

MTA Appointments and Budget*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Approved Digest
On: Friday, August 5, 2016
Members: Packard, Anderson, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: 11 a.m. on Monday, August 8

The Way It Is Now: The City's Charter gives the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) authority over the City's transportation system, which includes roads, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, parking, taxicabs and Muni (the City's public transit system).

SFMTA is run by a seven-member Board of Directors. The Mayor appoints all seven directors. The Mayor's appointments must be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors. Members serve four-year terms, and no person may serve more than three terms.

SFMTA submits a proposed budget to the Board of Supervisors. The Board may accept or reject, but not modify, the proposed budget. Rejection of the proposed budget requires seven votes; the typical number of votes required for the Board to act is six.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ is a Charter Amendment that would split the power to appoint SFMTA Directors between the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors. The Mayor would nominate four members to the Board of Directors, who could be approved or rejected by the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors would appoint three members. Appointments by the Board of Supervisors would not require confirmation.

Proposition ___ would also reduce from seven to six votes needed for the Board of Supervisors to reject the SFMTA's proposed budget. If the Board of Supervisors rejects the budget, the SFMTA would have to respond to the Board's findings and submit a revised budget.

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

- allow the Mayor to nominate four members to the SFMTA Board of Directors; the Board of Supervisors could approve or reject these nominees;
- allow the Board of Supervisors to appoint three members;
- reduce from seven to six the number of votes needed for the Board of Supervisors to reject the SFMTA's proposed budget; and
- require the SFMTA to respond to the Board's findings and submit a revised budget if the original budget was rejected.

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

**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.*