

Building Inspection Commission*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Draft for Consideration
On: Monday, February 28, 2022
Members: Packard, Anderson, Merrill, Patterson

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: TBD

The Way It Is Now: The Building Inspection Commission (BIC) oversees the Department of Building Inspection (DBI). DBI is responsible for enforcing, administering, and interpreting the City's Housing, Building, Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Codes. The BIC also has the authority to appoint and remove DBI's Director. For most other City commissions, the commission submits up to three candidates for director of the department to the Mayor, and the Mayor makes the final appointment.

The BIC has seven members, four appointed by the Mayor and three appointed by the President of the Board of Supervisors (Board President). The members serve two-year terms and must meet specific qualifications.

The Mayor's four appointees must include:

- a structural engineer;
- a licensed architect;
- a residential builder; and
- a representative of a non-profit housing developer.

The Board President's three appointees must include:

- a residential tenant;
- a residential landlord; and
- a member of the general public.

The Proposal: Proposition __ would amend the City's Charter to change the appointment process for DBI's Director. For a new Director, the BIC would submit up to three candidates to the Mayor, and the Mayor would make a final appointment.

Proposition __ would also change the qualification requirements for BIC members. The current BIC members' terms would end on July 1, 2023. After July 1, 2023, the new qualifications would apply to any persons nominated by the Mayor or Board President to serve on the BIC.

Of the Mayor's four nominees,

- two must be either a structural engineer (active, formerly active, or retired), an architect, or a residential builder; and
- two do not have any specified qualifications.

Of the Board President's three nominees,

- one must be either a residential tenant or a current or former employee of a non-profit housing organization; and
- two do not have any specified qualifications.

Each of the Mayor's and Board President's nominees would be subject to the Board of Supervisors' approval before they are appointed.

**Working title, for identification only. The Director of Elections determines the title of each local ballot measure; measure titles are not considered during Ballot Simplification Committee meetings.*

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to require the Mayor to appoint the Director of the Department of Building Inspection instead of the Building Inspection Commission, and to change the appointment process and the qualifications for Building Inspection Commission members.

A "NO" Vote Means: If you vote "no," you do not want to make these changes.