

Public Works Commission, Department of Sanitation and Streets, and Sanitation and Streets Commission*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Draft for Consideration
On: Tuesday, July 21, 2020
Members: Packard, Anderson, Girardin, Patterson

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: TBD

The Way It Is Now: The City's Charter creates a Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works currently has four divisions:

- Building Design and Construction, which designs, builds and renovates many City buildings and structures;
- Infrastructure Design and Construction, which maintains the City's streets, sidewalks, curb ramps and street structures, such as plazas, bridges, tunnels and stairways;
- Finance and Administration; and
- Operations, which performs City building repair, street and sewer repair, maintenance of street trees, cleaning of public streets and sidewalks, graffiti removal, and removal and replacement of sidewalk trash cans.

The City Administrator oversees the Department of Public Works, and appoints its Director. The Mayor must concur with the City Administrator's appointment of the Director of Public Works.

The Proposal: Proposition __ would create a five-member Public Works Commission to oversee the Department of Public Works, instead of the City Administrator. The Board of Supervisors would appoint two members to the commission, the Mayor would appoint two members, and the City's Controller would appoint one member.

Under Proposition ____, the Mayor would appoint the Director of Public Works, chosen from applicants selected by the Public Works Commission.

Proposition __ would also create a new Department of Sanitation and Streets separate from the Department of Public Works. This new department would take over some duties that the Department of Public Works currently handles, including:

- street sweeping and sidewalk cleaning;
- maintaining and cleaning public restrooms;
- providing and maintaining sidewalk trash cans;
- removing illegally dumped waste and graffiti; and
- maintaining street trees.

Proposition ____ would authorize the Board of Supervisors to change this new department's duties in the future by ordinance.

Under Proposition ____, a five-member Sanitation and Streets Commission would oversee the Department of Sanitation and Streets. The Board of Supervisors would appoint two members to the commission, the Mayor would appoint two members, and the City's Controller would appoint one member.

**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.*

Under Proposition ____, the Mayor would appoint the Director of Sanitation and Streets Commission, chosen from applicants selected by the Sanitation and Streets Commission.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to establish a Public Works Commission to oversee the Department of Public Works, and to create a new Department of Sanitation and Streets with oversight by a Sanitation and Streets Commission.

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