

Sales Tax to Fund Transportation Projects*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Approved Digest
On: Tuesday, July 26, 2022
Members: Packard, Anderson, Merrill

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: 4:30pm Wednesday July 27, 2022

The Way It Is Now: The City has a one-half cent sales tax to pay for transportation projects under a 30-year transportation spending plan approved by the voters in the November 4, 2003, election. The tax will expire on March 31, 2034.

The San Francisco County Transportation Authority (Transportation Authority) oversees the use of these sales tax revenues. The Transportation Authority may issue up to \$1.88 billion in bonds to be repaid from the tax revenues.

State law limits the amount of revenue, including tax revenue, the Transportation Authority can spend each year. State law authorizes San Francisco voters to approve increases to this limit for up to four years.

The Proposal: Proposition __ would continue the one-half cent sales tax into 2053.

Proposition __ would replace the current transportation spending plan with a new 30-year plan. The new plan would begin in 2023 and continue into 2053. After the completion of any required environmental review, the new plan would include:

- maintenance and improvements for streets, pedestrian safety, bicycle facilities, and traffic signs and signals;
- maintenance and improvements for Muni, BART and Caltrain;
- a Caltrain downtown rail extension to the Salesforce Transit Center;
- construction of a Bayview Caltrain station and a Mission Bay ferry landing;
- support for paratransit services for seniors and persons with disabilities;
- community-based projects, including those in underserved neighborhoods and areas with vulnerable populations; and
- projects to improve freeway safety.

Under Proposition __, the Transportation Authority may issue up to \$1.91 billion in bonds to pay for these projects. These bonds will be repaid from sales tax revenues.

Proposition __ would increase the Transportation Authority's spending limit, set by state law, for four years.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to continue the one-half cent sales tax into 2053 to pay for transportation projects described in a new 30-year spending plan, allow the Transportation Authority to issue up to \$1.91 billion in bonds to pay for these projects, and increase the total amount of money the Transportation Authority may spend each year for the next four years.

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.*