



# ETHICS COMMISSION

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 28, 2021

**By Electronic Mail Only**

The Honorable London Breed, Mayor  
Carmen Chu, City Administrator  
Ben Rosenfield, Controller  
Michael Carlin, SF Public Utilities Commission Acting General Manager and Chief Operating Officer

**Re: Ethics Commission Endorsement of Recommendations Contained in Controller's April 14, 2021 Report, "Preliminary Assessment: Refuse Rate-Setting Process Lacks Transparency and Timely Safeguards"**

Dear Mayor Breed, City Administrator Chu, Controller Rosenfield, and General Manager Carlin:

On April 14, 2021, the Controller's Office issued its *Preliminary Assessment: Refuse Rate-Setting Process Lacks Transparency and Timely Safeguards*, as part of a series of reports conducted in consultation with the City Attorney's Office to assess City policies and processes in the wake of the City Attorney's investigation stemming from alleged wrongdoing by former Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru. Each report in the series has assessed selected city policies and procedures to evaluate their adequacy in preventing abuse and fraud.

As has been the case with each of the assessments issued by the Controller in the past year, the Commission invited the Controller's Office to present report findings and recommendations to the Commission. Additionally, recommendations that have been identified in these reports to date that relate to areas of the Commission's jurisdiction are being addressed within into the Commission's ongoing policy work.

Following the presentation by the Controller's Office of its April 14 report at the Ethics Commission's monthly meeting on May 14, the Commission voted unanimously to adopt a motion by Chair Noreen Ambrose and seconded by Commissioner Larry Bush for the Commission to "send a communication to the Mayor, Controller, Head of the SF Public Utilities Commission, and City Administrator, expressing the Commission's endorsement of the Controller's recommendations contained in the preliminary report on the refuse rate setting process and ask that the Commission be kept informed of the progress toward achieving those improvements." To facilitate that process, I would ask that your office kindly provide the Ethics Commission by return email the name of the individual heading up your office's response to the report's recommendations.

On behalf of the Commission, thank you in advance for your time and cooperation with the Commission's request.

Sincerely,  
*LeeAnn Pelham*

LeeAnn Pelham, Executive Director