

**From:** Roberts of DT, Brian (TIS)

**Sent:** Thursday, July 23, 2015 7:16 PM

**To:** Arntz, John (REG) <[john.arntz@sfgov.org](mailto:john.arntz@sfgov.org)>

**Cc:** German, David (TIS) <[david.german@sfgov.org](mailto:david.german@sfgov.org)>

**Subject:** Requirements for Public Meetings of Local Policy Bodies ballot measure at the Ballot Simplification Committee

Dear Mr. Arntz:

Miguel Gamino, the City CIO & Director of the Department of Technology, asked me to review the ballot measure described above. The Department of Technology (DT) has a number of concerns about this ballot measure. While we are in the process of preparing a more thorough analysis of the legislation, we plan to attend Monday's meeting and would like to make a few observations about the proposal. Although the Ballot Measure does not charge DT with providing the streaming service, DT currently provides cable television and streaming coverage for 34 City boards and commissions through SFGovtv and SFGovtv.org.

First, Sec. 67.14-1 would require every policy body to live stream every public meeting. Due to the quantity of policy bodies and meetings, meeting coverage of the quality that San Francisco residents are accustomed to on SFGovTV would not be possible. The coverage of the additional meetings would have to be simplified and automated. Certain services such as captioning, would be difficult to accomplish on this scale.

Second, Sec 67.15-1, would require video and remote live testimony. The timing and que-ing of remote live testimony would be challenging, especially in order to make this public input available to other viewers of the streamed meeting coverage.

Third, the ballot measure presents some creative ideas for increasing public participation in government process. These approaches might benefit from experiment and trial on a more limited scope prior to application to all policy bodies.

Sincerely,

**Brian Roberts**

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