Ballot Simplification Committee - DRAFT for Consideration on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 Budget line item for Police Department Security for City Officials and Dignitaries (working title only, subject to change)

**The Way It Is Now:** The Police Department provides personal security to City officials and visiting dignitaries when the Chief of Police determines that they need police protection. In those instances, the Chief of Police decides the level of protection and uses funds in the Police Department's budget to pay the costs.

The Police Commission approves the Police Department's proposed annual budget and submits it to the Mayor. The Mayor prepares the annual budget for the City, including budgets for each department, and submits it to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The budget contains line items that specify how much money the City will allocate for particular purposes. The Police Department's budget does not include a separate line item for the costs of providing personal security to City officials and visiting dignitaries.

**The Proposal:** Proposition \_\_\_\_ would require the annual budget proposed by the Police Commission, submitted by the Mayor, and approved by the Board of Supervisors, to each include a line item for personal security provided by the Police Department to City officials and visiting dignitaries.

**A "YES" Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want to require that the Police Department's annual budget include a line item for the cost of police protection services provided to City officials and visiting dignitaries.

**A "NO" Vote Means:** If you vote "no," you do not want to require that the Police Department's annual budget include a line item for the cost of police protection services provided to City officials and visiting dignitaries.

word count: 237 [suggested word limit: 300]