

Funding for Homelessness and Transportation*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Draft for Consideration

On: Monday, August 1, 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 provides a variety of services to homeless people, including street outreach, homeless shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and health and job services. The City does not have a mandatory level of funding for homeless housing and services.

The City's Charter gives the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) authority over the City's transportation system, which includes the City's roads, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, parking, taxi cabs, and Muni, the City's public transit system. The SFMTA collects revenue from several sources, including Muni fares, parking fees and citations. Also, the City's Charter requires the City to allocate annually to SFMTA a portion of the General Fund. The City adjusts that amount every year based on the City's revenue and population change.

In 2014, the City adopted a "Vision Zero" policy. The goal of that policy is to reduce traffic deaths to zero by 2024 by building safer streets, educating the public on traffic safety, enforcing traffic laws, and implementing safety projects.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) maintains San Francisco's streets and sidewalks. DPW's responsibilities include road repaving and repairing potholes.

The San Francisco County Transportation Authority (CTA) is responsible for long-range transportation planning for the City. The CTA also analyzes, designs and funds improvements for San Francisco's roadway and public transportation networks.

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) is a public train system that serves the San Francisco Bay Area, and connects San Francisco with stations in the East Bay and northern San Mateo County.

Caltrain is a commuter rail line that runs between San Francisco and Santa Clara County.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ is a Charter amendment that would create two funds.

Homeless Housing and Services Fund

Proposition ___ would create a Homeless Housing and Services Fund. In 2017, the City would allocate \$12.5 million to this fund. Beginning in 2018 and for the next 24 years, the City would appropriate \$50 million to the fund each year, adjusted annually based on changes in the City revenues.

The City would use this fund to provide services to the homeless, including programs to prevent homelessness and help individuals transition out of homelessness.

Up until January 1, 2017, the Mayor would have the one-time authority to terminate the fund immediately, based on the Mayor's review of the City's financial condition.

Transportation Improvement Fund

**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.*

Proposition ____ would also create a Transportation Improvement Fund. In 2017, the City would appropriate \$25.4 million to the fund. Beginning in 2018 and for the next 24 years, the City would allocate \$101.6 million to the fund each year. This amount would be adjusted annually based on changes in the City revenues.

The City would use this fund to improve the City's transportation network by allocating funding as follows:

- 12.4% annually to SFMTA to improve transit service to low-income and transit-dependent communities and reduce the cost of transit for low- and moderate-income youth, seniors, and people with disabilities;
- 18.8% annually to SFMTA to maintain Muni's vehicle fleet in good repair and expand the fleet and repair and upgrade SFMTA stations;
- 9.4% annually to the CTA to improve the service of the existing transit system and expand its capacity; and fund planning, design, education, outreach, evaluation, and capital investment in transportation infrastructure for transit-oriented development projects;
- 14.1% annually to improve the reliability and increase the capacity of BART and Caltrain; fund long-range regional network planning, design studies or capital improvements; improve management of regional highways; and promote sustainable travel choices;
- 12.4% annually to the CTA to implement the City's Vision Zero policy; and
- 32.9% annually to DPW to repair City streets and conduct preventative maintenance of City streets.

Up until January 1, 2017, the Mayor would have the one-time authority to terminate the fund immediately, based on the Mayor's review of the City's financial condition.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to amend the Charter to create a:

- Homeless Housing and Services Fund, which would provide services to the homeless, including programs to prevent homelessness, create exits from homelessness, and move homeless individuals into more stable situations. You want the City to allocate \$12.5 million to this fund in 2017, then \$50 million per year for 24 years; and
- Transportation Improvement Fund, which would be used to improve the City's transportation network. You want the City to allocate \$25.4 million to the fund in 2017, then \$101.6 million annually.

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