

**Ballot Simplification Committee**  
**FINAL Approved Digest After Reconsideration– August 7, 2008**  
**Approved by: Packard, Chisnell, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen**

**San Francisco Transportation Authority**

**THE WAY IT IS NOW:**

The San Francisco County Transportation Authority (Authority) is a State agency separate from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, which operates MUNI and other transportation services.

The Authority directs use of a one-half cent sales tax to help pay for transportation projects in San Francisco, described in a spending plan approved by the voters in 2003.

State law allows San Francisco to determine the membership of the Authority's governing board (Authority Board), so long as all of its members are local elected officials. Since 1989, the Authority Board has consisted of the eleven members of the Board of Supervisors.

The Authority may use public agencies or outside contractors to perform staff functions. It is subject to State financial, ethics and public records laws but is not obligated to adopt those of the City. However, its financial statements are subject to City review.

**THE PROPOSAL:**

Proposition \_\_\_ is an ordinance that would change the size and composition of the Authority Board. The new membership of the Authority Board would be:

- The Mayor;
- The President of the Board of Supervisors;
- The Treasurer;
- One elected City official selected by the Mayor; and
- One elected City official selected by the President of the Board of Supervisors.

The Mayor, the President of the Board of Supervisors, and the Treasurer would each be able to designate another elected City official to serve as his or her alternate. Members of the new Authority Board would take office on February 1, 2009, when the terms of the members of the previous Authority Board would expire.

Proposition \_\_\_ would urge the Authority to use City agencies and departments to perform staff functions, to obtain expert financial review before adopting Authority budgets, and to adopt the same ethics and public records laws that apply to City agencies.

**A “YES” VOTE MEANS:** If you vote "yes," you want to change the size and composition of the Transportation Authority Board and encourage the Authority to use City agencies and departments to perform staff functions, to obtain expert financial review before adopting Authority budgets, and to adopt the same ethics and public records laws that apply to City agencies.

**A “NO” VOTE MEANS:** If you vote “no,” you do not want to make these changes.

word count: 343 [suggested word limit: 300]