

Neighborhood Crime Unit *

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Draft for Consideration

On: Friday, July 29, 2016

Members: Packard, Anderson, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen

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

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: TBD

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 (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 (Unit) once the City has at least 1,971 full-duty uniformed police officers. The Department would have to assign no less than three 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, among others, robbery, auto and home burglary, theft, and vandalism. The Unit would also coordinate with other City agencies to transition 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. But in that circumstance the Chief of Police would have discretion to retain the Unit, or a similar unit.

Proposition __ would allow the Board of Supervisors to change these requirements without further voter approval if the change would further the purposes of the ordinance.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to require the City to create a Neighborhood Crime Unit once 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 these changes.