



OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Ben Rosenfield
Controller
Todd Rydstrom
Deputy Controller

Mr. John Arntz
Department of Elections
City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

August 10, 2020

RE: Proposition E – Charter amendment to remove the minimum police staffing requirement

Dear Mr. Arntz,

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

The proposed Charter amendment would eliminate the minimum staffing requirement of 1,971 sworn full-duty officers and instead require the Police Department to prepare a report describing the current number of full-duty sworn officers and recommending staffing levels of full-duty sworn officers.

The report will include an assessment of overall staffing, workload, public service objectives, legal duties, and other relevant information to determining proper staffing levels of full-duty sworn officers. The Police Commission would be required to hold a public hearing to consider the staffing report when approving the Police Department's proposed budget every fiscal year, but would not be required to accept or adopt any of the recommendations in the report.

The amendment would make it possible for the City to achieve cost savings in the annual budget process by allowing for reallocation of funding that is currently set aside to meet the minimum staffing requirement, and the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors would have additional discretion to use some portion of this funding for any public purpose under the normal budgetary and fiscal provisions of the Charter. The estimated annual salary and fringe benefit cost of a full duty sworn officer is approximately \$155,000.

Sincerely,

Natasha Mikal

FOR Ben Rosenfield
Controller

Note: This analysis reflects our understanding of the proposal as of the date shown. At times further information is provided to us which may result in revisions being made to this analysis before the final Controller's statement appears in the Voter Information Pamphlet.