

Neighborhood Crime Unit *

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Approved Digest
On: Friday, July 29, 2016
Members: Packard, Anderson, Fasick, Jorgensen
Word count: 241 (suggested 300-word limit)

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: 10 a.m. on Friday, July 29

The Way It Is Now: The Charter requires the City to have at least 1,971 full-duty uniformed police officers. The City will likely meet this threshold by the end of 2017.

The Police Department has different units, many of which share responsibility for preventing, investigating and making arrests related to neighborhood crime.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ would require the Department to create a Neighborhood Crime Unit when the City has at least 1,971 full-duty uniformed police officers. The Department would have to assign no less than 3 percent of all sworn personnel to the Unit.

The Unit would be responsible for preventing and investigating crimes that affect neighborhood safety and quality of life. These crimes include robbery, auto and home burglary, theft and vandalism. The Unit would also coordinate with other City agencies to move people who commit street offenses — such as obstructing the sidewalk and aggressive panhandling — off the streets and into shelter, housing and critical health services.

Proposition ___ would not require the City to maintain the Unit if the City has fewer than 1,971 full-duty uniformed police officers. If the number drops below 1,971, the Chief of Police could either keep the unit or not.

Proposition __ would allow the Board of Supervisors to change these requirements without further voter approval while maintaining the intent of the ordinance.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to require the City to create a Neighborhood Crime Unit when the City has at least 1,971 full-duty uniformed police officers.

A "NO" Vote Means: If you vote "no," you do not want to make this change.

**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.*