



City and County of San Francisco

Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Complaint Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

Members: Dean Schmidt (Chair), Laura Stein, and Saul Sugarman

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

Tuesday, February 17,
2026

5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting

City Hall, Room 408

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND AGENDA CHANGES** (00:01:16)

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. On the call of the roll, Chair Schmidt, Vice-Chair Stein, and Member Sugarman were noted present. Administrator Pat Petersen was present. There was a quorum.

Administrator Petersen announced that the Petitioner in in Item No. 4 (File 26001) is receiving documents from the Respondent and wishes to close the matter.

Per a 2/17/2026 email to the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (SOTF) regarding Item No. 8 (File 26014), Supervisor Rafael Mandelman stated that his office had submitted a written response to Petitioner's allegation and that because of Petitioner's pending claim against the Transbay Joint Powers Authority on which he sits, he would not be sending a member of his staff to this evening's Complaint Committee meeting.

2. **Approval of the January 20, 2026, Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Complaint Committee Regular Meeting minutes.** (00:04:29)

The Committee members discussed the draft minutes

ACTION: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Member Sugarman, to approve the January 20, 2026 Complaint Committee Minutes.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 3 – Schmidt, Sugarman, Stein

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

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. (00:06:13)

None.

4. **File No. 26001:** Complaint filed by Anonymous (MAN) against San Francisco Police 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. (00:06:34)

See action taken at Item 1.

5. **File No. 26009:** Complaint filed by Jessica Larson against San Francisco Police 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. (00:06:51)

Jessica Larson (Petitioner) was not present. Lt. William Hepler (Respondent) was present.

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to close the matter per Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Complaint Procedure C(7)(b).

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 3 – Schmidt, Stein, Sugarman

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

6. **File No. 26011:** Complaint filed by HVSafe against 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 and 67.25, by failing to respond to an immediate disclosure request in a timely and/or complete manner. (00:08:28)

Richard Johnson (Petitioner) provided a summary of their position and stated records were not produced until this complaint was filed.

Hank Willson, Policy Manager for Parking and Curb Management (Respondent) provided a summary of the department's position and stated that there was confusion about the time period of the records sought and that all responsive records have been produced.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Member Sugarman, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to find that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and refers the matter to the SOTF Consent Agenda with a recommendation of a finding that the SFMTA violated Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.21(b), by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely manner. The Committee finds that the SFMTA did respond to the Immediate Disclosure Request but not in a complete manner and therefore finds no violation of Section 67.25. The matter is referred to the Consent Agenda.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 3 – Sugarman, Stein, Schmidt
Noes: 0 – None
Absent: 0 - None

7. **File No. 26016 (26-69):** 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. (00:36:48)

Paul Kniha (Petitioner) provided a summary of their position and stated that the requested performance appraisals of people who left the color curb program have not been received.

Caroline Celaya (Respondent) provided a summary of the department's position and stated that Petitioner's 1/5/2026 request was for performance appraisals, which are personnel records and cannot be disclosed.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Vice-Chair Stein, seconded by Member Sugarman, to find that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and forward the matter to the Consent Agenda with a recommendation of a finding of no violation since the records requested are exempt under Cal. Gov. Code Section 7927.700.

Public Comment:

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

Ayes: 3 – Stein, Sugarman, Schmidt
Noes: 0 – None
Absent: 0 - None

8. **File No. 26014:** Complaint filed by Aseem Gupta against Supervisor Rafael Mandelman for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.5, by failing to hold an open and public meeting. (00:43:40)

Victor Young read into the record a 2/10/2026 email from Supervisor Mandelman received at approximately 5:20 p.m. on 2/17/2026. The office of Supervisor Mandelman contextualized the allegation by Aseem Gupta of violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.5 by failing to hold an open and public meeting by noting that Mr. Gupta reached out about attending in-person office hours, which requires sign-up and an invitation form our office. Our office informed him that we understood that you have filed a claim against the TJPA and retained legal counsel to represent you in this matter, and accordingly we have been advised by counsel to decline a meeting related to this matter. Your counsel may communicate with TJPA through its legal counsel. We did not respond to Mr. Gupta's further request for an office hour slot based on the information that we received.

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to close the matter per Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Complaint Procedure Section C(7)(b).

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 3 – Schmidt, Stein, Sugarman
Noes: 0 – None
Absent: 0 - None

9. **File No. 26015:** Complaint filed by Jason Gibbs against the San Francisco Library Commission for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.15, by failing to allow public comment for up to three minutes. (00:49:51)

Jason Gibbs (Petitioner) provided a summary of his position and stated that speakers should be given the option to speak anywhere between 0-3 minutes.

Margot Shaub (Respondent) provided a summary of the department's position and stated that the By-Laws provide that speakers may be heard for up to 3 minutes and announces the period that each speaker will have to speak at the start of each meeting.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to find that the Task Force has jurisdiction, and forwards the matter to the full Task Force for consideration, with no recommendation.

Public Comment: None

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 –

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

10. **File No. 26017:** Complaint filed by Michael Petrelis against the Office of the Mayor for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.29-5, by failing to respond to a request for Proposition G calendar in a complete manner. (01:10:34)

Michael Petrelis (Petitioner) provided a summary of their position and stated that the attendees listed in the responsive records was unsatisfactory, as the Mayor should have provided clarity about whether there were 10 or more people present at the meeting.

Dexter Darmali (Respondent) provided a summary of the department's position regarding public records requests of 1/14/2026 (Prop G) and 1/21/2026 (list of attendees), clarified that Supervisor Mandelman's list incorrectly showed under 10 attendees, that Mr. Petrelis was provided a corrected list on 1/30/2026.

A question-and-answer period occurred.

Action: Moved by Vice-Chair Stein, seconded by Chair Schmidt, to find that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and forwards the matter to the Consent Agenda with a recommendation to find no violation. The Mayor's Office did not violate the Prop G rules in listing that the Castro theater stakeholders were at a meeting rather than the individuals. 67.29-5 requires that calendar entries identify the individuals present and organization represented at a meeting or event only if the meeting has 10 or fewer attendees. Also, the mayor's office satisfied the law by acting in good faith by providing the full list of attendees as required by Section 67.29-5(e).

Public Comment:

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 – Stein, Schmidt, Sugarman

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

11. **Hearing on Proposed Recommendations to the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force re Amendments to By-Laws related to Article IV, Section 11 – Hearing Procedures for Complaints. (01:34:46)**

The Committee members discussed the proposed amendments.

Motion #1

Action: Moved by Vice-Chair Stein, seconded by Chair Schmidt, to forward a recommendation to the Task Force pertaining to Section 6 of the Task Force By-Laws.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 3 – Stein, Schmidt, Sugarman

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

Motion #2

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by member Sugarman, to forward a recommendation to the Task Force to amend Section 5 to add a section (e) regarding Limitations on Speaking.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 3 – Schmidt, Sugarman, Stein

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

The meeting was in recess from 7:49 p.m. until 7:59 p.m.

Motion #3

Action: Moved by Chair Schmidt, seconded by Member Sugarman, to forward a recommendation to the Task Force of a Bylaw change at Section 11, subsection 7, regarding the closing of deliberations after 30 minutes.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 3 - Schmidt, Sugarman, Stein

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 0 - None

12. **Announcements, Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items by Members of the Complaint Committee.**

None.

13. **ADJOURNMENT (03:11:02)**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

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

N.B. The Minutes of this meeting set forth all actions taken by the Complaint Committee on the matters stated, but not necessarily in the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.

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