



City and County of San Francisco

Sunshine Ordinance Task Force

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

Meeting Minutes

Members:

Seat 1	Dean Schmidt	Seat 7	Matthew Yankee - Chair
Seat 2	Lila LaHood	Seat 8	Chris Hyland
Seat 3	Saul Sugarman	Seat 9	David Pilpel
Seat 4	Ankita Kumar	Seat 10	VACANT
Seat 5	Maxine Anderson	Seat 11	Bruce Wolfe
Seat 6	Laura Stein - Vice-Chair		
Ex-officio	(non-voting) Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or their designee		
Ex-officio	(non-voting) Michael Adams, Mayor's designee		

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

**Wednesday, January 7,
2026**

**4:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting**

City Hall, Room 408

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND AGENDA CHANGES (00:01:10)

Chair Yankee called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m. On the call of the roll Chair Yankee, and Members Schmidt, Sugarman, Anderson, Hyland, Pilpel and Wolfe were noted present. Vice-Chair Stein and Members LaHood and Kumar were noted absent. Ex-officio Member Michael Adams was noted present. A quorum was present. Deputy City Attorney Mary Kamikihara was noted present. Administrator Pat Petersen was present.

There were no agenda changes.

Public Comment: None

2. Approval of the December 3, 2025, Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Regular meeting minutes. (00:02:57)

Member Pilpel suggested amendments to the minutes.

Action: Moved by Member Pilpel, seconded by Member Wolfe, to approve the December 3, 2025 Minutes as amended.

Ayes: 7 – Pilpel, Wolfe, Schmidt, Sugarman, Anderson, Hyland, Yankee

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 3 – LaHood, Kumar, Stein

Member Kumar was noted present at 4:11 p.m.

Vice-Chair Stein was noted present at 4:12 p.m.

3. **Approval of Orders of Determination (00:08:18)**

- **File No. 25063** Hanley Chan against the Department of Technology

Action: Moved by Member Wolfe, seconded by Member Anderson, to approve the Order of Determination as amended.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 9 – Wolfe, Anderson, Schmidt, Sugarman, Kumar, Hyland, Pilpel, Stein, Yankee

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 – LaHood

4. **Commission Streamlining Task Force Update:** Review recommendations from the Commission Streamlining Task Force (CSTF) and its staff which may affect the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force (SOTF), and potentially take action to communicate suggestions or concerns from the SOTF to the CSTF (00:12:31)

The members discussed proposed changes to seat qualifications and the effect on referrals by the Task Force of the proposed change to strip from the Ethics Commission the ability to hold hearings regarding the removal of a City official and instead have such matters go to the Board of Supervisors. The members also discussed the CSTF's classification of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force within the structure of its report templates.

Public Comment: Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, libraryusers2004@protonmail.com, P.O. Box 170544, San Francisco, CA 94117-0544, stated that the 12/8/2025 letter from Vice-Chair Stein, Chair Schmidt, and Member Anderson was very good and it is important, and that the Task Force has a civic purpose that suits every member of the public besides the personal or professional interests of the practitioners.

Aaron Wilson stated his appreciation for the Task Force and the importance of the Sunshine Ordinance because Mayor Lurie is controlling the media through access.

No action taken.

5. **Chair & Committee Reports:** Opportunity for the Chair and Committee Members to update the entire Sunshine Ordinance Task Force on their recent activities. (00:37:13)

Chair Yankee and Vice-Chair Stein reported following up on matters that were referred to committees for compliance, that no update had been received from the Ethics Commission regarding enforcement regulations, that formal closure notice of the Engardio matter is pending, that the City Attorney's Office will be issuing guidance regarding SB 707, and that it will be agendized when it is provided to the Task Force.

Member Schmidt, with input from Vice-Chair Stein and Member Sugarman, reported that the Complaint Committee is working on recommendations to the entire complaint structure, including how they're dealt with at the Committee as well as at the Task Force, and that recommendations for amendments to the Bylaws and noticing requirements are being finalized for review by the full Task Force with the goal of shortening meetings and making them more efficient.

Member Wolfe, with input from Members Anderson and Pilpel, reported that the Compliance and Amendments Committee has been working on the revisions to the Sunshine Ordinance, hearing complaints and compliance matters, and tracking legislation.

Member Hyland stated that the Education, Outreach, and Training Committee has heard 20 cases with 5 matters resulting in recommendations that the Task Force find violations. Chair Hyland further stated the Committee is talking to the City Attorney's Office about participating in the preparation of Sunshine Ordinance trainings.

Public Comment: Aaron Wilson stated his support for following up on findings by the Task Force and asked that the Task Force compel compliance regarding complaints.

6. **Administrator's Report (06:16:17)**

- Task Force and Committee tentative hearing schedule with potential adjustments
- Complaints and Hearing Requests
- Pending Petitions / Complaints
- SOTF Member Attendance
- Communications

Task Force Administrator Pat Petersen provided the Administrator's Report.

The members discussed their availability for the February Task Force meeting, with Vice-Chair Stein noting her upcoming absence and Member Wolfe stating that he may be absent as well.

Members also discussed strategies for managing the increased volume of new complaint files including grouping similar files for review and action.

Public Comment: Aaron Wilson requested a recap of his open matters.

No action taken.

7. **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. (00:58:51)

Peter Warfield, Executive Director, Library Users Association, libraryusers2004@protonmail.com, P.O. Box 170544, San Francisco, CA 94117-0544, stated that the Task Force can make a more significant impact by surveying issues that are a general problem, e.g., how do I make a records request if I walk into an office and find people working from home? Mr. Warfield further stated that greater publicity about the Task Force's activities is needed, and that departments should be required to post on their websites when there has been a violation.

Aaron Wilson stated that the SF Chronicle, the Examiner and SFGate are not covering the Task Force's findings regarding Mayor Lurie and expressed his thanks for the Task Force's bold action.

CONSENT AGENDA – *Items 8 through 11*

The Sunshine Ordinance Task Force shall review **File Nos. 25064, 25080, 25085-1 and 25099** to affirm the Committee's findings regarding the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force's jurisdiction; violations of the Sunshine Ordinance, Brown Act, or California Public Records Act; and, if applicable, to issue an Order of Determination and refer matters to a Committee for monitoring. The Complainant and Respondent are *not required to attend the January 7, 2026 Sunshine Ordinance Task Force meeting* but may attend to provide testimony during the public comment period for this item related to the determinations listed below.

Member Wolfe requested that every item (Items Nos. 8, 9, 10, and 11) be severed from the Consent Agenda.

Member Wolfe said that the Complaint Committee minutes do not reflect the reasons for their recommendations and requested comments from a Complaint Committee member, stating that the Task Force members should not have to figure it out.

8. **File No. 25064:** Complaint filed by Michael Turon against the City Attorney of San Francisco 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. (01:06:52)

(On 12/16/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and forwarded the matter to the Consent Agenda with a recommendation of a finding of no violation. The Committee further stated that the dispute that the parties have litigated is an ongoing matter before the Court and so County of L.A. Bd. Of Supervisors v. Superior Court (2016) 2 Cal.5th 282 does not apply and the reasons for withholding do apply.)

Action: Moved by Vice-Chair Stein, seconded by Chair Yankee, to accept the Complaint Committee's findings and recommendations for File No. 25064.

Public Comment: Michael Turon (Petitioner) provided his position on the matter and requested that the members vote to move the matter off of the Consent Agenda and schedule it for a full hearing before the Task Force because it is not routine and reasonably likely to be subject to debate and public inquiry.

Jen Kwart, City Attorney's Office (Respondent) provided the department's position and stated that there is an open question about whether Petitioner will comply with or satisfy the settlement agreement, that the Court has entered an injunction against Petitioner, that Petitioner has filed another related lawsuit against the City in court, and that City attorneys are actively working to ensure compliance with the settlement agreement.

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

Ayes: 8 – Stein, Yankee, Schmidt, Sugarman, Kumar, Anderson, Hyland, Pilpel

Noes: 1 – Wolfe

Absent: 1 - LaHood

9. **File No. 25080 (25-6968):** Complaint filed by Aaron Wilson against San Francisco Animal Care and Control for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, and Section 67.27, by failing to provide written justification of withholdings. (01:07:48)

(On 11/18/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and forwarded the matter to the Consent Agenda with a recommendation of no violation. The Committee further found that a thorough search seems to have been performed on time, though no records were provided.)

Member Wolfe requested input from the Complaint Committee regarding how it arrived at its recommendation, which was provided by Vice-Chair Stein.

Action: Moved by Member Sugarman, seconded by Member Anderson, to accept the recommendation of the Complaint Committee for File No. 25080.

Public Comment: Aaron Wilson stated that per California Code of Regulations Section 2606 doctors and emergency rooms are required to disclose dog bites, that he found the smoking gun, asked that the Task Force look at his evidence and reverse the findings of the Complaint Committee and hear this matter at the full Task Force.

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

Ayes: 7 – Sugarman, Anderson, Schmidt, Kumar, Hyland, Pilpel, Yankee

Noes: 2 – Wolfe, Stein

Absent: 1 - LaHood

10. **File No. 25085-1:** Complaint filed by Michael Turon against the San Francisco Planning Department, Hugo Cabrera and Chan Son 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, Section(s) 67.25, by failing to respond in a timely and/or complete manner to an immediate disclosure request, Section(s) 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, and Section(s) 67.27, by failing to provide written justification of withholdings. (01:08:50)

(On 12/16/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and moved to dismiss Hugo Cabrera for the reason that there are no cognizable claims against him since only the City Attorney is legally the supervisor of records and forwarded the matter to the Consent Agenda.)

Action: Moved by Member Wolfe, seconded by Member Pilpel, to accept the recommendation of the Complaint Committee for File No. 25085-1.

Public Comment: None

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 – Wolfe, Pilpel, Schmidt, Sugarman, Kumar, Anderson, Hyland, Stein, Yankee

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 0 - LaHood

Note: The merits of the alleged violation in this matter will be heard at a later date on File No. 25085-2.

11. **File No. 25099:** Complaint filed by grant.review@proton.me against Department of Public Works 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. (01:10:03)

(On 12/16/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the Consent Agenda with a recommendation of no violation.)

Member Wolfe requested an explanation of the recommendation of no violation from the Complaint Committee.

Action: Moved by Member Pilpel, seconded by Vice-Chair Stein, to accept the recommendation of the Complaint Committee for File No. 25099.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 9 – Pilpel, Stein, Schmidt, Sugarman, Kumar, Anderson, Hyland, Wolfe, Yankee

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 1 – LaHood

The Task Force was in recess from 6:05 p.m. until 6:17 p.m.

COMPLAINT HEARING AGENDA – *Items 12 through 16*

12. **File No. 25075:** Complaint filed by Jared Stratton against the 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. (02:15:04)

(On 11/18/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the full Task Force with no recommendation.)

On 12/3/2025, the Task Force continued the matter to the January 7, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force. The Task Force further ordered the San Francisco Police Department to review the April 17, 2025 flowchart developed by Lt. Ozol re File No. 23086 for reviewing an “open/active investigation” and provide a written response to the Task Force with the results of applying the flowchart and California Senate Bill 16 (2021) to the review of this file.)

Action: Moved by Member Hyland, seconded by Member Schmidt, to continue the matter to the February 2026 Task Force Meeting. The Administrator was directed to provide Respondent’s response to the Task Force received 12/18/2025 and include it in the Agenda packet.

Public Comment: Anonymous expressed their dissatisfaction with the administrative handling of the matter.

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

Ayes: 9 – Hyland Schmidt, Sugarman, Kumar, Anderson, Pilpel, Wolfe, Stein, Yankee

Notes: 0 – None

Absent: 1 - LaHood

13. **File No. 25088:** Complaint filed by Rick Sanders against the Office of the Mayor 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. (02:33:17)

(On 12/16/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the full Task Force with a recommendation that the Office of the Mayor violated Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.21, by applying inappropriate standards for withholding privileged documents and that Respondent be order to apply the correct standards in a second attempt to respond and to produce the documents.)

Rick Sanders (Petitioner) presented his position on the matter, stated that the records have been withheld, and that the public is entitled to the records requested as a matter of public interest.

Dexter Darmali, Mayor's Office (Respondent) presented the department's position and stated that the department responded in a timely manner that it had no responsive documents and that some documents were withheld on the basis of attorney-client privilege. Mr. Darmali further stated that the privilege was asserted over confidential legal discussions with the City Attorney's Office, and not external communications with the federal government.

A question-and-answer period occurred. The parties provided rebuttals.

Action: Moved by Member Sugarman, seconded by Member Kumar, to find that the Office of the Mayor violated Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.21(b), by failing to respond to a public records request in a timely and/or complete manner, and 67.21(c), by failing to assist a requester in identifying the records or information available, order Respondent to apply the correct standards in a second attempt at a response to produce the records, and refer the matter to a Committee for compliance.

Public Comment: The Dragon King (D6) stated that they spoke with lawyers and they said that the Mayor is not entitled to make secret compacts with the President.

Patrick Miller stated that the Respondent has provided an intellectually lazy argument from the Mayor's office and that we need to know what exactly the Mayor was engaging in with the President in order to call off the National Guard.

Julian Ball, Co-Chair of the Immigrant Justice Working Group with the Democratic Socialists of America, San Francisco Chapter, stated that when billionaires have the power to talk to President Trump and change his mind, we deserve to know what was discussed.

Cindy stated that no City official, including Mayor Lurie, should exercise the law at their discretion and treat it as an option, that there is no basis for withholding records, that the Task Force should order the Respondent to release the records and that if they refuse send the matter to the Ethics Commission.

Hector Hernandez stated that it's very silly for the Mayor and the Mayor's people to be opaque about this conversation and urged the Task Force to render a decision so that it doesn't happen again.

Aaron Wilson stated that we have to continue to ask for information as the Mayor's stonewalling indicates his lack of transparency.

Tyler (D5) stated that if Mayor Lurie was making a deal out of producing the records we should know what was discussed and urged the Task Force to pursue production of the records.

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

Ayes: 9 – Sugarman, Kumar, Schmidt, Anderson, Hyland, Pilpel, Wolfe, Stein, Yankee

Noes: 0 - None

Absent: 1 - LaHood

The Task Force was in recess from 8:33 p.m. until 8:40 p.m. Member Sugarman was noted absent at 8:40 p.m.

14. **File No. 25079 (25-6804):** Complaint filed by Aaron Wilson against San Francisco Animal Care and Control for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, and Section 67.27, by failing to provide written justification of withholdings. (04:38:36)

(On 11/18/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the full Task Force for consideration of a violation of Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, and/or Section(s) 67.27 by failing to provide written justification of withholdings.)

Aaron Wilson (Petitioner) provided a summary of his position and stated that San Francisco Animal Care and Control (SFACC) is denying him his right to know the name of the owner of the dog that bit him and that per California law and SF Health Code Sec. 39 he is entitled to the addresses of Paul Razura and the witnesses.

Justine Alberto, SFACC (Respondent) provided the department's position and stated that SFACC follows both the Sunshine Ordinance the California Public Records Act, that personal identifying information is redacted as mandated, and that these details remain protected and are not disclosed through a Sunshine Ordinance request. Ms. Alberto further stated that citations for the redactions were provided to Petitioner via NextRequest, provided additional information about how redactions are applied, and stated that the address information that was redacted was the address of a relative and not of the dog owner.

A question-and-answer period occurred. The parties provided rebuttals.

Action: Moved by Chair Yankee, seconded by Member Anderson, to find that San Francisco Animal Care and Control violated Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, order Animal Care and Control to review the documents and un-redact information that applies to the dog owner and/or the residence of the dog, supply new records to the Petitioner, and refer the matter to a Committee for compliance.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 8 – Yankee, Anderson, Schmidt, Kumar, Hyland, Pilpel, Wolfe, Stein

Noes: 0 – None

Absent: 2 - LaHood, Sugarman

15. **File No. 25081 (25-6969):** Complaint filed by Aaron Wilson against San Francisco Animal Care & Control for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, and Section 67.27, by failing to provide written justification of withholdings. (05:34:32)

(On 11/18/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and referred the matter to the full Task Force with no specific recommendations.)

Aaron Wilson (Petitioner) provided a summary of his position and stated that he filed his own report dated 12/11/2025 and that it was emailed by SFPD to San Francisco Animal Care and Control (SFACC), and that SFACC failed to comply with his records request.

Justine Alberto, SFACC (Respondent) provided the department's position and stated that SFACC was unaware of the Police Department having the report and provided the dog bite report they had at the time of the request.

The parties provided rebuttals.

Public Comment: None

Action: Moved by Member Schmidt, seconded by Chair Yankee, to find that San Francisco Animal Care and Control violated Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.26, by failing to keep withholding to a minimum, order Animal Care and Control to review the documents and un-redact information that applies to the dog owner, the residence of the dog, and to review the documents for all identifying information and all involved dogs and public employees, public agencies, and their contractors, and supply new records to Petitioner, and refer the matter to a Committee for compliance.

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

Ayes: 8 – Schmidt, Yankee, Kumar, Anderson, Hyland, Pilpel, Wolfe, Stein
Noes: 0 – None
Absent: 2 – LaHood, Sugarman

16. **File No. 25082 (27-7231):** Complaint filed by Aaron Wilson against San Francisco Animal Care and Control for allegedly violating Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section 67.26, by failing to keep withholdings to a minimum, and Section 67.27, by failing to provide written justification of withholdings. (05:57:32)

(On 11/18/2025, the Complaint Committee found that the Task Force has jurisdiction, that the requested records are public, and to refer File No. 25082 to the full Task Force in conjunction with File No. 25081 as they are subsets of File No. 25079 and they should be considered in tandem.)

Aaron Wilson (Petitioner) presented his position and stated that he sought records that Animal Care and Control (SFACC) attempted to capture the dog and failed.

Justine Alberto, SFACC (Respondent) presented the department's position and stated that there is no known owner of Scrappy the dog which is why SFACC was unable to provide ownership records, that the other records requested were provided, and that Scrappy has an ID because it is entered in the system as a stray.

A question-and-answer period occurred. The parties provided rebuttals.

Action: Moved by Member Schmidt, seconded by Member Pilpel, that in order to ensure compliance with Administrative Code (Sunshine Ordinance), Section(s) 67.26 and Section(s) 67.27, Respondent is ordered to review the standards in File Nos. 25079 and 25081 and determine if any additional documents are responsive, were improperly withheld or improperly redacted and to produce them accordingly, and refer the matter to a Committee for compliance.

Public Comment: None

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

Ayes: 8 – Schmidt, Pilpel, Kumar, Anderson, Hyland, Wolfe, Stein, Yankee

Noes: 0 – None
Absent: 2 – LaHood, Sugarman

17. **Hearing on Sunshine Ordinance Amendments:** Discussion and potential action regarding proposed amendments to the Sunshine Ordinance. (06:31:19)

The members discussed a list of topics provided by Chair LaHood of the Compliance and Amendments Committee, how to address records retention requirements and policies, and topics for education and outreach to departments.

Member Kumar was noted absent at 10:45 p.m.

Public Comment: None

No action taken.

18. **Update on the Production of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force's 2025 Annual Report** (06:45:20)

Members of the public can view these documents online at the link below (no password or identification required) or review the printed versions in the agenda packet. Public comments on these documents can be sent directly to lstein.sotf@gmail.com or made during public comment on this agenda item.

[Annual Report 2025 Documents Folder \(Main Folder\)](#)

Vice-Chair Stein provided a summary of the status of the Annual Report and requested practical comments by 1/30/2026.

Public Comment: None

No action taken.

19. **Announcements, Comments, Questions, and Future Agenda Items by Members of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force.** (06:47:50)

(Note: Public Comment on this item is limited to subject matters presented by members of the SOTF.)

Member Wolfe apologized for his questions during the Consent Agenda portion of the meeting.

Public Comment: None

No action taken.

20. ADJOURNMENT (06:49:45)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:53 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
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.

DRAFT # # #