

## **Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond\***

**Digest** by the Ballot Simplification Committee

**Status:** Final digest

**On:** Monday, November 25, 2019

**Members:** Packard, Anderson, Girardin, Patterson

**Deadline to Request Reconsideration:** 4 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26

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**The Way It Is Now:** The City owns and operates facilities for public safety and emergency response. These facilities include:

- The Emergency Firefighting Water System and related facilities, which provide a dedicated water supply system for fighting fires;
- Fire and police stations and supporting facilities; and
- The 911 Call Center.

**The Proposal:** Proposition \_\_\_ is a bond measure that would authorize the City to borrow up to \$628.5 million by issuing general obligation bonds. The City would spend this money on improvements, including seismic upgrades, to facilities used for emergency response and recovery.

Projects funded by the bond proceeds could include construction, acquisition, improvement and completion of:

- The Emergency Firefighting Water System;
- Fire and police stations;
- A firefighting training campus;
- The 911 Call Center; and
- Other disaster response facilities.

If needed, Proposition \_\_\_ would allow an increase in the property tax to pay for the bonds. City policy is to limit the amount of money it borrows by issuing new bonds only as prior bonds are paid off. Landlords would be permitted to pass through up to 50 percent of any resulting property tax increase to tenants.

Proposition \_\_\_ would require the Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee to review how these bond funds are spent.

**A "YES" Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want the City to issue \$628.5 million in general obligation bonds for construction, acquisition, improvement and completion of the Emergency Firefighting Water System, fire and police stations, a firefighting training campus, the 911 Call Center and other disaster response facilities.

**A "NO" Vote Means:** If you vote "no," you do not want the City to issue these bonds.

*\*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.*