

Date: August 2, 2012

To:

John Arntz, Director of Elections
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, California 94102

Fax Number: 415-554-7344

From: Scott Diokey

No. of pages: 3

Please call Scott's assistant Sherry Sly at 415-678-3832 if there are any problems with this transmission.



City College of San Francisco

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

50 PHELAN AVENUE • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94112 • (415) 239-3000

August 2, 2012

VIA EMAIL & FACSIMILE

John Arntz, Director of Elections
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48
San Francisco, California 94102

Re: Request for Reconsideration of Approved Digest for Community College Parcel Tax

Dear Mr. Arntz:

I am the General Counsel for City College of San Francisco. I write to request reconsideration of the approved Digest for the Community College Parcel Tax that the City's Ballot Simplification Committee adopted at yesterday's Committee meeting. This request concerns two portions of the Digest: the language of "The Way It Is Now" and of "The Proposal."

In the approved Digest, "The Way It Is Now" reads:

City College of San Francisco (CCSF) has nine campuses in the City and serves approximately 100,000 students each year. The state has reduced funding to CCSF by more than \$40 million over the past three years. The Community College Board, which oversees CCSF, has determined that City College's current revenues are inadequate to fund community college education in San Francisco.

Upon further reflection, and consultation with City College's head of finance and administration, we have concluded that the description of state funding cuts does not accurately convey the amount or severity of those cuts. Accordingly, we propose amendment of "The Way It Is Now" as follows:

City College of San Francisco (CCSF) has nine campuses in the City and serves approximately 100,000 students each year. The state has reduced funding to CCSF by more than \$40-53 million over the past three years. As a result, CCSF's annual revenues are now more than \$25 million less than they were just a few years ago. The Community College Board, which oversees CCSF, has determined that City College's current revenues are inadequate to fund community college education in San Francisco.

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City College also proposes that the order of items in "The Proposal" be further reorganized for purposes of clarity, as follows:

Proposition __ would authorize a parcel tax to provide funding for City College of San Francisco. The tax would be \$79 per parcel annually, and it would last for eight years.

City College would use the tax funds to:

- maintain core academic courses, including English, math, and science;
- provide workforce training, including nursing, engineering, business, and technology;
- provide an education that prepares students for four-year universities;
- ~~offset State budget cuts;~~
- keep City College libraries and student support services open; ~~and~~
- keep technology and instructional support up to date; and
- offset State budget cuts.

The use of the funds will be subject to annual review by a Citizen's Oversight Committee appointed by the Community College Board.

This proposed reorganization places "offset State budget cuts" at the end of the bulleted list so that its general purpose does not break up the list of specific uses for the proposed tax.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Scott Dickey".

K. Scott Dickey
General Counsel

cc: Barbara Carr, Clerk, Ballot Simplification Committee
Mollie Lee, Deputy City Attorney

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