Loans to Finance Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Final Digest

On: Tuesday, August 2, 2016

Members: Packard, Anderson, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: 12 p.m. on Wednesday, August 3

The Way It Is Now: In November 1992, San Francisco voters approved an ordinance authorizing the City to issue up to \$350 million in general obligation bonds to seismically upgrade unreinforced masonry buildings that are at risk from strong earthquakes. The City was required to use the money from these bonds for the following purposes:

- \$150 million to provide loans to pay for seismic upgrades to unreinforced masonry buildings for affordable housing (Affordable Housing Loan Program); and
- \$200 million to provide loans to pay for seismic upgrades to market-rate residential, commercial and institutional unreinforced masonry buildings (Market Rate Loan Program).

The City has issued approximately \$45 million in loans under the Affordable Housing Loan Program and approximately \$50 million in loans under the Market Rate Loan Program. Approximately \$261 million can still be issued under the 1992 ordinance.

The Proposal: Proposition __ is an ordinance that would change the way the City is allowed to use the remaining \$261 million in general obligation bonds. In addition to the purposes specified in the 1992 ordinance, this Proposition would allow funds to be used for loans to acquire, improve and rehabilitate at-risk multi-unit residential buildings in need of seismic, fire, health or safety upgrades or other major rehabilitation; and convert those buildings to permanent affordable housing.

A multi-unit residential building is a building with three or more units.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to allow the City to spend the unused \$261 million from the 1992 general obligation bond ordinance to provide loans to acquire, improve and rehabilitate at-risk multi-unit residential buildings in need of seismic, fire, health or safety upgrades or other major rehabilitation; and convert those buildings to permanent affordable housing.

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.