



PROS & CONS GUIDE

San Francisco Ballot Measures

Election Day: Tuesday, June 8, 2010

PROPOSITION A

School Facilities Special Tax Charter Amendment

Requires two third majority vote for passage
Placed on the ballot by the San Francisco Board of Education

The Question:

Should San Francisco renew the special tax to pay for seismic upgrades and other safety improvements to School District facilities?

The Background:

After the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in 1990, voters approved a special tax on property to pay for repairs and improvements to over 150 school and child care center buildings in San Francisco. The goal was to maintain and ensure buildings were safe well into the future. This tax, which expires this year, funds alarm systems, fire sprinklers, paths of exiting and salaries of employees who work on these systems.

State law permits the local government to form a special community facilities district and collect a special tax if the tax is approved by two thirds of the voters in the district.

The Proposal:

Proposition A would authorize a special property tax that extends and modifies the special tax adopted by voters in 1990. The tax would charge a special tax on single-family residential and non-residential parcels of \$32.20. The annual special tax on multi-family residential parcels and mixed use parcels is \$16.10 per dwelling unit. The tax would adjust annually for inflation.

A senior exemption would be available to qualified applicants.

Fiscal Effect:

The Controller states:

Should the proposed measure be approved

by the voters, in my opinion, it would result in an estimated \$6.8 million annually in property tax revenues for the San Francisco Unified School District at current rates and valuations.

The measure renews a special property tax approved previously by the voters in June 1990 which placed a tax of \$32.20 annually on non-residential parcels and single family residential parcels and \$16.10 per dwelling unit on multi-family residential parcels. Under the measure, the tax would be renewed for a new 20 year period. The tax would be set at the current amounts for the first year and would be adjusted each year thereafter by the amount of the consumer price index, provided however that the adjustment could not exceed 2% annually. The amount of revenue that would be generated is projected to grow as the assessed value and the number of taxable parcels and units increases in San Francisco. By the end of the 20 year period, the revenue amount is estimated at between \$11 million and \$16 million annually depending on growth rates in the City.

Funds generated by the proposed tax can be used by the San Francisco Unified School District for capital improvements including seismic work, fire and life safety improvements, and other maintenance and repair purposes, but may not be used for debt service.

Proposition A (continued on Page 2)

ONLINE ELECTION INFO

www.sfvotes.org

**ELECTION DAY IS
TUESDAY, JUNE 8**

- Polls open from 7 am to 8 pm
- Early voting starts May 10
- May 24 is the last day to register
- For more information, visit the SF Department of Elections at www.sfgov.org/election

TO VOTE IN THE JUNE ELECTION, YOU MUST:

- Be a U.S. citizen and a resident of California
- Be at least 18 years old by the date of the election
- Be registered to vote
- Not be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction
- Not have been judged mentally incompetent to vote by a court
- Federal and State Law now requires that every person who registers or re-registers to vote provide either a California Driver's License (or California ID card) or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number on your registration card.

PROPOSITION A (continued)

Arguments in Favor of Proposition A:

- This measure would ensure that there is a safe and stable learning environment for our children's educational success.
- Audits of the previous tax revenues have shown that the money was spent and used wisely and met all requirements.
- This is not a tax increase, but a parcel tax which would give our schools \$6.9 million dollars annually to fund safety repairs and upgrades.
- Qualifying seniors (those over 65) could be exempt from paying this parcel tax. This measure would ensure that students and teachers would not suffer greater cuts because of mandatory safety requirements.

Arguments Against Proposition A:

- This is an attempt to continue to tax property owners for projects that should already be in the budget and appropriated.
- Passing this proposition would lock property owners into an additional 20 year plan of fire and safety improvements without a way to reevaluate actual needs.

PROPOSITION B

Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond

General Obligation Bond

Requires two third majority vote for passage

Placed on the Ballot by the Board of Supervisors: Mayor Newsom and Supervisors Chiu, Avalos, Campos, Dufty, Mirkarimi, Mar and Maxwell

The Question:

Should the City issue \$412.3 million in general obligation bonds for capital projects to improve the City's fire, earthquake and emergency response systems?

The Background:

Currently, in the event of an earthquake or other major disaster,

the City primarily depends upon the Police and Fire departments to provide emergency response.

The Fire Department, in turn, depends upon neighborhood fire station and the citywide Auxiliary Water Supply System (AWSS), built in 1906, that provides a dedicated high pressure water system for fire fighting that includes a reservoir, pipes, cisterns, pump stations and high pressure fire hydrants.

The Police Department's Command Center and Southern District Station are both housed in the Hall of Justice at 850 Bryant Street. City sponsored studies have found this building to be deteriorating and probably unusable after a major earthquake.

The City's 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan identifies the repairs and relocation of public safety facilities and infrastructure as a high priority.

The Proposal:

Under Proposition B, the City would be authorized to borrow up to \$412,300,000 by issuing general obligation bonds for capital projects to improve the City's fire, earthquake and emergency response.

The Proposition proposes that a portion of the bond be allocated to:

- the renovation and seismic upgrade of the AWSS core facilities, consisting of a reservoir, two storage tanks and two pump stations;
- the construction, acquisition, improvement and retrofitting for earthquake safety of critical firefighting facilities and infrastructure;
- the construction of a Mission Bay public safety building to house a new police command center, a southern district police station and a neighborhood fire station;
- pay for independent oversight of the bond projects by the Citizen's General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee.

Proposition B (continued on Page 3)



ABOUT THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters of San Francisco, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League also influences public policy through action and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose candidates or political parties.

ABOUT THE PROS AND CONS GUIDE

The Pros and Cons Guide is produced by the League of Women Voters of San Francisco Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization. No portion of the Guide may be reprinted without the express permission of the League of Women Voters of San Francisco Education Fund.

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San Francisco Foundation League of Women Voters Education Fund Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund

PROPOSITION B (continued)

This proposition would allow for a property tax increase to pay for the bond. Landlords would be permitted a pass-through of 50% the property tax increase to tenants.

This proposition would require approval by two-thirds of the voters in order to pass.

Fiscal Impact:

The Controller states:

Should the proposed \$412.3 million in bonds be authorized and sold under current assumptions, the approximate costs will be as follows:

- *In fiscal year 2010-2011, following issuance of the first series of bonds, and the year with the lowest tax rate, the estimated annual costs of debt service would be \$3.6 million and result in a property tax rate of \$0.0026 per \$100 (\$2.60 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation.*
- *In fiscal year 2016-2017, following issuance of the last series of bonds, and the year with the highest tax rate, the estimated annual costs of debt service would be \$32.66 million and result in a property tax rate of \$0.018 per \$100 (\$18.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation.*
- *The best estimate of the average tax rate for these bonds from fiscal year 2010-2011 through 2039-2040 is \$0.0106 per \$100 (\$10.60 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation.*
- *Based on these estimates, the highest estimated annual property tax cost for the owner of a home with an assessed value of \$400,000 would be approximately \$70.74.*
- *Landlords would be allowed to pass through 50% of the annual property tax cost of the proposed bond to tenants as permitted in the City Administrative Code.*

Based on these estimates, the highest estimated annual cost for a tenant in a unit with an assessed value of approximately \$131,000 would be \$11.79.

These estimates are based on projections only, which are not binding upon the City. Projections and estimates may vary due to the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold at each sale, and actual assessed valuation over the term of repayment of the bonds. Hence, the actual tax rate and the years in which such rates are applicable may vary from those estimated above. The City's current debt management policy is to issue new general obligation bonds only as old ones are retired, keeping the property tax impact from general obligation bonds approximately the same over time.

Arguments in Favor of Proposition B:

- The 100 year-old emergency water supply system would be strengthened, ensuring that firefighters have the high pressure water supply necessary to put out a major fire, even after an earthquake.
- Emergency response and public safety would be maintained after a major disaster by improving and moving police command headquarters to a new public safety building.
- This measure would promote the safety of lives and property in San Francisco.
- Property taxes would not increase as a result of this measure.
- General bonds are always used to fund big projects.

Arguments Against Proposition B:

- This measure would fail to provide a safe place for the jail personnel and inmates or for the court employees, jurors and civilians left behind at the "seismically unsafe 850 Bryant."
- The city and county have already used too many general obligation bonds.

EARLY VOTING AT CITY HALL

Did you know that you can vote before Election Day?

October 5 is the First Day for Early Voting at City Hall

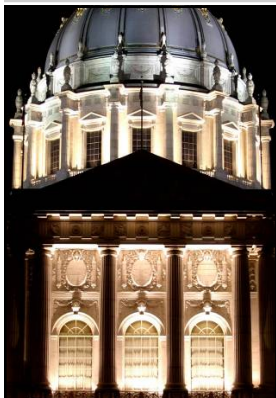
Early voting is available 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday, outside

Room 48 in City Hall. There will also be weekend voting on:

Saturday, May 29 and Sunday May 30, 10am to 4pm

Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6, 10am to 4pm

(enter on Grove St. only)



PROPOSITION C

Film Commission Charter Amendment

Placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors

The Question:

Shall the Charter be amended to require the City to have a Film Commission, consisting of five members appointed by the Board of Supervisors and six members appointed by the Mayor, with final authority to issue permits to film in San Francisco?

The Background:

San Francisco's Film Commission is currently comprised of 11 members, all of whom are appointed by the Mayor.

The Proposal:

The measure would change the way in which the 11 members of the Film Commission would be appointed. Should this amendment be adopted, the Mayor would be allowed to appoint six of the 11 members. The selective criteria incorporated by the Mayor would be as follows: two members would have professional experience in the film industry or a related field, two members would represent the neighborhoods or districts most impacted by the issuance of the permit, one member would be nominated by an organization that represents film industry workers, and one member would be appointed from an organization or institution that teaches film studies, or a related field. The Rules Committee of the Board of Supervisors would appoint five members, following a similar standard when selecting members. The Rules Committee would choose: two members that would represent the neighborhoods or districts most impacted by the issuance of the permit, one member would have professional experience in the film industry or related field, one member would be nominated by an organization that represents film industry workers, and one member would represent the general public.

All 11 nominees would be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors. Should the Board not come to a decision within 45 days of the Mayor's submission of nominees to the Clerk of the Board, or should the Rules Committee nominate a candidate for the Board's approval, the nominee would be deemed approved. To disperse the initial terms of the appointees elected by the Mayor, three initial appointees would serve terms of four years; two members would serve terms of three years; and one member would serve a term of two years. The Rules Committee of the Board of Supervisors would also nominate their members in staggered terms. Following this initial election, all commission members would serve terms of four years. Commission members who do not complete their terms would be replaced by a candidate selected by the nominating authority.

The President of the Arts Commission would serve as a non-voting, ex officio member.

The purpose and duties of the Film Commission would be to develop, support, and encourage film activities in the City. Commissioners would work together to promote long-term goals of the film industry as part of the City's cultural and economic foundation.

The Commission's powers would include, but not be limited to: the appointment of an Executive Director, who would serve as the department head and oversee the Commission's staff. The Commission would have the authority to issue permits to film on City property and in City and County right-of-ways. Permits would still abide by City law.

Applicants who would be denied permits could appeal the decision within ten days of the denial to the Commission or the designated committee. Decisions of the Executive Director, Film Commission or the designated committee would be the City's final action on film permits.

Fiscal Effect:

The Controller states:

Should the proposed charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, there would be a minimal impact on the cost of government.

The Film Commission currently consists of 11 members appointed by the Mayor. The amendment would provide instead that six members of the Commission be appointed by the Mayor and five by the Board of Supervisors, with all members subject to certain qualification requirements and to confirmation by the Board of Supervisors.

The proposed amendment would also specify that the Film Commission oversee all City activities and funding related to public access and governmental channels and that -film permit decisions of the Executive Director would be appealable to the Commission instead of to the City's Permit Appeals Board. The Film Commission currently employs a Director and two permit staff. The Film Commission's budget and staffing would continue to be subject to the normal budgetary and fiscal provisions of the Charter.

Proposition C (continued on page 5)

PROPOSITION C (continued)

Arguments In Favor of Proposition C:

- The City's economy would be improved by bringing valuable jobs to San Francisco.
- Mandating qualifications for commissioners would ensure that they have the appropriate experience and background to get the job done.
- Improving filmmaking and its economic development plan would improve the business climate of San Francisco.
- Including neighborhood voices to the Film Commission's decision making process would make film projects more representative.

Arguments Against Proposition C:

- The Supervisor's influence over the Film Commission would act as a constraint on the public business interests that the commission has already laid out for the City of San Francisco.
- San Francisco's Mayor-appointed eleven-member Film Commission has done a good job and no changes are needed.
- Proposition C would reduce the positive media images of San Francisco's hotel and restaurant districts that have worked to increase the City's tourism, which is San Francisco's largest trade.
- Proposition C is a power-grab by the Board of Supervisors to exert more influence over yet another City commission.
- By law, commission members must reside in the City, it may be difficult to fill all commission seats with qualified individuals.

PROPOSITION D

Retirement Benefit Costs

Charter Amendment

Placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors

The Question: Shall the City calculate retirement benefits for new City employees using average monthly compensation over two years instead of over one year; increase the retirement benefit employee contribution for new safety employees and new employees in positions covered by the State retirement system; and require that savings from reduced employer contributions to the City's retirement system be deposited in the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund?

Background:

The San Francisco Employees' Retirement System (SFERS) provides retirement benefits for most City employees. The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) provides retirement benefits for City

employees in certain job classifications. Retirement benefits for City employees are calculated using a formula that includes the employee's "final compensation," which is the employee's highest average monthly compensation for any one year of earnings.

The Charter requires employees to pay a percentage of their compensation to SFERS or CalPERS to help pay for retirement benefits they will receive.

- Most city employees contribute 7.5% of their salaries towards pension costs.
- Safety employees such as police officers and firefighters pay 7.5%, even though the retirement benefits they receive cost more than the benefits paid to most City employees.
- Some CalPERS members pay 7.5%, even though the required employee contribution is 9.0%.
- Because of contractual agreements or Charter requirements, the City pays the difference.

The Charter requires the City to contribute to SFERS following a set formula. Under this formula, the employer contribution to SFERS depends partly on the investment earnings of the pension fund.

The City has a Retiree Health Care Trust Fund to help pay for costs related to retiree health care. The San Francisco Unified School District and the Community College District are participating employers in this Fund.

Principal Provisions:

The amendment would change the pension compensation for employees hired on and after July 1st, 2010. "Final compensation" would be calculated using a two-year formula. An employee's final compensation would be determined by averaging monthly compensation during:

- any two consecutive fiscal years of earnings, or
- the 24 months immediately before retirement.

The final basis for retirement benefits would be the higher of the two figures.

For safety employees and CalPERS members hired on and after July 1, 2010, the employee contribution to SFERS or CalPERS would increase to 9.0% of compensation.

In years when the City's contribution to SFERS is less than expected because of large investment earnings, the amount saved would be deposited into the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund. The participating employees could choose to have this rule apply to them.

Proposition D would also permit the San Francisco Superior Court to choose to become a participating employer in the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund.

Proposition D (continued on page 6)

PROPOSITION D

(continued)

City Savings Estimate:

Taken together, the change in the SFERS safety and CalPERS employee contribution rates from 7.5% to 9.0%, and the two year final compensation calculation, are expected to reduce the employer long-term cost (called the 'normal' cost) of pension funding by approximately 0.7% over the 25 year period between fiscal year 2011-2012 and fiscal year 2035-2036. Cumulatively, the savings for that same 25 year period is estimated to range between \$300 and \$500 million depending on future wage and benefit rates for employees, and other factors.

Maintaining City Benefit Contributions at the 'Normal' Cost:

The Charter amendment would specify that for any year in which the City's actuarially-required contribution rate to SFERS fell below the 'normal' funding cost, the city would deposit the difference into the retiree health trust fund to pay for future benefit costs. Historically there have been periods in which the City's pension contribution rate was very low or zero due largely to strong investment performance in the SFERS trust. When and if such conditions occur again, this change would effectively require the city to nonetheless continue paying for pension and/or post-employment benefit liabilities at the estimated long-term cost of pension funding which typically ranges around 9% to 10% of payroll over time.

Note that the City currently pays the cost of retirees' health benefits each year as that year's expense is due. As a result, there is a substantial unfunded liability, estimated to be approximately \$4 billion in total, for the future cost of retiree health benefits that current employees have already earned. That liability has been somewhat reduced by the passage of Proposition B in June 2008 which required employees hired beginning in 2009 to pay a portion of post-employment health benefit costs, but the bulk of the cost, estimated at between \$250 and \$300 million annually at current rates, will have to be otherwise addressed by the City. The contributions that would be mandated by this amendment would address a portion of this liability.

Arguments in Favor of Prop D:

- Proposition D would provide real pension reform, better management of retirement costs and provide significant savings to the City over time.

Arguments Against Proposition D:

- A two-tiered retirement system would be unfair to newly-hired workers. They would pay more and receive less from the system for the same amount of work as current employees who are doing the same job.

Fiscal Effect:

The Controller states:

Should the proposed charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, the City will have reduced costs in the medium and long term for the cost of employee pensions, with those costs largely being shifted from the employer to employees.

Employer and Employee Pension Contribution Rates:

Each year, based on actuarial analysis, the San Francisco Employees' Retirement System (SFERS) board sets the required contribution rates for the City and its employees to fund the cost of current and projected future pension benefits. In FY2009-2010, the City's required contribution was 9.49% of payroll. In FY2010-II, the City's required contribution will increase to 13.56% of payroll, due in part to losses in SFERS' assets related to the economic downturn.

Currently, most employees pay 7.5% of salary to the retirement system as their share of pension costs. This employee contribution rate is fixed in the Charter. For employees in public safety classifications, whose pension cost is higher, the City also pays the difference between 9.0% and the employee contribution rate of 7.5%. Similarly, for city employees who are members of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS), the City pays the difference between 7.5% and CalPERS' mandated employee contribution, which was 9.0% in the most recent year. The amendment would specify that SFERS public safety employees and CalPERS members hired after July 1, 2010 would have to contribute 9.0% of salary as the mandated employee contribution for their pensions.

Final Pension Compensation Calculation:

Currently, employee pension payments are calculated using a formula that, among other factors, is based upon an employee's highest year of compensation. The Charter amendment would change this part of the formula to specify that final compensation will instead be based upon average monthly compensation earned during the highest two years.

Under the Charter and Federal laws, this change would not affect any current employees-only those hired after July 1, 2010. Effectively, the changes will require the creation of a new "tier" of employees whose final compensation calculation is different than most current employees. By approximately 2032, most city employees would be under this arrangement.

PROPOSITION E

Budget Line Item for Police Security for City Officials and Dignitaries

Ordinance

Placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors

The Question:

Should the Police Department's budget include a line item for the cost of security provided by the Police Department to City officials and visiting dignitaries?

The Background:

The Police Department provides security to City officials and visiting dignitaries when the Chief of Police determines that they need police protection. The Chief of Police decides the level of protection and uses funds in the Police Department's budget to pay this cost.

The Police Commission approves the Police Department's proposed annual budget and submits it to the Mayor, who prepares the annual budget for the City, including budgets for each department, and submits it to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Currently there is no line item in the budget to cover security costs for protecting City officials and visiting dignitaries.

The Proposal:

Proposition E would require the Police Department's annual budget to include a line item with the cost of security provided by the Police Department to protect City officials and visiting dignitaries.

Fiscal Effect:

The Controller states:

Should the proposed ordinance be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would not affect the cost of government.

Arguments in Favor of Proposition E:

- The inclusion of a budgetary item for security costs provided by the Police Department to protect City officials and visiting dignitaries simply would provide more transparency and accountability to the City's annual budget.

Arguments Against Proposition E:

- The proposal could limit City law enforcement officials from making independent decisions regarding security needs for City officials and visiting dignitaries.
- The Police Department is not the only law enforcement agency responsible for providing security for City officials and visiting dignitaries, yet the department would be the only agency to have a line item in their budget for such services.

PROPOSITION F

Renters Financial Hardship Applications

Ordinance

Put on the ballot by Supervisors Daly, Campos, Chiu, Avalos, and Mirkarimi.

The Background:

The rent for most residential housing built prior to June 1979 is regulated by the city's Residential Rent Ordinance which limits when and how much a landlord can increase a tenant's rent.

Landlords may increase rent once a year by a percentage based on the Consumer Price Index. They can also increase rents by no more than 10% in any 12 month period to pay for certain capital property improvements, some property tax increases, and some utility increases.

A tenant may file a hardship application with the Rent Board for SOME of these increases, but not all of the increases under the current ordinance.

The Proposal

Proposition F would add to the city's Residential Rent Ordinance to provide provisions for tenants to file hardship applications to postpone any allowable rent increase if the following apply:

- The tenant has become unemployed.
- The tenant's wages have been reduced by 20% or more compared to the last 12 months.
- The tenant's sole income consists of government benefits, such as Social Security, SSI, or Disability, and the tenant has not received a cost of living increase in the previous 12 months.

Once the tenant submits a financial hardship application in response to a proposed rent increase, the proposed increases are postponed for 60 days or until the hearing is held (whichever date is later).

At the hearing, an Administrative Law Judge will base the decision on:

- Whether the tenant satisfies one of the above conditions.
- Whether the increased rent would total more than 33% of the tenant's income.
- Consideration of the tenant's assets.

If the tenant is found to have a financial hardship, the landlord may not increase the tenant's rent for a specified time period based on the tenant's circumstances, and a review is set for the end of this time period. At the review, **Proposition F (continued on page 8)**

PROPOSITION F (continued)

the rent may be increased effective as of the date the tenant's circumstances changed for the better. Either the tenant or the landlord may appeal the decisions of the hearing and review to the Rent Board.

Fiscal Effect:

The Controller states the following:

"Should the proposed ordinance be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would have minimal impact on the cost of government."

Arguments In Favor of Proposition F:

- Renters who have lost their jobs, or seen their jobs shrink to part time are in desperate straights trying to keep a roof over their heads.
- Prop F will help keep people housed while they look for new work and/or better pay.
- Senior Citizens on Social Security saw no increase in their benefits this year- how can they afford a rent increase?
- Rent Control currently has provisions to let tenants postpone some, but not all, rent increases due to financial hardships. But they are inadequate to deal with today's economy. Prop F adds new provisions for hardship specifically designed for renters who have been hardest hit by the recession.
- Much attention has been focused on keeping homeowners in their homes. We need to pay the same attention to renters who can barely pay their rents and who would loose their homes if their rents increase further.

Arguments Against Prop F:

- This assumes only renters are suffering financial hardships. Some landlords pay huge mortgages and are "underwater" financially, owing more than their property is worth. A slew of foreclosures will not benefit anyone.
- New tenants will face higher rental rates and stiffer requirements such as proof of assets and job stability.
- Low income and those without assets will be shut out of low cost apartments, especially if the rent is close to 33% of their current income.
- San Francisco already has a hardship policy in place for some rent increases at the Renter's Arbitration Board with fewer criterions to meet. This proposition could undermine it.
- The government should be providing this relief to renters, not individual property owners.

PROPOSITION G**Transbay Transit Center**
Declaration of Policy

Placed on the ballot by Supervisors Daly, Campos, Mirkarimi, Avalos and Mar

The Question:

Should the Transbay Transit Center, under construction at First and Mission Streets be the northern end of the San Francisco to Los Angeles high-speed rail line, (excluding any continued research and/or expenses in considering other possible sites (Main and Beale) for the rail lines northern terminus?)

The Background:

In November 2008, California voters approved a state ballot measure to issue bonds to build a high-speed rail line between San Francisco and Los Angeles. That measure stated that the Transbay Terminal would be the San Francisco station. The Transbay Joint Powers Authority, a local government agency, is replacing the Transbay Terminal with a new Transbay Transit Center at First and Mission streets. The new Transbay Transit Center would be used by AC Transit, Caltrain, Golden Gate Transit, Muni and SamTrans. The Transbay Joint Powers Authority also plans that the Transbay Transit Center would be the northern end of the high-speed rail line running between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The Proposal:

Under Proposition E, the City would make it policy that the Transbay Transit Center at First and Mission streets be the northern end of the San Francisco to Los Angeles rail line.

Fiscal Effect:

The Controller states the following:

Should the proposed declaration of policy be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would not affect the cost of government.

Arguments In Favor of Proposition G:

- The Transbay Transit Center is an approved project, endorsed by the voters and currently under construction.
- The Transbay Transit Center will transform downtown San Francisco by creating a multi-use station in the heart of a new transit-friendly neighborhood.
- Continuing to consider an alternate site (Main and Beale) for High Speed Rail results in unnecessary duplication and delay and will cause undue disruption to the residents of San Francisco.
- High Speed Rail is important to the future of our state. We cannot responsibly build our state with the existing infrastructure.

Arguments Against Proposition G:

- This proposition is politically motivated and not concerned with the best interests of residents.
- The proposed rail line is not safer, more affordable, or faster and will ruin the tracks.



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www.smartvoter.org