

From: [John Avalos](#)
To: [REG - BSC Clerk](#)
Subject: Proposed Changes to the Digest for Item 2, Affordable Housing Bond
Date: Sunday, November 26, 2023 5:49:38 PM

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Dear Ballot Simplification Committee Members:

I write to you as the Director of the Council of Community Housing Organizations to respectfully request that the Committee reconsider portions of the digest describing the Affordable Housing Bond. This email aligns with the letter Board President Aaron Peskin has sent to the Ballot Simplification Committee.

As President Peskin writes, the current draft can be amended in several places to provide voters with greater clarity and important context to make an informed vote on the affordable housing bond. These proposed changes are focused primarily on three critical points:

First, voters need to know the context of state law requirements for San Francisco's affordable housing construction. RHNA requires that San Francisco have a plan to build 46,598 affordable housing units by 2031. Failure to meet this requirement will have consequences for San Francisco. I have inserted a short paragraph at the beginning of the digest, similar to the 2015 affordable housing bond digest, to briefly describe this for voters.

Second, an important aspect of the housing bond legislation is its requirement for citizen audits and review, its prohibition against spending bond money for salaries or pensions, and the City's nearly two-decade policy of restricting bond sales to ensure that property tax rates remain below the rates in 2006. There are several suggestions in this section to clarify these points.

Thank you,

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