today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

Warmly,  
Bridget Bertrand (any pronouns with love)  
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist (LMFT 83020)  
Expressive Arts Facilitator - Coach, 870 MARKET STREET, ROOM 953

<https://www.bridgetbertrand.com/>

<https://substack.com/@transformationcollectivespace>

<https://www.transformationcollective.space/>

<https://native-land.ca/>

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Cal Lerchi <cnlerchi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2025 12:01 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street JUSTICE

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing to today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. 111 Taylor appears to have undergone an unpermitted Change of Occupancy from Residential Group R-2 to Institutional Group I-3, triggering stricter fire, life safety, and accessibility standards. GEO Group added locked doors, surveillance systems, and medical programs without finalizing permits or securing a change-of-use approval. That means this site may not comply with the 2022 Building Code's minimum requirements for seismic safety, egress, fire suppression, or ADA access. These aren't technicalities, they're safety issues.

Sincerely,  
Cal Lerchi  
they/them  
San Francisco LGBTQ+ non-profit employee and resident



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Zann Nolan <zann.nolan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2025 12:38 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** GEO Group @ 111 Taylor St.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

My name is Zann Nolan and I'm writing to today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The Planning Department did not consider the disproportionate impact GEO Group's operations have on trans people, Black and brown residents, and formerly incarcerated individuals in the Tenderloin. By treating this like a simple zoning request, they erased the power dynamics at play. The City has an equity framework, a sanctuary policy, and a stated commitment to trans liberation. Those values must apply to land use decisions. Anything less is policy in name only.

Respectfully,  
Zann Nolan

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** tractionsf <tractionsf@proton.me>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2025 2:34 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor St: failure to comply with housing code and change of occupancy

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

### **San Francisco Board of Appeals, *Failure to comply with Housing Code and Change of Occupancy requirements.***

Rooms used for habitation in 111 Taylor do not appear to meet minimum Space and Occupancy Standards with respect to minimum room size for the number of occupants reported. In addition, it appears a major and unpermitted Change of Occupancy has taken place from 111 Taylor's historic SFBC 310 Residential Group R-1/R-2 Occupancy, to an Institutional Group I-3, Condition 1 Occupancy with its residents placed under custodial care due to security measures not under the occupants' control. The property thereby appears out of compliance not only with baseline housing habitability but with the 2022 Building Code's basic requirements for seismic safety, accessibility, plumbing fixtures, and more. For this matter, I urge the board to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St.

With Respect and Gratitude,  
Matthew Westendorf

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Kasey Rios Asberry <kasberry@humanorigins.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 23, 2025 3:03 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Appeal on 111 Taylor St

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasvina & Board,

My message to you today urges you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St, appeal to be heard on June 11, 2025.

Observing that 111 Taylor St falls both within the Turk & Taylor Landmark District and the broader Article 11 Conservation District.

The SF Planning Department determination fails in that there was no evaluation of whether the current use is compatible with the previously established preservation goals of those Districts. Under Articles 10 and 11, any uses that may undermine the cultural and social context of a Landmark, such as those presented by for-profit incarceration activities on the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, MUST be scrutinized.

To allow this flawed letter of determination to stand would give the appearance of a backroom exception.

The Board has the authority to require that this site be protected as a unique community resource, I add my voice to the groundswell of support for you to exercise your authority in alignment with the explicit ordinances and values of San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Kasey Rios Asberry,  
SF community planner & advocate

>>>><<<<<

[kasberry@humanorigins.org](mailto:kasberry@humanorigins.org)

415-283-8570

>>>><<<<<



UNIVERSITY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE

Sociology Department  
2130 Fulton Street  
San Francisco, CA  
94117  
Tel 415.422.5414  
Fax 415.422.5671  
kdrichman@usfca.edu

May 25, 2025

Sent to: [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I write to convey my support for the Taylor Street Center reentry facility, so that they may continue to provide critical support for formerly incarcerated adults at their 111 Taylor St. location. As a criminologist, professor, and nonprofit director, I have had the opportunity to work in collaboration with the Taylor Street Center for well over a decade. My nonprofit Alliance for CHANGE has provided volunteers to run technical literacy classes to the Taylor street residents, assist the residents in attending their mandatory monthly lifer meetings, and my USF students have had invaluable experiences interning there.

When I first contacted the leadership at the Taylor Street Center about bringing my organization's services to the residents there, I was both surprised and thrilled at how eager they were to work with us and provide whatever support or facilities we needed in order to teach classes there. Unlike some other residential reentry centers we spoke to, 111 Taylor's leadership and staff made it incredibly easy for us to begin and maintain this collaboration, which has helped dozens if not hundreds of residents over the years learn how to use their smart phones and computers, navigate the web, and maintain digital literacy and security. When we wanted to start teaching a computer class, they set up a computer lab in the building with dedicated wifi where we could hold our classes. This has helped residents learn how to write a resume, fill out online job applications, research housing, and maintain a calendar with reminders in their smart phones so that they do not miss appointments with their parole officers.



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CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE

Finally, I want to be clear that I am a lifelong ally to the LGBT+ community, and understand the vulnerability this community is facing with nearly daily attacks on their rights from this administration. My support for the Taylor Street Center in no way diminishes that. But I also know what devastation the formerly incarcerated community would suffer if it were to be closed down. The population they serve is among the most marginalized in our community—formerly incarcerated people who are readjusting to free life after decades in prison, almost all of them indigent, and many without another support system to rely on. If that facility were to disappear, hundreds of SF residents would suddenly become unhoused, leaving them vulnerable to violence, health problems, and recidivism. One can only imagine the impact on San Francisco's already troubled streets.

I appreciate this board's consideration. Please **do not** hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Thank you,

Kimberly D. Richman, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology, Criminal Justice Studies, and Legal Studies

Past President, Western Society of Criminology

kdrichman@usfca.edu



**Civic**  
111 Taylor Street  
San Francisco, CA

**May 26, 2025**

Sent to: [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

**Re: Laborda vs. ZA**  
**Appeal No.: 25-021**  
**Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street**

Dear President Trasviña and Members of the Board of Appeals:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Taylor Street Center (TSC), operated by The GEO Group, Inc., and to highlight its vital contributions to reentry efforts in San Francisco and across California.

Our organization, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Adult Parole, has worked directly with residents of the Taylor Street Center for the past 15 years, providing substance use support, counseling, job training, etc. Throughout this time, we have observed the transformative impact of TSC's programming on individuals transitioning from incarceration to the community. The staff at TSC are highly professional, collaborative, and deeply committed to the success of their residents. They work closely with parole, probation, and a broad network of community partners to ensure continuity of care and wraparound support.

I am writing to express support for The GEO Group, Inc. in recognition of their ongoing contributions to reentry efforts across California. Through their community-based programming, GEO has been a consistent partner in supporting individuals on parole and probation as they transition back into the community.

GEO's reentry services provide a structured, evidence-based framework that addresses critical needs such as housing support, life skills training, behavioral health services, employment readiness, and case management. Their ability to collaborate with parole agents, probation departments, and a network of community organizations has been instrumental in ensuring that participants receive the comprehensive support necessary to reduce recidivism and promote long-term success.

Importantly, GEO has demonstrated a commitment to equitable access to services, tailoring their approach to meet the needs of diverse populations, including individuals with histories of trauma, substance use disorders, and barriers to employment or housing. Their inclusive model helps foster dignity, accountability, and opportunity for all participants.

I would strongly recommend placement at Taylor Street Center for any individual seeking a supportive, structured environment for reentry. The center's presence is not only beneficial to its residents, but also critical to the safety, stability, and public health of the wider San Francisco community.

We value GEO's continued efforts to promote successful reentry and public safety through community engagement and collaboration. Please feel free to contact me should you require any further information or additional context regarding their impact.

Sincerely,

*Dwayne Cooks*

DWAYNE COOKS  
Administrator

5/27/25

[Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I have worked in the reentry criminal justice field for the last 5 decades, retiring in 2017 to provide volunteer consulting to keep our communities safe with prevention and comprehensive reentry programs for men and women coming out of prison.

In 1989, I was managing a halfway house for men and women returning to San Francisco. The October earthquake destroyed our building, and I immediately set out to find an alternative location for our clients. As I drove by 111 Taylor Street there were banners hanging out the window saying "Now Renting". I went inside and said I would take the entire building, and they were thrilled. We went through the proper planning department and zoning requirements, met with neighbors, and assured them that we would always be a contributing member of the neighborhood and work to support the success of not only our clients, but also help meet the neighborhood needs. We ultimately received approval and moved into the building.

111 Taylor has been a successful residential reentry program for both Federal and State clients for 36 years. To my knowledge while I worked there, and as a community advisory board member for GEO for years, there have never been any complaints about the clients



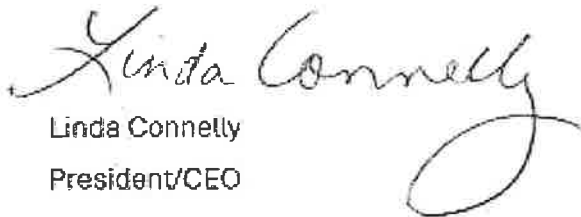
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disrupting or causing any problems in the neighborhood. As a matter of fact, the GEO clients have contributed to the neighborhood with beautification projects monthly with City clean. Additionally, the very presence of the reentry program on Taylor Street has contributed to the immediate neighborhood not succumbing to the problems in other parts of the Tenderloin and around the City. Those suffering from addiction and mental health issues know the Taylor street program is serious business and they would not hinder the success of the clients there by hanging around with drugs and other paraphernalia. In research produced by the International Community Justice Association it was clearly demonstrated that neighborhoods around Reentry programs in numerous neighborhoods throughout the country, made those neighborhoods safer.

Lastly, San Francisco has hundreds of men and women returning from state and federal prisons every year. It is absolutely essential for good public safety in our community, that returning citizens receive the desperately needed life skills, employment prep, education, access to community mental health and community addiction treatment if they need these service .

To NOT provide those services would absolutely result in increased danger to San Francisco citizens. No one wants that, and we KNOW that the GEO program works. Their outcomes, and those of their predecessors, have demonstrated this for the last 36 years. I implore you to ensure that GEO is allowed to continue to provide critically needed services to the returning reentry population. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Linda Connelly  
President/CEO

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

5/27/25

To The Board of Appeals:

I had the privilege to work for the Taylor St Center for 10 years. During this time ,I observed first had the operations and the care the staff an company provided to the participants of the Center.

The Director has worked at Taylor St Center for over 25 years and has more dedication and compassion for serving the population than you could imagine.

The Program has developed solid relationship within the community to network for job readiness, training, education, connect with medical service and family services. The program is vital to providing these types of services to the individuals returning from incarceration. This would not be possible with out the services the program provides to both CDCR and Bop. There would not be a replacement for these types of services. Many people would release directly to the street with no jobs, or housing and no ability to reintegrate with the support needed. This would have a deep effect on SF County and the individuals who are our returning citizens .

Sincerely

Daionne Washington

May 28, 2025

[Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

My name is Tisha McAfee, and I currently serve as the Facility Director at GEO Group's Long Beach location. In my role, I work closely with the Director of the Taylor Street Center and have had the opportunity to visit the facility and witness firsthand the meaningful and transformative work being done there.

Taylor Street Center plays a critical role in supporting individuals as they reenter society. I have seen the staff's dedication, the structure of the programming, and the positive impact it has on participants. One thing that stands out is the great level of sanitation and care provided to residents. The facility is clean, well-maintained, and creates a safe and respectful environment for those working toward a better future.

The center offers more than just housing—it provides stability, accountability, and tools for success. These services help individuals reunite with their families, secure employment, and develop the skills needed to thrive independently.

As someone who has worked in reentry for years, I can say with confidence that Taylor Street is a model program. The collaboration, case management, and community partnerships they maintain reflect the very best of what rehabilitation can look like. It is a space where people are treated with dignity while being held to high standards that prepare them for long-term success.

I believe strongly that the Taylor Street Center is not only beneficial to its participants but to the community at large. By reducing recidivism and promoting personal growth, the center contributes to a safer, more compassionate, and more resilient San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Tisha McAfee

Facility Director Long Beach

[tmcafee@geogroup.com](mailto:tmcafee@geogroup.com)

Phone: (562) 663-0711 Ext. 314114

May/28/2025

Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

My name is Carolina Berrio Duque, BOP case manager, I have been working in GEO Group more than a 1 year and I must say that I am proud to work for an organization that makes such a significant and constructive contribution to society. The mission of the company from the first day deeply resonates with me, as I believe in the power of rehabilitation and positive effect it has on society.

As a Latina and LGBTQ person, I feel the genuine acceptance and inclusivity of GEO group, giving me the opportunity to apply this inclusive approach in my daily work, I have been able to use my native language to support Latino residents in our facility creating a more comfortable and effective experience for them. I have also the privilege of working with transgender population and elderly people, ensuring that their unique needs are addressed with sensitivity and understanding. This dedication to serving diverse populations truly makes a difference.

It is profoundly fulfilling to be part of a team that promote diversity and works hard to empower those seeking a fresh start, this company shows me that is not just about a rehabilitation program, it is about to build a stronger and more compassionate society for everyone.

sincerely,

Carolina Berrio Duque  
BOP Case Manager



# UNITED • PLAYAZ

1038 Howard Street • San Francisco, CA 94103

[www.unitedplayaz.org](http://www.unitedplayaz.org)

May 28, 2025

To The Board of Appeals,

My name is Rudy Corpuz Jr. I am the Founder and Director of United Playaz, a violence prevention and leadership development organization committed to providing youth with positive role models and activities to engage in as an alternative to involvement with gangs, drugs or other high risk behaviors.

I am writing to express my extreme support for Taylor Street Center and to share my brief awareness of the vital work GEO continues to do in California surrounding rehabilitation and reentry services. As a personal and professional friend who worked with GEO for 8 years, I can attest firsthand the organization's commitment to helping individuals transition back into society with dignity, structure, and support throughout their careers.

We have seen them support a stable, supportive environment that helps break cycles of incarceration and empowers people to lead productive lives. That benefit extends far beyond the individual—creating safer, more cohesive communities and ultimately reducing the burden on the criminal justice system.

The Taylor Street Center stands as a strong example of GEO's mission in action. By providing structured housing, job readiness training, counseling, and accountability, TSC plays an essential role in reducing recidivism and strengthening the community. The ripple effects of effective reentry services are profound—not just for the individuals served, but for their families and neighborhoods.

Thank you for considering the importance of The Taylor Street Center and the value it brings to the community. I am confident that any projects they propose will have an immensely positive impact for the people of San Francisco.

Respectfully,

Rudy Corpuz, Founder  
United Playaz  
1038 Howard St.  
San Francisco, CA 94103

05/28/2025.

Sent to [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I am writing to express my strong support for the GEO Reentry Services at the Taylor Street Center. As an employee of the GEO Group, I can personally attest to the numerous positive contributions that the Taylor Street Center has made to the Bay Area community. These contributions encompass employment support services for the unemployed, housing for the homeless, family reunification efforts, health service referrals, and assistance for the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated, as well as opportunities for personal development and growth among staff.

My role as a security monitor at the Taylor Street Center in 2010 was more than just a job; it was an opportunity to demonstrate compassion and empathy toward program participants. Many had experienced extended periods of incarceration and lacked adequate support for reintegrating into society. This experience underscored the essential need for reintegration support and the profound positive impact it can have on both individuals and the community at large. As an employment placement specialist, I had the privilege of expanding the employment resources available to participants. Community providers played a vital role, engaging in our weekly employment workshops. This collaboration with the San Francisco community instilled hope by offering job training and employment opportunities to our participants.

The Taylor Street Center also provided training opportunities for staff, which were important for professional development and growth. I was fortunate enough to become a Case Manager, where I was able to provide case management services to the participants. Working collaboratively, we were able to establish both short-term and long-term goals for them.

I will always consider myself part of the Taylor Street family. My eight years of employment at Taylor Street were incredibly rewarding, and several hundred of the participants are now responsible members of the community.

The Taylor Street Center should be allowed to continue providing the critical services that are most needed in our community. We are proud of what we do, providing second chance opportunities to those in need. We change lives.

Thank You.

Fidelis Ogbu.  
Facility Director,  
Oakland Center.  
Geo Reentry Services



205 MacArthur Blvd.  
Oakland, CA 94610



May 28, 2025

[Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

It has come to my attention, as a current employee of the GEO Group, that there is a move to try and change the zoning of our Taylor Street facility so that the reentry services facilitated at this location would no longer be provided. To no longer provide services to the reentry participants housed at this facility would be a devastating blow not only to the communities they serve, in and around San Francisco, but also to the participants who would no longer have the necessary support to successfully reenter the community as pro-social members of society. The Taylor Street facility is not just a place of shelter for individuals post-release, but so much more, it is a safe, non-judgmental place for an often profiled, overlooked, and mistreated population that much of society has given up on.

I have worked for the GEO Group for over 12 years. I began as an intern, and instantly knew that I was where I wanted to stay. Working for GEO, I found my home. I soon promoted to a Behavior Change Manager (BCM), then a Jail Education Employment Coordinator, where I was able to work in-custody preparing incarcerated persons for employment upon release. I then promoted to the Program Manager of the Napa County Community Corrections Service Center, and now hold the position of Area Manager for Northern California, overseeing multiple day reporting centers and in-custody adult and youth programs.

During my time with GEO, I have had the amazing opportunity to work as a trainer and facilitator at many facilities, and I have visited and delivered Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) training and support directly to team members who have worked at the Taylor Street facility, and I also facilitated groups for the participants housed there. I have had the pleasure of interacting with some of the most amazing individuals who finally feel the hope of being able to change their lives, because of the team of invested and engaged reentry staff surrounding them.

The work being done at the Taylor Street program is in-depth and purposeful. The staff are trained at the highest level to deliver program interventions targeting the greatest risk

factors that will lead the participants back into the system. Participants learn new life skills and social skills, are involved in family reparations and restorative justice practices, as well as cognitive restructuring assignments and activities. Additionally, they are assisted with not only obtaining employment but maintaining employment, and are taught how to manage the money received from their employment. They are taught how to stop and think before making decisions, and they learn alternative thinking to former anti-social thoughts and beliefs. Removing this program, and the investment that is made in these individuals, removes opportunities that will inevitably limit their chances at learning how to navigate life pro-socially when released. In addition to the above, they also engage in pro-social, community activities.

Many of the individuals that have been housed at the facility volunteer or work in programs throughout the City and have become part of the fabric of what makes up the great City of San Francisco and the sanctuary city that it is. These individuals have been giving back for many years now, and have even been highlighted in news articles for their work.

Participants of the reentry program volunteered with the City Clean Team, assisting with keeping the streets clean and doing landscaping and gardening. They also partnered with St. Anthony's to help with food and clothing for the needs of others in the community, as well as delivering sack lunches to those who are food insecure. They also assisted with the Pit Stop program that provided restrooms throughout the City. Being a part of their community, and helping to make it better, is a foundational program element for those housed at the program, but it doesn't stop there. The reentry services delivered at the Taylor Street program are part and parcel to the greater work being done by GEO.

It is of the utmost importance that we are delivering operational excellence at all levels within GEO. We have a rigorous Quality Assurance Through Coaching (QATC) program in place to ensure that fidelity of services is maintained at all times. We require that staff receive annual and ongoing refresher training to stay on track and not drift from the model of service delivery we promise to our public sector partners. We are always reviewing the latest research on "What Works" in lowering recidivism and making sure to assess our services to be up-to-date and relevant with the latest in Evidence-Based Practices (EBP). "Good Enough Isn't" is a principle of GEO, and our teams exemplify this principle by putting their heart into all they do. This job is not just a job to them, it's a career, and serving the participants in our programs with dignity, respect, and the care they deserve, to give them a second chance at life, is our greatest passion. In working with so many teams throughout California, I have had the pleasure of seeing that passion in action, and the CBT programming with social skill development that is going on in all of these programs, is changing lives across the board. It's a culture for us, and shutting down that long-embedded culture at the Taylor Street program would cause great harm to the participants we are trying to help and the lives we are trying to save. We are in the Harm Reduction business, and this would do irreversible harm.

Taylor Street is a wonderful facility. I have worked with the director there for many years, and she has always given her all to running a safe, secure, and supportive facility and

program, and you couldn't find a better person to ensure that safety is maintained while lives are being changed. This program is needed so these individuals working to change their life have a place to slowly integrate back into the community, otherwise, they will just be released into the community without the support and safety parameters that the Taylor Street program provides.

In closing, I ask that you please take to heart the wonderful work that is being done at this program, and recognize that the individuals served there are just as vulnerable, overlooked, and often targeted by society as those trying to shut this down. They and we are all in this together – caring about each other and looking out for each other. Some of the individuals we serve in our GEO reentry programs, including the Taylor Street program are from the LGBTQ+ community and this action would remove the much-needed post-release housing and services they need as well. I hope that the decision will be to keep the doors open at the Taylor Street Facility and allow GEO to continue to operate and provide services to all those in need who come through our doors.

Thank you so much for your time.

Karen Graff  
Area Manager, Northern CA GEO Reentry Services  
kgraff@geogroup.com

May 28, 2025

Sent to [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA Appeal No.: 25-021 Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

Dear Members of the Board of Appeals:

I am writing in strong support of the Taylor Street Center in San Francisco, California. As a Senior Area Manager for the Western Region at Geo Reentry, I have had the privilege of working closely with the exceptionally talented and dedicated staff at this vital facility.

Organizations that provide comprehensive support services to individuals impacted by the justice system are absolutely essential for successful community reintegration. As a California native with over 25 years of experience in correctional services and reentry programs, I have observed numerous approaches to addressing these complex challenges. I can state with confidence that the Taylor Street Center represents the gold standard in quality service delivery.

The services provided by the Taylor Street Center serve multiple critical functions:

- They strengthen family units by helping returning citizens rebuild relationships and establish stability
- They create safer communities by assisting individuals with social responsibility that reduces recidivism
- They provide essential wraparound services, including housing assistance, employment preparation, community linkage to mental health support, and substance abuse treatment
- They offer a structured, supportive environment during the critical transition period from incarceration to community life

My professional experience has shown me that without these types of comprehensive interventions, we risk displacing a vulnerable population without adequate support systems. This displacement often leads to increased homelessness, higher recidivism rates, and ultimately less safe communities for all San Francisco residents.

The Taylor Street Center fills a crucial gap in our continuum of care and represents a proven investment in public safety and community wellness. I respectfully urge the Board to consider the significant positive impact this facility has on both the individuals it serves and the broader San Francisco community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

*Steven Farugie*

Steven Farugie  
Senior Area Manager, Western Region  
Geo Reentry

5/28/2025

Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

My name is Brian Shepperd, and I was incarcerated for nearly 30 years. I was a life-term prisoner who entered the CDCR at 16 years old and exited just shy of my 46th birthday. To say that my decision making skills were questionable would be a severe understatement. However, choosing to straighten out my life, to repurpose my core values to reflect my positive intentions, and choosing to transfer what was previously an anti-social skill set into a much more beneficial pro-social tool kit are among some of the best choices that I have made thus far. Chief among those better choices, was making GEO at 111 Taylor my re-entry place for a successful transition out of prison.

When I paroled in September 2020, I genuinely had no idea what to expect. Aside from being elated for my first-time freedom, I was more overwhelmed by sensory overload. Thankfully, I had the wonderful care of case managers at GEO to help me navigate the obstacles that I faced, for example, opening a bank account, learning how to budget and spend wisely, and building a resume from what essentially was a blank slate. Being originally from Inglewood, California, a Los Angeles county suburb, it shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone that I felt out of place in a fast-paced city like San Francisco, with tech knowledge that was 30 years behind. Again, it was the support and encouragement of amazing people like Chenoah N., Tonia A., and Pam O., who consistently helped me feel relevant, who never lost their patience with me when I couldn't remember how to turn on my new smart phone, and who went above and beyond to prepare me for career employment, not only job readiness.

The re-entry program at 111 Taylor is very much needed for people like me. With so few organizations that actually provide comprehensive support services for returning citizens, I believe that it would be a detriment to our ever-transitioning city to take away the very best that we have in the Bay Area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Peacefully,

Brian Shepperd

*Brian Shepperd*

May 28, 2025

Sent to: [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

[49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475](#)

[San Francisco, CA 94103](#)

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

Dear Members of the Board of Appeals,

I am writing to express my support for the continued operation of the Taylor Street Center and the valuable reentry work GEO does throughout California. As someone who has personally benefited from transitional housing and reentry services after a long period of incarceration, I can speak directly to how critical programs like those at Taylor Street Center are for people reentering society.

When I was released, the structured environment provided by transitional housing helped me stabilize my life and gave me a foundation to rebuild. Through GEO's reentry programming, I gained access to case management, job readiness support, and life skills training. These resources helped me reconnect with a sense of purpose and gave me the tools I needed to succeed in society. The structured routine, community support, and staff guidance made the difference between surviving and truly thriving post-incarceration.

One of the key turning points in my reentry journey was securing employment. I began working for Transdev as a paratransit driver, a role that allowed me to serve members of the community with mobility challenges. Over time, I was promoted to a Safety Supervisor position. That role deepened

my understanding of responsibility, leadership, and care for others—values I developed and strengthened through my reentry experience.

I also had the opportunity to work with Bonafide, an organization that supports individuals returning from incarceration. I started as an Office Assistant and later advanced to the role of Critical Adventure Leader. In this position, I helped others in their own reentry journeys by leading therapeutic outdoor experiences designed to build confidence, trust, and community. These roles have not only been fulfilling professionally, but also deeply personal and meaningful. They allow me to give back to the very system that helped me turn my life around.

The work done at Taylor Street Center is not just beneficial for its participants—it benefits the entire community. By helping individuals reintegrate with dignity and structure, it reduces recidivism, strengthens public safety, and builds a more compassionate and inclusive society.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my perspective. I strongly urge you to support the continued presence and work of the Taylor Street Center.

Sincerely,

  
Katherine Belflower

Critical Adventure Leader

[k.a.belflower@gmail.com](mailto:k.a.belflower@gmail.com)

(806) 683-4313



May 29, 2025

[Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I understand recent events are taking place concerning the Taylor Street Center and the activism that is being displayed by the LGBTQ+ community. Although the LGBTQ+ activists believe that GEO's use of the building to be unsuitable, as an employee of GEO and an LGBTQ+ member myself, I disagree. I believe the work that GEO is doing with an underserved rehabilitation and reentry population is beneficial to the community.

I have been working with GEO for three years. In April of 2022, I was hired on at GEO's Monterey County Day Reporting Center as a Behavior Change Manager, using Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) to help facilitate Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) with participants who are on probation or parole supervision. I was able to promote to a Supervising Case Manager in April of 2023, and I have recently accepted a position as the Program Manager for the Secure Youth Track Facility at the Monterey County Juvenile Hall, where GEO will begin programming with the youth.

GEO's values are what have led to my commitment to growth in the company. At GEO, we believe that is our responsibility to support the work of our public sector partners and enhance the lives of our program participants. Through my work with GEO, I have had a hand in helping the individuals in my community who are often overlooked and underserved. The work I've done has not only been fulfilling career-wise, but also personal, as it has given me a sense of purpose.

I've had many participants give their thanks to GEO, and the work we do, stating that without the program's assistance, they wouldn't be as successful as they are - able to complete their supervision, rebuild bonds with family, and gain the skills necessary to stay on track and overcome their barriers.

Not only does the work that we at GEO do affect the people it serves, but also the community. By EBP and CBT programming, we are able to have a hand in recidivism reduction. Our participants are our neighbors, co-workers, family members, or employees. Displacing the Taylor Street Center would have a negative impact on the community.

Sincerely,  
Kristin Carrasco  
Program Manager

5/29/25

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

The Warfield has been across the street from Taylor Street Center for many years. We have had a good relationship supporting the neighborhood and Taylor Street Center. They provide support to local businesses to keep our revenues up. They always clean up the streets and keep the area beautiful at all times for people that visit this neighborhood in the city. The services they provide help support incarcerated individuals get home.



Sam Patel  
Warfield Hotel  
118 Taylor Street San Francisco, CA. 94102

Oakland Location	600 Grand Ave, Ste 306, Oakland, CA 94610	Phone (510) 287-8491 Fax 888.777.4317
San Francisco Location	1447 Powell Street, San Francisco, CA 94133	Phone (415) 814-2774 Fax 888.777.4317
San Diego Location	995 Gateway Center Way #302 San Diego, CA 92102	Phone (619) 230-5799 Fax 888.777.4317
Riverside Location	4035 Market Street, Riverside, CA 92501	Phone (951) 530-8671 Fax 888.777.4317
Florence, SC Location	205 N. Irby Street, Florence, SC 29501	Phone (843) 799-5044 Fax 888.777.4317
Greenville, SC Location	157 Commons Way, Greenville, SC 29611	Phone (864) 520-1547 Fax 888.777.4317
Broward Location	2300 E Oakland Park Blvd Ste 201, Fort Laud, FL 33301	Phone (954) 564-9390 Fax 888.777.4317
Palm Beach Location	3951 N. Haverhill Rd. Ste 218, West Palm Beach, FL 33413	Phone (561) 471-3285 Fax 888.777.4317
Hillsborough Location	6105C Memorial Hwy, Tampa, FL 33615	Phone (813) 882-0200 Fax 888.777.4317
Fort Myers Location	3049 Cleveland Ave., Ste 130, Fort Myers, FL 33901	Phone (813) 882-0200 Fax 888.777.4317

05/29/2025

To whom it may concern,

It has been our pleasure to work with GEO Group, Inc and its Residential Re-entry Program for over 12 years. Dolan Mental Health offers Mental Health Counseling, Substance Use Counseling, Psychiatric Services, and MAT Services to those who are re-entering the community. GEO Group, Inc. is an anchor in the community having operated their program for many decades. As a fellow community based organization in San Francisco, we see the benefit of the work that goes into assisting people to successfully re-enter their communities.

It is important to understand the beauty of successful residential re-entry programs, like GEO Group, Inc. is that participants receive a host of support services to ensure the success of the participant - to include, but not limited to, counseling, re-entry planning, financial literacy, family reunification/parenting classes, etc. Furthermore, GEO Group, Inc.'s programs emphasize accountability and promote opportunity to work to earn income, re-unify with family members, learn pro-social ways of communicating with others within the community, etc.

GEO Group, Inc. is an expert at identifying the needs of the participants and working with area agencies /organizations with the exact kind of programming to meet their array of needs. We applaud GEO Group, Inc. for its collaborative approach and commitment to continuing to work with the community to help ensure the success of persons re-unifying with family and re-entering the community.

We fully support GEO Group, Inc. and it's residential reentry program for it's demonstrated ability to change lives and help the community. We congratulate it's success and look forward to our continuing relationship.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Dolan  
Licensed Psychotherapist

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

---

**From:** Lucena Esperanza <lucena.esperanza@geogroup.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 2:05 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Cc:** Maria Richard  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street  
**Attachments:** Letter to board of appeals.pdf

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasvina and Members of the San Francisco Board of Appeals,

I hope this message finds you well.

Please find attached my letter of support regarding the Taylor Street Center, located at 111 Taylor Street, and its ongoing contributions to rehabilitation and reentry efforts in our community. As a Home Confinement Specialist and Acting Case Manager with Geo, I have seen firsthand the positive impact of the services we provide to justice-involved individuals.

I respectfully urge the Board to consider the importance of continuing these life-changing services to the City of San Francisco.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

*Lucena Esperanza*  
*BOP Home Confinement Specialist*

**Geo Reentry Services**  
*Taylor Street Center*  
*111 Taylor ST, San Francisco 94102*  
*Tel: 415.346.9769*

May 29, 2025

Sent to: boardofappeals@sfgov.org

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I am writing to express my support for the continued operation of the Taylor Street Center, operated by GEO, and to share my perspective on its value to our community here in San Francisco.

As a current Home Confinement Specialist and Case Manager working in corrections and rehabilitation, I've witnessed the critical role that transitional reentry programs play in helping justice-involved individuals get back on their feet. At GEO's Taylor Street Center, our team provides essential services such as job readiness support, mental health stability, housing assistance, and overall life restructuring.

The number of participants alone reflects just how essential these services are. We've helped tens of thousands of individuals over the years successfully transition out of our facility—people who otherwise may have lacked the resources and guidance to find stability, employment, or even a safe place to live. Without programs like those offered at Taylor Street Center, many of these individuals could fall through the cracks, potentially returning to cycles of incarceration, homelessness, or mental health crises.

This work is not only professionally fulfilling for me but also personally important. I believe deeply in second chances and community-based solutions to reintegration. The Taylor Street Center represents one of the few places where structure, accountability, and compassionate care come together to provide real change.

I respectfully urge the Board to recognize the positive outcomes and long-term community benefits created by GEO's work at 111 Taylor Street and to support its continued operation.



Sincerely,  
Lucena Baoanan Esperanza  
Home Confinement Specialist / Acting Case Manager  
GEO Reentry Services – Taylor Street Center  
415-346-9769

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Alicia Bulin <aliciabulin@dolanmh.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 3:20 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Cc:** mnrichard@geogroup.com  
**Subject:** Letter of Support-Taylor Street Center  
**Attachments:** TSC support letter 05-29-25.pdf

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello – Please see attached letter of support for Taylor Street Center @ 111 Taylor St in San Francisco.

Thank you,

Alicia M Bulin MSN, PMHNP  
Dolan Mental Health  
Mobile: (562)489-9470  
Fax: (888)626-7389  
Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/my/dmhaliciab>

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May 29, 2025

Sent to [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I am writing to express my unequivocal support for the Taylor Street Center (TSC), a critical reentry facility that has long stood as a beacon of stability, rehabilitation, and opportunity for individuals transitioning from incarceration back into the community.

As a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner with nearly a decade of experience working with Dolan Mental Health, I have partnered closely with TSC in my role as a contracted provider through the Federal Bureau of Prisons and, previously, the U.S. Probation Department. Our work includes delivering mental health care, substance use counseling, and medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to residents of TSC. Through this partnership, I have gained a deep appreciation for the structured and compassionate environment the Center provides.


Taylor Street Center serves an especially vulnerable and diverse population—individuals returning from federal and state incarceration, many of whom face significant barriers to reentry. The most marginalized subpopulations include older adults, military veterans, people from the LGBTQ+ community, individuals with sex offense convictions, and those without stable housing or family support. Many come from jurisdictions lacking dedicated reentry facilities, and TSC offers them an equal and much-needed opportunity to stabilize, access services, and build a foundation for successful reintegration.

The work TSC does is essential. It provides far more than just housing—it delivers a full continuum of care and transitional programming that equips residents with the tools and support they need to reclaim their lives with dignity and purpose. The importance of this structured setting cannot be overstated. Clients we have treated through TSC consistently demonstrate improved behavioral health outcomes, increased engagement in treatment, and greater readiness for independent living.

I have the utmost confidence in the quality of services GEO delivers at Taylor Street. Their professional staff is responsive, well-trained, and dedicated to the rehabilitation and empowerment of every resident. Their programming meets a critical public need while promoting safety, equity, and recovery.

The loss of this facility would create a profound gap in the reentry infrastructure, not just in San Francisco, but in the broader region it serves. I urge the Board to safeguard the future of the Taylor Street Center by formally recognizing its indispensable role in public safety, rehabilitation, and community reintegration—its closure would not only disrupt essential services but also abandon the very individuals our justice and healthcare systems are meant to support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alicia Bulin NP". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the letters "NP" written in a slightly larger, more distinct font at the end.

Alicia Bulin MSN, PMHNP

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

[aliciabulin@dolanmh.com](mailto:aliciabulin@dolanmh.com)

(562)489-9470



Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org

May 29, 2025

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I serve as the Social Services Coordinator for GEO Group at Taylor Street Residential Reentry Center (RRC). Last week I celebrated three years of employment at the RRC and have directly supported over 400 people to transition successfully from prison to society.

Taylor Street RRC is an effective program that utilizes evidence-based practices and programs to support inmates and other justice-involved citizens. I enjoy using my talents and skills to work with a team of people to provide safety, care, and support to Residents as they find employment, gain access to housing, and face other challenges.

In my role as Social Services Coordinator (SSC), I meet with every Bureau of Prison program participant who comes to the RRC. Also, I network with community partners to address the mental health and medical care needs of our Residents.

As SSC, I work with transgender persons in the BOP system at Taylor Street RRC to build a team of support around them. I meet with transgender persons regularly, ensure they are treated well (e.g., direct Staff to use appropriate pronouns), and connect them to the LGBT Center and other community resources in San Francisco.

It is a pleasure to work at Taylor Street Residential Reentry Center. We provide a valuable service to justice-involved citizens as we prepare them to reunite with their families and loved ones. Taylor Street RRC contributes a lot to the community. For example, Residents perform valuable community service and address employment needs in San Francisco.

Thank you for your time, effort, and consideration.

Regards,

Demetrius Semien, M.Div., Ph.D.  
Social Services Coordinator  
[Demetrius.semien@geogroup.com](mailto:Demetrius.semien@geogroup.com)  
415-346-9769, ext. 77422

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** George Turner <phattchancecommunity@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 4:44 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Taylor Street Center Support Letter  
**Attachments:** TSC support letter\_2025.pdf

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Board of Appeals representatives.

I am writing this letter in support of the Taylor Street Center.

Thank you,

George

George Ray Turner, MA  
Executive Director  
Phatt Chance Community Services, Inc.  
<http://phattchance.org>

**Mailing Address:**  
2443 Fillmore Street #216  
San Francisco, CA 94115



Phatt Chance Community Services, Inc.  
2443 Fillmore Street #216  
San Francisco, CA 94115

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

My name is George Turner, and I am writing this letter in support of the post-release housing opportunities available at the Taylor Street Center San Francisco. Phatt Chance Community Services, Inc., (PCCS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing clean and sober housing and reintegration services to individuals in the Bay Area. Our clients include formerly incarcerated men, veterans, and those with mental health diagnoses without alternative housing or support.

I have been working with Taylor Street Center (TSC) residents and staff since 2009, when we first opened the doors of PCCS. Since then, we have received many letters and phone calls from incarcerated clients who are seeking housing transitional housing post-release but who are not able to afford our self-payer housing model. For residents who are still struggling to establish basic stability, sudden financial responsibilities can be significant stressor impeding their reentry process. Therefore, a more structured and fully funded program is better suited for their immediate needs post-release. Fortunately, the Taylor Street Center is just that. TSC provides a safety net by combining transitional housing option and reentry services for formerly incarcerated individuals who would otherwise not be able to be released or would end up homeless due to lack of resources.

TSC has been a valued partner in our work where we can refer clients in desperate need of assistance that cannot be provided by our program. Therefore, TSC provides a valuable community service and contributes greatly to the public safety in our city.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about this letter of support.

George Ray Turner, MA  
Executive Director  
Email: [phattchancecommunity@gmail.com](mailto:phattchancecommunity@gmail.com)

May 29, 2025

[Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

My name is Joseph Monge, and I am a proud alumnus here at the Napa County GEO reentry program. I have been involved in GEO since April of 2023. I completed GEO, I should I say, I earned my certificate of successful completion in May of 2024. I'd rather use the term "earned my certificate" because GEO, the exercises, and the work that is done through this program does not stop once you earn your certificate, at least not for me. I have learned everything through the counselors and the whole Napa team, to be more specific, through the groups that were provided – parenting, cognitive behavioral interventions for substance use adult (CBI-SUA), life skills, and anger management. There are more groups, but these were the groups I was involved in, because these are the areas where I struggle.

Due to my drug and alcohol use, I was a very lost and angry person, but I got the help I needed through anger management and CBI-SUA. There was a time period in my life where I was not present for my kids, so the parenting class offered at GEO helped a lot with that. I'm there for my kids today. I got so much out of the class, I voluntarily took it again and earned another certificate. If I had a choice, because of the life style that I used to live, I would periodically do this program for a refreshing reminder of success in my life. Every single exercise and group, and the help with changing my thought process, has been so helpful in my life, and I continue to use these skills in my day-to-day life - one day at a time.

GEO continues to impact my life in such a positive way. I continue to show up and the Napa team makes the days easier when I am struggling or need some more help. The door is always open and the team is there to help. I am involved in GEO to this day. I help mentor the sobriety night we hold every first Monday of the month, where myself and participants in the program have a safe place to play games, do art, eat snacks and talk about resolutions for struggling in our lives.

Thank you.

Joseph Monge

Program Graduate and Current Alumni Mentor

Napa Community Corrections Service Center

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Jason Carpenter <rjpen70@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 6:30 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Cc:** mnrichard@geogroup.com  
**Subject:** TSC Support letter

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

## 5.29.2025

John Trasvina, President  
J.R Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South VanNess Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

RE: Laborda VS ZA  
Appeal NO, : 25-021  
Subject property: 111 Taylor ST

To The Board Of Appeals:

During my employment at the Taylor Street Center (TSC) from 2009 to early 2022 I held two position. My first assignment was Security Manager for the Bureau of Prisons re-entry program and The Parolee Service Center, offering rehabilitation services to ex-offenders on General parole. I had a ten year background in corrections in a previous state and immediately realized the impact and importance of re-entry programs upon offenders being released from custody. In many cases these offenders have no social skills, no family or outside support for basic needs required to become successful and contribute to their community. Re-entry programs, specifically the TSC provide those skills in many different ways to include reuniting with immediate family, employment services and essential programs to address criminal thinking and behaviors. The TSC is a unique re-entry program due to its focus not only reintegration of the offender into society, but its several programs using evidence based practices or EBP. EBP focuses on an offenders direct criminal needs that cause an ex-offender to re-offend. The programs and operations of the TSC are important because they give the returning individual the best possible chance for a positive re-entry to society. While assigned Program Manager for the Parolee Service Center (PSC) I dealt primarily with Long Term Offenders who had been confined for decades in state prison. Although the PSC re-entry program didn't focus strictly on criminal needs it was geared toward other specific needs of that population ie.. basic employment, reunifications with family and other social needs required for an individual returning to society from long periods of incarceration. During my employment at the TSC I saw first hand how the unique programs at the TSC helped the ex-offender adjust and reintegrate to society. I witnessed on numerous occasions how successful programs

like the TSC helped the previously incarcerated have a positive return to society. Just as importantly evidence shows programs like the TSC can reduce recidivism in our criminal justice systems.

Jason Carpenter

Sent from my iPad

5/30/2025

To The Board of Appeals:


Geo Group Inc, Taylor Street Center (TSC) is federal and state contracted re-entry center providing re-entry and transitional services to federal (pretrial, prerelease, public law) as well as state offenders and lifers.

I have been with Geo Group since October 2017. As an immigrant now and (now a US citizen), working at Geo TSC has really broadened my professional skill set and help develop my people and managerial capacity, more so with the diverse background of staff and residents alike.

During my time here, my work has been very rewarding seeing several residents change and maintain prosocial cognitions, attitudes, and beliefs, go to and graduate from high school, college, attend and graduate from Commercial Driver's License, work-ready and related trade related schools, save money, maintain sobriety, have better accountability, reconnect, and rebuild family relationships, secure housing, and successfully transition back into society. Additionally, my working at Geo has been fulfilling because I have been able grow from Monitor to Case Manager, to Supervisory Case Manager and briefly took on Acting Assistant Facility Director and then back to my Supervisory role which shows that staff are given the room to grow professionally and as a person. Resident learn and participate in several inhouse and community support programs that helps their treatments, educational, employment, housing, and overall transition plans.

I would advocate that Geo Group TSC should remain open to keep providing all these services to justice involved citizens and more so support the Bureau of Prisons California Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, to drastically reduce and or eliminate recidivism as well as promote safer community.

Sincerely,



Kelvin Amorighoye  
Supervisory Case Manager, (BOP)  
kamorighoye@geogroup.com

[05/30/25]

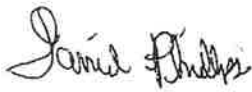
Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To the Board of Appeals:

As an employee of the GEO Group for the past 11 years, I have worked in facilities all over the United States and now at the 111 Taylor Street Center. In 2022, I stepped away from the company for personal reasons, but I found the need/desire to return and once again be part of a great company like the Geo Group. I have seen firsthand the positive impact that the Geo Group has on the communities they serve. The Geo Group offers re-entry services to individuals that are coming back into society and need guidance to become successful in their re-entry efforts. These services include Job Development, Case Management, re-entry education, and access to the vast number of resources located in the community. I have had the privilege of working with all members of society during my employment with the Geo Group, and each group is always afforded the same rights/privileges and amount of respect as everyone else. In all of my previous positions as well as my current role, I witness the benefits of what Geo Group offers society. For example, I see individuals that walk through TSC doors for initial intake and have little to no means of support with no job or idea of how society works. That type of atmosphere makes them frustrated. Then as they enter the program, they become more and more patient and begin to learn the social skills that are necessary to thrive in society. After participating in the TSC program the individuals obtain employment and secure their own apartments and through that, a sense of dignity is restored in them and once again become productive members of society. That is the sole reason why individuals such as me pursue careers in Social Sciences-the ability to help others and help society in general. This type of environment at TSC is conducive to what is needed to assist our individuals returning to society.



Sincerely,

Daniel Phillips  
CDCR Program Manager  
The GEO Group, Inc.®  
111 Taylor Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Phone: (415)-346-9769 ext 77430



5/30/25

Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

Taylor Street Center has been in operation for 37 years providing essential services to individuals on pre-release and probation. The center has operated under the direct supervision of director Maria Richards, who has over 25 years of knowledge and experience in re-entry. The facility is very well managed and maintains a high level of sanitation. The facility offers supportive services like case management support, family reunification and employment assistance services.

Without these types of services, this population could end up homeless and at higher risk for recidivism. Taylor Street provides a structured program and provides necessary services to reduce the risk for these individuals to re-offend.

I have worked for GEO in the re-entry division for 20 years and received some of my initial management training at the Taylor Street Center. I was able to witness the dedication of staff and their pride in the work they do. I also witnessed many positive interactions with staff and the individuals that are serviced at the center.

Thank you,



Alex Bonilla, Facility Director  
Geo Group, El Monte Center  
11750 Ramona Blvd  
El Monte, CA. 91732  
(626) 454-4593

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** E Dyer <edyerart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 2:28 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** GEO Group - 111 Turk hearing - Public Comment

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is E Dyer, and I'm a resident of San Francisco. I'm writing to express my strong support for ending the State of California's contract with the GEO Group at 111 Taylor Street and transitioning the site into community stewardship rooted in housing, healing, and cultural memory.

This site sits at the historic intersection of Turk and Taylor, where the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot — one of the first documented uprisings of trans and queer people against police violence in the U.S. — took place. It is unacceptable that this space, so deeply significant to San Francisco's trans history, is currently operated by a private prison corporation with a documented history of profiting from the incarceration and surveillance of Black, Brown, trans, and queer people.

We are at a critical moment. The current contract with GEO is set to expire on June 30, 2025. I urge the Board to support community demands to end the contract, protect the site, and ensure this space is reclaimed by and for the trans community — not used for carceral purposes.

This is an opportunity to make history by honoring the legacy of Compton's and investing in a future rooted in dignity, justice, and community care.

Thank you for your time,  
E Dyer

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Maria <maria.ascendandachieve@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 4:08 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Laborda vs. ZA | Appeal No.: 25-021 | Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street  
**Attachments:** TSC Advocacy\_2025.pdf

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear The Board of Appeals:

Please review the attached letter advocating to keep the 111 Taylor (TSC) Open. Please consider the TSC is part of my ecosystem and my funding as a new Community Based Organization to service this special population would be limited without it.

Feel free to reach out to me at any time.

With gratitude,

Maria Vazquez  
Founder, Executive Director

**Ascend & Achieve**

**415-310-8667**

Website: Coming Soon



 Please consider the environment before printing this email

**From:** Maria Richard  
**To:** Steven Farugie; Mollyrose Graves; Emanuel Barr  
**Subject:** Letter of support- former resident  
**Date:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 10:00:11 PM

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To whom it may concern:

(TO STAFF AT  
111 TAYLOR)

This is a former resident of 111 Taylor who completed the program that allowed me to grow and prosper with the guidance of staff that "put in the work" to help us whom came out of the dark into the light...

I was given an opportunity to prove my worthiness by doing the right thing even when not being observed, i'm talking about "Integrity", making living amends and giving back to the community, by "planting trees" cleaning up in and out of "GEO".

The purpose of writing this letter is to support the "management and staff" that on a daily basis strive to help the women, men who are being integrated back into society.

As a law abiding, tax payer, register

voter i fully support that the "GEO " stay open to continue to help those who rehabilitated themselves back into society, this is an excellent "Stepping Stone" for those who are coming home to the community.

So i encourage those with deep compassion, empathy to NOT change what those who desperately need this safe haven for employment, education along with their continuance of rehabilitation.

Respectfully

Submitted,

A Former tenant:

Eddie Ballesteros

SO/MA WEST

AMBASSADOR

6/1/2025

[Senttoboardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:Senttoboardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

It is with great confidence and respect that I write this letter of recommendation for Taylor Street Center, operated by Geo Reentry Services. Our organization, Turk Street Garage has had the pleasure of partnering with and supporting the efforts of Taylor Street Center over the past 3 years, and we have consistently been impressed with their professionalism, dedication, and measurable impact on the reentry population.

Taylor Street Center plays a vital role in the successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated individuals by providing a structured, supportive environment rooted in evidence-based practices. Their programming emphasizes accountability, personal development, employment readiness, and community reintegration—key pillars that align with best practices in reducing recidivism and promoting long-term success.

Our interactions with both the staff and participants of Taylor Street Center have always been positive and productive. The team is highly trained, compassionate, and deeply committed to creating opportunities for growth and change. We have seen firsthand how residents gain valuable life skills, rebuild family relationships, and reenter the workforce with renewed confidence and capability.

We highly recommend Taylor Street Center as a model of excellence in residential reentry services. Their continued success is a testament to the strength of their programming, their dedicated leadership, and their ability to adapt and respond to the complex needs of the populations they serve.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further insight into our experience working with Taylor Street Center.

**Hector Castro**  
**Manager Attended**





June 1, 2025

[boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

**Re: Laborda vs. ZA**  
**Appeal No.: 25-021**  
**Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street**

To The Board of Appeals:

I've personally been working part of the 111 Taylor Street Center, (TSC) ecosystem with Maria Richard and her team when COVID-19 commenced and the Founder, Mr. Terry Anders, from Anders and Anders Foundation where I started has been working with Maria Richard and the TSC team for over 25 years.

The TSC is only Northern California Center where they house approximately 200 individuals ready to re-enter back into the community. There isn't any other center in California with such capacity and with an extensive ecosystem comprised of several community based organizations to support our special population and depend on the TSC's population who are served and separately funded for reentry. Without the TSC's services along with the local Community Based Organizations, (CBO's), would *increase recidivism* as it takes a team of organizations to support an individual's needs.

I'm personally focused on reducing recidivism and following our candidates from the TSC out of the justice system. When under the Anders and Anders Foundation, (A&AF) umbrella, I started working with several key individuals within the TSC ranging from Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, (CDCR) where we also have an extensive network and Maria Richard, the Facility Director, who has responded to requests well after hours, nights, weekends and holidays. The level of communications has always been above par from everyone, specially when addressing an individual's specific needs.

Under A&AF, as an Associate Executive Director, we provided barrier removal services leading to enrollment under the Office of Economic Workforce Development for various training programs to include: Construction leading to various union positions, Healthcare, Transportation, Technology, Hospitality, Security and enrolling individuals in the City's Dream Keeper Program. In addition, we worked in liaison with Mission Hiring Hall for transitional and permanent employment. With Ascend & Achieve, a new organization, we do all of the above and in addition, we are part of the City and Country of San Francisco Public Defenders ecosystem working with jails number 2 and number 3 and supporting



individuals upon their release. We also advocate for individuals who want to pursue a college education to apply at City College, SF State University, University of San Francisco and other specialty colleges or trade schools to meet their specific needs. At Ascend and Achieve, we activate empowerment with knowledge in order for our candidates to be successful citizens who are gainfully employed and paying taxes in San Francisco the remaining of their lives. A move towards change after several years of operations and closing would negate Major Lurie's goal of growing existing businesses and having them flourish in this city and would void those consistent revenues for years to our beautiful city.

I'm advocating for future residents to have an incredible opportunity where the TSC serves as a model for other locations through out the country. The success rate I have personally experienced with candidates is above 95% as there isn't such an extensive eco-system for getting out and staying out here in California and can say, I've not found another TSC in the USA with what is offered in San Francisco.

Changing the status quo for TSC would mean 200+ individuals (perhaps more annually) ready for release would mean higher costly incarceration rates at a Federal, State and Local level, increase recidivism, limiting the resources highly needed for this special population and most of all, having the human treatment our city offers like no other in California. I can attest to the fact, San Francisco offers a variety of educational programs in various industries, outstanding physical and mental health support, Drug & Alcohol support, essential barrier removals and many other areas highly needed by our clients. The ecosystem infrastructure would be rather *difficult to replicate* anywhere else with the necessary resources to treat a human as a human. It would also disrupt the upcoming funding for my newly developed organization as well as the funding for other local CBO's who service this special population.

Please do not give up on giving this special population who are indigent and underserved an opportunity of a lifetime offered here at TSC-San Francisco to change and improve their lives. Feel free to reach out to me at any time to further detailed discussions the value of TSC in our community, a gateway opening doors for individuals as well as the local CBO's.

With gratitude,

*Maria Vazquez*

Maria Vazquez

Founder, Executive Director

415-310-8667

# RECOVERY SURVIVAL NETWORK

*Helping those who want to help themselves*



Date- 6-2-2025

Re: Laborda vs Za

Appeal No. 25-021

111Taylor

To The Board of Appeals,

My name is Deborah Caruso and I presently manage a GEO program here in San Francisco for ex-offenders that provide only 18 beds. I am writing to express my strong concerns for the continued operations of 111 Taylor. You need to understand that 111 Taylor serves life changing opportunities for ex-offender that by the way have committed years of rehabilitation in prison to demonstrate their release. These individuals strive to rebuild their lives, contribute positively to their communities, and break the cycle of recidivism. Without a program like 111 Taylor to start their new life's, they'll be lost trying to navigate all the barriers that have been placed in front of them. There all coming home to a different world. With the support of the staff at 111 Taylor to help them through this very difficult and scary for them, their chances of success increases and it's a win –win for all. I've seen firsthand the effectiveness having programs like 111 Taylor has for ex-offenders. Some of the benefits of these programs are, create safer communities, reduces repeat offenders, generates economic benefits by helping individuals secure stable employment. Like I shared in the beginning of my statement, I've worked with 111 Taylor since 1988. I've seen many programs come and go. They stayed and have worked hard daily to contribute to San Francisco. They stayed with their mission statement, and they continue to provide services.

Closing this program would have devastating consequences, not only for the individuals it serves, but for our city.

.please contact me at [rsn.dcaruso@gmail.com](mailto:rsn.dcaruso@gmail.com)

or call me at 415-840-6204

Thank You

Deborah Caruso

Program Manager

RSN/GEO/STOP



June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

[Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasvina, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I joined Taylor Street Center of GEO about 4 years ago. I came from a background where I feel that ex-convicts don't need to go back to society. I feel that nothing good can be achieved by helping and nurturing them.

My orientation and strong belief changed as soon as i got here. I have come to realize that everyone needs a second or even a third chance to rediscover and be a better citizen.

I have worked and see the joy it takes us to partner with our residents to be successful and safely return to their different destinations as reformed and repackaged individuals.

Taylor Street Center is a healing and sustainable ground for the residents. It gives me so much joy to be part of this great revolution. I am a better thinker, resourceful and more emphatic because of this noble center.

Thanks for giving us a chance to build a stronger and better society.

Yours faithfully.

Ekwenuya Stephen Uche

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**



**SILVIO LUGO**  
CHIEF U.S. PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICER

**CHRIS CARRUBBA-KATZ**  
CHIEF U.S. PROBATION OFFICER



---

June 3, 2025

[Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

The undersigned are Chiefs of the U.S. Pretrial Services Agency, the U.S. Probation Office, and the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Our judicial district covers 15 counties on the northwest coast of California. We have courthouses in Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose, and Eureka.

The U.S. Probation Office supervises approximately 1,700 persons on post-conviction supervision throughout these counties. The U.S. Pretrial Services Agency supervises approximately 500 people in these same counties.

Since the inception of the Taylor Street Center, our district has utilized their services for housing our clientele in a safe, structured, and supportive environment. Without the Taylor Street Center, thousands of our clientele would have been homeless and likely returned to criminal conduct and incarceration. This community resource is invaluable to those who need a second chance and support at their most vulnerable times.

Letter to San Francisco Board of Appeals  
Re: Laborda vs. ZA, Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

The Taylor Street Center also serves as a vital alternative to detention that permits the judges of our court to release high risk and high need individuals on pretrial supervision while pending trial. In the absence of the Taylor Street Center these individuals would be detained, resulting in increased expenditure of taxpayer resources and poorer outcomes for defendants and our community. Many defendants on pretrial release face significant challenges, including homelessness, addiction, and other acute risk factors. The Center helps our defendants secure employment, develop pro-social skills, and provides much needed community services. It also offers them the guidance and structure to remain in compliance with their conditions of supervision.

For many past graduates of our Conviction Alternatives Program drug court, the Taylor Street Center was the first step in a long journey to recovery, redemption, and a path away from prison. Being given an opportunity to reside at the Center while on bail means the defendant has one foot in jail and one foot in the community, with the Center being the only option to facilitate their release while pending trial. Our past graduates described their time at the Center as a time when they realized they hit rock bottom and were being given an opportunity to demonstrate they could succeed on bail. With the support of the Center's staff, our past graduates were able to take advantage of the resources available at the Center to begin their journey in recovery. With a period of compliance under their belt, they were able to leave the Center to enter a residential program or other supportive housing option. From there, they could demonstrate they were ready to commit to their recovery and in doing so, seek entry into our drug court program. After successful completion of the program, their cases were either dismissed or they received a non-custodial sentence. For those graduates who started at the Center, their journey to recovery and stability would not have been possible without the Center.

The Taylor Street Center has not only positively impacted countless lives, but it also fosters a sense of community in the Tenderloin, bringing together a myriad of community and law enforcement partners all working toward achieving safety and well-being in the community. The consequences of losing their permit to operate will be dire, not only for the community at large, but for countless defendants and offenders who utilize the Center often at the lowest point in their lives, when they need a social safety net. Jeopardizing the Center's ability to operate in the Tenderloin will result in the law enforcement community losing a vital partner in our effort to improve outcomes and reduce homelessness.

We jointly urge the Board of Appeals to permit the Taylor Street Center to continue to serve as a vital safe harbor within in the Tenderloin community and to consider the detrimental consequences of no longer having the housing and supportive services provided by the Center. We appreciate the opportunity to share with you how the Taylor Street Center adds critical value to our work in the court, our clientele, the community, and the safety of all San Franciscans. We hope you

Letter to San Francisco Board of Appeals  
Re: Laborda vs. ZA, Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

reconsider this proposal and find a way to keep Taylor Street Center in its current location. Without it, our criminal justice work will be devastated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Seeborg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Honorable Richard Seeborg  
Chief U.S. District Judge

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Silvio Lugo". The signature is cursive and compact, with a prominent loop at the beginning.

Silvio Lugo  
Chief U.S. Pretrial Services Officer  
[Silvio\\_Lugo@canpt.uscourts.gov](mailto:Silvio_Lugo@canpt.uscourts.gov)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Carrubba-Katz". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large initial "C".

Chris Carrubba-Katz  
Chief U.S. Probation Officer  
[Chris\\_Carrubba-Katz@canp.uscourts.gov](mailto:Chris_Carrubba-Katz@canp.uscourts.gov)

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

---

**From:** Romona Maturano <romonamaturano@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 2:15 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Please Prioritize GEO Hearing

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

Please, if you could prioritize the hearing over GEO Group's illegal use of 111 Taylor for June. It's very important!

Take care,  
Romona

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Wilder Zeiser <hellozeiser@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 2:36 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Urgent Concern: 111 Taylor Beds Being Assigned Despite LoD Suspension

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Alec,

I hope you're doing well. I'm following up with an urgent concern regarding the appeal of the January 28 Letter of Determination for 111 Taylor Street.

As I understand it, the Letter of Determination is currently suspended pending appeal. However, we've received reliable information that CDCR is continuing to assign people to beds at 111 Taylor for release this summer and fall. This suggests that, despite the suspension, GEO Group is proceeding as though nothing has changed.

Given the implications of the suspension and the appeal's core challenge to the legality of this intensified use, we're deeply concerned that these actions could render the hearing moot, or worse, lock in contractual and carceral commitments before the Board has a chance to weigh in.

This is one of the reasons we're urging the Board to consider holding the hearing in June, rather than July. A timely hearing could prevent avoidable harm and ensure the Board's authority in determining whether this use complies with zoning and procedural requirements.

Thank you again for your time and support in this process.

Warm regards,

Wilder Zeiser

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Jo Kreiter <jokreiter65@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 2:44 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** schedule for June

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, my name is Jo Kreiter, and I'm calling regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm calling to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the

Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

We would be extremely grateful.

Thank you for your time and for your service.  
Jo Kreiter

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Spencer Bundoc <spencerbundoc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 2:59 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Greetings,

My name is Spencer, and I'm emailing regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street in hopes that the Board will schedule our hearing for June.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

We would be extremely grateful.

Thank you for your time and your service.

Best,  
Spencer



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Donna Cruz <cruzdonna12@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 3:01 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street- Schedule Date

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, my name is Donna, and I'm emailing regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm calling to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

We would be extremely grateful.

Thank you for your time and for your service.  
[Your Name]

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Kasey Rios Asberry <kasberry@humanorigins.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 4:02 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Re: Appeal on 111 Taylor St

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasvina & Board,

It was heartening to witness the responsiveness of the Board of Appeals when on May 7 you all voted unanimously to suspend the Letter of Determination pending hearing the Appeal which was set for June 11 after the Appellant provided a complete brief and exhibits as required.

This gave our community firm hope that once the Board heard the concerns of the Appeal a just result - having 111 Taylor conserved as a major cultural site- could occur prior to the expiration-renewal of the CDCR contract on June 30.

Unfortunately with little notice the set hearing date was summarily rescheduled to no certain date in the future.

Meanwhile GeoGroup, who currently holds the lease under contention, have time to mount a more vigorous rebuttal and the benefit of seeing the substance of the Appeal without having to provide their response.

It causes concern that GeoGroup did not or could not provide materials to answer this appeal in a timely fashion and are stalling, especially when we note that their preferred new date would be July 16 or after.

And since GeoGroup continues to operate now as before though their Letter of Determination has been suspended, we can see a pattern of bad faith and profit over respect for our community and our law that is deeply disturbing.

Given the Board's stated awareness (May 7 hearing) of how city agencies and attorneys who are well-paid to do public work slow walk issues that the public is concerned enough about to spend our free time to seek recourse for, it would be a great pity for your thoughtful decision and words to be rendered empty if this matter is not heard before the expiration date of the GeoGroup contract on June 30.

As a matter of urgency we shouldn't allow a potentially flawed contract to renew without effective public scrutiny.

We know that past embarrassing patterns of corruption were enabled in just this manner in San Francisco.

I join our wide community to urge you to put your shoulders to backing up your words and move what needs to be moved to immediately re-schedule this hearing for June 18 or June 25, at the latest.

Lets get this GeoGroup contract into the sunshine!

Kasey Rios

>>>><><<<<

SF community planner & advocate

[kasberry@humanorigins.org](mailto:kasberry@humanorigins.org)

415-283-8570

>>>><><<<<

On May 23, 2025, at 3:02 PM, Kasey Rios Asberry <[kasberry@humanorigins.org](mailto:kasberry@humanorigins.org)> wrote:

Dear President Trasvina & Board,

My message to you today urges you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St, appeal to be heard on June 11, 2025.

Observing that 111 Taylor St falls both within the Turk & Taylor Landmark District and the broader Article 11 Conservation District.

The SF Planning Department determination fails in that there was no evaluation of whether the current use is compatible with the previously established preservation goals of those Districts. Under Articles 10 and 11, any uses that may undermine the cultural and social context of a Landmark, such as those presented by for-profit incarceration activities on the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, MUST be scrutinized.

To allow this flawed letter of determination to stand would give the appearance of a backroom exception.

The Board has the authority to require that this site be protected as a unique community resource, I add my voice to the groundswell of support for you to exercise your authority in alignment with the explicit ordinances and values of San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Kasey Rios Asberry,

SF community planner & advocate

>>>><><<<<

[kasberry@humanorigins.org](mailto:kasberry@humanorigins.org)

415-283-8570

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Mady Martin <madygmartin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 4:21 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** June 18th for GEO Group Hearing

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, my name is Mady, and I'm calling regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm calling to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the

Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

Thank you,  
Mady Martin

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Emily Barrett <goodenow884@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 6:52 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Appeal for 111 Taylor Street

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, my name is Emily Barrett, and I'm writing regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm writing to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date- including me, (rescheduling a flight to attend), and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility, we would be extremely grateful.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

Respectfully,  
Emily Barrett, PsyD  
Psychologist  
San Francisco resident

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** pat.banker2020@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 6:53 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Compton's Cafeteria

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi there,

My name is Pat Banker, and i'm a local physical therapist working here in the bay.

I heard that there would be delays in the zoning appeal for 111 Taylor Street, which would be problematic given that the appeal at hand is in regards to the use of the space by Geo Group. Respectfully, if we are to get a resolution of the issue at hand, it must be held *before* Geo Group renews its contract with the city in July.

All my best,  
Dr. Pat Banker  
Renew Physical Therapy

Sent from my iPhone

June 3, 2025

To the Board of Appeals,

Hello my name is Michael Thomas, I am a former resident at the GEO Reentry Services at 111 Taylor street in San Francisco between 2/23/24 and 8/23/24.

As a formally incarcerated man I can attest to the significant impact GEO services has had on my life. These services such as however, not limited to, money management courses/financial literacy to something as simple as how to use city transportation is vital to the long-term offender reiteration into society.

Each case manager at GEO has taken the time to help someone like me create a bank account, give me lessons on cell phone usage and allowed me come to them when struggles in my life came about such as finding a job. I am currently a Prep cook at a prestigious restaurant in San Francisco and I can sincerely say that the road here started because GEO gave me a place to live, and its staff not only encouraged me but through their resources I was able to enroll in a 3-month culinary program and find stable housing before leaving Geo.

Please consider strongly the impact this program has had on the community. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Michael Thomas

[6/3/2025]

Sent to [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I been dealing with the Geo Reentry since 2006 when my dad Chris Carpenter was a resident at 111 Taylor Street, he completed the program successfully with getting into a Carpenter program. After the program, Chris opened a janitorial business and was able to provide more for his family like for things like putting me through college. As I went to school and work to get where I am today a current GEO employee at 111 Taylor Street as BOP case manager. I am happy to help with reentry services because I was one of those kids waiting to spend time with his/her dad on their social pass. So, helping family reunited to rebuild bounds is something I enjoy doing. I been working at Geo since July 2023 I started as a Security monitor got promoted to a job developer in December 2023 and became BOP case manager May 2024. Geo means a lot more to the community then people think, Geo is giving people a fresh start at life with support of find jobs and housing and support with any additional services they may need to be successful.

Jerroyn Collins  
BOP Case Manager  
[Jerroyn.collins@geogroup.com](mailto:Jerroyn.collins@geogroup.com)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerroyn Collins', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



**6/4/2025**

**Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org**

**John Trasviña, President**

**J.R. Eppler, Vice President**

**Jose Lopez, Commissioner**

**Rick Swig, Commissioner**

**San Francisco Board of Appeals**

**49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475**

**San Francisco, CA 94103**

**Re: Laborda vs. ZA**

**Appeal No.: 25-021**

**Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street**

**To The Board of Appeals:**

**I have the pleasure working at Taylor Street Center, for more than 20 years. It has given me the opportunity to give back to a community of people that may need the services that Taylor Street Center offers. With our services, our contacts our Community Relationships we have built over the years, Residents are able to have a soft landing when they release from our program. No one else do what we do in the community and we do our job well.**

**As a current employee at Taylor Street Center, I have matured through the different training that is offered yearly. With the different trainings I was promoted from Monitor to Job Developer to Case Manager to Case Manager Supervisor and currently Office Support Specialist.**

**Best Regards,**

***Michelle Daniel***

**Michelle Daniel**

**mxdaniel@geogroup.com**

**OSS**

[06/04/2025]

Sent to boardofappeals@sfgov.org

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I am a current employee of Geo Reentry Services located at 111 Taylor St. San Francisco CA. I have been a part of the Geo experience since September 2019. I started as a Monitor staff, moved up to Case Management and I am currently the Assistant Director of Programs.

Over the past five- and half-year period I have worked at Taylor Street Center, the program has been beneficial to several participants. It has changed their thought process and a lot of them have embraced new attitudes and beliefs in a positive manner. I have seen a lot of the population we serve attain education and employment for the first time in their lives. Many have become sober, others learn new skills while others rebuild broken family relationships. The most rewarding experience is when I come across some ex-residents and they say a word of gratitude for their time at Taylor Street Center and how it has shaped their lives.

Taylor Street Center is beneficial to the community as it helps the participants with their treatment, education, employment, housing and many other life changing opportunities. I advocate for TSC to remain open to continue to serve, reform and reduce recidivism amongst the incarcerated population.

Sincerely,

*Iniabasi Ituen*

Iniabasi Ituen  
Assistant Facility Director, Programs  
iituen@geogroup.com

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Casimir Kotarski <cfkotarski@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 7:47 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Appeal for 111 Taylor Street hearing

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

My name is Casimir Kotarski, and I'm writing regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm writing to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

We would be extremely grateful.

Thank you,  
Casimir

TO THE BOARD OF APPEALS.

My name is ALAN BROOKS and I am writing this in support of 111 TAYLOR STREET "GEO". I was in prison for 49 years, and was released to 111 TAYLOR ST.

I was lost in a new world and had no idea of how I was going to survive. Director Philips showed me what I needed to do, and assigned person to me to take me to D.M.V. for an Id. card, then to medical, to social security. The work coordinator gave me bus tokens, showed me which bus lines to take for job interviews, she sent me to inhouse class so that I could learn to use a cell phone, and basic on a computer. I was a country boy so when I got stressed by the city, the other other staff, mostly meria showed me how to get to golden gate park, where

I Found peace To calm my  
soul. I was so greatful For  
All The help That I was given  
That I decided To Be a  
Volenteer To help others as  
I was helped. GEO is a  
vital part of The Parole system  
here in The Bay area.

I now work For The  
ENVEagiam prison project and  
we give back To people on  
Both sides of The Bars.

Thank you and best Regards  
ALAN BROOKS AMBASSADOR EPP.  
Alan Brooks



Ebony Spears  
Transition Coordinator  
Five Keys  
1099 Sunnydale Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94134

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of Five Keys Transitional Employment Program, an organization dedicated to supporting individuals in their re-entry journey through transitional employment and wraparound services. We are proud to be a partner with GEO, an essential resource in our shared mission of helping individuals successfully reintegrate into society after incarceration.

Over the years, we have worked with numerous clients from GEO, and we have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of their structured, supportive programs, including regular wellness groups, financial literacy, and job readiness support. For us at Five Keys, as a transitional employment program, it is understood that those who come to us only have 9 months to go through our paid job readiness training, and work to secure employment before exiting our program to make room to help others. The residents referred to us from GEO consistently demonstrate a high level of commitment, responsibility, and personal growth—many of whom end up hired into permanent roles within our own organization, because of the high quality of work ethic they exhibit. This success is no coincidence; it is a direct result of the meaningful work being done at GEO.

Though our services are open to re-entry clients from all backgrounds, those coming through GEO stand out for their readiness and motivation to turn their lives around. Shutting down this facility would not only disrupt the progress of current residents, but also diminish a vital pipeline of talent and potential for community reintegration. We strongly support efforts to keep GEO open and fully operational. It is a cornerstone of second chances, and our community is stronger because of it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Spears". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "E" and "S".

Ebony Spears

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Bridget Bertrand, LMFT <bridget@bridgetbertrand.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 8:23 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board,

I'm writing to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June for the appeal for 111 Taylor Street. Pushing it to July only builds unnecessary tension in our community.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

We would be extremely grateful.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

Warmly,  
Bridget Bertrand (any pronouns with love)  
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist (LMFT 83020)  
Expressive Arts Facilitator - Coach, 870 MARKET STREET, ROOM 953

<https://www.bridgetbertrand.com/>

<https://substack.com/@transformationcollectivespace>

Please pay land tax in any amount you can: <https://native-land.ca/>



To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Hannah Marie Tietjens, and I am a current transgender resident of the GEO Re-Entry Center at 111 Taylor Street in San Francisco's Tenderloin District.

My first time in the Center was in 2022. This is currently my second time as a resident. Both times since 2022 that I've lived there have been fine as far as staff treatment of the trans community. The claims that are being made by the LGBTQ+ community in San Francisco are not only patently false, but border on criminal.

Never in my personal experience has the LGBTQ+ community been mistreated, abused or tortured as has been claimed by parties wanting to take over ownership of the facility. There also have never been any maggots or other decomposition of food even back when they were plating it from the steam tables.

Currently, Trio Catering Services is providing the food that is served at the GEO Center. It is cooked in the morning and then flash frozen to be delivered that day for dinner. We then use microwaves to heat up the food which this method provides a much more streamlined process than what was used before.

I have no issue with the LGBTQ+ community making their attempt at acquiring ownership of the 111 Taylor Street facility. However, it is not within my morals to allow them to do so by falsifying claims, especially when those falsifications can lead to the displacement of over 200 residents.

I'd like to thank the Commission for allowing me to essentially take a stand against my own community and inform the honorable members of this committee that false claims are being made that need to be brought into the light. Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope for an amenable resolution for all parties involved based on Truth and not lies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hannah Marie Tietjens". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hannah Marie Tietjens  
Current Resident  
GEO Re-Entry Center

Jennifer J. James  
112 Polley Lane  
Pleasant Hill, California 94523  
[jcubedinvestigations@outlook.com](mailto:jcubedinvestigations@outlook.com)

Sent to [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasvina, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

**RE: Laborda vs. ZA**  
**Appeal No. 25-021**  
**Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street**

To the Board of Appeals:

I am a retired Federal Probation Officer and over my 24-year career, GeoGroup's Taylor Street Center was a phenomenal resource for my clients, especially those who were reintegrating back into the community from prison. Many of my clients would have been homeless if it weren't for GeoGroup. GeoGroup was a surrogate support system for those individuals who did not otherwise have one available to them. Research has shown that without a support system in place to assist them, many offenders recidivate.

While programming (substance abuse and mental health treatment) did not take place at the facility, it did provide a structured environment with exceptional case management services, including referrals to employment and community-based medical and treatment services. It also had staff on duty 24/7. GeoGroup held a quarterly Community Advisory Board meeting which included any and all interested stakeholders from the community.

In sum, Taylor Street Center is a cornerstone of the Tenderloin community and I believe San Francisco has benefited from its existence.

Sincerely,



Jennifer James, Retired U.S. Probation Officer

To whom this may concern,

The GEO Group is an organization who believes in rehabilitation and growth. There is an endless amount of support that they offer. Some that are even greater than our own capacity. For example, housing. Anyone who completes the program and does have a home to go home to there is an organization who is connected to GEO to help with first/last month rent and donate furniture. As a community clinic who offers housing services, we do not have anything that is equivalent to this. This type of housing the GEO offers is an amazing opportunity that I wish Bayview had. Alongside that there are numerous organizations who are connected just to help those get back on their feet such as, Dolan Mental Health, Five Keys for employment opportunities. Playas United, help give back to the community, and of course Bayview for all medical and Dental needs.

One subject that I am confident of presenting is that the GEO Group cares about their residents receiving medical treatment. One instance that has stuck with me is a resident who is part of the LGBT community needed help with her intravitreal injecting. The team moved fast to contact me to get her scheduled. Any time a resident has a medical situation, we all work together and fast so that the patient has the opportunity to see their PCP to go over any urgent matter. I am very honored to not only work with the residents, but such an amazing organization such as GEO.

Sincerely,

Sayda Perez | Case Manager

Marin City Health and Wellness Center

To The Board of Appeals:

Hello Board of Appeals, my name is Kevin Ross and I am a former employee of 111 Taylor Street. I was an employee of 111 Taylor street from approximately 2016 to 2021. During my time at Taylor street the program had the stated goal of rehabilitation of those who have been affected by the criminal justice system, and during my employment at this facility, my coworkers, our bosses and myself consistently strived towards that goal.

111 Taylor St functions as a form of community incarceration or graduated sanction. But 111 Taylor Street restores the lives of those effected by the criminal justice system because the program seeks to heal the wounds of not only the previously incarcerated individual but the individuals both close and far from them. I personally taught a Family Bonds class with previously incarcerated long term offenders. This class met weekly and was designed to assist offenders in reintegrating themselves back into the lives of their family in a healthy, logical, and safe way. Many of the participants in my class left prison with expectations for their families, ways they expected to be treated and received. In reality the story book reunions they had envisioned for 25 years did not turn out that way. Often our participants were met with animosity from their families. 111 Taylor Street and our program gave them a safe space and a safe place, and the necessary tools to process that frustration and disappointment. Our program helped these fathers repair relationships with their children in a functional way. Our program created better husbands, fathers, brothers and sons, who ultimately passed that healing on. Our program and the work we did helped to heal the wounds of people that had never stepped in the building.

The participants not only served their families but the San Francisco community by building bridges and creating dialogue where none had existed. While I was employed with 111 Taylor street we completed a performing arts production with a college close to the center. In this program we had long term offenders paired with college students and collaborated on dances, plays, and short story readings about the prison system and its effect on the community. This specific program was the melding of two worlds that would have never found a common platform without the Taylor Street Program. During this program the college faculty and its students often commented how respectful, compassionate, intelligent, creative, and honest our participants were. Whenever I received these compliments I would jokingly say "they are felons what did you expect?". This joke that I often used to describe the actions of our participants was my direct challenge to the notion that felons are destined to reoffend. Taylor Street as a program directly challenges that notion everyday. Taylor Street provides offenders a safe, clean, and regulated space to gain employment, complete programs, and serve the community.

Regarding serving the community. I have personally completed hundreds of hours of community service with participants in the Taylor Street center. While working with the long term offender program my participants and I cleaned empty lots, covered graffiti, served food at a library, cleaned schools, dug and planted trees, the list is endless. And on each occasion when the opportunity was put forth to our participants to volunteer their time to serve the community we often ran out of seats in the transport vehicles due to the number of sign ups. I can recall on one occasion we were given an assignment to clear an abandoned lot of trash/debris. The employee with public works asked me "are these the OG's?" (referring to my long term offender population). I said "yes" the employee with public works stated "sweet, I was hoping I'd get you guys". He explained that the public works crews often argued over who would get assigned the

group from 111 Taylor Street because whatever task our participants were assigned they completed to a standard well above what was required, or could have ever been expected. The comment from this public works official allowed me to say my favorite line "they are felons what did you expect?". When given an opportunity to serve others our participants showed up in droves and gave maximum effort and intention. Taylor Street is what provided that opportunity. Taylor street is the natural evolution in restorative justice. The participants at 111 Taylor street are given the tools and opportunities to repair the damage their actions have caused the community. Those leaving prison are bombarded with expectations and desires. They move from a world of slow pace and no grace to a world where post haste is commonplace. Without 111 Taylor street this transition is needlessly difficult for the participants, their loved ones and the community.

My cursory research of some of the current objections to Taylor Street stem from the facility sharing the site of Compton Cafeteria. The articles I have read describe the facility as not being community focused or somehow not supportive of this historical site. This is contrary to my direct experience as I personally set up tables, prepared food, and shared drinks (non alcoholic of course) with community members in the exact corner of the building where the Cafeteria stood on the anniversary of the event. We were excited to host the event and pressured by management to be exceptional hosts. That get together was easily one of my favorite memories working there.

In my years at Geo I saw Restorative Justice in action. I cannot envision a San Francisco that does not have a program like 111 Taylor street that provides housing for thousands of previously incarcerated individuals and provides them with a platform and opportunity to start living intentional lives of service and growth. For any other questions, feel free to contact me.

Thank you,  
Kevin Ross

Email- [Kross4288@Gmail.com](mailto:Kross4288@Gmail.com)  
Cell- 408-726-4740

To the board of appeals:

Hello, my name is Jessie Palmer and I was a resident at GEO Reentry facility from 5-16-2023 until 4-1-2024. I was mandated by the state after serving 25 years of incarceration to stay 6 months; however, GEO Reentry allows for up to an additional 6 months' stay afterwards if one chooses to do so. I chose to stay an additional 5 months because it made sense for several different reasons. I was given a safe place to stay in a very highly stimulated environment. I was given the opportunity to participate in group and individual therapy to address specific needs. I will not brag about the meals, but they are free and they make accommodations for different kinds of dietary restrictions and tenants with varying schedules. There was an exercise room as well as a computer lab, a library as well as several rooms with television for entertainment. They also provide a savings account that provided me with the check of my full balance on the day of my departure. I've learned so many transitional skills personally through the job developer; she really pointed me in the right direction. I've been fortunate to have my own apartment and job on a path between the two because every time I see it, I hold a moment of gratitude for it in my path and I think of all the men in that building, some home from after decades of incarceration, and all the possibilities are at their disposal because of where they are at 111 Taylor. So yes, I am definitely in favor.

LETS KEEP GEO OPEN!

Sincerely,  
Jessie Palmer, former GEO resident.

## **To the Board of Appeals,**

My name is Michael Perez. I am a Deputy Director for Urban Alchemy, a nonprofit that serves communities impacted by poverty, violence, and incarceration. I am also a Long-Term Offender (LTO) who was incarcerated for 25 years. Upon my release, I was placed at GEO Reentry Services – Taylor Street Center in San Francisco, a city I had never lived in before.

Reentering society after such a long time in prison was one of the most difficult challenges I have ever faced. I encountered countless barriers that most people take for granted—obtaining a driver's license, social security card, birth certificate, opening a bank account, finding a job, and reconnecting with my family. I also had to navigate a complex network of mandated reentry programs, including Anger Management, Parenting, Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous, and Financial Guidance. Each step forward came with anxiety and uncertainty.

What made the difference for me—and what makes the difference for thousands of others—was the support I received from GEO and people like Chenoa Nishida. Chenoa didn't just help me find a job; she helped me believe in the possibility of a new life. She offered guidance, encouragement, and access to resources that empowered me to rebuild my identity, my career, and my purpose.

Thanks to the stability and structure GEO provided, I was able to re-enter the workforce with dignity. Today, I am proud to hold a leadership position at Urban Alchemy. I now mentor others who are facing the same struggles I once did. My story is not unique—it is one of many that demonstrate the real and lasting impact of GEO's work in our community.

San Francisco's Second Chance Ordinance, coupled with programs like GEO, gives returning citizens the tools and hope they need to succeed. GEO is not just transitional housing; it is a bridge to transformation. Shutting it down would be a disservice to the countless lives that depend on it for stability, growth, and healing.

I urge you to consider the invaluable role GEO plays in the reentry process. It was the foundation for my success, and for so many others like me.

**Let's keep GEO open.**

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

With deep gratitude,

**Michael Perez**

Deputy Director

Urban Alchemy

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Sol Valentín Rodríguez <solvalentinrodriguez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 9:05 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, my name is Sol and I'm reaching out regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I want to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

we would be extremely grateful.

Thank you for your time and for your service.



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Oliver Mills <mxolivermills@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 9:41 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Please prioritize the 111 Taylor item for the June BoA meetings

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, my name is Oliver Mills, and I'm writing regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm respectfully urging the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the

Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

I would be extremely grateful.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

Oliver Mills, MLIS  
[they/he/ey/xe](#)  
[ollieoof.co](#)

*"An army of (ex-) lovers cannot lose." - Various*

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Nelson <nelson462606@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 11:19 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor St Hearing

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

My name is Nelson and I'm getting in touch to urge the Board to ensure the hearing regarding 111 Taylor St proceeds as scheduled in June. This hearing is an urgent matter for the protection of a historic landmark for the queer community and SF at large.

Please consider using virtual options, holding a special session, or rescheduling a less urgent matter so the community can respectfully make our voices heard before the renewal of GEO's contract.

Many thanks!


Nelson

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Cal Lerchi <cnlerchi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 1:36 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street hearing June

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

 This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the Board of Appeals:

I'm emailing regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street. I'm emailing to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility,

We would be extremely grateful.  
Thank you for your consideration.  
Cal Lerchi  
they/them

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Raye <rawrc415@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 4, 2025 2:54 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Appeal for 111 Taylor Street

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

My name is Raye Goh, and I'm writing regarding the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm writing this email to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July or later.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the Board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

It would be gratefully appreciated if there's any way the Board could:

- Prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows,
- Hold a special hearing, or
- Conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

Sincerely,  
Raye



To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Taylor Street Center (TSC) and to share my personal and professional connection to this vital organization.

For the past 2yrs, my organization, Performing Solutions, has had the privilege of working closely with the residents of the Taylor Street Center. During this time, we have provided CDL Certification, Job Placement and Housing Assistance. Our partnership with TSC has allowed us to support individuals as they work toward reintegration, stability, and personal growth.

The staff at the Taylor Street Center have consistently demonstrated professionalism, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to the success of their residents. Their collaborative approach has made it easy and effective for our team to coordinate services, respond to needs in real time, and celebrate the progress of those we serve together.

I would strongly advocate for the placement of future residents at Taylor Street Center. TSC offers a structured, supportive environment where individuals can receive the care, guidance, and opportunity needed to make meaningful changes in their lives. The comprehensive services and community-minded ethos of TSC set it apart as a place of real transformation.

More broadly, the Taylor Street Center plays a critical role in our community. It not only offers residents a second chance, but it also contributes to public safety, reduces recidivism, and fosters a culture of support and accountability. It is organizations like TSC that help build stronger, healthier communities for everyone.

Thank you for considering this letter of support. Please feel free to contact me if I can offer additional insight into the importance of the Taylor Street Center and the value of our ongoing partnership.

Performing Solutions

Date: June 5, 2025

To: Whom It May Concern:

My name is Lois Thomas, and I have been fortunate enough see the development, endurance and perseverance of changes in individual lives. It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of GEO Reentry Services in San Francisco, California. Geo Reentry Services is an organization that genuinely helps federal and state paroles and probationers by equipping them to adjust in reentering human society and recognize all the positive things that they can achieve.

The GEO group is committed to assisting paroles/probationers in operating as a positive influence and becoming a productive citizen in the community and society. They provide job opportunities and seek out ways to serve in different communities.

Their programs are designed to assist in changing behavior which changes lives giving individuals stability and accountability. In other words, they are successful in rebuilding lives that will provide individuals with the influence, power and ability to live a confident, honest and positive lifestyle.

Finally, I strongly support GEO Services in their efforts in preparing and reestablishing individuals back into this human society. I applaud GEO in the many services that they offer to someone that desires to create a lifestyle of quality, honesty and respect for themselves and others.

Sincerely,



Lois Thomas

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Ezra Reaves <ezreaves@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 10:05 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Request to Prioritize Hearing for 111 Taylor Street in June

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Members of the San Francisco Board of Appeals,

My name is Ezra Reaves, and I'm writing to respectfully request that the Board prioritize the scheduling of the appeal for 111 Taylor Street before the end of June.

This address is not just the subject of a land use matter—it is the documented site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot, one of the first-known uprisings of transgender and queer people against police violence in the United States. This building holds enormous historic significance, particularly to San Francisco's LGBTQ+ communities, and especially to trans people and elders who still remember what happened there.

Many people are not aware that 111 Taylor is the site of Compton's Cafeteria. But to those of us who do know, it is a place of deep meaning and loss, and also of pride and legacy. That's why this appeal is so important. The building is currently operated by GEO Group, the world's largest for-profit prison corporation, and their contract is reportedly up for renewal at the end of June. A delay into July risks undermining both public input and public trust.

Hundreds of community members have already organized around the original June 11 hearing date. There is urgent interest in this matter, and we ask that the Board consider:

- Prioritizing this item for the June 18 hearing, if time permits,
- Scheduling a special hearing in June, or
- Conducting the hearing virtually to allow for greater flexibility.

I know that the Board's time is limited and your responsibilities are many. But the significance of this moment, and this site, truly cannot be overstated. Timely action would demonstrate a commitment to transparency, accountability, and San Francisco's legacy as a city that honors and protects its queer and trans history.

Thank you for your service, and for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Ezra Reaves

Ezra Reaves (they/them)  
actor / theater-maker / neo-futurist  
510-309-4078  
[www.ezrareaves.com](http://www.ezrareaves.com)



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Marion Anthonisen <marion.anthonisen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 13, 2025 8:32 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Request to reschedule 111 Taylor hearing

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi, my name is Marion, and I'm reaching out about the appeal for 111 Taylor Street.

I'm writing to respectfully urge the Board to schedule the hearing in June if at all possible, rather than pushing it to July.

There is urgent public interest in this case. Hundreds of community members have already mobilized around the original June 11 hearing date, and delaying it risks further harm and uncertainty, especially with the GEO Group's contract potentially renewing at the end of June. We believe the board's timely action is essential to uphold community voice and transparency.

If there's any way the Board could prioritize this item for June 18, if time allows, hold a special hearing, or conduct the hearing virtually for more flexibility, we would be extremely grateful.

Thank you so much for considering this!

Marion

June 22, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Robert J Cole . On June 18 of 2024 I was released from prison and arrived at GEO. I received a warm welcome as well as guidance and direction. I was at Geo for approximately nine months, the staff was very accommodating and guided me in my transition from prison and helping me acclimate and into society. They guided me and directed me into the resources I was able to have a solid foundation. They were very patient and went the extra mile. To make sure I was ready for the next step in my journey to be successful as well as sure I would be able to make it in a whole New World with their experiences with prior clients. They use their knowledge to create a program pacifically for me to walk out With a positive attitude that I would be able to make it in a whole New World. Successfully this program at Geo benefited me in the awareness that was so much needed to open my eyes and to focus on the directive in front of me and with their guidance it relieve the pressure and the stress off of me to receive their guidance in a whole new light, to be prepared to face the new challenges of freedom and working myself back into society and the community to be a positive member of society so much needed after doing nearly 28 years in prison I thank Geo and the staff for their professionalism and their guidance and patience to help guide and direct me to be a better person. I am very grateful and thankful to Geo and the host staff for expertise.

Respectfully yours,

Robert J. Cole

June 23, 2025

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To: The Board of Appeals:

My name is Christine Butera-Ortiz, and I am a retired U.S. Probation Officer/Treatment Specialist, for the U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of California. My tenure as a USPO began in 1993, until my retirement in January, 2014. Over the course of my 20 year career I helped facilitate the procurement and monitoring of treatment programs throughout our district to ensure that federal offenders were offered quality treatment resources as they re-integrated back into their communities. This re-integration commenced several months prior to their actual release, and often involved a period of housing at the Taylor Street Center (TSC), at 111 Taylor Street, in San Francisco, California. Though no program is perfect, TSC has and continues to offer formerly incarcerated individuals with a safe and monitored space to begin their journey home. I cannot count the number of individuals I supervised who successfully completed supervision with the help of the many resources offered during their stay at TSC. The collaboration between probation and TSC staff was strong, and the residents were able to obtain necessary documents such as identification/driver's license cards, as well as educational and vocational support. In addition to basic needs such as housing, food, etc., substance abuse and mental health services were contracted with community partners to ensure these resources were available to those in need. One of my most vivid recollections of the value of the services offered at TSC, was the Mother and Infant program offered to incarcerated women who gave birth during their incarceration, which allowed them a three month bonding period with their child. I also recall one individual who completed a 25 year prison term, and was well supported in the community through his transition from incarceration to TSC, before accepting an adjunct faculty position at San Francisco State College.

Separate from the many services provided by TSC, is the fact that without this facility, numerous federal offenders would not have an opportunity to adequately prepare for transition back to their communities, which not only includes the entire NDCA, but also neighboring districts such as the Eastern District of California and Hawaii on occasion.

In closing I would like to note that establishing and maintaining a site for federal offenders to prepare for release, in some cases after decades of incarceration, is essential for their success which is ultimately the goal of our criminal justice system. TSC has been a long standing, integrative part of this process, and I urge you to consider the important part it plays in the rehabilitation process of those striving to be successful members of society.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Butera-Ortiz  
707-235-7553  
Cabo13@icloud.com

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Everett Butler <everett@unitedplayaz.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 26, 2025 1:03 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Subject Property: 111 Taylor

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To The Board of Appeals:

My name is Everett Butler, I learned about 111 Taylor, while I was incarcerated upon my release I was able to learn of all the help and endless resources 111 Taylor had to offer someone like myself and others like that who have been given a second chance at life. The staff there made guys returning after being gone so long feel welcome. And for me I shared that I wanted to live amends by working with the kids. They said you have come to the right place. I was introduced to Rudy, from United Playaz, and after volunteering there for 4yrs. I am now a Justice Program manager at United Playaz.

111 Taylor, has groups and dedicated supporting staff that helps a guy out in such a way it seems priceless. I am so thankful for the love, care and concern they show men and women who are given that opportunity to get it right. Through 111 Taylor, the guys that come through there are afforded the luxury of getting guidance from GEO. Their efforts to help the men and women who have made it back to give back by being that pipeline to different organizations like Urban Alchemy, Five Keys, and United Playaz, has been an enormous amount of help. Which is why one continues to support GEO.

We are in dear need of many more GEO organizations to serve the many men and women who are yet to set foot in society in need of that same leadership guidance. Than you kindly for your time.

Respectfully,  
Everett Butler

6/29/2025

[boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the support and services provided by Taylor Street Center since my release from prison, September 10, 2024. This program has been instrumental in my successful transition back into society, and I am grateful for the opportunity to share my experiences.

Since moving into Taylor Street Center, the case workers helped me with my Ca. I.D, Social Security Card, Health Insurance, Financial management and employment. Also, I was able to take Self-help class and Moral Reconation Therapy. These services have not only helped address underlying issues but also equipped me to with skill and confidence needed to secure employment and become a productive member of my community.

The staff at Taylor Street Center have been supportive, understanding, and genuinely invested in my success. Their guidance and encouragement have been invaluable in helping me navigate the challenges of re-entry and stay focused on my goals.

Thanks to Taylor Street Center, I have been able to find my own apartment, have job security, being able to manage and save money but most of all, give back to my community and rebuilding healthy relationships with my family. I am proud of the progress I have made and am committed to continue this path.

I strongly believe that transitional housing programs like Taylor Street Center are essential in supporting individuals like me in our journey towards rehabilitation and reintegration. I hope that this letter can help demonstrate the positive impact of such programs and encourage continued support.

Thank you again for your kindness support and investment in my future.

Olaese Ta'ase

Program Monitor

3<sup>rd</sup> Street Youth Center Clinic

Cell#: 415-559-6182

Em: [oly\\_taase@hotmail.com](mailto:oly_taase@hotmail.com)

# SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

July 1, 2025

San Francisco Board of Appeals  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 304  
San Francisco, CA 94103

**Re: Appeal of Use at 111 Taylor Street**

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Appeals,

On behalf of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the city's largest business organization representing over 900 members locally, I write to express our concern regarding the potential precedent of the appeal involving the long-standing use at 111 Taylor Street.

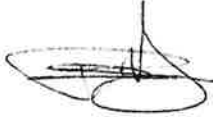
The Chamber submits this letter regarding the appeal of the existing use at 111 Taylor Street. Our concern is not focused on the merits of the appeal. We instead caution this Board that taking any action that would impair the ability of a business that has lawfully existed at this location for decades would lead to unease in the local business community and to skepticism from businesses that would otherwise consider locating in San Francisco.

As you know, businesses depend on a consistent application of the laws that affect them. If this Board were to grant the appeal and vitiate years of assurances from the City regarding the use at 111 Taylor, then this action would undermine the City's recovery because it would erode confidence that the City applies its laws fairly or consistently. Instead, such an action would signal to the business community that the City's official assurances are flimsy and can change if certain groups exert enough political pressure. San Francisco cannot afford to have this reputation. An adverse outcome here would contradict Mayor Lurie's goal of San Francisco being a business-friendly environment by which all companies, both large and small, may thrive.

We urge the Board to consider the broader implications of its decision on the business climate in San Francisco and the message it sends to current and prospective

employers. Upholding certainty and fairness in land use decisions is critical to restoring trust and investment in our city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodney Fong". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop on the left and a vertical line extending upwards from the center.

Rodney Fong  
President & CEO  
The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce



VETS HELPING VETS SINCE 1974

Sent to: [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

July 3, 2025

To The Board of Appeals:

I'm writing in support of the Taylor Street Center, a critical resource for long-term parolees returning to San Francisco County. I can speak with authority on this issue as both a former parolee who benefitted from the Taylor Street Center's program and now as a service provider who works with the staff there to provide services to justice-involved veterans.

For the past 2 years I have been employed by Swords to Plowshares as Suicide Prevention Trainer & Outreach. Our goal is to end the veteran suicide epidemic, and the staff at the Taylor Street Center have been staunch advocates in this difficult endeavor. On those occasions when I enter California prisons to talk to their veterans groups, I have often referred veterans eligible for parole to the Taylor Street Center as a best-choice for successful reentry.

Returning to society after a lengthy incarceration is a difficult transition that requires specialized care and resources, which the Taylor Street Center provides. I was housed there for 6 months after my parole, during which I was stably housed, fed, and able to save money before transitioning to housing of my own, which I was by then able to afford with no public assistance needed. Without the Taylor Street Center, the only option for returning parolees is a homeless shelter, which should go without saying is a recipe for disaster.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions.

Eric Wick | Suicide Prevention Trainer & Outreach  
SSG Parker Gordon Fox SPGP Grant Operations  
Swords to Plowshares | 1060 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103 | [eric.wick@stp-sf.org](mailto:eric.wick@stp-sf.org)  
415.417.4899 Mobile



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** root <theruthwu@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 6, 2025 11:45 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Please don't allow Geo group to operate 111 Taylor !

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi,

It's come to my attention that it's up that there is a possibility that GEO group will continue as head of operations at 111 Taylor.

This is in direct conflict with the history of the building, as it's a space that has historically been a site for creating trans rights. Bringing operations into the hands of the trans community will not only create empowerment, but also bring alignment into who operates that space.

Please consider cancellation your contract with GEO group so that we as a city can do the right thing by the trans community.

Ruth

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Calder Storm <calder.storm19@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 2:33 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - 111 Taylor St Appeal (July 16 Hearing)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. A site meant to commemorate trans resistance has become a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company known for anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

At this unprecedented moment in time when transgender people are literally being legislated out of existence, it is more important than ever that the City of San Francisco continue to lead the way in LGBTQ+ advocacy. The former site of Compton's Cafeteria is historic not just for our City, but the nation. The riots at Compton's that began the fight for trans equality predate those of Stonewall. This site is incredibly significant, and to have it in the hands of a for-profit prison corporation is reprehensible.

Please revoke the LoD and help return this property to the trans community.

Thank you for your time.


Best,  
Calder Storm

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Mama Ganuush <ganuushmama@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 6:54 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Please revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

 This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

Best  
Mama Ganuush

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

---

**From:** Lauramalch <lauramalch@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 12:18 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment – 111 Taylor Street Appeal (July 16 Hearing)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Laura Malchow-Hay

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Greg Rico <gregrico2024@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 12:55 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** My name is Gregory Rico c-70083 on Aug 29,2024 I was paroled to GEO transitional housing program, after serving 30 years of incarceration and coming back home to a life I knew nothing about? It was the staff at geo that helped me find my way back to li...

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Luther Patenge <luther.patenge@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 1:57 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment – 111 Taylor Street Appeal (July 16 Hearing)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

My name is Luther Patenge, I currently live in the Mission, but I lived in the Tenderloin for over 9 years, specifically near the corner of Ellis St. and Hyde St. Despite the neighborhood's often maligned reputation, it's a place I still have great fondness for. I'm also transgender, non-binary.

You can imagine my anger and dismay when I found out that the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riots, a landmark event of trans history, is being used by GEO Group as a carceral facility. GEO Group, who happily works alongside ICE, profiting from their terrorizing of our Hispanic citizens and neighbors. Why are we allowing such a loathsome group to occupy 111 Taylor Street, portions of which are designated as an historic landmark? Why are we bending the existing zoning rules in GEO Group's favor, no less?

San Francisco has made much of its equity framework, its sanctuary policy, and its stated commitment to trans liberation. Yet everything occurring at 111 Taylor Street is in blatant violation of those city policies. Does San Francisco kneel so easily to injustice? It's high time to apply these frameworks, policies and values to land use decisions. Anything less is policy in name only. I urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor Street.

All the best,

- Luther Patenge

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Jakob Prince <jakobkprince@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 9:16 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** GEO Lease On Compton Cafeteria

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to add my voice to wider community of San Francisco's demand to prevent GEO Group's renewal of 111 Taylor St.

Sincerely,  
Jakob Prince

July 8, 2025

Sent to [boardofappeals@sfgov.org](mailto:boardofappeals@sfgov.org)

John Trasviña, President

J.R. Eppler, Vice President

Jose Lopez, Commissioner

Rick Swig, Commissioner

San Francisco Board of Appeals

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475

San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA

Appeal No.: 25-021

Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

This letter is to articulate my support of **GEO Reentry Services**, particularly the facility located at **111 Taylor Street, San Francisco, CA**. I recently learned that there is a plan to force the residents and staff to relocate from that facility. I wanted an opportunity to weigh in on this issue.

Forcing the residents of 111 Taylor Street to have to relocate would utterly disrupt their lives. This facility over the years has provided an effective, stable and much needed settling place for many of those returning back to the community from incarceration. I can speak to this first hand, as I utilized GEO reentry services when I paroled and reentered society. There were many resources, and networking opportunities which significantly increased my chances of successfully reentering society, not just that but becoming a productive member of society, paying taxes, patronage, spending hard earned dollars within this community. Thriving in fact, maintaining a livelihood, domicile, self-care, etc., as a by-product of the assistance provided in part, by GEO Reentry Services. Additionally, this can be said of numerous other current and past residents, as they transition back into society.

I therefore, implore those charged with decision making in this case, to please reconsider the action referenced above, and allow the residents at 111 Taylor Street to remain.

Respectfully,  
Earl Jackson

Email: [ajacksonearl@gmail.com](mailto:ajacksonearl@gmail.com)



July 8, 2025

John Trasviña, President  
J.R. Eppler, Vice President  
Jose Lopez, Commissioner  
Rick Swig, Commissioner  
San Francisco Board of Appeals  
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1475  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Laborda vs. ZA  
Appeal No.: 25-021  
Subject Property: 111 Taylor Street

To The Board of Appeals:

I am in support of keeping Taylor Street Center open. In 2019, I was released from prison without housing and subsequently stayed in the Center for over 7 months.

The Taylor Street Center gave me an opportunity to get back on my feet and acclimate to society. I appreciated the central placement of the Center and how that provided me access and exposure to multiple resources and opportunities to reconnect with community. The Staff at the Talor Street Center was super supportive and helped me get back into school which set up the pathway for me to graduate with a BA from SF State. The Center was always clean and provided a primarily stress-free environment that allowed me to safely process the mixture of emotions I experienced while reintegrating into society after over 13 years in prison.

I am a strong advocate of the Center and still stay connected with staff at the Center to this day. The Center currently supports hundreds of men and women who rely on the services there to transition back to society successfully. I pray you take my plea into consideration. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ian Clark-Johnson  
Chief of Talent and Development  
Urban Alchemy  
415-902-9593

RECOVERY SURVIVAL NETWORK  
*Helping those who want to help themselves*

7/9/2025

GEO Reentry, Inc.  
4955 Technology Way  
Boca Raton, FL 33431

To Whom It May Concern,

Recovery Survival Network (RSN) is pleased to support GEO's proposal to provide Residential Reentry Center (RRC) and Home Confinement (HC) services to federal offenders releasing into the San Francisco area.

We are a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit founded in 1996 by Lou Gordon the agencies Executive Director. RSN is located at the corner of 16<sup>th</sup> & Mission Streets in the heart of SF's Mission district since 1998. We provide a host of in house support services and we have a very strong network of service providers throughout the Bay Area that we utilize to fulfill our clients' needs. RSN has developed a sober living housing program and we work closely with GEO to provide safe and secure housing for parolee's and Federal Probationers returning to the community once they have completed services at 111 Taylor St. We currently house over 20 and over the past 10 years that number is significantly higher.

RSN can honestly say that our partnership with GEO is significant and we work closely to make sure reentry is sustained by housing them while they work and rebuild their lives.

Recovery Survival Network remains committed to supporting GEO's efforts to providing quality, rehabilitative services to program participants. It is because of this good standing relationship that we write this letter in support of GEO's proposal to provide reentry services and supervision to the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP).

Please feel free to call on us for further verification and actual GEO long-term housing referrals to RSN's Family of Friends Clean and Sober Living Network, Housing Program.

Best Regards,

Lou Gordon, Executive Director

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Eric Swanson <ericswanson@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 6:41 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street Appeal (July 16 Hearing)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors

Not only that, but the City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources.

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Casimir Kotarski <cfkotarski@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 10:52 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 111 Taylor Street hearing

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Appeals,

As an employee of the Tenderloin Museum and theater actor involved in telling the story of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot to the public, the presence of GEO Group at the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot is a direct insult to the legacy of trans and queer resistance in the Tenderloin.

GEO Group is a private prison company with a long record of harm and abuse. GEO Group's use of the site does not comply with local zoning.

Please stand with the community and support the appeal to protect 111 Taylor. As a transgender citizen of the Bay Area, I would love to see the site become a place that can help resource our community in these unprecedented times when we are under political attack. San Francisco has a rich history of preserving its LGBTQ and this site deserves that recognition too.

Sincerely,  
Casimir Kotarski  
Tenderloin Museum Employee

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Mark D McHale <mark@markdmchale.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 1:33 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment 111 Taylor Street Appeal, July 16th Hearing

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

**Dear President Trasviña and Members of the Board,**

As a gay man living in the Castro, I'm writing to express deep concern and to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor Street.

This site falls squarely within the Turk & Taylor Landmark District and the broader Article 11 Conservation District—areas established to protect the historical, cultural, and social fabric of San Francisco. The Planning Department's determination failed to assess whether the current use aligns with the preservation goals of these districts. That omission is especially troubling given the site's profound historical importance to our LGBTQ+ and especially our trans community.

111 Taylor sits on the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot—one of the earliest known acts of resistance by transgender women and queer people against police violence in the United States. This is not just a historical footnote; it is a cornerstone of our collective legacy. To allow for-profit incarceration in this location—without serious scrutiny—undermines the very purpose of landmark and conservation protections under Articles 10 and 11.

You have the authority to do the right thing. This space must be recognized and preserved as a protected community resource, not quietly handed over through a bureaucratic exception. We owe it to the trans elders who stood up at Compton's, and to future generations who deserve to see their history honored, not erased.

Sincerely,

mdm

**Mark D McHale**

[mark.d.mchale@gmail.com](mailto:mark.d.mchale@gmail.com)

415.735.8037

Resident of the Castro

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Sarah Maloney <sarahmaloneyart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 1:39 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** GEO Group out of 111 Taylor

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello!

I am a SF resident living in SOMA and I am writing to urge the SF Board of Appeals to get GEO Group out of 111 Taylor.

There are many reasons why they should not be in 111 Taylor and honestly they shouldn't be operating at all.

One reason is that the building has historical and culture importance! It is the site of the Compton Cafeteria Riots that paved the way for the fight for Trans rights! It is appalling that a building that should be a site to memorialize and celebrate Trans liberation is a jail for a private company...literally a place that takes away people's rights.

Another reason is that GEO Group is a for profit prison that has ties with ICE, a fascist hateful group that is kidnapping and human trafficking ppl. GEO Group profits off of these kidnappings.

These reasons should be more than enough to kick GEO Group out of 111 Taylor.

My partner and I are part of the Trans and gender non conforming community. We live in SOMA. We support our neighbors and small businesses. GEO group is the worst of humanity and I think our city and our communities deserve better. I believe in services and community and harm reduction. I do not believe in businesses profiting off of human suffering. That site should be a celebration of liberation and life. Please do your part and get GEO Group out!

Take Care

[@maloneydoodles](#)  
[maloneydoodles.com](#)  
Pronouns: they/them

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Yael Platt <yaplatt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 1:42 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 111 Taylor Street

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Appeals,

I am writing to urge you to revoke the January 28 Letter of Determination and stop GEO Group's unlawful use of 111 Taylor. We do not want private prison corporations operating in our city. We want a community-led future for this site.

Thank you,  
Yael Platt

Yael Platt  
pronouns: they/she



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** erin.mcgeeever@protonmail.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 2:26 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Please revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor Street.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I am a 40 year old trans woman that lives on Market street at the Trans District. The Geo group does not belong at 111 Taylor. The city of San Francisco has a long and deep trans history. The city has not played the role of benefactor for that history. I implore you to take a walk through the trans district. Stop by some of the sites from our history. It won't be a safe walk most of the time. You'll rarely get to leave the streets to go inside as we don't get to own our history. How can San Francisco be proud of its trans residents and history and treat trans history, and trans people, this way to this very day? Declaring allyship means nothing if your actions never change. This city continues to target trans people in the many ways it chooses to disregard us when determining brutal crackdowns on the homeless, who are disproportionately trans. Voting to permanently end the GIFT program and doing absolutely nothing in the wake to help. At some point I must ask you why your care prevents no abuses to us and harbors no help. The Geo group is a carceral punishment corporation and still punishes trans people at a higher rate, but this time they do it in a core and deep part of our history. I beg you, on your walk, pause at 111 Taylor. Look at it and think about how this monumental part of trans history, in San Francisco, to this very day is a site of punishment, run by a group so perverse they are integrated with ICE's work. We have all seen the videos of these abductions of pure terror. This is more than an insult to the immigrant, trans, and of course the immigrant-trans community. It's a loud and clear message of how very little this city's allyship means when it comes to taking action for trans people. How little its declaration as an immigrant sanctuary city means. I struggle to have hope in the government of San Francisco to ever care enough for us to do something, but I hope you show me I'm wrong. I hope you show me that the next time I walk through the Trans District, that I need to start seeing things differently.

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Emily Stewart <stormsunrainbow@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 3:07 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Shut Down GEO GROUP

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Do not let this historic site of queer resistance be tainted by police presence.  
Emily Stewart

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Heathcliff Zhang <hcliff.zhang@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 3:58 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 111 Taylor St hearing

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. It is an absurd affront to justice to have a for-profit prison occupy a historic site of trans liberation. As a queer person who has sought safety and community in San Francisco, I urge you to do better. Show us that S.F. remains committed to progress and fairness by rejecting for profit prisons, especially since GEO group has been known for human rights abuses throughout the country. Return the site at 111 Taylor St to community stewardship.

Sincerely,

Bert H

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Rachelle Derouin <rachellederouin6@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 4:48 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment – 111 Taylor Street Appeal (July 16Hearing)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. A site meant to commemorate trans resistance has become a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company known for anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

Sincerely,  
Rachelle Derouin

San Francisco Resident (Sunset District)

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

---

**From:** Dylan Cox <cox.dylan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 4:48 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Urgent: Revoke letter of determination for 111 Taylor St

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

Thank you,

Dylan Cox

A long time Bay Area resident and communist member

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Bridget Bertrand <bridget@authentic-alliance.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 5:36 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Liberate Compton's

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

I live in work in San Francisco and deeply. Hope we can make this commitment to the Tran community and also to all humans who are exiting incarceration so that they have a more peaceful and just reentry into society.

Bridget Bertrand (any pronouns with love)

LMFT83020

<https://authentic-alliance.clientsecure.me/sign-in>

[bridget@authentic-alliance.com](mailto:bridget@authentic-alliance.com)

<https://authentic-alliance.com/bridget-bertrand-lmft/>

Psychotherapy, Gender Therapy, Expressive Arts, and Consultation

California Telehealth - 650-539-4325

Authentic Alliance, A LCSW Prof. Corp



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Costanza Gonzalo <costigonzalo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 7:13 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel Geo Group's Lease at 111 Taylor St.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi,

Cancel Geo Group's Lease at 111 Taylor St.

It is against San Francisco's values to have a private prison, with a record of mistreatment and abuse, in a historical site of the queer community. I don't want to see fluffy allyship for the trans community but actual action like trans-centered community protection and healing. You have the power to cancel this lease renewal, be an ally, San Francisco must do better.

Thank you,  
Costanza Gonzalo

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Panchami B. <panchami.bhat95@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 7:37 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Written Comments for 111 Taylor St

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

Thank you,  
Panchami



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Elio West Bonnepart <elio.westt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 7:44 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor st

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. 111 Taylor appears to have undergone an unpermitted Change of Occupancy from Residential Group R-2 to Institutional Group I-3, triggering stricter fire, life safety, and accessibility standards. GEO Group added locked doors, surveillance systems, and medical programs without finalizing permits or securing a change-of-use approval. That means this site may not comply with the 2022 Building Code's minimum requirements for seismic safety, egress, fire suppression, or ADA access. These aren't technicalities, they're safety issues.

Best ,  
West

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Elio West Bonnepart <n.bonnepart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 7:50 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor public comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

thanks for your consideration,  
Elio

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Aleks Liou <amjliou@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 8:41 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Revoke letter of determination for 111 Taylor St.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

Furthermore, 111 Taylor appears to have undergone an unpermitted Change of Occupancy from Residential Group R-2 to Institutional Group I-3, triggering stricter fire, life safety, and accessibility standards. GEO Group added locked doors, surveillance systems, and medical programs without finalizing permits or securing a change-of-use approval. That means this site may not comply with the 2022 Building Code's minimum requirements for seismic safety, egress, fire suppression, or ADA access. These aren't technicalities, they're safety issues.

Lastly, 111 Taylor falls within the Turk & Taylor Landmark District and the broader Article 11 Conservation District. The Planning Department's determination failed to evaluate whether the current use is compatible with the preservation goals of those districts. Under Articles 10 and 11, even uses that undermine the cultural and social context of a landmark, like for-profit incarceration on the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, must be scrutinized. The Board has the authority to require that this site be treated as a protected community resource, not a backroom exception.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. A site meant to commemorate trans resistance has become a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company known for anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

The Planning Department did not consider the disproportionate impact GEO Group's operations have on trans people, Black and brown residents, and formerly incarcerated individuals in the Tenderloin. By treating this like a simple zoning request, they erased the power dynamics at play. The City has an equity framework, a sanctuary policy, and a stated commitment to trans liberation. Those values must apply to land use decisions. Anything less is policy in name only.

Thank you,  
Aleks Liou, Ph.D.

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

---

**From:** Nelson G Nelson <nelsongnelson@pm.me>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 9:12 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Turk St Comment

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

My name is Nelson and I am a San Francisco resident and worker. I am writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. 111 Taylor falls within the Turk & Taylor Landmark District and the broader Article 11 Conservation District. This site is a historical landmark for the queer and trans community, many of whom make up the constituency and tourism that SF enjoys.

The Planning Department's determination failed to evaluate whether the current use is compatible with the preservation goals of those districts. Under Articles 10 and 11, even uses that undermine the cultural and social context of a landmark, like for-profit incarceration on the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, must be scrutinized. The Board has the authority to require that this site be treated as a protected community resource, not a backroom exception.

Please consider these points at the hearing. I urge you to take a stand on enforcing zoning rules fairly and protecting this sacred site.

Thank you

Nelson

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Kassidy <kscabana98@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 9:59 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Kassidy, and I'm writing as a former San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women—particularly trans women of color—rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

- End the City's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.
- Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
- Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there—not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Kassidy Cabana

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Michael Nulty <sf\_district6@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025 11:10 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street - 7/16/25 Public Hearing

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Appeals Members,

We are writing to support the appeal challenging the San Francisco Planning Department's January 2025 Letter of Determination regarding 111 Taylor Street. This site—currently operated by GEO Group under a reentry contract—is historically significant as the location of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot, which is recognized as one of the earliest known trans and queer uprisings against police violence in the U.S. This historical context not only underscores the importance of addressing the current situation with the utmost care and attention but also highlights the need for a thorough understanding of the implications of any decisions made regarding this site.

There are clear procedural and substantive issues with the determination that must be examined thoroughly, as they are crucial to ensuring justice and equity in our community:

A community member subscribed to Block Book Notifications for this site did not receive the January Letter of Determination, significantly affecting their ability to file a timely and informed appeal. This lack of notification is not merely a procedural error; it undermines the very foundation of community engagement in the planning process and raises pressing concerns about transparency and accountability in how decisions are communicated. A jurisdiction hearing is urgently needed to ensure all voices, especially those of marginalized community members who have been excluded from the process, are heard in this critical matter.

Serious questions remain about whether the site's current use complies with the Group Housing designation under the RC-4 zoning code. The facility appears to operate more like a residential care facility, which typically has different operational standards and requirements to ensure the safety and well-being of its residents. However, it seems to be functioning without the appropriate permits or zoning changes that would legally allow such use, creating a legal gray area that could have serious implications for the well-being of the residents and the surrounding community, including potential legal repercussions for the operators.

Multiple complaints filed with the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) reveal unsafe, overcrowded, and unsanitary conditions within the facility that cannot be overlooked. These reports highlight immediate health and safety risks for the individuals residing there, reflecting a broader systemic issue that must be addressed with urgency and compassion. It is essential that the Board takes these concerns seriously to ensure that the rights and safety of all community members, particularly those from vulnerable populations such as the residents of this facility, are protected and upheld. Ignoring these complaints could perpetuate a cycle of neglect that further endangers the lives of those who are already at risk.

The Alliance for a Better District 6 (ABD6) was formed in October 1999 in response to the shift to district elections for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 2000. This change allowed candidates to be elected from specific districts, enabling community activists to create a platform representing low-income residents in District 6. Through our ongoing efforts, we strive to amplify the voices of those most affected by these decisions and advocate for a more equitable and just community that prioritizes the needs of all its residents.

Please uphold the appeal regarding 111 Taylor Street, as it is not only a matter of administrative procedure but also one of deep ethical significance for our community. The implications of this decision will resonate far beyond the confines of this site, affecting the lives of countless individuals and the historical legacy of our neighborhood.

***Michael Nulty***

Executive Director  
Alliance for a Better District 6  
P.O. Box 420782  
San Francisco, CA 94142-0782  
(415) 339-8327 - Direct  
(415) 339-8779 - Alliance for a Better District 6  
(415) 820-1412 - Tenderloin Futures Collaborative  
<http://abd6.cfsites.org/>



July 9, 2025

To The Board of Appeals:

In 2017 After serving 21 years, I was released from prison to 111 Taylor. The Board of Prison Terms ordered me to live there for 6 months. I was given a safe space to transition back into the community. 111 Taylor served as a trauma-informed, holistic, but firm hand that I needed to become my best self. The staff supported my transition by prioritizing the guest, being supportive of hard work and structure, which led to a groundswell of opportunities for returning citizens in a positive way. The ambassador programs and Urban Alchemy provided us with a chance to thrive and earn above living wages in an expensive area, while positively serving my new community. 111 Taylor allowed me and countless others an opportunity to change the world. The men and women of 111 Taylor have actively supported the community through their positive engagement as citizens. A change that the Tenderloin has never seen. Thanks to 111 Taylor and the opportunities they presented we have a new model of response teams and Community Based Public Safety.

Sincerely,

Louie Hammonds

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Anneke Struble <annekeestruble@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 8:48 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment 7/10

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good morning, President Trasviña and Board,

I'm submitting public comment to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St.

GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets criteria for an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing.

Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, which is not issued.

Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

Please revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor Street.

Anneke Struble  
District 9

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Katherine Na <katherinejyna@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 9:36 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Katie Na, and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women—particularly trans women of color—rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations and human rights abuse that also operates detention centers for ICE. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

- **End the City's contract with GEO Group** and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.
- **Support historic landmark designation** to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
- **Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people**—transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Katie Na  
963 Oak Street

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Tess Gibbs <treegirltess@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 11:09 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** REVOKE 111 TAYLOR LETTER OF DETERMINATION

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. 111 Taylor falls within the Turk & Taylor Landmark District and the broader Article 11 Conservation District. The Planning Department's determination failed to evaluate whether the current use is compatible with the preservation goals of those districts. Under Articles 10 and 11, even uses that undermine the cultural and social context of a landmark, like for-profit incarceration on the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, must be scrutinized. The Board has the authority to require that this site be treated as a protected community resource, not a backroom exception.

Thank you,

Tess Gibbs

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Sarah Gao <hellosarahgao@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 11:50 AM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Sarah Gao and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women—particularly trans women of color—rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

- End the City's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.
- Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
- Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

I

call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there—not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Gao

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

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**From:** Alexandra Vogt <vogtax@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:03 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** GEO Group and 111 Taylor

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

SF Board of Appeals,

As an 18 year resident of San Francisco, I am deeply concerned about the GEO group taking over 111 Taylor.

San Francisco, not without its issues, has a long reputation for being a sanctuary city, for progressive values, valuing rehabilitation over punishment.

I strongly oppose the GEO group taking over 111 Taylor for "transitional housing." As they are invested in for profit prisons that are currently illegally detaining people, I do not think they are the group to care for our fair city's vulnerable.

ICE and for profit prisons are not who this city is. This building should serve the community. Please stop thus.

Thanks for reading,  
Alexandra

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Mama Ganuush <mama@mamaganuush.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:04 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group Lease at Historic Compton Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Nemora (local community organizer known as mama ganuush), and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women—particularly trans women of color—rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

- End the City's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.
- Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
- Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there—not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Nemora

**Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)**

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**From:** vv <vv.says.hi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:10 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Revoke the Letter of Determination for 111 Taylor St.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. As a trans San Franciscan I believe the site of the historic Compton's Cafeteria uprising should be returned to the community to be cared for and utilized as a community space that enriches the neighborhood. It's a blight on our community that a historically abusive corporation like GEO Group has been using this space to harm individuals without any oversight or justification for their presence in San Francisco. We must return this site to the people of SF and begin to undo the harm caused by GEO Group's presence in the community.

Sincerely, vv evasco  
District 1, 94121



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Elizabeth Stewart <elizabethastew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:34 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Elizabeth Stewart, and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women - particularly trans women of color - rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to :

- end the city's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025
- support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement
- back the community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory

I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there - not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Stewart  
NOPA neighborhood resident and business owner

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Ella Gibbs <ella.r.gibbs@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:51 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Failed CEQA analysis at 111 Taylor

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The City failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Ella Gibbs <ella.r.gibbs@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:52 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Misclassification at 111 Taylor

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,  
I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Ella Gibbs <ella.r.gibbs@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:53 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Safety Issues at 111 Taylor

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

A concerned citizen

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Emily Mann <eskerol@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:55 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Emily Mann, and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women—particularly trans women of color—rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

**I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:**

- **End the City's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.**
- **Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.**
- **Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.**

I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there—not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Emily Mann  
Inner Sunset, SF

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** gayle whitley <gaylewhitley71@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 1:08 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Revoke letter of determination for 111 Taylor St

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

My name is G.

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. A site meant to commemorate trans resistance has become a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company known for anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

The City also failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

Please reconsider and not go through with GEO GROUP let it remain for our communities.

Thank you,  
G~

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** TAC <tac\_s\_f@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 1:26 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street Appeal - July 16, 2025 Public Hearing calendar

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Appeals Members,

We strongly support the appeal against the San Francisco Planning Department's January 2025 Letter of Determination regarding 111 Taylor Street, a site of profound historical significance as it is recognized as the location of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot. This event marked one of the earliest trans and queer uprisings against police violence in the United States, a pivotal moment in the ongoing struggle for LGBTQ+ rights and social justice. This historical context underscores the critical need for careful and thoughtful decision-making by the Board, as the implications of the appeal resonate not only within the confines of this specific site but also extend to the broader narrative of resilience and activism in our community.

There are several critical procedural and substantive issues that must be addressed. Notably, a community member who is subscribed to Block Book Notifications did not receive the January Letter from the Planning Department. This oversight severely hindered their ability to engage in the appeal process and raises significant concerns about transparency and fairness in the procedures that govern public communication. It is imperative that a jurisdiction hearing be held to ensure that marginalized voices, which are often overlooked in such processes, are heard and given the opportunity to contribute to the discourse surrounding this important matter.

Furthermore, there are pressing questions regarding the site's compliance with the Group Housing designation under the RC-4 zoning code. The property operates similarly to a residential care facility but lacks the necessary permits that would make its operation lawful. This discrepancy has the potential to create serious legal issues that could affect both current residents and the broader community. It is crucial that these compliance issues be thoroughly examined and resolved to ensure that the rights and safety of residents are upheld.

Adding to the urgency of this situation, numerous complaints have been submitted to the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) that detail unsafe and unsanitary conditions present at the site. These reports highlight immediate health risks that pose a danger to those living there and necessitate urgent intervention. The Board must take these concerns seriously and act decisively to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, ensuring that their basic health and safety needs are met.

Since its inception in 1997, the Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco (TAC) has played a vital role in empowering tenant leaders to establish and maintain tenant associations, thereby fostering community development that enhances the overall quality of life for residents. TAC serves as a staunch advocate for tenant rights, actively promoting positive tenant-landlord relationships while working diligently to improve living conditions across the city. The coalition provides invaluable

resources and support to tenants, helping them navigate the complexities of housing rights and preservation of affordable housing. In addition, TAC advocates for individuals living in supportive housing and encourages tenants to take on leadership roles by participating in advocacy workshops, thus further empowering the community.

In light of all these factors, we implore you to uphold the appeal regarding 111 Taylor Street. This matter is not merely an administrative issue; it is one of ethical significance that profoundly impacts the lives of many individuals and the historical legacy of the Tenderloin neighborhood. The decision made by the Board today will resonate far beyond the immediate context and will serve as a testament to our commitment to justice, equity, and the protection of our community's rich history.

Susan Bryan  
Co-Founder

### **Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco**

P.O. Box 420846;

San Francisco, CA 94142-0846

415-339-8327 Voice / 415-820-1565 Fax

<http://15thanniversarytac.blogspot.com/>

<http://tenantassociationscoalition.blogspot.com/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TenantAssociationsCoalition/>

**Serving San Francisco since September, 1997**



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

---

**From:** Teddy Lance <teddypersephone@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 2:20 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Revoke GEO Group's Letter of Determination for 111 Taylor St.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. A site meant to commemorate trans resistance has become a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company known for anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and I find, as a trans person myself, that the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

Thank you,  
Teddy



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Central City Democrats <centralcitydemocrats@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 2:28 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street Development - 7/16/25 Public Hearing Agenda Item

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Board of Appeals Members,

We "**Central City Democrats**" ***strongly support*** the appeal against the **San Francisco Planning Department's January 2025 Letter of Determination regarding 111 Taylor Street**, a site of profound historical significance that is recognized as the location of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot. This landmark event not only marked one of the earliest trans and queer uprisings against police violence in the United States but also served as a pivotal moment in the ongoing struggle for LGBTQ+ rights and social justice. The Compton's Cafeteria Riot symbolizes the bravery and resilience of those who stood up against oppression and discrimination, highlighting the urgent need for societal change. The historical context surrounding this site underscores the critical need for careful and thoughtful decision-making by the Board, as the implications of the appeal resonate not only within the confines of this specific site but also extend to the broader narrative of resilience, activism, and the relentless pursuit of equality in our community. It is essential that the Board recognizes the weight of this history and the responsibility that comes with it, ensuring that the legacy of those who fought for justice is honored and preserved for future generations.

There are several critical procedural and substantive issues that must be addressed with the utmost urgency and diligence. Notably, a community member who is subscribed to Block Book Notifications did not receive the January Letter from the Planning Department. This oversight severely hindered their ability to engage fully in the appeal process and raises significant concerns about transparency, communication, and fairness in the procedures that govern public discourse. It is imperative that a jurisdiction hearing be held to ensure that marginalized voices, which are often overlooked in such processes, are heard and given the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the discourse surrounding this important matter.

Furthermore, there are pressing questions regarding the site's compliance with the Group Housing designation under the RC-4 zoning code. The property operates similarly to a residential care facility but lacks the necessary permits that would make its operation lawful. This discrepancy has the potential to create serious legal and regulatory issues that could adversely affect both current residents and the broader community. It is crucial that these compliance issues be thoroughly examined and resolved to ensure that the rights and safety of residents are upheld and that the integrity of local zoning laws is maintained.

Numerous complaints have been submitted to the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) detailing unsafe and unsanitary conditions present at the site, which have raised significant alarms within the community. These reports highlight immediate health risks that not only endanger the well-being of the residents but also create an environment that is unacceptable for anyone to live in. The severity of the situation necessitates urgent and decisive intervention to address these pressing issues. The

Board must take these concerns seriously and act promptly to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, ensuring that their basic health and safety needs are met. It is imperative that steps are taken to rectify these conditions, as every individual deserves to live in a safe, clean, and dignified environment that respects their fundamental rights as members of society.

Central City Democrats, founded on April 1, 2006, is a prominent Democratic club situated in the vibrant city of San Francisco, CA. Our organization passionately advocates for a political community in Districts 5 & 6 that firmly believes in the necessity of a government that is not only responsive but also accountable to the diverse needs of all its constituents. We place particular emphasis on uplifting the voices and concerns of those who are often under-served and under-represented in the political landscape, recognizing that their perspectives are crucial for fostering a truly inclusive democracy. We understand that the challenges faced by marginalized communities require dedicated attention and action, and we are committed to advocating for policies that promote equity and justice.

By organizing community forums, educational events, and outreach initiatives, we aim to empower residents to engage actively in the political process and to advocate for their rights and interests. Through active engagement, community outreach, and collaborative efforts, we strive to create a more equitable and just society for everyone in our districts. We believe that by working together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant community that reflects the rich diversity of our neighborhoods and ensures that all voices are heard and valued. In pursuing our goals, we remain steadfast in our commitment to transparency, accountability, and the fundamental principles of democracy, as we seek to inspire and mobilize citizens to take an active role in shaping the future of our beloved city.

In light of all these factors, we implore you to uphold the appeal regarding 111 Taylor Street. This matter is not merely an administrative issue; it is one of ethical significance that profoundly impacts the lives of many individuals and the historical legacy of the Tenderloin neighborhood. The decision made by the Board today will resonate far beyond the immediate context and will serve as a testament to our commitment to justice, equity, and the protection of our community's rich history. It is our collective responsibility to honor and preserve the legacy of those who fought for justice before us, and we urge the Board to act in a manner that reflects the values of compassion, equity, and justice that our community holds dear.

In a spirit of Unity, we stand together, recognizing the strength that comes from our collective efforts and shared purpose, embracing the idea that our combined voices and actions can create lasting change and foster a sense of belonging among us all.

Denise Dorey  
Michael Nulty  
Co-Presidents

## ***Central City Democrats***

P.O. Box 420846  
San Francisco, CA 94142-0846  
415-339-VOTE (8683) v/Fax  
centralcitydemocrats@yahoo.com

**Bringing downtown merchants and residents together since 2006.**

<http://centralcitydemocrats.blogspot.com/>

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Kristi Yummykochi <myyummykochi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 2:29 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi,

My name is Nick LARGE. My last name is a size, and I am a Japanese American, Policy Analyst, local drag queen, and resident of the Civic Center area. I am writing because I believe GEO Group should not be allowed to operate a private prison-style reentry facility in one of the most important locally designated landmarks in our city. I would encourage the commissioners to be responsive to both the historic context and current moment. I believe there is both a moral and legal imperative that this site be returned to community hands.

During WWII, my great grandfather was arrested without due process and held in a detention facility with other Japanese Americans. Today, GEO Group now operates immigrant detention facilities for ICE out of several of those exact same facilities, with many detainees increasingly arrested without due process. During earnings calls, these facilities and subsequent federal contracts are gleefully celebrated. San Francisco should not allow itself to be fooled by this bad-acting corporate entity.

GEO Group claims to be operating a "Group Housing" facility at 111 Taylor Street, but publicly advertised materials from GEO Group itself contradict this. It is widely known that the facility has mandated program participation and required participants to pay a portion of their income to reside there. Does this sound like group housing? Honey, no. Additionally, we also know that conditions at the facility have had serious safety concerns and that GEO Group itself has a history of fostering unsafe conditions.

In 2024, San Francisco Public Defender Mano Raju said, "Conditions at 111 Taylor emphasize our longstanding position that state and federal governments need to stop awarding lucrative contracts to private prison corporations, as time and time again we witness how they fail to protect the safety and wellbeing of the people in their custody and in the community." Looking at the history of GEO Group across the country shows that this is not an isolated incident, but a recurring trend that must be factored into this decision. In 2014 in Denver, Colorado, detainees were shown to be threatened with solitary confinement if they refused to work without pay. After several such plaintiffs came forward the case grew into a class-action lawsuit which ultimately led to the Denver City Council terminating contracts with Geo Group. In 2017, the Washington state Attorney General Bob Ferguson sued GEO Group because the corporation was "paying" immigrant detainees with snacks or \$1 per day for their labor. Eventually this led to GEO Group being liable for a \$23.2 million compensation package for both the state and detainees. In San Bernardino in 2023, GEO Group was sued by the Social Justice Legal Foundation for slowly poisoning more Than 1,400 of the detainees at the Adelanto Detention Center. In June of 2024, the EPA joined in on this complaint, saying that GEO Group used a disinfectant without proper protections. Unfortunately, this suit was recently and "mysteriously" dropped after GEO Group donated \$4m to Trump's inauguration fund...

GEO Group has a history of creating unsafe conditions in order to extract public resources for incarceration. They are a for-profit prison corporation that acts in bad faith and should be treated as such. San Francisco should not allow them to abuse zoning code and manipulate us with their euphemistic language. Any and all contracts with GEO Group should be cancelled and they should be barred from being an approved contractor. The site of the former Compton's Cafeteria at 111 Taylor is one that has brought San Francisco international recognition. There is a history and legacy at that site that is calling out to us in anguish to honor it. I hope we are able to meet that moment.

Thank you for your attention on this issue.

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Analisa Raccanello <a.j.raccanello@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 2:33 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. A site meant to commemorate trans resistance has become a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company known for anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

Additionally, the city failed to conduct a CEQA analysis before approving GEO Group's continued operations at 111 Taylor. CEQA mandates environmental review when a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a historical resource, and 111 Taylor is on the California Register of Historical Resources. GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents exactly the kind of change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight and sets a dangerous precedent for historical sites across San Francisco.

Thank you for your prompt correction of this matter.

Sincerely,  
Analisa Raccanello  
(Resident of the Tenderloin, 94109)

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** LH Caalim <lhcaalim@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 2:58 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member, and taxpayer, deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria riot.

This is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women, particularly trans women of color, rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafe in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements.

Today, the building is occupied by the GEO group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse.

This isn't only a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy, but that of SF's legacy.

SF is a sanctuary city and has been an epicenter for liberation movements and humanity progression.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

1. End the city's contract with GEO group and ensure it is not renewed
2. Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
3. Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

Please be on the right side of history...or else be read by generations to come that this board voted for the wrong things.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Respectfully,  
Reverend LH

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Kayly Hernandez <kaylyhernandez9@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 3:05 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Kayly Hernandez, and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women - particularly trans women of color - rose up against police violence and systematic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet, today the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

- End the City's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.
- Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
- Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there - not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Kayly Hernandez  
510-603-1807

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** district6gays@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 3:13 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street Letter of Determination Board of Appeals Hearing on July 16, 2025

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

San Francisco Board of Appeals Members,

Central City Pride strongly support the appeal against the San Francisco Planning Department's January 2025 Letter of Determination regarding 111 Taylor Street, a site of profound historical significance as it is recognized as the location of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot, which is not only a landmark event in LGBTQ+ history but also a crucial turning point in the broader fight against systemic oppression and violence faced by marginalized communities. This event marked one of the earliest trans and queer uprisings against police violence in the United States, highlighting the desperate need for change and resilience against a backdrop of societal discrimination. The implications of this historical context underscore the critical need for careful and thoughtful decision-making by the Board, as the ramifications of the appeal extend not only within the confines of this specific site but also resonate throughout the broader narrative of resilience and activism that has characterized our community throughout the decades, influencing generations of advocates and allies who continue to champion the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals today.

Several critical procedural and substantive issues must be addressed in relation to this appeal, which have far-reaching implications for community engagement and representation. Notably, a community member who is subscribed to Block Book Notifications did not receive the January Letter from the Planning Department, which severely hindered their ability to engage in the appeal process and raises significant concerns about the transparency and fairness in the procedures that govern public communication. This oversight is not merely a technicality; it highlights systemic barriers that often prevent marginalized voices from being heard and included in critical discussions that affect their lives. It is imperative that a jurisdiction hearing be held to ensure that these marginalized voices, which are often overlooked in such processes, are heard and allowed to contribute meaningfully to the discourse surrounding this important matter. Ensuring that all community members have access to vital information is essential for fostering an inclusive environment where diverse perspectives can be represented, valued, and integrated into the decision-making process.

Furthermore, there are also pressing questions regarding the site's compliance with the Group Housing designation under the RC-4 zoning code, which are critical to understanding the legal and ethical implications of the property's operation. The property operates similarly to a residential care facility but lacks the necessary permits required for its lawful operation. This discrepancy has the potential to create serious legal issues affecting both current residents and the broader community, raising concerns about the safety and security of those who rely on the services provided at this location. It is crucial that these compliance issues be thoroughly examined and resolved to ensure that the rights and safety of residents are upheld, allowing them to live in a secure and supportive environment. The implications of failing to address these matters could have far-reaching



consequences, not just for the individuals currently residing at the site but also for the community at large, which deserves to have its interests protected and prioritized.

Adding to the urgency of this situation, numerous complaints have been submitted to the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) detailing unsafe and unsanitary conditions present at the site, which pose immediate health risks to residents who may already be facing significant challenges in their daily lives. These reports highlight immediate health risks that necessitate urgent intervention and reveal a critical need for the Board to take these concerns seriously and act decisively to protect the most vulnerable members of our community. Ensuring that the basic health and safety needs of these residents are met is not just a matter of compliance; it is a moral obligation that reflects our collective commitment to justice and equity. It is essential that we prioritize the well-being of individuals who may not have the means to advocate for themselves, as doing so reflects our shared values and commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all.

Since its inception in 2002, District 6 Gays has provided a vital voice for the LGBTQ+ community residing in San Francisco's vibrant Downtown neighborhoods, advocating for rights, fostering inclusivity, and creating a profound sense of belonging among individuals who identify as part of this diverse and dynamic community. This organization has played a crucial role in organizing events, political forums, and outreach initiatives that empower individuals and raise awareness about the myriad challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ population, creating spaces for dialogue, support, and activism. Following recent redistricting efforts aimed at better representing the needs and voices of local residents, the organization underwent a significant transformation and was renamed Central City Pride, a name that reflects not only its history but also its ongoing commitment to pride, unity, and advocacy for all LGBTQ+ members. This rebranding signifies a renewed focus on ensuring that the community's needs are met and that their voices are heard in the heart of the city, reinforcing the importance of collective action and solidarity in the face of ongoing challenges. Central City Pride aims to not only celebrate the rich diversity of the community but also to confront and challenge the inequalities that persist, actively working toward a more equitable and inclusive future for everyone, where all individuals can thrive without fear of discrimination or violence.

Due to these factors, we request that you follow the appeal regarding 111 Taylor Street. This matter is not merely an administrative issue; it is one of significant ethical importance that profoundly impacts the lives of many individuals and the historical legacy of the Tenderloin neighborhood, a community that has long been both a refuge and a battleground in the fight for LGBTQ+ rights. The decision made by the Board today will resonate far beyond the immediate context and will serve as a testament to our commitment to justice, equity, and the protection of our community's rich history. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the decisions made today reflect our values and commitment to preserving the legacy of those who fought for the rights we hold dear, creating a path forward that honors their sacrifices and empowers future generations to continue the struggle for equality and justice. This is not just about a single location but about the ideals and principles that we stand for as a community committed to inclusivity, dignity, and respect for all individuals.

Central City Pride organizing committee collective

**Since 2002, District 6 Gays has actively provided a voice for members of the LGBT communities in San Francisco.**

<https://www.facebook.com/CentralCityPride>

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** John Dorman <jdorman42@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 3:28 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Please Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is John Dorman, and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women—particularly trans women of color—rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

- End the City's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.
- Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
- Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there—not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
John Dorman  
1515 Sutter St, San Francisco, CA 94109

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** 86 Dwellers <86dwellers@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 3:49 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street Development - July 16 2025 Public Hearing

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Board of Appeals Members,

We at 86 Dwellers of San Francisco support the August 1966 trans women, street queens, gay hustlers and unhoused youth who fought back against police violence at Gene Compton's Cafeteria in San Francisco at 111 Taylor Street. We strongly support the appeal against San Francisco Planning Department's January 2025 Letter of Determination regarding 111 Taylor Street . We Stand with the Liberate Compton coalition.

Executive Board Members of 86 Dwellers

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Elizabeth Cooper <elizabethpjcooper@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 4:04 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Revoke LOD for 111 Taylor

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

Furthermore,

The Planning Department did not consider the disproportionate impact GEO Group's operations have on trans people, Black and brown residents, and formerly incarcerated individuals in the Tenderloin. By treating this like a simple zoning request, they erased the power dynamics at play. The City has an equity framework, a sanctuary policy, and a stated commitment to trans liberation. Those values must apply to land use decisions. Anything less is policy in name only.

Furthermore, the Planning Department did not consider the disproportionate impact GEO Group's operations have on trans people, Black and brown residents, and formerly incarcerated individuals in the Tenderloin. By treating this like a simple zoning request, they erased the power dynamics at play. The City has an equity framework, a sanctuary policy, and a stated commitment to trans liberation. Those values must apply to land use decisions. Anything less is policy in name only.

Thank you for reading,

Elizabeth Cooper  
Resident of SF since 2012

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Zerena Diaz <zerena@publicprofit.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 4:21 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor St. public comment

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board,

I'm writing today to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St. GEO Group's current use of 111 Taylor meets nearly every characteristic of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3, not Group Housing. Headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

Additionally this site is a historic landmark with many community stakeholders who deserve to provide input and appeal the letter of determination. At this moment in history it is imperative that we uplift and preserve SF's history as a home of activism for trans and gender non conforming people. The Planning Department's determination failed to evaluate whether the current use is compatible with the preservation goals of those districts. Under Articles 10 and 11, even uses that undermine the cultural and social context of a landmark, like for-profit incarceration on the site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, must be scrutinized. The Board has the authority to require that this site be treated as a protected community resource, not a backroom exception.

Thank you for listening to our comments.

Best,

Zerena

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Zerena Diaz (she/they) | [Why Pronouns Matter](#)

#freepalestine  
Operations Manager  
Public Profit  
Oakland, California  
323.317.3705  
[www.publicprofit.net](http://www.publicprofit.net)

I have a 36-hour workweek. My work hours are 9 am - 6 pm PST, Monday - Thursday.

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Chris Chirinos <chrischirinos@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 4:29 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 111 Taylor Street

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I am writing to demand an end to carceral use of this historic site by revoking the January 28 Letter of Determination and stopping GEO Group's unlawful use of 111 Taylor.

--  
**In Liberation,  
Chris**

FREE ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE | FREE SUDAN | FREE CONGO | FREE PALESTINE 🇵🇸 | FREE CUBA  
Chris D. Chirinos | she/ella  
[chrischirinos@gmail.com](mailto:chrischirinos@gmail.com) [ghojasdecoca@protonmail.com](mailto:ghojasdecoca@protonmail.com)

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** northofmarketplanningcoalition@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 4:44 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** 111 Taylor Street Letter of Determination appeal

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

North of Market Planning Coalition's former board members firmly support the appeal challenging the San Francisco Planning Department's January 2025 Letter of Determination regarding 111 Taylor Street. This site, currently operated by the GEO Group under a reentry contract, holds significant historical importance as the location of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot. This event is recognized as one of the earliest known trans and queer uprisings against police violence in the United States, marking a pivotal moment in the ongoing struggle for civil rights and social justice for marginalized communities. This historical context not only underscores the importance of addressing the current situation with the utmost care and attention but also highlights the critical need for a comprehensive understanding of the implications of any decisions made regarding this site, which carries the weight of such profound historical significance.

There are significant procedural and substantive issues with the determination that must be examined thoroughly and with great care, as they are crucial to ensuring justice and equity in our community. These issues not only affect the immediate circumstances surrounding the case at hand but also have broader implications for the trust and faith that the community places in our legal and social systems. The integrity of these systems relies heavily on the fair and impartial evaluation of all factors involved, as well as an unwavering commitment to upholding the rights of all individuals, irrespective of their background or circumstances.

Moreover, it is essential to recognize that the procedural issues pertain to how the determination was reached, including the adherence to established legal protocols, the accessibility of the process to those affected, and the transparency of the decision-making criteria. These factors contribute significantly to the perceived legitimacy of the outcomes. On the other hand, substantive issues concern the core principles and values that underpin the determination itself, such as fairness, equality, and justice, which must be reflected throughout the legal framework and its application in real-world scenarios.

Furthermore, the outcomes of such determinations can have far-reaching consequences that impact the lives of individuals and families within our society, shaping their access to resources, opportunities, and the overall quality of life. This is particularly pertinent in marginalized communities, where inequities may be exacerbated by flawed determinations that overlook or misinterpret critical aspects of their situations. Therefore, a thorough examination of both procedural and substantive elements is essential to foster an environment where justice is truly served, and equity is not just an ideal, but a lived reality for everyone in our community. Protecting the rights of individuals and ensuring that all voices are heard and considered is paramount to building a just society that values the dignity and worth of every person, thereby reinforcing the foundation upon which our community stands.

A community member who subscribed to Block Book Notifications for this site did not receive the January Letter of Determination, significantly affecting their ability to file a timely and informed appeal. This lack of notification is not merely a procedural error; it undermines the very foundation of community engagement in the planning process and raises pressing concerns about transparency and accountability in how decisions are communicated to those who are directly impacted. The failure to provide timely notifications can lead to the disenfranchisement of community voices, which is particularly detrimental in matters of such significance. A jurisdiction hearing is urgently needed to ensure that all voices, especially those of marginalized community members who have historically been excluded from the process, are heard and considered in this critical matter, thereby fostering a more inclusive and equitable dialogue regarding the future of this site.

Serious questions remain about whether the site's current use complies with the Group Housing designation under the RC-4 zoning code. The facility operates more like a residential care facility, which typically has different operational standards and requirements to ensure the safety, health, and well-being of its residents. However, it appears to be operating without the necessary permits or zoning changes that would legally permit such a use, creating a legal gray area with profound implications for the well-being of residents and the surrounding community. This situation not only raises concerns about the legality of the operations but also highlights potential risks and liabilities that could arise for both the operators and the broader community. The lack of clarity and adherence to zoning regulations could lead to adverse outcomes that impact the safety and quality of life for residents, thereby necessitating a thorough review and reconsideration of the facility's current operational status.

North of Market Planning Coalition's former Board Members



## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Izzy Parnell-Wolfe <izzy.h.pw@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 4:49 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group's Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member, and taxpayer, deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria riot.

This is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women, particularly trans women of color, rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafe in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements.

Today, the building is occupied by the GEO group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse.

This isn't only a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy, but that of SF's legacy.

SF is a sanctuary city and has been an epicenter for liberation movements and humanity progression.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

1. End the city's contract with GEO group and ensure it is not renewed
2. Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
3. Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

Please be on the right side of history...or else be remembered by generations to come that this board voted for the wrong things.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Izzy Parnell-Wolfe

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Delphine Brody <delphine.brody@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 5:01 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Appeal of LOD for 111 Taylor St.

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Trasviña and Board of Appeals,

As a trans woman who came of age in San Francisco and a decade-long resident of San Francisco's Tenderloin and Transgender District and a member of the Compton's Coalition, I am writing to urge you to revoke the letter of determination for 111 Taylor St ("LOD"). For multiple reasons that I discuss below, this LOD, which the Planning Department issued on January 28, 2025 but suspended May 12, 2025 pending the appeal of Chandra LaBorde, the Zoning Administrator should not have granted this LOD.

First and foremost, the US Secretary of the Interior's Standards require that historic properties retain not just their structure, but their character and cultural significance. GEO Group's use is in direct conflict with these standards. It is both unfathomable and unacceptable that a property recognized for its significance as the historic site of trans resistance has instead been used as a carceral, for-profit facility run by a company that is infamous for its anti-immigrant and anti-Black practices. This is a textbook example of cultural erasure, and the failure to review it under federal preservation guidance is indefensible.

Moreover, in granting the LOD, the Planning Department did not consider the disproportionate impact GEO Group's operations have on trans people, Black and brown residents, and formerly incarcerated individuals in the Tenderloin. By treating this like a simple zoning request, they erased the power dynamics at play. The City has an equity framework, a sanctuary policy, and a stated commitment to trans liberation. Those values must apply to land use decisions. Anything less is policy in name only.

In terms of zoning permits, GEO Reentry Services, the subsidiary of GEO Group which leases, manages and operates the facility at 111 Taylor St., appears to have flouted the zoning and permitting process by putting in place an unpermitted change of occupancy from Residential Group R-2 to Institutional Group I-3. This change of occupancy requires stricter fire, life safety, and accessibility standards. GEO Reentry Services added locked doors, surveillance systems, and medical programs *without finalizing permits or securing a change-of-use approval*. Therefore, this site may not comply with the 2022 Building Code's minimum requirements for seismic safety, egress, fire suppression, or ADA access. These aren't technicalities, they're major safety issues that could make the difference between life and death of occupants in the event of a major disaster.

Despite the Planning Department's long-standing miscategorization of this facility as "group housing" until the City changed its definition of that zoning category in 2022, upon which it was granted nominal acceptance as a "legal nonconforming use", GEO Group's use of 111 Taylor still meets nearly every criteria of an Institutional Facility or Residential Care Facility under Planning Code §§ 102 and 209.3,

and no longer meets any criteria for Group Housing. GEO Group's routine policies and practices of headcounts, surveillance, curfews, drug testing, and 24/7 staff control place residents of the facility under custodial care. This requires a Conditional Use Authorization, yet no such CUA was issued. Continuing to allow this use misclassifies the building's function, weakens zoning enforcement, and invites future violations by other bad actors.

The danger to the lives and safety of 111 Taylor Street's occupants under the current use in a major earthquake cannot be overstated. While GEO Reentry Services claims in its response to this appeal that the 111 Taylor Street Residential Reentry Center is “housed in an earthquake-safe... four-story building”, all evidence points to the contrary. GEO Group's subsidiary WBP Leasing Inc., which owns the property and leases it to GEO Reentry Services, has failed to document that the structure has been inspected and evaluated by a structural engineer as seismically sound. According to a copy of an unpublished San Francisco Office of Resilience and Capital Planning draft inventory of 3,407 non-ductile concrete buildings in San Francisco that may be at high risk of catastrophic collapse in a high-magnitude earthquake, dated March 2023, obtained by NBC News through a public records act request, and published in a May 23, 2023 news article, 101 Taylor Street is among the listed properties vulnerable to collapse in a major earthquake. Although the “working draft inventory contains inaccuracies in its current form,” according to the draft inventory, the document notes, “[t]he only way to know a building’s composition and level of safety is to have it evaluated by a qualified structural engineer”. The historic building was constructed in 1907, during an era in which seismically safer construction standards had yet to be developed and codified into federal law with Congress’ passage of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (Public Law 95-124) and formation of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program. While the draft inventory is preliminary and buildings may be taken off or added as city workers learn more about specific locations, the structure was built with concrete seven decades before the modern standard was introduced in 1977, which calls for seismic reinforcement with steel bar-reinforced concrete (rebar) underneath each floor to make it less brittle and more ductile in order to prevent sudden catastrophic collapse, so as to allow occupants to safely exit the building during a major temblor. Retrofit protocol varies, but for large multi-story concrete buildings like 101/111 Taylor St., adding more concrete walls and/or steel brace frames, or in some cases wrapping the concrete elements with a specially engineered structural fiber to reinforce the concrete is typically required at a bare minimum to prevent loss of life. None of these retrofits are visible from the outside of the building, and without evaluation of the building by a qualified structural engineer, it remains unclear whether WBP Leasing or any previous owner has had the building retrofitted in accordance with the standard set forth in the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977. Based on recent earthquake forecasts, there is a 51% chance of a magnitude 7.0 or greater earthquake in the San Francisco Bay Area within the next 30 years. This is an estimate based on studies like the Third Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast (UCERF3). With 197-217 parolees plus staff present in the building at any given time according to GEO Reentry Services’ Appeal Response, in the event of a M7.0 or greater earthquake, if the four-story non-ductile concrete building has not been properly reinforced, the structure is at high risk of snapping or exploding, which may cause an instantaneous collapse and catastrophic loss of life of all occupants. This risk cannot be understated and must be evaluated by a qualified structural engineer.

The LOD also violates state law requiring environmental analysis. The Planning Department's Environmental Planning Division failed to conduct a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis pursuant to San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 31 before approving GEO Group’s continued operations at 111 Taylor. Because 101-121 Taylor St., the building that includes 111 Taylor, is on the California Register of Historical Resources, CEQA mandates environmental review of the project, as its current use may cause a substantial adverse change to the building as a historical resource.

Without a doubt, GEO Group's intensified institutional use, particularly with expanded federal contracting, surveillance, and restricted access, represents precisely the kind of adverse change CEQA was designed to prevent. Bypassing this process is a clear legal oversight, setting a dangerous precedent for historical sites across the City.

Last but not least, the building also falls within the Turk & Taylor Landmark District and the broader Article 11 Conservation District. Yet the Planning Department's determination failed to evaluate whether the current use is compatible with the preservation goals of those districts. Under Articles 10 and 11, even uses that undermine the cultural and social context of a landmark, like for-profit incarceration on the historic site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, must be scrutinized. The Board has the authority to require that this site be treated as a protected community resource, not a backroom exception.

For these reasons, I urge the Board to revoke this LOD. Given that GEO Group's use of 111 Taylor St. violates the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for historic properties, its disproportionate inequitable impact on transgender, BIPOC and formerly incarcerated people in the Tenderloin and Transgender District and throughout the Bay Area, and the zoning, permitting, seismic, environmental and conservation issues outlined above, this LOD clearly should never have been granted.

Sincerely,

Delphine Mara Brody

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"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."  
- *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

"For it is not difference which immobilizes us, but silence. And there are so many silences to be broken."  
- *Audre Lorde*

## Mejia, Xiomara (BOA)

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**From:** Sierra Drossman <sierrapearl15@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2025 8:47 PM  
**To:** BoardofAppeals (PAB)  
**Subject:** Cancel GEO Group Lease at the Historic Compton's Cafeteria Site

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is Sierra Drossman, and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot.

This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women—particularly trans women of color—rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin. Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

I urge you and the Board of Supervisors to:

- End the City's contract with GEO Group and ensure it is not renewed after June 30, 2025.
- Support historic landmark designation to preserve the site from harmful redevelopment or displacement.
- Back community demands to return 111 Taylor to the people, transforming it into a trans-centered space rooted in housing justice, mutual aid, and cultural memory.

I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there—not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Sierra Drossman

**From:** [Nyah Scott](#)  
**To:** [BoardofAppeals \(PAB\)](#)  
**Subject:** GEO Group Out of SF - Stand with the people.  
**Date:** Friday, July 11, 2025 8:36:06 AM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

A private prison entity in SF will only damp out the light of our community that is already moving in fear of police and detention authorities. When people are in fear and feel less protected in our “sanctuary city,” they are less likely to speak up in other parts of their life (work, school, third spaces, etc.) where they seek to improve their conditions. Fear and vulnerability pull down quality of life in a tangible way.

My name is Nyah, and I'm writing as a San Francisco resident and community member deeply concerned about the current use of 111 Taylor Street, the historic site of the 1966 Compton's Cafeteria Riot. This site is a landmark of queer and trans resistance. In 1966, trans women-particularly trans women of color-rose up against police violence and systemic criminalization at Compton's Cafeteria in the Tenderloin.

Their resistance helped lay the foundation for modern queer liberation movements. Yet today, the building is operated by the GEO Group, a private prison corporation with a well-documented record of labor violations, immigrant detention, and human rights abuse. This is a shameful betrayal of Compton's legacy.

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I call on San Francisco to honor this sacred site and align the future of 111 Taylor with the spirit of liberation that was born there-not incarceration.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this critical issue.

Best,

Nyah Scott