

City and County of San Francisco



Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Education, Outreach, and Training Committee

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Meeting Minutes

Members: Chris Hyland (Chair), David Pilpel, Ankita Kumar

Clerk: Patricia Petersen
(415) 554-7719 ~ patricia.petersen@sfgov.org

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

4:00 p.m.
Special Meeting

City Hall, Room 408

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND AGENDA CHANGES (00:01:13)**

Chair Hyland called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m. On the call of the roll Chair Hyland, and Members Pilpel and Yankee were noted present. Member Kumar was noted absent. A quorum was present. Task Force Administrator Pat Petersen was present.

David Steinberg: requested clarification about whether Petitioner was present for Item 9 (File 25048).

Action: Moved by Chair Hyland, seconded by Member Yankee, to move Item 9 to between Items 3 and 4.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Hyland, Yankee, Pilpel

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

2. **Approval of the January 28, 2025, Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Education, Outreach, and Training Committee meeting minutes. (00:10:24)**

The members discussed edits to the minutes.

Action: Moved by Member Pilpel, seconded by Chair Hyland, to approve the January 28, 2025 minutes as amended.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Pilpel, Hyland, Yankee

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

Member Yankee noted that the March 18, 2025 meeting was called to order, and it was adjourned shortly after it was called to order due to the WebEx link being incorrect the minutes. Member Yankee further stated that the agenda should revert to its original form, and that there should be a set of meeting minutes to reflect that there was a call to order and that the meeting was adjourned.

3. **Public Comment:** Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction but not on today's agenda. (00:15:29)

Michael Petrelis stated his disappointment that [the 7/15/2025 Regular Meeting of the Complaint Committee] did not take place because only one member showed up. Mr. Petrelis further stated his appreciation for hybrid meetings because they protect his health.

4. **File No. 25046:** Complaint filed by Michael Petrelis against Supervisor Jackie Fielder for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshne Ordinance), Section(s) 67.25 for failing to respond to an Immediate Disclosure Request in a timely and/or complete manner. (00:51:33)

Michael Petrelis (Petitioner) stated that a request to Supervisor Fielder email address is sufficient and that he should not have to alert or copy the Clerk of the Board. Mr. Petrelis further stated that Respondent's statement they responded promptly after receiving the complaint from the Task Force was past the deadline.

Feng Han (Respondent) stated that Supervisor Fielder has responded to Sunshine requests in a timely manner because both the clerk and her staff have been alert. Mr. Han further stated that Supervisor Fielder did not see Mr. Petrelis's request or follow-up which were sent only to her and not to her four staff, the general inbox for Fielder staff or the Clerk of the Board who generally fields such request for all board members. Mr. Han stated that Supervisor Fielder receives hundreds of emails every day and covers her own inbox and that given her demands does not always get to her emails in a timely manner. Mr. Han further stated that the request came during a challenging budget season, it is possible and reasonable to miss a communication and asks that as a best practice other individuals be copied. There are no responsive records.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

The parties provided rebuttals.

Action: Moved by Member Yankee, seconded by Member Pilpel, that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the consent agenda with a recommendation to find a violation of Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance) Section(s) 67.25(a).

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Yankee, Pilpel, Hyland

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

5. **File No. 25047:** Complaint filed by Michael Petrelis against Supervisor Matt Dorsey for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance) Section(s) 67.25 for failing to respond to an Immediate Disclosure Request in a timely and/or complete manner. (01:19:49)

Member Pilpel disclosed that he has been friends or acquaintances with Supervisor Dorsey for a number of years but has not spoken to him about File 25047.

Michael Petrelis (Petitioner) stated that his request was sent to Supervisor Dorsey and not to staff or a general sfgov address, and that he appreciated the Respondent did not contest the complaint.

Domenica Donovan (Respondent) stated that they declared no contest. Ms. Donovan further stated that the email went to spam, that Supervisor Dorsey's email box is monitored, and that processes will be in place to ensure that the spam box is checked regularly.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Mr. Petrelis provided a rebuttal. Ms. Donovan did not wish to provide a rebuttal.

Action: Moved by Member Pilpel, seconded by Member Yankee, that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the consent agenda with a recommendation to find a violation of Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance) Section(s) 67.25(a).

Public Comment: Mark Sullivan stated that he would have like to see the initial records request.

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Pilpel, Yankee, Hyland

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

6. **File No. 25035:** Complaint filed by Paul Kniha against the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21 by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner. (01:59:53)

Paul Kniha (Petitioner) stated that he has requested the costs of operating the Color Curb program and has not received them. He awaits a cost breakdown, actual costs not projections, and no analysis of revenues, and no performance measures.

Caroline Celaya (Respondent) provided advance notice that a representative would not attend. A representative from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (Respondent) was not present.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Mr. Kniha provided a rebuttal.

Action: Moved by Member Yankee, seconded by Member Pilpel, that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the full Task Force for hearing, and to warn the SFMTA that not sending an authorized representative to the full hearing would be a violation of 67.21(e).

Public Comment: Mark Sullivan stated that the SFMTA does not track these metrics and that they do not exist, but they probably have information showing the total number of requests by day or incidents and the number of requests addressed in whatever units since 1 July 2024, so they can give Mr. Kniha those records and let him assemble the metrics himself and assist the requester per Section 67.21(c).

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Yankee, Pilpel, Hyland

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

7. **File No. 25036:** Complaint filed by Paul Kniha against Broderick Paulo and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21 by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner. (02:40:17)

Paul Kniha (Petitioner) stated that the records regarding the establishment of the Blue Zone at 273 Channel Street have not been provided.

Caroline Celaya (Respondent) provided advance notice that a representative would not attend. A representative from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (Respondent) was not present.

Mr. Kniha provided a rebuttal.

Action: Moved by Member Yankee, seconded by Pilpel, that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the full Task Force for hearing, and to warn the SFMTA that not sending a authorized representative to the full hearing would be a violation of 67.21(e). File 25036 is to be heard with File 25035.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Yankee, Pilpel, Hyland

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

Action: Moved by Member Yankee, seconded by Chair Hyland, that the committee recommends that the Task Force Chair send a communication to the SFMTA Department Head informing her of the need for the SFMTA to comply with 67.21(e) requiring the custodian of the public records to attend any hearing of the Task Force and explain the basis for the decision to withhold the records requested.

Public Comment: None

Ayes: Yankee, Hyland, Pilpel

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

8. **File No. 25039:** Complaint filed by Eric Roussel against the San Francisco Planning Department for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21 by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner. (03:05:03)

Eric Roussel (Petitioner) stated that the San Francisco Planning Department has not provided the documents requested on April 16th.

Jonas Ionin (Respondent) stated that all responsive documents have been provided. The previous omission was discovered when preparing findings for this hearing in accordance with GOV Code Section(s) 7927.00, 7927.705 and 7921.00, Sunshine Ordinance Section 67.1(g), and Evidence Code Section 1041(2).

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Chair Hyland, seconded by Member Yankee, to continue the matter to the call of the Chair.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Hyland, Yankee, Pilpel

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

9. **File No. 25048:** Complaint filed by Mark Sullivan against David Steinberg and San Francisco Public Works for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance) Section(s) 67.21(b) for failing to respond in a timely and/or complete manner, 67.21(l) for failing to provide public information for inspection and copying, 67.26 for failing to keep the withholding of records without justification to a minimum, and 67.27 for failing to provide a justification for withholding records. (00:18:00)

Mark Sullivan (Petitioner) stated that although Mr. Steinberg provided screenshots of interfaces to make a NextRequest public and closed the request, he has yet to show any NextRequest writings on how the Department of Public Works limits the visibility to staff and the requester. Mr. Sullivan further stated that Mr. Steinberg argues that providing a NextRequest interface is not in his custody or possession and that producing a copy of it would be constructing a new record. Mr. Sullivan stated that he is asking for an existing NextRequest writing interface.

David Steinberg, Custodian of Records (Respondent) stated that the refusal to create documents is adherence to legal guidelines. Mr. Steinberg further stated that Deputy City Attorney Kate Kimberlin, acting as Supervisor of records, confirmed that screenshots are not existing documents when she rejected Mr. Sullivan's petition. Mr. Steinberg stated that the department has provided all existing records in response to his request and has offered assistance in identifying the records.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

The parties provided rebuttals.

Action: Moved by Chair Hyland, seconded by Member Yankee, to find the Task Force has jurisdiction, and forward the matter the Consent Agenda with a recommendation of no violation.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Hyland, Yankee, Pilpel

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

10. **File No. 25052:** Complaint filed by Michael Petrelis against the Human Rights Commission for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.25, by failing to respond to an Immediate Disclosure Request in a timely and/or complete manner. (01:37:57)

Michael Petrelis (Petitioner) stated that Respondent said documents would be provided by June 10 but they did not, and the Prop G Calendar of Director Honey Mahogany has not been received.

Devi Zinzuvadia, Public Information Officer and Custodian of Records (Respondent) stated that responsive records were produced, there was no Prop G request in the original request, and the request was found to be an immediate disclosure request as it was not simple or routine.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

The parties provided rebuttals.

Action: Moved by Member Yankee, seconded by Chair Hyland, to find that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the Task Force Consent Agenda and find a violation of Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.25(a) for timeliness and send the matter to the Consent Agenda.

Public Comment: None

The motion **PASSED** by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Yankee, Hyland, Pilpel

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - Kumar

11. Announcements, Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items by Members of the Complaint Committee. (03:31:20)

Member Pilpel suggests future discussions about 1) outreach, 2) training, 3) website review, and 4) moving to a regular 4:00 p.m. meeting time.

Public Comment: None

12. ADJOURNMENT (03:33:34)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

**APPROVED: _____
Complaint Committee
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force**

N.B. the Minutes of this meeting set forth all actions taken by the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force on the matters stated, but not necessarily in the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.

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