

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[General Obligation Bond Election - Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response]
Ordinance calling and providing for a special election to be held in the City and County of San Francisco on Tuesday, June 3, 2014, for the purpose of submitting to San Francisco voters a proposition to incur the following bonded debt of the City and County: \$400,000,000 to finance the construction, acquisition, improvement, and seismic retrofitting of Neighborhood Fire and Police Stations, the Emergency Firefighting Water System, seismically secure facilities for the Medical Examiner, the Police Department's Traffic Company, and the Police Department's Forensic Services Division, and other critical infrastructure and facilities for earthquake safety and related costs necessary or convenient for the foregoing purposes; authorizing landlords to pass-through 50% of the resulting property tax increase to residential tenants in accordance with Chapter 37 of the Administrative Code; finding that the estimated cost of such proposed project is and will be too great to be paid out of the ordinary annual income and revenue of the City and County and will require expenditures greater than the amount allowed therefor by the annual tax levy; reciting the estimated cost of such proposed project; fixing the date of election and the manner of holding such election and the procedure for voting for or against the proposition; fixing the maximum rate of interest on such bonds and providing for the levy and collection of taxes to pay both principal and interest; prescribing notice to be given of such election; finding that a portion of the proposed bond is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and adopting findings under CEQA for the remaining portion of the proposed bond; finding that the proposed bond is in conformity with the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1(b), and is consistent with the General Plan; consolidating the special election with the general election; establishing the election precincts, voting places and officers for the election; waiving the word limitation on ballot propositions imposed by Municipal Elections Code, Section 510; complying with the restrictions on the use of bond proceeds specified in Section 53410 of the California Government Code; incorporating the provisions of the Administrative Code, Section 5.30-5.36; and waiving the time requirements specified in Administrative Code, Section 2.34.

Existing Law

General Obligation Bonds of the City and County of San Francisco may be issued only with the assent of two-thirds of the voters voting on the proposition.

Ballot Proposition

This ordinance authorizes the following ballot proposition to be placed on the June 3, 2014 ballot:

SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE BOND, 2014. To improve fire, earthquake and emergency response by: improving and/or replacing deteriorating cisterns, pipes, and tunnels, and related facilities to ensure firefighters a reliable water supply for fires and disasters; improving and/or replacing neighborhood fire and police stations; replacing certain seismically-unsafe police and medical examiner facilities with earthquake-safe buildings and to pay related costs, shall the City and County of San Francisco issue \$400,000,000 in general obligation bonds, subject to citizen oversight and regular audits?

The ordinance fixes the maximum rate of interest on the Bonds, and provides for a levy and a collection of taxes to repay both the principal and interest on the Bonds. The ordinance also describes the manner in which the Bond Special Election will be held, and the ordinance provides for compliance with applicable state and local laws.

Background Information

The Board of Supervisors found that the amount of specified for this project is and will be too great to be paid out of the ordinary annual income and revenue of the City, and will require expenditures greater than the amount allowed therefor by the annual tax levy.