



Friends of the Urban Forest

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To: BART Board of Directors and Audit Committee

From: Ray Schreiber, Board Chair, Friends of the Urban Forest

Date: September 1, 2023

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Audit Committee Public Member

It is my pleasure to strongly recommend Stephanie Noble for the Audit Committee Public Member role at BART.

I am Ray Schreiber, the Board Chair at Friends of the Urban Forest. Founded in 1981, Friends of the Urban Forest is a non-profit organization committed to revitalizing San Francisco's urban forest, building community, and taking a local leadership role in mitigating global environmental problems through the simple act of planting and caring for trees and sidewalk gardens. We ground our work in movements for justice, recognizing and addressing environmental harm caused by racism. We work in partnership with the communities we serve to grow trees and gardens. Over half of all the ~120,000 street trees in San Francisco have been planted by Friends of the Urban Forest. A majority of the work done to rebuild San Francisco's tree canopy is being done by volunteers committed to public service and their love for San Francisco.

I met Stephanie back in 2018 when we both began volunteering at Friends of the Urban Forest. We would dedicate our Saturday morning/afternoon (every other week) throughout the year to lead teams of volunteers to plant trees in various San Francisco neighborhoods. The level of dedication and public service Stephanie has demonstrated over the years is impressive. Her love for rebuilding San Francisco's tree canopy throughout the year is infectious and her passion, drive and dedication to fight environmental racism in San Francisco is inspirational.

She continues to inspire everyone at the community tree plantings.. Her energy and attitude to continue the difficult work of rebuilding San Francisco's tree canopy is noticed by everyone involved. Everyone is continually impressed with her dedication to public service and continuing to meet the organization's mission to fight environmental based racism.

She will make an excellent member of the BART Audit Committee - Public Member. I am sure the level of commitment and public service she continues to demonstrate at Friends of the Urban Forest will serve BART well for years to come.

If you need more information or specific examples of Stephanie's dedication to public service here in San Francisco, please do not hesitate to contact me at 415 971 3603.