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To: [Hur, Alice \(ENV\)](#)
Subject: Ensure that SF Environment can successfully pursue Zero-Waste
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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.

San Francisco has been a great laboratory for Recology to develop composting and recycling strategies that they can use in their bids for contracts elsewhere in California as the state implements ever cleaner standards for all jurisdictions. Recology should not expect outsized monopoly profits on the backs of San Franciscans who have funded their successful cleaner waste management strategies.

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. 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.

I believe that the request is modest, given the scope and the urgency of the problem, as well as the Prop F mandate to reach SF's environmental goals. 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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