

REG BSC 3-2-22 Refuse Collection and Disposal Reconsideration Request DP 220303

I hereby request reconsideration of the Approved Digest for the ballot measure with the working title "Refuse Collection and Disposal". I have included the text adopted by the Committee with my alternate language as tracked changes. I recommend these changes to increase accuracy and clarity. Thanks. DP

The Way It Is Now: The City regulates the collection, transport and disposal of ~~residential~~-refuse in San Francisco and sets residential refuse rates.

The Refuse Rate Board (Rate Board) oversees ~~manages~~-the process to set residential refuse rates and regulations ~~for residential refuse collection and disposal~~. The Rate Board has three members: the City Administrator, the City Controller, and the General Manager of the Public Utilities Commission, ~~the City Administrator and the City Controller.~~

When the Rate Board receives an application to change refuse rates or regulations, it first refers the application to the Director of Public Works, who holds ~~must hold~~ a public hearing on the application and makes ~~provide~~ a recommendation to the Rate Board. ~~The If nobody objects, the recommendation becomes final. If someone objects, the~~ Rate Board holds a public hearing on any objections and can modify the recommendation, or else the recommendation becomes final.

Rate applications are usually filed every three to five years, and are usually based on increases in labor costs and new equipment. Only the voters can change how refuse is regulated in the City.

The Proposal: Proposition is an ordinance that would change ~~restructure membership of~~ the Rate Board membership, change the process by which refuse rates and regulations are set ~~for residential and commercial customers~~, and allow the Board of Supervisors to make further rules governing how future changes to the ordinance under certain conditions are made. ~~The Rate Board members would be the General Manager of the Public Utilities Commission, the City Administrator and a Ratepayer Representative. On the Rate Board, the~~ The City Controller would be replaced by a Ratepayer Representative appointed by the Mayor, subject to rejection by the Board of Supervisors ~~also assume new duties as Refuse Rate Administrator.~~

~~The Ratepayer Representative would be recommended by The Utility Reform Network (TURN) or an organization dedicated to protecting ratepayers recognized by the Board of Supervisors. The Mayor would appoint the Ratepayer Representative subject to the Board of Supervisors approval.~~

The City Controller ~~Refuse Rate Administrator~~ would instead monitor refuse rates and service and propose changes to refuse rates and regulations to the Rate Board, which could include both residential and commercial. Public hearings on proposed changes would be held at before the Commission on the Environment and the ~~Commission on~~ Sanitation and Streets Commission. The Rate Board would then hold a public hearing on the proposed changes and publish its final decision. Any new rates would be in effect for at least two years, but no more longer than five years.

Only the voters could ~~may~~ change the Rate Board ~~Board's~~ membership or its authority over setting rates. ~~By more than a simple majority, but~~ the Board of Supervisors could ~~may~~ change other parts of the ordinance by a two-thirds vote, if recommended by the City Controller, the Mayor, Rate Board and the Mayor ~~Refuse Rate Administrator.~~

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to change the ~~membership of the~~ Refuse Rate Board membership, how refuse rates and regulations are set and ~~how the rules governing~~ future changes could be made.

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