

Words You Need to Know – Approved by BSC

Local elected officials: Assessor-Recorder, City Attorney, District Attorney, Mayor, Public Defender, Sheriff, Treasurer, Member of the Board of Supervisors, Member of the Board of Education for the San Francisco Unified School District or Member of the Board of Trustees for the San Francisco Community College District

Recall: a process voters can use to remove an elected official before the end of the official's term in office.

Recall petition: the document that recall proponents use to collect the names, addresses, and signatures of registered voters who wish to support a recall.

Infrastructure project: a permanent change or repair to improve a public asset, such as a building, road or rail line.

Behested: at the direction, request or suggestion of a public official.

Permit expediter: a person paid to contact staff at the Department of Building Inspection, the Entertainment Commission, the Planning Department or the Department of Public Works to help a permit applicant obtain a permit.

Refuse: trash, recyclables and compostable materials.

Refuse rates: rates charged for the collection and disposal of refuse.

Public Utilities Commission: a City agency that provides water, wastewater and municipal power services to San Francisco.

City Administrator: the City official responsible for managing services within the City's executive branch.

Controller: the City's chief accounting officer and auditor. The Controller is responsible for the City's financial systems and financial procedures, processing payroll for City employees, managing the City's bonds and debt portfolio, and processing and monitoring the City's budget.

Spare the Air Alert: an alert called when air quality is forecast to be unhealthy in the Bay Area.

Department of Building Inspection: the City agency responsible for enforcing, administering and interpreting the City's Housing, Building, Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Codes.

SFMTA: the City department responsible for the management of all ground transportation in San Francisco, including Muni (Municipal Railway), parking and traffic, pedestrian and bicycle safety and the regulation of

taxi. Muni is the City's public transit system, consisting of the City's buses, light rail trains, streetcars and cable cars.

The Utility Reform Network (TURN): a nonprofit consumer advocacy organization that focuses on essential utilities such as electricity, gas and telephone services.