



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

Ben Rosenfield
Controller

Todd Rydstrom
Deputy Controller

August 15, 2016

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

RE: Proposition J – Charter amendment creating a homeless housing and services fund, transportation improvement fund

Dear Mr. Arntz,

Should the proposed charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would significantly increase the cost of government.

The proposed amendment would require general fund contributions to two newly created funds, the Homeless Housing and Services Fund and the Transportation Improvement Fund, of \$12.5 million and \$25.4 million, respectively, in fiscal year (FY) 2016-17 and \$50 million and \$101.6 million, respectively, in FY 2017-18.

For fiscal years FY 2018-19 through FY 2040-41, contributions to the funds would be equal to the FY 2017-18 contributions adjusted for annual changes in discretionary revenue. The proposed amendment would authorize the City to issue lease revenue bonds or lease financing arrangements for certain categories in the Transportation Improvement Fund.

The Homeless Housing and Services Fund would be used to provide services to the homeless, including programs to prevent homelessness, create exits from homelessness, and move homeless individuals into more stable situations. The fund can be used to support operations of these services and to make capital investments required to maintain or expand system infrastructure needs.

The Transportation Improvement Fund would be used to improve San Francisco's transportation network through investments in transit services and affordability; Muni fleet, facilities, and infrastructure repair and improvement; transit optimization and expansion; regional transit; Vision Zero safer and complete streets; and street resurfacing.

This proposed amendment is not in compliance with a non-binding, voter-adopted city policy regarding set-asides. The policy seeks to limit set-asides which reduce General Fund dollars that could otherwise be allocated by the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors in the annual budget process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Rosenfield".

for
Ben Rosenfield
Controller