

**From:** [Jennifer Heggie](#)  
**To:** [Hur, Alice \(ENV\)](#)  
**Subject:** Ensure that SF Environment can successfully pursue Zero-Waste  
**Date:** Monday, April 28, 2025 10:26:43 AM

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Secretary Alice Hur,

I am writing in support of San Francisco Environment Department's request to increase by \$3 million the amount they receive from Recology to fund our City's voter-mandated Zero Waste goals. I am also writing to express extreme concern by those on a fixed income about increases in cumulative monthly utility cost increases.

If San Francisco is going to meet its goals, SFE must be properly funded to achieve them. Proposition F, passed by the voters in 2022, requires that the rates charged by the refuse service be just and reasonable, and also must be adequate to meet the City's environmental goals.

We also need to recognize the impact of cost changes on the elderly. My neighbor who owns her home cannot cope with utility cost increases and cannot afford to move. There needs to be tiered pricing or more flexible options for seniors, possibly combining multiple refuse accounts and bins with other elderly neighbors into one account.

SFE's work so far in reducing waste has been exceptional - the three-bin waste system has been extremely successful, and has been copied worldwide. Yet more needs to be done to reduce waste, deal with toxics, and to fund greater efforts to separate, recover and reuse refuse, including batteries and other e-waste.

We must reduce the methane emitted from landfill; we know it is a potent greenhouse gas. We must properly deal with the wide variety of toxic materials that are produced so that we do not continue to foul the planet and damage life. If we can reclaim some of the rare earth elements, we can reduce the damage from mining. SFE has proved very effective in helping to inform the public and promote these goals.

I ask that you fully support the request for \$3 million, as it is necessary for SFE to do its mandated work. Thank you.

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