December 9, 2019

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

Re: March 3, 2020 Ballot Questions (Second Amended)

Dear Director Arntz:

Please find below the ballot questions for the March 2020 election. The Board of Trustees for the San Francisco Community College District wrote the ballot question for the measure entitled “City College Job Training, Repair and Earthquake Safety Measure.” As authorized by law, the Board of Supervisors wrote the ballot question for the measure entitled, “Earthquake Safety Emergency Response Bond”. The City Attorney’s Office wrote the ballot questions for the remaining measures.

Proposition entitled “City College Job Training, Repair and Earthquake Safety Measure”: “CITY COLLEGE JOB TRAINING, REPAIR AND EARTHQUAKE SAFETY MEASURE. To fix/repair City College facilities; make necessary seismic retrofit/earthquake safety improvements; make the College more environmentally sustainable through energy efficient buildings/increased renewable energy use; and acquire, construct, repair facilities, sites/equipment to prepare students for well-paid, local science, technology, and arts related jobs, shall San Francisco Community College District’s measure authorizing $845,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, levying 1.1 cents/$100 assessed value ($47,500,000 annually until approximately 2053) be approved, requiring audits and citizen oversight?”

Proposition entitled “Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond”: “SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE BOND, 2020. To improve fire, earthquake, and emergency response by improving, constructing, and/or replacing: deteriorating cisterns, pipes, and tunnels, and related facilities to ensure firefighters a reliable water supply for fires and disasters; neighborhood fire and police stations and supporting facilities; the City’s 911 Call Center; and other disaster response and public safety facilities, and to pay related costs, shall the City and County of San Francisco issue $628,500,000 in general obligation bonds, with a duration up to 30 years from the time of issuance, an estimated average tax rate of $0.015/$100 of assessed property value, and projected average annual revenues of $40,000,000, subject to citizen oversight and regular audits?”

Proposition entitled “Retiree Health Care Benefits for Former Employees of the San Francisco Housing Authority”: “Shall the City amend the Charter to make retiree health care coverage available to certain City employees who previously worked for the San Francisco Housing Authority based on their combined years of service and date of hire?”

Proposition entitled “Vacancy Tax”: “Shall the City tax owners or tenants who keep ground floor retail or other commercial space vacant in some areas of San Francisco, at rates of between $250 and $1,000 per street-facing foot, starting January 1, 2021 and without any
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expiration date, and use the annual revenues, estimated at a range of a minimal amount to $5 million dollars, to assist small businesses?”

Proposition entitled “Limits on Office Development”: “Shall the City tie annual square-footage allotment for certain Large Office Projects to whether the City is meeting its Affordable Housing Goals, and change the criteria for approving certain office projects?”

Very truly yours,

DENNIS J. HERRERA
City Attorney

/s/ Jenica D. Maldonado

Jenica D. Maldonado
Deputy City Attorney