

## 7-27-20 David Pilpel BSC Parcel Tax for SFUSD Reconsideration Request

I hereby request reconsideration of the Approved Digest for the ballot measure with the working title "Parcel Tax for San Francisco Unified School District". I have included the text adopted by the Committee with my alternate language as tracked changes. I recommend these changes to increase accuracy and clarity.

**The Way It Is Now:** The San Francisco Unified School District (School District) educates about 54,000 students a year and employs about 6,900 teachers.

In June 2018, a majority of San Francisco voters approved an annual parcel tax (2018 School Parcel Tax) to provide money to the School District. As of July 1, 2020, the tax rate is \$320 per parcel of taxable property, with an annual adjustment for inflation. The 2018 School Parcel Tax expires on June 30, 2038.

The School District can use the money collected from the tax to:

- Increase salaries and benefits for teachers and other School District employees;
- Increase staffing and funding at high-needs schools and community schools;
- Provide professional development;
- Invest in technology, including digital learning; and
- Fund public charter schools.

People age 65 or older before July 1 of the tax year [awkward. Reword somehow?] can claim an exemption from the tax if they own an interest in a property being taxed and if the property is where they live most of the time.

The 2018 School Parcel Tax has been challenged in court, and money collected from the tax has not been used.

**The Proposal:** Proposition \_ would replace the 2018 School Parcel Tax, which was approved by a majority of voters, with a new parcel tax beginning on July 1, 2021 that needs the approval of two-thirds of voters.

Proposition \_ would change the tax rate to \$288 per parcel of taxable property. The tax rate would be adjusted for inflation annually and would expire on June 30, 2038.

People age 65 or older before July 1 of the tax year [awkward. Reword somehow?] would be able to claim an exemption from the tax if they own an interest in a property being taxed and if the property is where they live most of the time.

The School District would be able to use the money collected from the tax for the same purposes as the 2018 School Parcel Tax.

**A "YES" Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want to replace the 2018 School Parcel Tax with a new tax, beginning on July 1, 2021, that changes the annual tax rate from \$320 per parcel to \$288 per parcel, adjusted for inflation annually and with an exemption for people age 65 or older.

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

That's what I have on this one. Thanks. DP