

**Ballot Simplification Committee - DRAFT for Consideration on Monday, July 30, 2012**

**Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond** *(working title only, subject to change)*

**The Way It Is Now:**

The City operates and maintains hundreds of parks, playgrounds, recreation facilities, open spaces, and other properties throughout San Francisco. In 2008, the voters approved a \$185 million general obligation bond to fund the construction, reconstruction and improvement of such park and recreation facilities. The City is spending the 2008 funds on numerous park projects, but the City has identified more parks and facilities that need repairs and improvements.

With the voters' approval, the City may issue general obligation bonds to pay for public capital projects such as park improvements. The City's Capital Plan recommends using general obligation bonds for this purpose.

The City uses property tax revenues to pay principal and interest on general obligation bonds.

**The Proposal:**

Proposition \_\_\_ is a bond measure that would authorize the City to borrow up to \$195 million by issuing general obligation bonds to fund repairs, improvements, and development of the City's parks and public open spaces.

The City plans to use the bond funds for the following purposes:

- neighborhood park repairs, renovations and redesign at Angela J. Rossi Playground, Balboa Park, Garfield Square, George Christopher Playground, Gilman Playground, Glen Canyon Park, Hyde/Turk Mini Park, Joe DiMaggio Playground, Margaret S. Hayward Playground, and the Moscone Recreation Center (\$98.8 million)
- waterfront park and open space repairs, renovations and development (\$34.5 million)
- playground construction and rehabilitation (\$15.5 million)
- improvements to John McLaren Park (\$10 million), Golden Gate Park (\$9 million), and Lake Merced Park (\$2 million)
- "Community Opportunity Fund" to provide matching funds for community-nominated recreation and park projects (\$12 million)
- improvements to water conservation in parks (\$5 million)

- trail reconstruction in Golden Gate Park and John McLaren Park (\$4 million)
- park forestry programs (\$4 million)

Proposition \_\_ specifically authorizes relocation of the North Beach Public Library within Joe DiMaggio Playground.

Proposition \_\_ would allow an increase in the property tax to pay for the bonds. It would permit landlords to pass through 50% of any resulting property tax increase to their tenants.

Proposition \_\_ would require the Citizen's General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee to provide independent oversight of the spending of bond funds. One-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the bond funds would pay for the committee's audit and oversight functions.

**A "YES" Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want the City to issue up to \$195 million in general obligation bonds to fund repairs, improvements, and development of the City's parks and public open spaces.

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

word count: 419 [suggested word limit: 300]