

Police Staffing*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Draft for Consideration
On: Tuesday, July 28, 2020
Members: Packard, Anderson, Girardin, Patterson

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: TBD

The Way It Is Now: The Charter requires the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) to have at least 1,971 full-duty sworn police officers. The Charter also requires the SFPD maintain a minimum number of full-duty sworn police officers for neighborhood policing and patrol. This minimum number must equal the number of police officers assigned to these functions in 1993-94.

The San Francisco Police Commission (Police Commission) oversees the SFPD. Among other duties, the Police Commission approves the SFPD's budget.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ would amend the Charter to remove the requirement that the SFPD maintain a minimum of 1,971 full-duty sworn police officers. Proposition ___ would also remove the requirement that SFPD maintain a minimum number of full-duty sworn police officers for neighborhood policing and patrol assignments.

Under Proposition ___, the Chief of Police would instead provide a report to the Police Commission regarding recommended staffing levels for full-duty sworn police officers. The Police Commission would be required to hold a public hearing on that report when it considers the SFPD's proposed budget.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to remove the Charter requirement that the San Francisco Police Department maintain a minimum of 1,971 full-duty sworn police officers and a minimum number of full-duty sworn police officers for neighborhood policing and patrol.

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