

## **Commission Streamlining Task Force**

### CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

# **MEMORANDUM**

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

**FROM:** Rachel Alonso, Project Director, City Administrator's Office

Joanna Bell, Senior Performance Analyst, Controller's Office Henry O'Connell, Senior Performance Analyst, Controller's Office

**DATE:** July 11, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Recommended Actions for Inactive Policy Bodies

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

On June 13, staff issued <u>a memo</u> which identified 34 inactive policy bodies. Staff then contacted City departments to gather more information about each of these bodies. We sought to understand:

- why the body stopped meeting
- what duties it performed while active
- whether any of these duties are essential to the effective operation of government
- whether essential duties have been assumed by another body or City department
- whether the department intends to reactivate the body
- whether the department recommends eliminating the body and removing it from code

After further investigation, staff recommend eliminating 31 of these and deferring decision-making on 3.

At its July 16 meeting, the Task Force will discuss inactive policy bodies and may vote to eliminate any or all of these bodies from the code. If the Task Force recommends eliminating a body at the July 16 meeting, the City Attorney will prepare draft legislation removing it from code. The Task Force will then review the draft legislation at a future meeting and vote on whether to forward it to the Board of Supervisors. The Task Force may amend its decisions at any time before the final legislation is approved.

Several bodies may follow alternative processes for elimination and removal.

- The Public Utilities Commission is concurrently developing an ordinance to remove the Industrial Waste Review Board from the Public Works Code
- The Permit Prioritization Task Force may only be removed from the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code via a special process involving supermajority approval by the Ethics Commission (4/5 votes) and the Board of Supervisors (8/11 votes)
- The Street Design Review Committee and the Workforce Development Advisory Committee are both proposed for elimination in a draft ordinance before the Board of Supervisors

The following memo includes a discussion and recommended action for each inactive body. These recommendations are intended to support Task Force decision-making and action.

# **Summary of Recommended Actions for Inactive Bodies**

Name	Code Citation  Administrative Code § 44.1	Depai	rtment	Recommendation  Eliminate
Adult Day Health Care Planning Council		HSA	Human Services Agency	
Advisory Council on Human Rights	Administrative Code § 12A.6	HRC	Human Rights Commission	Eliminate
African American Arts and Cultural District Community Advisory Committee	Administrative Code § 5.30-1	MYR	Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development	Eliminate
Board of Examiners	Charter § D3.750-5, Building Code § 105A.1	DBI	Building Inspection	Defer decision- making
Capital Implementation Committee	Park Code § 13.03	RPD	Recreation and Parks Department	Eliminate
Citizens Advisory Committee for Street Utility Construction	Administrative Code § 5.64	DPW	Public Works	Eliminate
City Agency Task Force (Lead Abatement)	Health Code § 1606	DPH	Public Health	Eliminate
City-Operated Farmers' Market Advisory Committees	Administrative Code § 9A.6	ADM	City Administrator	Eliminate
Close Juvenile Hall Working Group	Administrative Code § 5.40-1	JUV	Juvenile Probation	Eliminate
Committee for Planning Utility Construction Program	Administrative Code § 5.63	DPW	Public Works	Eliminate
Contract Review Committee	Administrative Code § 12D.8	ADM	City Administrator	Eliminate
Delinquency Prevention Commission	Administrative Code § 20.50	JUV	Juvenile Probation	Eliminate
Employee Relations Board	Charter § A8.409	DHR	Human Resources	Eliminate
Graffiti Advisory Board	Administrative Code § 5.18-1	DPW	Public Works	Eliminate
Housing Stability Fund Oversight Board	Administrative Code § 5.45-1	MYR	Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development	Eliminate
Industrial Development Authority Board	Cal. Gov't Code §§ 91520 et seq.; Admin. Code §§ 42.1 et seq.	ECN	Economic and Workforce Development	Eliminate
Industrial Waste Review Board	Public Works Code § 131	PUC	Public Utilities Commission	Eliminate <sup>1</sup>
Local Business Enterprise Preference Program Working Group	Administrative Code § 14B.16	ADM	City Administrator	Eliminate
Long Term Care Coordinating Council	Referenced in Charter §§ 16.128-1, 16.128-6, and 16.128-11	HSA	Human Services Agency	Defer decision- making

Name	Code Citation	Depar	rtment	Recommendation
Newsrack Advisory Committee	Public Works Code § 184.12	DPW	Public Works	Eliminate
Our Children, Our Families Council	Charter § 16.127-1; Administrative Code § 102.1	CHF	Children, Youth, and Their Families	Defer decision- making
Permit Prioritization Task Force	Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code § 3.400	ADM	City Administrator	Eliminate <sup>2</sup>
PUC Small Firm Advisory Committee	Administrative Code § 14B.5f	PUC	Public Utilities Commission	Eliminate
Relocation Appeals Board	Cal. Health & Safety Code § 33417.5; Admin. Code §§ 24.7, 24B.1	MYR	Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development	Eliminate
Residential Rehabilitation Area Citizen Advisory Committees	Administrative Code §§ 32.30, 32.30-1	CPC	City Planning	Eliminate
Residential Rehabilitation Area Rent Committees	Administrative Code § 32.34	CPC	City Planning	Eliminate
San Francisco Residential Hotel Operators Advisory Committee	Administrative Code § 41.21	DBI	Building Inspection	Eliminate
Street Design Review Committee	Administrative Code § 98.2	DPW	Public Works	Eliminate <sup>3</sup>
Street Utilities Coordinating Committee	Administrative Code § 5.60	DPW	Public Works	Eliminate
Subcontracting Goals Committee	Administrative Code § 12D.8	ADM	City Administrator	Eliminate
Supportive Housing Services Fund Committee	Administrative Code § 10.100-131	MYR	Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development	Eliminate
Workforce Development Advisory Committee	Administrative Code § 83.8	ECN	Economic and Workforce Development	Eliminate <sup>3</sup>
Working Group on Local Business Enterprise Preference Program for City Leases and Concession Agreements	Administrative Code § 14B.16	ADM	City Administrator	Eliminate
Working Group to Investigate Barriers to LBE Participation	Administrative Code § 14B.16	ADM	City Administrator	Eliminate

#### **Notes:**

- 1. The PUC is concurrently working on an ordinance to eliminate this body and remove it from code.
- 2. This section of Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code can only be amended by supermajority approval of both the Board of Supervisors (8/11 votes) and Ethics Commission (4/5 votes).
- 3. An <u>ordinance</u> has already been introduced by the City Attorney's Office which, if passed, would eliminate this body

## **Recommended Actions for Inactive Policy Bodies**

1. Adult Day Health Care Planning Council (Human Services Agency)

Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) is a former California state program that provided medical and social services for older adults. In 2012, the state replaced ADHC with a new program called Community-Based Adult Services (CBAS). The California regulation requiring ADHC planning councils was removed with the transition to CBAS in 2012.

The Adult Day Health Care Planning Council oversaw San Francisco's ADHC program but has been non-functional for years.

Since this body oversees a defunct program, has not met in over a decade, and is not legally required, staff recommend eliminating it from code.

**Recommendation:** Eliminate

2. **Advisory Council on Human Rights** (Human Rights Commission)

To the best of our knowledge, the Advisory Council on Human Rights has not met in over 15 years, and staff at the Human Rights Commission do not have information on why it was discontinued. Given this long period of inactivity, staff recommend eliminating this body from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

 African American Arts and Cultural District Community Advisory Committee (Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development)

Although this body was formally established in 2020 and vacancies were publicly noticed in early 2021, there have been no nominations, appointments, or convenings to date. As such, no individuals have been seated, and the body has remained inactive since its inception. Below is a timeline of key activities.

- December 2018 Cultural District legislated
- December 2020 AAACD CAC created by ordinance
- January 2021 Board of Supervisors' website posted an "Inaugural Notice" listing seven vacant seats on the AAACD CAC
- January 2023 Original sunset date of the AAACD CAC
- February 2025 Ordinance re-establishing AAACD CAC, in conjunction with extending the due dates for report creation related to the Cultural District.

Due to the following reasons, staff recommend eliminating this body and removing it from the code:

• No appointments have been made to date

- MOHCD has not received any expressions of interest in activating the advisory body from the Cultural District or other community members
- None of the other nine Cultural Districts have an advisory body

#### **Recommendation: Eliminate**

#### 4. **Board of Examiners** (Department of Building Inspection)

The Board of Examiners is a group of building trades experts who hear appeals by building permit applicants and determine whether building plans comply with the provisions of the San Francisco Construction Codes. This body has the power to determine reasonable interpretation of these codes.

This body has only met once since 2020, for an informational-only meeting in November 2024. The main reason this body meets infrequently is that the Department of Building Inspection attempts to resolve most code compliance issues in-house to make permitting faster and easier for applicants. However, there are cases where the department and applicants cannot resolve disputes and need to refer them to a neutral third party to issue a determination. Department of Building Inspection staff note that potential state laws under consideration may require this group to meet more often.

Commission streamlining staff recommend deferring decision-making until October 1 when the Task Force will discuss housing and economic development bodies. In the interim, staff will gather more information about the potential impacts of state law, and about how this body could be modified to be more effective.

#### **Recommendation: Defer decision-making**

#### 5. **Capital Implementation Committee** (Recreation and Parks Department)

Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) staff believe this body was established to support coordination between RPD and the Department of Public Works (DPW) following the passage of the 2000 Neighborhood Park Bond. In 2005, RPD established its own Capital Division, which changed the roles and responsibilities of RPD and DPW in capital projects. As of 2020, bond funds had been fully expended. It is unknown when the Capital Implementation Committee last met.

#### **Recommendation: Eliminate**

#### 6. Citizens Advisory Committee for Street Utility Construction (Public Works)

This body has not been active for years and can be eliminated from the code.

#### 7. **City Agency Task Force (Lead Abatement)** (Public Health)

This body was established to exchange information regarding lead education and abatement, and to coordinate lead abatement activities across multiple City departments. To the best of our knowledge, this body has not met since 1999 yet lead abatement and education effort have continued. Several City departments, including the Department of Building Inspection, Department of Public Health, Public Utilities Commission, the San Francisco Unified School District, and others regulate and enforce lead hazards to protect San Francisco residents from lead exposure. Cross-departmental collaboration regularly occurs.

Staff recommend eliminating this body from the code, given that it has not met in over 25 years, and that, in its absence, City departments have continued to carry out its essential duties.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 8. City-Operated Farmers' Market Advisory Committees (City Administrator's Office)

Though many farmer's markets operate within the City of San Francisco, only one is run by the City government—the Alemany Farmers Market. This body was established to advise on that market's operations, but has not met since 2022 and can be eliminated from the code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 9. Close Juvenile Hall Working Group (Juvenile Probation Department)

On June 18, 2019, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed legislation to close Juvenile Hall by December 31, 2021. The Close Juvenile Hall Working Group met between 2019 and 2021 to develop a closure plan and issued a final report in 2021. Staff recommend eliminating this body from the code, given that it issued its final deliverable in 2021 and has since ceased meeting.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 10. Committee for Planning Utility Construction Program (Public Works)

This body has not been active for years and can be eliminated from the code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 11. Contract Review Committee (City Administrator's Office)

This body is defunct and can be removed from code.

#### 12. **Delinquency Prevention Commission** (Juvenile Probation Department)

To the best of our knowledge, this body has not met in at least 15 years, and its purpose overlaps significantly with several active bodies focused on juvenile justice and delinquency. It is not legally required. For these reasons, staff recommend eliminating this body and removing it from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 13. **Employee Relations Board** (Department of Human Resources)

This body has never been active and can be removed from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 14. **Graffiti Advisory Board** (Public Works)

This body has not met in several years and can be eliminated from the code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

# 15. **Housing Stability Fund Oversight Board** (Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development)

In November 2020, San Francisco voters passed Proposition I, an ordinance changing the City's property transfer tax rate on some commercial and residential properties. Because the measure was a general tax, revenues are deposited into the city's General Fund.

Prior to the election, the Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance 233-20 establishing the Housing Stability Fund (HSF or Fund), into which revenues from the transfer tax increase would be deposited beginning December 31, 2021, and creating an Oversight Board to provide recommendations on how the City could allocate those revenues to support affordable housing policies and priorities, through a process centered in community input and feedback. These allocations are subject to approval from both the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor as part of the annual budget process.

HSFOB published funding recommendations in FY 22-23 and FY 23-24. However, except for a one-time supplemental appropriation to the Fund in March 2021, there have been no appropriations to the Fund from the General Fund or any other source, and the HSFOB has ceased meeting. As of June 18, 2025, four of the 11 seats are vacant, four seats are held by holdover members, and only three seats are held by active members.

Staff recommend eliminating this body since it was established to issue recommendations on City spending from a fund which does not have any money appropriated to it. If there are appropriations to the Fund in the future, MOHCD will administer the funds consistent with its current practice for administering 25+ specific funding sources.

#### 16. Industrial Development Authority Board (Office of Economic and Workforce

Development)

This body is defunct and can be removed from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 17. Industrial Waste Review Board (Public Works)

According to staff at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (PUC), this body has not previously been utilized, and the PUC is concurrently working on an ordinance to eliminate this body and remove it from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

## Local Business Enterprise Preference Program Working Group (City Administrator's Office)

This body is defunct and can be removed from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 19. Long Term Care Coordinating Council (Human Services Agency)

The Long Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCC) voted to disband in March 2024 due to its significant overlap with other policy bodies and its difficulty meeting quorum. However, the LTCC has a duty under the Charter to make appointments to the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee. While the LTCC can decide not to continue meeting in the near term, it cannot be eliminated without a Charter amendment.

Staff recommend deferring decision-making on the LTCC so that it can be discussed on October 15 at the same time as the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee.

**Recommendation: Defer decision-making** 

#### 20. Newsrack Advisory Committee (Public Works)

The Newsrack Advisory Committee was established to advise the Department of Public Works (DPW) on its pedmount news rack program. However, DPW's contract for pedmount news racks expired in November 2024, and the department recommends this body be eliminated and removed from code.

#### 21. Our Children, Our Families Council (Children, Youth, and Their Families)

The Our Children, Our Families Council (OCOF Council) is a coordinating body that was established in 2014 to develop a citywide vision and shared priorities for children's funding and programs. The body consisted of representatives from several City departments, the San Francisco Unified School District, and community based organizations, but has not met since 2019 or 2020.

In November 2024, San Francisco voters approved Proposition J, which created additional oversight and accountability for funding children and youth services. Prop J also made several changes to the OCOF Council and established a new OCOF Initiative, consisting of City staff, to support the work of the OCOF Council. The OCOF Initiative is not a policy body.

The Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families (DCYF) is in the process of implementing changes legislated by Prop J. It is possible for these changes to be implemented solely by the OCOF Initiative, without direction and oversight by the OCOF Council. However, a well-run OCOF Council may add value by supporting coordination between the various City agencies that provide children's programming and school district.

Staff are unable to issue a recommendation, given the contradictory evidence. We suggest deferring decision-making until after the Task Force has finalized its evaluation criteria. The OCOF Council could be discussed on October 15 alongside other bodies that oversee children's services and funding.

Reasons to Retain		Reasons to Eliminate		
•	This body may add value if run effectively	•	This body has been inactive for several	
•	Voters recently approved changes to this		years	
	body and established a new oversight	•	Key provisions of Prop J could	
	framework involving it (Prop J)		theoretically be implemented without it	

#### **Recommendation: Defer decision-making**

#### 22. **Permit Prioritization Task Force** (City Administrator's Office)

The Permit Prioritization Task Force was established in 2023 with the goal of recommending permit prioritization guidelines for several City departments by June 30, 2024. The Task Force achieved this goal, and its work has since been operationalized by City staff. This body is no longer meeting.

According to City staff in several permitting agencies, this work is now a core component of the City's PermitSF initiative, and a dedicated task force is no longer needed. Permitting departments continue to monitor service level requirements for all mandated permit timelines and, as of June 1, 2025, a broader set of performance standards has been issued publicly and will be used across all departments involved in construction permitting.

Staff recommend eliminating this body since it has accomplished its primary deliverable and its work has been operationalized by City departments. However, this body can only be

removed from the Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code by a specific process involving supermajorities of the Ethics Commission (4/5 approval) and Board of Supervisors (8/11 approval). We recommend forwarding this recommendation to the Ethics Commission for consideration and action.

#### Recommendation: Eliminate via a special legislative process

#### 23. PUC Small Firm Advisory Committee (Public Utilities Commission)

The committee stopped meeting sometime during COVID, but no one is sure when it last met. The activities of the committee have been taken on by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (PUC) itself. The PUC are currently in the process of putting a new contract for the work into the future. The work that the committee had done, while important, has not suffered due to its absence. Accordingly, PUC is recommending it be discontinued.

#### **Recommendation: Eliminate**

#### 24. Relocation Appeals Board (Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development)

The Relocation Appeals Board was previously required by California Health & Safety Code 33417.5 for cities and counties which had a Redevelopment Agency. The Board was organized to "hear all complaints brought by residents of the various project areas relating to relocation and shall determine if the redevelopment agency has complied with the provisions of this chapter and, where applicable, federal regulations."

San Francisco's Admin Code 24B utilized the same Board to hear appeals by individuals or businesses "forced to relocate their homes or businesses by ... any agency of the City and County of San Francisco"

San Francisco no longer has a Redevelopment Agency, as all such agencies were dissolved by the State. The successor Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure does not plan to conduct any relocations. As a general practice, the City does not force the relocation of homes or businesses. The Relocation Appeals Board has not had members appointed for at least the last 10 years, and no actions have been raised.

Staff recommend eliminating this body and removing it from code. If there is a forced relocation of a home or business by any agency of the City and County of San Francisco, the Board of Supervisors will most certainly have oversight of such action and ensure legality and fairness.

#### 25. Residential Rehabilitation Area Citizen Advisory Committees (City Planning)

This body relates to a former redevelopment era loan program. The State of California has since dissolved all redevelopment agencies and, to the best of the Planning Department's knowledge, the state or federal funding associated with this loan program has likely long-since evaporated. We recommend eliminating this body and removing it from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 26. **Residential Rehabilitation Area Rent Committees** (City Planning)

This body relates to a former redevelopment era loan program. The State of California has since dissolved all redevelopment agencies and, to the best of the Planning Department's knowledge, the state or federal funding associated with this loan program has likely long-since evaporated. We recommend eliminating this body and removing it from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

# 27. **San Francisco Residential Hotel Operators Advisory Committee** (Department of Building Inspection)

This body has not been active for years and can be eliminated from the code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

### 28. **Street Design Review Committee** (Public Works)

This body has not been active for years and can be eliminated from the code.

An <u>ordinance</u> has already been introduced by the City Attorney's Office which, if passed, would eliminate this body.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 29. Street Utilities Coordinating Committee (Public Works)

This body has not been active for years and can be eliminated from the code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

#### 30. **Subcontracting Goals Committee** (City Administrator's Office)

This body is defunct and can be removed from code.

31. **Supportive Housing Services Fund Committee** (Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development)

The Supportive Housing Services Fund and the Supportive Housing Services Fund Committee were created under San Francisco Administrative Code Sec. 10.100-131. The purpose of the Committee was to coordinate and review funding applications from housing providers for funding from the Fund, make recommendations for funding to the Mayor, and monitor implementation of proposals. However, dollars were never appropriated to the Fund and the Committee was never formed.

Staff recommend eliminating this body since it oversees a fund which does not and has never had any dollars appropriated to it.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

32. **Workforce Development Advisory Committee** (Office of Economic and Workforce Development)

This body has not been active for years and can be eliminated from the code.

An <u>ordinance</u> has already been introduced by the City Attorney's Office which, if passed, would eliminate this body.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

33. Working Group on Local Business Enterprise Preference Program for City Leases and Concession Agreements (City Administrator's Office)

This body is defunct and can be removed from code.

**Recommendation: Eliminate** 

34. **Working Group to Investigate Barriers to LBE Participation** (City Administrator's Office) This body is defunct and can be removed from code.