

Funding for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Draft for Consideration

On: Thursday, July 28, 2016

Members: Packard, Anderson, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen

Word count: *(suggested 300-word limit)*

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: TBD

The Way It Is Now: The City's Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) is responsible for planning, coordinating and advocating for services for seniors and adults with disabilities. The City's Commission on Aging oversees many of DAAS' activities. DAAS provides a range of programs and services for seniors and adults with disabilities, including:

- in-home supportive services,
- nutrition and health programs,
- senior centers and activity centers, and
- legal services.

DAAS is also responsible for administering the Community Living Fund, which helps fund programs to assist individuals to age in place in their own homes or in assisted living facilities or supportive housing.

The City funds DAAS' programs and activities, including the Community Living Fund, through the annual budget process.

In addition to DAAS, the City has established a Long Term Care Coordinating Council to advise and coordinate community-based long-term care planning services for older adults and adults with disabilities.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ is a Charter amendment that would create a Dignity Fund (the "Fund") to provide funding for programs and services for seniors and adults with disabilities. The Fund would expire on June 30, 2037.

Under Proposition ___, the City would be required to set aside monies from its General Fund each year to contribute to the Fund, as follows:

- the City would initially contribute at least \$38 million a year;
- for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the City would contribute at least \$44 million;
- for every fiscal year after that, until June 30, 2027, the City would increase its contribution by \$3 million each year, reaching up to \$71 million a year, but the City could forego the increase in years where the City faced a projected budget deficit exceeding \$200 million;
- for the fiscal years starting on July 1, 2027 and ending on June 30, 2037, the City's contribution to the Fund would equal the prior year's contributions, adjusted for changes in the City's revenues.

Under Proposition ___, the Fund would pay for many of the same types of programs and services currently provided by DAAS. Proposition ___ would also establish a four-year planning process for spending from a portion of the Fund and would require a regular evaluation of the services and programs it supports.

**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.*

In addition to the Long Term Care Coordinating Council, Proposition ___ would create an 11-member Oversight and Advisory Committee to monitor and participate in the administration of the Fund.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to amend the Charter to set aside from the General Fund until June 30, 2037 at least \$38 million a year, plus scheduled increases reaching up to \$71 million a year, to pay for programs and services to assist seniors and adults with disabilities.

A "NO" Vote Means: If you vote "no," you do not want the City to make these changes.