

# Memo

**To:** Members, Board of Supervisors  
**From:** President Rich Gordon and Supervisor Mark Church *McLawa*  
**Date:** February 13, 2005  
**Re:** Recommendation for Appointment to the First Five Commission

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

We recommend that Taara Hoffman be appointed to fill a vacancy on the First Five Commission of San Mateo County. This appointment would be effective immediately for a term to end December 31, 2007.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The First Five Commission of San Mateo County is responsible for implementation of a strategic plan to meet the needs of children from birth to age five. Funding for First Five activities comes from a tax on tobacco as established by Proposition 10.

The Commission has nine members, five of whom are designated by statute and four of whom are to be members of the public representing: recipient of project services; educator in early childhood development; local child care resource or referral agency; local organization for prevention and early intervention for families at risk; community based organizations that promote nurturing and early childhood development; local school districts; or local medical, pediatric, or obstetric association or societies.

Amy Liew had been serving on the First Five Commission, but her term ended on December 31, 2004. The vacancy was advertised and two applicants were forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for interviews. Having interviewed both candidates, we conclude that Taara Hoffman best represents the requirements for public membership on the First Five Commission.

Taara Hoffman is the Executive Director of Coastside Children's Programs, a nonprofit community based agency which provides pre-school and other services to children and families. Tara is active with the Coastside Collaborative for Children, Youth, and Families and is a resident of Half Moon Bay.

Terms for public members on the First Five Commission are for three years. We recommend that Tara be appointed immediately for a term to end on December 31, 2007.