

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

AARON PESKIN

August 2, 2022

*** MEMORANDUM ***

TO: Ballot Simplification Committee
FROM: Supervisor Aaron Peskin
RE: Request for Additional Hearing on Dept. of Public Works Charter Amendment

Chair Packard and Committee Members,

Thank you so much for your time and engagement during yesterday's hearing on the Charter Amendment I have sponsored to update the November 2020 reforms to the structure and oversight of the Department of Public Works (DPW). Thank you also for taking my suggested changes into consideration.

I would respectfully like to request further changes to the description to accurately reflect the Department of Public Works' current scope of work. It's important that voters understand the basic functions of this Department, and to that end, I've prepared some suggested edits (in red) below that I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you:

The Way It Is Now: The Department of Public Works (DPW) is generally responsible for ~~designing, constructing~~ repairing, and ~~improving~~ maintaining (including cleaning) the City's infrastructure, including ~~buildings~~, streets, sidewalks, trees, and public facilities.

In November 2020, the voters approved a Charter amendment ~~authorizing creation of~~ removing certain functions from Public Works to create a new Department of Sanitation and Streets. This department does not yet exist.

The 2020 Charter amendment also required the City to create two new commissions: a Sanitation and Streets Commission to oversee the Department of Sanitation and Streets and a Public Works Commission to oversee the DPW.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ would ~~eliminate~~ not create the new Department of Sanitation and Streets and instead transfer its duties back to the Department of Public Works.

Proposition __ would retain both the Sanitation and Streets Commission and the Public Works Commission. The Sanitation and Streets Commission would hold public hearings and set policies

on street cleaning operations and conduct data-driven performance evaluations ~~these issues~~ for the Department of Public Works.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to not create ~~eliminate~~ the new Department of Sanitation and Streets ~~and~~ but instead transfer its duties back to the Department of Public Works. You also want to retain both commissions.

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

Thank you for your consideration of these proposed changes. Although minimal, I feel they are critical to ensure accurate voter comprehension of this measure and its public merits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron Peskin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Aaron Peskin