

# SPUR | VOTER GUIDE

SAN FRANCISCO JUNE 2018 | Ballot analysis and recommendations

<p>REGIONAL MEASURE</p> <p><b>3</b></p> <p>Bridge Toll</p> <p>VOTE YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>A</b></p> <p>Public Utilities Revenue Bonds</p> <p>VOTE YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>B</b></p> <p>Commissioners Seeking Office</p> <p>VOTE YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>C</b></p> <p>Commercial Rent Tax for Child Care and Education</p> <p>VOTE NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>D</b></p> <p>Commercial Rent Tax for Housing and Homelessness</p> <p>NO RECOMMENDATION <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>PROP</p> <p><b>E</b></p> <p>Flavored Tobacco Ban</p> <p>VOTE YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>F</b></p> <p>Legal Representation for Tenants</p> <p>VOTE YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>G</b></p> <p>Schools Parcel Tax</p> <p>VOTE YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>H</b></p> <p>Policy Use of Tasers</p> <p>VOTE NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>PROP</p> <p><b>I</b></p> <p>Sports Teams</p> <p>VOTE NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

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**Nine city propositions and one regional measure appear on the San Francisco ballot on June 5, 2018. SPUR provides in-depth analysis and recommendations on each one.**

**The goal of the SPUR Voter Guide is to provide objective analysis and advise voters on which measures will deliver real solutions. We evaluate measures based on two sets of factors:**

#### **Outcomes**

- Will the measure make the city better?
- Do the positive impacts of the measure outweigh any negative impacts?

#### **Process**

- Is it necessary and appropriate to be on the ballot?
- Is it written in a clear and straightforward way?
- Will it be implementable?
- Does the measure make it easier or harder to make future governance and management decisions?

Our Ballot Analysis Committee heard arguments from both sides of the issues, debated the measures' merits and provided recommendations to our San Francisco Board of Directors. The board then voted, with a 60 percent vote required for SPUR to make a recommendation.



# SPUR

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SPUR's San Francisco Board of Directors reviewed, debated and adopted this analysis as official policy on February 21 and March 19, 2018.

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In-depth ballot  
analysis, made possible  
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# 3 Bridge Toll

## Bay Area Traffic Relief Plan User Fee

Increases tolls on the Bay Area's seven state-owned bridges, excluding the Golden Gate Bridge, by \$1 in 2019, \$1 in 2022 and \$1 in 2025 to fund regional transportation capital investments.

VOTE YES



### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

Regional Measure 3 (RM3) proposes a bridge toll increase to generate \$4.45 billion for transportation capital investments over a 25-year period and \$60 million annually to support transit operations. Tolls would increase by a total of \$3 by 2025 on the seven state-owned toll bridges in the Bay Area (the Golden Gate Bridge is excluded), with an option to allow inflation indexing thereafter. As with other bridge tolls, funds would be collected and administered through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) acting as the Bay Area Toll Authority.

Notable projects that would receive significant funding under RM3 include: \$500 million to expand BART's fleet; \$375 million to expand BART to Silicon Valley; \$325 million to bring high-speed rail to the Transbay Transit Center in San Francisco; \$300 million to expand ferry service; and \$50 million to implement a new Clipper-based fare system. In addition, the expenditure plan would set aside up to \$60 million annually to support transit operations, including \$35 million for ferry service, \$20 million for regional express bus service and \$5 million for Transbay Transit Center operations.

RM3 would also introduce new accountability measures, including an RM3 independent oversight committee, transit performance measures and an inspector general for BART.

RM3 would allow for discounts for some toll-payers. People crossing two state-owned toll bridges during commute hours and using FasTrak would receive a 50 percent discount on their tolls. Similar to today, carpools would also receive a 50 percent discount.

Finally, RM3 would allow MTC to index bridge tolls to inflation. This would enable MTC to increase bridge tolls in the future to fund capital projects without having to seek approval from the voters.

### THE BACKSTORY

RM3 was authorized by the California State Legislature in 2017 through the adoption of Senate Bill 595 (Beall), which also established an expenditure plan to accompany any new revenues generated. The expenditure plan was developed primarily by the Bay Area delegation of the state legislature, with input from MTC and transportation, environmental, business and other interests. Although some compromises were necessary in finalizing the expenditure plan, the projects it would fund represent the major transportation capital priorities of each of the nine Bay Area counties. (See map on page 5.)

As is common in revenue and expenditure measures of this magnitude, the state's authorizing legislation also included the establishment of an independent oversight committee to monitor RM3-funded expenditures for consistency with the expenditure plan. In addition, the legislation required that MTC establish performance measures for RM3-funded bus and ferry service. The authorizing legislation also introduced an independent office of the BART inspector general, adding a new layer of oversight to BART that covers both RM3-funded and non-RM3-funded projects and activities.

RM3 is the successor to Regional Measures 1 and 2, passed in 1988 and 2004, respectively. Regional Measure 1 was dedicated to capital improvements only, while Regional Measure 2 allocated about 60 percent of its funding to capital and 40 percent to operating support.

RM3 was placed on the ballot by MTC acting as the Bay Area Toll Authority. Because RM3 is a fee and not a tax, it requires a simple majority (50 percent plus one vote) in the nine Bay Area counties to pass. It does not require a majority in each county.

# 3

## Bridge Toll



### Regional Measure 3 Projects

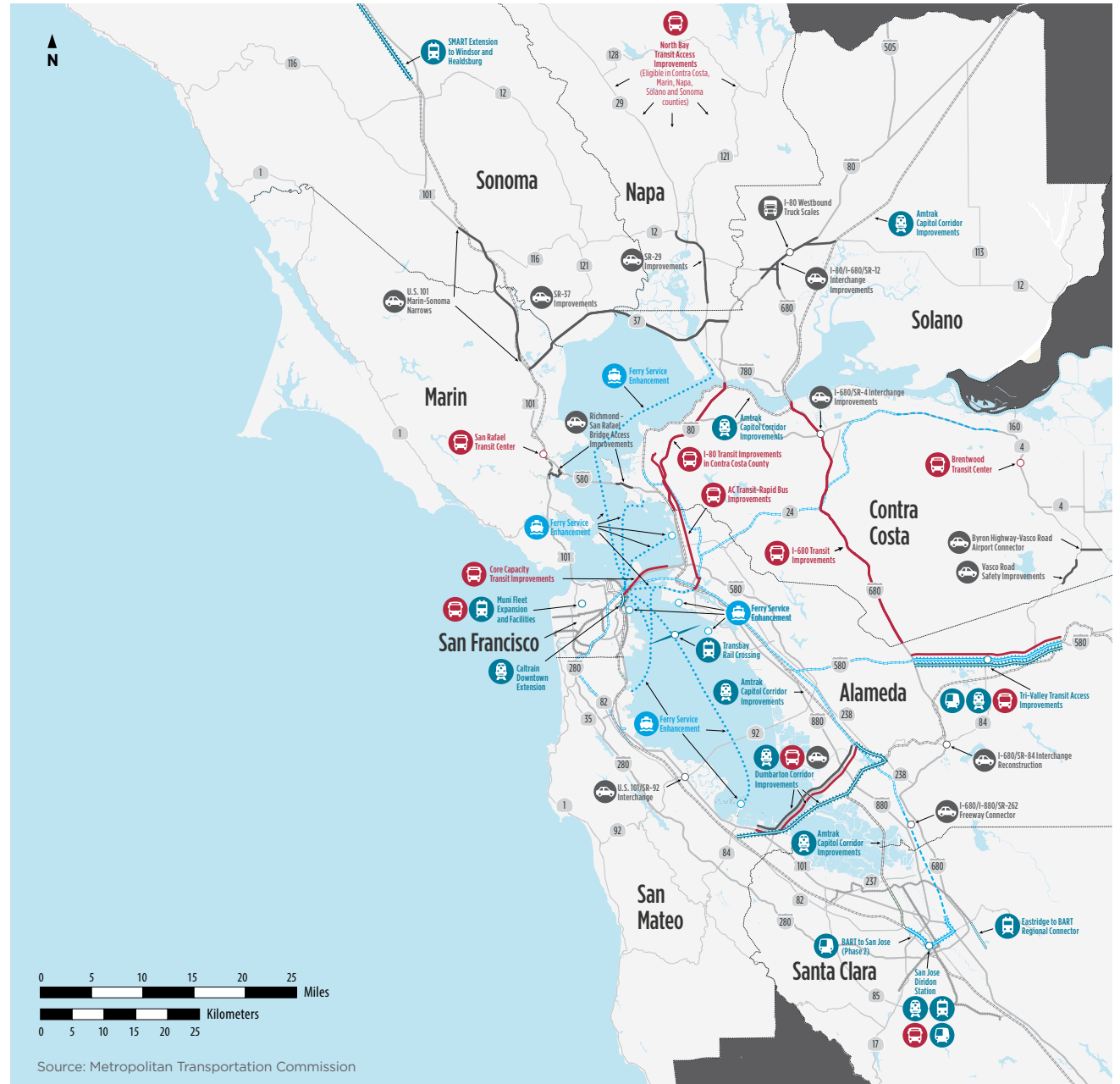
RM3 would fund a number of transportation projects across the Bay Area, including new BART cars, bringing high-speed rail to downtown San Francisco and implementing a new Clipper fare system, as well as providing \$60 million annually to fund transit system operations.

- Bus Project
- BART Project
- Rail Project
- BART existing
- Light Rail Project
- BART extension under construction
- Ferry Project
- Highway Project
- Existing Light Rail
- Existing Commuter Rail

### Projects Not Mapped

- New BART Cars
- Next Generation Clipper Transit Fare Card
- Corridor Express Lanes
- Goods Movement and Mitigation
- Bay Trail/Safe Routes to Transit
- Regional Express Bus

Map is for illustration only, showing planned projects and does not depict a commitment of funds. Exact projects and project limits to be funded are subject to design and environmental review and approvals.



## 3

## Bridge Toll



## PROS

- The vast majority of projects that would be funded by RM3 have been identified as priorities in the region's long-range transportation plan and are awaiting funding to move forward. If RM3 passes, it would successfully execute one of the plan's stated funding strategies.
- The expenditure plan would invest in many transportation projects that are critical for sustainable regional mobility, notably expanding BART's fleet and connecting Caltrain and high-speed rail to the Transbay Transit Center in San Francisco.
- RM3 would fund important local transportation needs, such as replacing and expanding Muni's fleet and facilities, without which Muni cannot keep pace with demand.
- The expenditure plan would allocate the majority of funding to sustainable modes of travel (75 percent of funding would go to transit, bicycle and pedestrian projects) while reserving a sizeable portion of road funding for express-lane expansion, which would enable counties to reward carpooling and appropriately price solo driving.
- Transit fares and bridge tolls have not increased in parallel in recent years; currently, it costs more to use transit to cross a bridge than it does to drive across a bridge. By indexing bridge tolls to inflation, RM3 would start to correct the imbalance and would keep toll rates at appropriate levels in future years.
- RM3 would provide an important regional revenue source for local projects as federal funding for transportation projects continues to decline.
- The measure would offer a discount for people crossing more than one bridge. Although as a whole bridge toll-payers are disproportionately higher-income, it's important that RM3 would provide pricing relief for those who have been pushed to the edge of the region because of the Bay Area's affordability crisis and who are thus forced to drive. The measure would also offer a discount for carpools — an important component to encourage people to make sustainable transportation choices.

## CONS

- Plan Bay Area 2040, the region's transportation and land use plan, identifies a funding gap of \$198 billion, but RM3 would only generate \$4.45 billion.

## SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION

While RM3 wouldn't generate enough money to solve our transportation problems once and for all, it is a necessary measure to help us meet increasing demands on our transportation system. The measure would pay for important transportation projects that would have real impact for many system users. It would also provide a long-term fix in that bridge tolls in the future could be indexed to inflation, allowing the region to better keep pace with its growing transportation system needs.

**Vote YES on Measure 3.**



# A

## Public Utilities Revenue Bonds

### Public Utilities Revenue Bonds

Authorizes the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to issue revenue bonds to pay for power and electrical facilities without having to obtain voter approval.

VOTE YES



#### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure would amend the City Charter to give the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) the authority to issue revenue bonds to pay for new power facilities with a two-thirds vote of the Board of Supervisors and the support of the mayor.<sup>1</sup>

While the SFPUC has the authority to issue revenue bonds for drinking water and wastewater facilities, the agency is mostly restricted to using cash to pay for new power facilities; it can issue revenue bonds only for a narrow set of power-related projects, including energy efficiency upgrades and improvements to the Hetch Hetchy power system.

Under this measure, revenue bonds for power facilities would be subject to the same process that now exists for water and wastewater bonds: obtaining approval from the SFPUC and the Revenue Bond Oversight Committee, passing a two-thirds vote of the Board of Supervisors and getting the support of the mayor, following an independent engineering evaluation and a certification of compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

The SFPUC could use the new revenue-bonding authority to build new clean power facilities and to invest in newer sustainable technologies, such as electric vehicle infrastructure and energy storage. The ballot measure would specifically prohibit the SFPUC from using its new revenue-bonding authority to invest in any fossil fuel or nuclear power facilities.

#### THE BACKSTORY

The SFPUC provides water, wastewater and power services to residents and businesses in San Francisco. The agency's Power Enterprise program has two roles. First, it delivers clean power from the Hetch Hetchy hydroelectricity system to all municipal electricity users, including Muni, the fire department, the airport and the school district. Second, it provides clean energy to San Francisco residents and businesses that are enrolled in CleanPowerSF, a community-choice energy program that was established in 2016. This charter amendment would make it easier for the SFPUC to issue debt in order to finance projects that serve both classes of customers.

In 2015, the SFPUC became subject to federal regulatory requirements for energy reliability that will require it to own and operate more power facilities to serve its growing base of CleanPowerSF customers. This measure would help the SFPUC pay for those facilities more cost-effectively and scale up its ability to take on projects.

This measure was placed on the ballot by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors. As an amendment to the City Charter, it must be on the ballot and requires a simple majority (50 percent plus one vote) to pass.

#### FOOTNOTE

<sup>1</sup> Unlike other cities and counties, the San Francisco City Charter requires voter approval for revenue bonds unless otherwise exempted. There are about eight different exemptions to this voter approval requirement.

A

## Public Utilities Revenue Bonds

**PROS**

- Using bonds to finance projects is a prudent business practice that utilities, like most businesses, need to maintain assets in a state of good repair and to strategically expand when necessary.
- Requiring voter support for infrastructural revenue bonds is too burdensome, typically requiring an expensive public information campaign to win. Other types of revenue bonds that support the city's infrastructure have already been exempted from having to obtain voter approval.
- This measure would support San Francisco's climate action goals by making it easier for the city to invest in innovative and sustainable clean power technologies, such as electric vehicle infrastructure, grid improvements and solar-plus-storage batteries.
- This measure would help the city comply with new electricity reliability requirements more easily and cost-effectively.

**CONS**

- Some voters might object to taking decision-making power — in this case for revenue bonding of power and electricity facilities — away from voters and vesting it with the SFPUC.

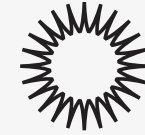
**SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Prop. A would give the city's power operations the same ability to issue debt that is already delegated to the airport, the port and the SFPUC's own water and sewer operations. We believe it's important to confer on the city's public electricity utility the ability to reinvest in aging infrastructure, respond to new sustainability technologies, comply with regulations and maintain cost-effectiveness for its customers.

## Vote YES on Prop A.







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**10** ballot measures.

**64** staff & board members.

**500** hours of analysis.

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# B Commissioners Seeking Office

## Prohibiting Appointed Commissioners From Running for Office

Requires that appointed members of a city board or commission established by the City Charter resign their seats if they declare candidacy for state or local elected office.

VOTE YES



### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure would amend the San Francisco City Charter to require that appointed members of boards and commissions established by the charter forfeit their seats if they file a declaration of candidacy for any state elected office, the BART Board of Directors or any elected office referenced in Section 13.101 of the City Charter: the mayor, sheriff, district attorney, city attorney, treasurer, assessor-recorder, public defender, and members of the Board of Education, Board of Community College District or Board of Supervisors.

The measure would exempt appointed members of boards and commissions established by ordinance and citizen advisory committees. Neither would the measure apply to elected officials, including those who have been appointed to a board or commission because of their office.

### THE BACKSTORY

San Francisco has a number of commissions and boards, which include policy and decision-making boards as well as advisory bodies. Members are appointed by the mayor, the Board of Supervisors or other elected officials. Depending on the commission or board, these appointees either serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority (which means they can be removed at any time) or serve fixed terms (which ensures that they will be able to make independent judgments).

Though it is commonly accepted practice for appointed members to resign their commission or board seats should they decide to run for state or local elected office, current law does not require it. This measure arose out of concern that appointed commission or board members could unfairly use their status to elevate their political campaigns or that political ambitions could compromise their ability to fulfill their responsibilities.

This measure was placed on the ballot by a vote of 7-4 at the Board of Supervisors. As a charter amendment, it must be on the ballot and requires a simple majority (50 percent plus one vote) to pass.

### PROS

- It's a good government practice to set clear "rules of the game" and to codify a common-sense policy that is already generally practiced.

### CONS

- This measure is a solution in search of a problem. It is generally accepted practice to resign an appointed seat if a board or commission member decides to run for elected office, and there is little evidence that the current system is being abused.

### SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION

This measure would help ensure that sitting commissioners and board members make decisions in service of their jobs and not to benefit their own political ambitions. While there isn't an obvious need for this amendment to the City Charter, what is accepted practice today is no guarantee of good behavior in the future. Today, multiple elected officials and bodies besides the mayor have appointing authority, which makes it more difficult for voters to hold a commissioner or board member accountable. With regard to conflicts of interest related to running for elected office, this measure would codify a common-sense practice and set reasonable standards of behavior for these public servants.

# Vote YES on Prop B.





## Commercial Rent Tax for Child Care and Education

### Additional Tax on Commercial Rents Mostly to Fund Child Care and Education

Imposes a tax on commercial landlords in San Francisco to fund child care and education programs.

VOTE NO



#### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure would impose a tax on individuals and businesses that receive income from the lease or sublease of commercial space, primarily offices. The measure would exempt industrial uses, arts activities and retail sales or services that are not chain stores. Gross receipts received from leases to nonprofits and government entities would also be exempt from the tax, as would small business enterprises (defined for tax year 2017 as those with annual gross receipts under \$1,090,000). The city controller estimates that 20 percent of San Francisco's commercial tax base would be exempt.

Gross receipts from the lease of warehouse space would be taxed at an additional 1 percent, and gross receipts for other commercial space would be taxed at an additional 3.5 percent. Currently, the gross receipts tax rate for real estate properties ranges between 0.285 percent and 0.3 percent. Effectively, this measure would increase the tax rate for commercial rent income to 3.785 percent or 3.8 percent for most types of commercial space.

Prop. C would deposit all revenues into a fund that would be appropriated on an annual or supplemental basis. After administrative costs, 15 percent of the amount remaining would go to the General Fund and could be expended on any purpose. The other 85 percent would be spent on eligible programs, including early care and education for children under 6 years old (in families at or below 85 percent of state median income) and early care and education for children under 4 years old (in families at or below 200 percent of area median income), as well as on increasing compensation and access to training for care professionals and staff.

The city controller estimates that this tax would generate \$146 million annually. (For perspective, the total business tax budgeted for 2017-18 is \$752 million.)

The measure would go into effect on January 1, 2019. It could be amended or repealed by the Board of Supervisors by ordinance without going back to the voters unless the amendment is intended to increase the tax. The measure would prevent the mayor and Board of Supervisors from reducing General Fund support for early childhood care and education below the current baseline level of \$84.6 million, ensuring that the board could not simply use this as a substitute source of funds for existing programs.

There are two commercial rent taxes on the ballot this election, Propositions C and D. They are structured to ensure that, even if both win, only one of them will take effect (generally, the one with the greater number of votes; however, because Prop. C requires a simple majority to pass and Prop. D requires two-thirds of the vote, Prop. C could win with fewer votes than Prop. D).

#### THE BACKSTORY

In 2012, San Francisco switched its system of taxing businesses from a payroll tax to a gross receipts tax. The gross receipts tax applied different tax rates to different industries and included commercial rents as a type of industry. In developing the current gross receipts tax, the mayor's office and the city controller's office conducted extensive outreach to affected business sectors. That process resulted in establishing different tax rates based on the relative profitability of industries in San Francisco. Every business that grosses more than \$1,090,000 in San Francisco or has a San Francisco payroll expense of more than \$300,000 is subject to the gross receipts tax. However, the gross receipts tax has not grown sufficiently to fully phase out the payroll tax. (In a future election, the gross receipts tax may be renegotiated and brought back to the voters, but neither of the commercial rent tax measures on the June ballot provides this needed fix.)

At the end of 2017, negotiations among the Board of Supervisors and the mayor over a potential commercial rent tax measure to fund transportation expanded to include housing and child care. With Mayor Ed Lee's death, the issues became increasingly politicized. This measure and a competing commercial rent tax measure to fund housing and homelessness solutions (Prop. D) were both put on the ballot.

San Francisco's budgeted spending on childcare in FY 2017-18 is approximately \$110 million, including \$12 million on early childhood education funding through the Children and Families Commission and \$99 million through the city's Office of Early Childhood Education. OECE



# Commercial Rent Tax for Child Care and Education



provides eligible families with financial assistance for child care and works to build the supply of quality care available in the city. Since March 2004, San Francisco has also administered the Preschool for All program, which expands access to high-quality preschool education.

According to the Children's Council of San Francisco, there is only enough licensed child care capacity for 15 percent of San Francisco infants. In an increasingly unaffordable San Francisco, child care can account for 40 percent of a family's basic expenses and can be one of several factors pushing families to leave the city. In addition, the challenge of finding quality affordable child care is a barrier to keeping women in the workforce.

Prop. C was put on the ballot with voter signatures and requires a simple majority (50 percent plus one vote) to pass.

## PROS

- San Francisco families face a documented shortage of affordable child care, adding to other pressures that push families to leave San Francisco. This measure would create an ongoing source of funding that could increase the availability of child care over time and improve the quality of care provided in San Francisco.
- When jobs are created, so is the need for high-quality child care for employees. Proponents argue that public investment is needed to maintain our economic sustainability and growth.
- Since buildings, unlike businesses, cannot leave San Francisco, increasing the gross receipts tax on commercial real estate would be unlikely to push commercial building owners out of San Francisco or to reduce the city's economic competitiveness overall.

## CONS

- The 2012 decision to convert San Francisco's business tax system from a payroll tax to a gross receipts tax underwent a carefully considered process that involved myriad stakeholders in an effort to balance their needs and priorities. This measure skipped over that process and would increase taxes significantly for only one industry. It is unclear whether the measure's authors studied the impact of this tax or undertook analysis to determine which industries could bear an additional tax burden and how much.

- Although the number of jobs lost would be small, economic modeling by the controller's office predicts that this tax would have a net negative economic effect on San Francisco (including a loss of gross domestic product and a loss of disposable income per capita).
- While buildings cannot leave San Francisco, tenants can. To the extent that this tax would be passed on to tenants, some business tenants might move to other cities, impacting the strength and diversity of San Francisco's economy.

## SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION

While there is a clear need for more affordable child care to serve San Francisco families, SPUR was ultimately not convinced that this tax structure at this tax rate was the appropriate choice, in part because it does not follow our principles for good tax policy.<sup>1</sup> Singling out one segment of one industry with a significant tax increase over a single year is not equitable, and while the cause is a good one, the potential tax bears no relationship to the industry that would be affected (such as a tax on pollution that goes to fund environmental cleanup).

A more comprehensive effort to update and reform the gross receipts tax is needed, and it should take into account the city's growing and changing expenditure needs. The process should also include robust outreach and negotiation with all members of the business community, which appears to have been absent in the development of this measure. This scattershot effort is not a step in the right direction, nor does it set a good example for others seeking funding for their agendas.

# Vote NO on Prop C.



## FOOTNOTE

<sup>1</sup> SPUR, "Principles and Framework of Good Tax Policy," *Back in the Black: A fiscal strategy for investing in San Jose's future*, May 2016, page 44, [http://www.spur.org/sites/default/files/publications\\_pdfs/SPUR\\_Back\\_in\\_the\\_Black.pdf#page=45](http://www.spur.org/sites/default/files/publications_pdfs/SPUR_Back_in_the_Black.pdf#page=45)

# D Commercial Rent Tax for Housing and Homelessness

## Additional Tax on Commercial Rents Mostly to Fund Housing and Homelessness Services

Imposes a tax on commercial landlords in San Francisco to fund housing and homelessness programs.

NO RECOMMENDATION

### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure would impose a tax on individuals and businesses that receive income from the lease or sublease of commercial space, primarily offices. The measure would exempt spaces used for production, distribution and repair (including industrial, warehouse and similar uses); retail sales and services (including chain stores); and entertainment, arts and recreation. Gross receipts received from leases to nonprofits would also be exempt from the tax, as would small business enterprises (defined for tax year 2017 as those with annual gross receipts under \$1,090,000). The city controller estimates that 22 percent of San Francisco's commercial tax base would be exempt under this proposal.

Gross receipts from the lease of commercial space in San Francisco would be taxed at an additional rate of 1.7 percent. Currently, the gross receipts tax rate for all real estate ranges between 0.285 percent and 0.3 percent. This measure would effectively increase the tax rate for commercial rent income to 1.985 or 2 percent for most types of commercial space.

The measure would deposit all revenues into a fund that would be appropriated on an annual or supplemental basis. After administrative costs, in fiscal year 2018-19, up to \$1.5 million could go to the General Fund for any purpose, as determined in the budget process. In 2019-20, \$3 million would go to the General Fund. In 2020-21 and all following years, the \$3 million would be adjusted based on inflation. The rest of the fund would be divided as follows:

- Forty-five percent would go to the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (DHS) for uses that would help homeless adults, families or youth.
- Ten percent would go to the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) for the acquisition, rehabilitation and operation of single-room occupancy buildings and the protection of extremely low-income and very low-income households (those earning up to 50 percent of the area median income<sup>1</sup>).
- Thirty-five percent would go to MOHCD for two uses: to acquire and rehabilitate existing rent-controlled apartment buildings of three units and larger to serve households that earn on average 80 percent of area median income, and to build and preserve housing for middle-income households (those earning 70 to 150 percent of area median income<sup>2</sup>).

- Ten percent would go to MOHCD to provide permanent project-based subsidies to extremely low-income senior households (at least one person is 62 years old or older) in income-restricted developments (where residents earn up to 40 percent of the area median income).

The controller's office estimates that this tax would generate \$70 million annually. (For perspective, the total business tax budgeted for 2017-18 is \$752 million.)

The measure would go into effect on January 1, 2019, and would require the Board of Supervisors to create a five-member citizens advisory committee to make recommendations (three to be appointed by the mayor, two by the Board of Supervisors).

This measure could be amended or repealed by the Board of Supervisors by ordinance without going back to the voters unless the amendment is intended to increase or extend the tax.

There are two commercial rent taxes on the ballot this election, Propositions C and D. Each measure has a "poison pill" that ensures that only one of them will take effect (generally, the one with the greater number of votes; however, because Prop. C requires a simple majority to pass and Prop. D requires two-thirds of the vote, Prop. C could win with fewer votes than Prop. D).

#### FOOTNOTE

<sup>1</sup> \$40,350 for a single-person household. MOHCD, "Maximum Income by Household Size," <http://sfmohcd.org/eligibility>

<sup>2</sup> \$64,550 for a single-person household, \$92,250 for a four-person household. MOHCD, "Maximum Income by Household Size," <http://sfmohcd.org/eligibility>

## D

## Commercial Rent Tax for Housing and Homelessness

## THE BACKSTORY

In 2012, San Francisco switched its system of taxing businesses from a payroll tax to a gross receipts tax. In developing the current gross receipts tax, the mayor's office and the city controller's office conducted extensive outreach to affected business sectors. However, the gross receipts tax has not grown sufficiently to fully phase out the payroll tax. Neither of the commercial rent tax measures on the June ballot addresses this issue. See "The Backstory" section of our Prop. C write-up for more details on this history and the development of these two measures.

This measure was put on the ballot by five supervisors. As a tax measure placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors, it requires the support of two-thirds of voters to pass.

## PROS

- Homelessness and housing affordability are two of the major challenges facing San Francisco today. This measure would create an ongoing source of funding for affordable housing that serves a wide range of people, from those exiting homelessness to moderate-income households.
- Currently, a major share of local funding for affordable housing development in San Francisco is provided by market-rate developers, who must include affordable housing in all new developments. This tax would slightly broaden the base that contributes to funding affordable housing in San Francisco.
- Since buildings, unlike businesses, cannot leave San Francisco, increasing the gross receipts tax on commercial real estate would be unlikely to push commercial building owners out of San Francisco or to reduce the city's economic competitiveness overall.

## CONS

- The 2012 decision to convert San Francisco's business tax system from a payroll tax to a gross receipts tax underwent a carefully considered process that involved the participation of myriad stakeholders in an effort to balance their needs and priorities. While the authors of this measure did some outreach to the business community and others, it is unclear whether the authors studied the impact of this tax or undertook analysis to determine which industries could bear an additional tax burden and how much.

- \$70 million is not enough to make a significant dent in the affordable housing shortage.
- Although the number of jobs lost would be small, economic modeling by the controller's office predicts that this tax would have a net negative economic effect on San Francisco (including a loss of GDP and a loss of disposable income per capita).
- While buildings cannot leave San Francisco, tenants can. To the extent that this tax would be passed on to tenants, some business tenants might move to other jurisdictions, impacting the strength and diversity of San Francisco's economy.

## SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION

SPUR's Board of Directors was torn on this measure. SPUR has fought for more housing for everyone for over a hundred years, and we are challenged to vote against a measure that would help build more housing for homeless San Franciscans and middle-income families who are not well served by today's housing solutions.

On the other hand, there are serious concerns that singling out one segment of one industry is not an equitable way to establish tax rates and does not follow SPUR's principles of good tax policy. A more comprehensive effort to update and reform the gross receipts tax is needed, one that adjusts gross receipts rates to complete the phasing out of the payroll tax and, ideally, one that takes all of the city's funding needs into account comprehensively. Prop. D's scattershot effort is not a step in the right direction, nor does it set a good example for others seeking funding for their agendas. SPUR also believes in broadening the tax base for funding affordable housing beyond businesses. This measure would not do that.

SPUR's board was divided on these points and was not able to reach enough votes to recommend either a "yes" vote or a "no" vote on this measure.

**SPUR has no recommendation on Prop. D.**



# E Flavored Tobacco Ban

## Prohibiting Tobacco Retailers From Selling Flavored Tobacco Products

Upholds a recent ordinance that bans the sale of flavored tobacco products in San Francisco.

VOTE YES



### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure is a ballot referendum that would uphold an ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors and signed by the mayor in 2017 to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products in San Francisco. The ordinance was due to take effect on April 1, 2018, but implementation is now on hold pending the results of the referendum.

### THE BACKSTORY

In June 2017, the Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a citywide ban on the sale of flavored tobacco products such as menthol cigarettes, fruit-flavored vape liquids or any other type of tobacco product that has added flavoring. This new regulation was based on public health concerns that flavored tobacco is specifically targeted at youth and communities of color and aims to get people hooked on harmful tobacco products, which have major public health impacts.

Local merchants who sell flavored tobacco products and are concerned about losing revenue gathered signatures for a referendum petition and launched a repeal campaign. This campaign was supported by \$700,000 from tobacco company R.J. Reynolds. The referendum petition required the Board of Supervisors to reconsider the ordinance in September 2017, at which point the board once again unanimously supported the ban. Following that vote, in accordance with San Francisco law, the question of whether the measure should be upheld or repealed was automatically added to the ballot as a referendum.

San Francisco is not the first jurisdiction in the Bay Area to ban flavored tobacco products. In 2015, Santa Clara County banned flavored tobacco products in unincorporated areas of the county except at stores restricted to adults over 21 years old. In January 2017, Berkeley banned their sale in areas near schools. More recently, both Oakland and San Leandro passed similar bans on sales of flavored tobacco. Additionally, the European Union, Brazil and multiple provinces in Canada have banned the sale of flavored tobacco.



Flavored tobacco products like these would be banned in San Francisco under Prop. E. In many cases, the flavors and product packaging are designed to appeal to youth.

Source: Yes on E Campaign

## E

## Flavored Tobacco Ban

**PROS**

- Tobacco companies design flavored tobacco products to soften the naturally harsh taste of tobacco, making it more likely for users of these products to become addicted. Higher levels of tobacco consumption lead to a well-documented decline in public health. A ban on flavored tobacco would likely lead to fewer San Franciscans — especially people of color and youth — developing tobacco-related diseases.
- The Board of Supervisors originally passed this ordinance after the normal process of committee consideration and deliberation. That process is a better venue for considering complex issues — including this one — than the process of putting them directly to voters.

**CONS**

- The ban would restrict the sale of a product that already can only be sold to adults. Many legal products have a negative public health impact, and it's debatable whether it is the role of city government to restrict consumers' access to them. As experience with alcohol prohibition has shown, a ban is not always an effective way to address the problem.
- The ban would reduce revenue for local merchants (particularly mom-and-pop corner stores) and, by extension, tax revenue to the state.

**SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION**

The city has a long-standing policy of trying to reduce tobacco consumption because of its negative impact on public health. Flavored tobacco offerings are especially detrimental as they are designed to encourage greater consumption and many are specifically marketed to youth. In light of this, the Board of Supervisors made a unanimous decision to ban the sale of these products within the city.

San Francisco's ban goes beyond other efforts at dissuading harmful behavior, such as an education campaign or a tax, and should not be undertaken lightly. The impact of the ban should be monitored to ensure that it achieves its desired outcome. If new problems arise because of the ban, the Board of Supervisors would still have the ability to amend or repeal the ban to deal with them.

On balance, the potential positive public health impact of this ban outweighs the concerns about consumer choice or lost revenue for stores selling tobacco products.

**Vote YES on Prop E.**







## Legal Representation for Tenants

### City-Funded Legal Representation for All Residential Tenants in Eviction Lawsuits

Requires the city to create a program to provide full-scope legal representation to residential tenants facing eviction.

VOTE YES



#### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure would require the City of San Francisco to create a program to provide legal representation for all San Francisco residential tenants facing eviction. Through this new program, tenants would be entitled to full-scope legal representation — meaning, among other things, that a lawyer would appear on behalf of the tenant in court proceedings and represent the tenant throughout the case — within 30 days of receiving an eviction notice or being served with an eviction lawsuit. The program would not be required to serve tenants who live in the same unit as the landlord or master tenant who is evicting them. All other tenants in the city could access these services regardless of income, unless a state or federal program already offers this scope of representation to a tenant. (In that case, the city and county would have no obligation to provide legal services.) The city controller's analysis estimates that the annual cost of this program would be between \$4.2 and \$5.6 million in addition to what the city currently spends on legal services for tenants facing eviction.

The Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development would be responsible for creating this program. The department would have roughly a year to implement the initiative.

The initiative could be amended by the Board of Supervisors in the future if needed to further the purpose of the initiative.

#### THE BACKSTORY

San Francisco currently contracts with nonprofit organizations to provide legal services to tenants facing eviction. A range of legal services are offered at various stages of the eviction process, but the city does not provide full-scope representation at all stages to all tenants. Currently:

- All tenants have access to low-cost legal assistance in responding to an eviction lawsuit.
- All tenants have access to free legal representation for a mandatory settlement meeting that occurs before a lawsuit goes to trial.

- A limited number of eligible tenants (those who qualify on the basis of income, age or disability, for example) have access to free legal representation at all stages of the eviction process.

The city currently spends \$4.4 million annually on eviction-related legal services (including \$2 million on full-scope legal representation), as well as \$2 million on tenant rights education and counseling.

In 2012, the City of San Francisco passed an ordinance declaring that San Francisco was a “right to counsel” city, meaning that San Franciscans had a right to counsel in civil cases, not just criminal ones. (Currently, the Public Defender's Office provides legal representation in criminal cases for those who can't afford a private attorney.) The ordinance funded a pilot program to provide free legal services in a limited number of civil cases to address “basic human needs,” including housing for San Francisco residents with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The city contracted with the Bar Association of San Francisco's Justice & Diversity Center (JDC) to provide these services. The pilot funds were used to hire a staff attorney to help increase the full-scope legal representation offered to tenants, on top of the pro bono assistance provided by 26 law firms during the pilot program. A review of this pilot program by the John and Terry Levin Center for Public Service and Public Interest at Stanford Law School found many positive outcomes, including that tenants were more likely to stay in their homes and avoid homelessness when provided the necessary legal services.<sup>1</sup> This study and others have found that right-to-counsel pilot programs result in cost savings for cities by keeping households out of homeless shelters and other emergency services or programs.<sup>2</sup>

#### FOOTNOTE

<sup>1</sup> “San Francisco Right to Civil Counsel Pilot Program Documentation Report,” prepared by the John and Terry Levin Center for Public Service and Public Interest, Stanford Law School, May 2014. The report does note difficulties in collecting full data to assess the program, including issues related to which cases are referred to counsel, as well as the JDC's reliance on self-reporting from volunteer attorneys.

<sup>2</sup> In 2017, New York City passed a right-to-counsel law for all tenants with incomes below 200 percent of the poverty level who are facing eviction proceedings. Other places that have studied right-to-counsel pilot programs are Boston, the South Bronx in New York, and Washington, D.C.

## F

## Legal Representation for Tenants



In addition to continuously funding this pilot program, the city increased funding for a range of legal services to tenants (from approximately \$700,000 in 2012 to \$4.4 million today). An estimated 20 percent to 30 percent of tenants are represented in housing court in San Francisco, compared to 10 percent nationwide. However, in stark contrast, 90 percent of landlords are represented by attorneys in housing court nationwide.

In the fall of 2017, a group of tenant advocates began to collect signatures to put this measure on the ballot in the hopes of creating a program providing universal access to full-scope legal representation. At the same time, Supervisors Breed and Sheehy introduced a draft ordinance that would create an Office of Tenant Assistance to provide full-scope legal representation to tenants facing eviction. Supervisor Sheehy subsequently endorsed Prop. F. At the time of this writing, the supervisors' legislation is awaiting a hearing in the Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee.

**PROS**

- This measure could help tenants stay in their homes. There is significant evidence nationwide that legal representation for tenants in eviction proceedings is an effective way to prevent households from entering homelessness.
- Studies of pilot programs around the country have shown that right-to-counsel programs result in net cost savings by keeping residents out of shelters.
- The knowledge that all tenants have representation could serve as a deterrent to landlords who abuse the eviction process.
- The measure has been drafted to be flexible, leaving implementation details to the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

**CONS**

- This measure could be accomplished legislatively and does not need to be on the ballot.
- The measure would require the city to create a new program without a dedicated funding source to cover the costs of the program, which could be significant.
- This measure is not targeted to those who are most vulnerable. A program that would provide lower- and moderate-income households with full-scope services but offer less-intensive legal services to higher-income tenants could be a better use of public dollars.

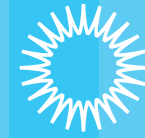
**SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION**

SPUR believes that a right-to-counsel program would deter evictions and would help with homelessness prevention, an important part of reducing homelessness overall. While we have serious reservations about recommending a measure that would create a new program without a dedicated funding source, the depth and breadth of San Francisco's housing shortage and affordability crisis merits this step. And while we'd prefer a means-tested program, an estimated 80 percent of tenants facing eviction in San Francisco are at or below 80 percent of area median income, which means this program would be likely to serve those who need it most.

Housing security is foundational to many aspects of well-being, including educational attainment, mental health and economic mobility, and San Francisco is struggling amid an affordability crisis of historic proportions. The city can — and should — be a national leader on this progressive issue.

## Vote YES on Prop F.





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## Schools Parcel Tax

### Living Wage for Educators Act

Levies an annual \$298 parcel tax to raise salaries for San Francisco Unified School District educators.

VOTE YES



#### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure would authorize the City and County of San Francisco to collect an annual parcel tax of \$298 beginning July 1, 2018, and continuing for 20 years. All parcel tax revenue would be transferred to the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), which would use the funds only to:

- Increase the salaries of teachers and paraeducators (aides), and increase the compensation or benefits of other school district employees
- Increase staffing and funding at high-needs schools
- Increase staffing and funding at community schools
- Provide additional professional development to teachers and paraeducators
- Invest in technology to support educators, students and families
- Fund charter schools

The amount of the tax would be adjusted annually for inflation and would raise an estimated \$50 million a year, amounting to a \$5,500 annual increase in pay for average educators in the district.

The measure would exempt senior citizens who are 65 years of age or older before July 1 of the tax year if they own an interest in the property being taxed and use the property as their principal residence. The measure would also exempt property designated as a parking space.

Finally, the measure would require an independent oversight committee to ensure that the tax revenue is used for the purposes outlined in the measure and would require the city controller to prepare an annual public report on the uses of the funds.

#### THE BACKSTORY

SFUSD employs 10,000 educators and administrators to serve 57,000 children. The district is majority non-white, and over half of students come from low-income families. Teachers have been hard hit by the affordability crisis in San Francisco. The average teacher pay for 2015-16 was \$67,540, putting San Francisco on par with far less expensive cities like Chico and Vacaville and placing the city No. 478 out of 775 school districts in the state that reported salary data for that year.<sup>1</sup> Within the Bay Area, San Francisco educators make far less than teachers in neighboring cities. (The average teacher salary in Palo Alto for example, is \$34,000 more a year.) In a broad survey, 64 percent of San Francisco teachers report spending more than 30 percent of their income on housing, and nearly 15 percent report spending more than half of their income on housing. The district estimates that more than 1,100 teachers live outside San Francisco and commute in to their jobs. As a result, SFUSD has struggled to fill vacancies and stem turnover in the classroom. About 20 percent of teachers in the district are in their first or second year; that number is even higher in schools serving the highest need students.

In 2017, SFUSD and United Educators of San Francisco — the union that represents more than 6,000 district educators — held a series of contract negotiations to increase teacher salaries, resulting in an 11 percent pay increase over three years and a one-time bonus. An agreement to place this parcel tax on the June ballot was part of those negotiations.

The union collected signatures to place this measure on the ballot. As a tax measure submitted by voter initiative petition, it must be on the ballot and requires approval by a simple majority of voters (50 percent plus one) to pass.

#### FOOTNOTE

<sup>1</sup> "Expected SF teacher raises aren't enough to stem exodus from costly city," *San Francisco Chronicle*, Nov. 7, 2017, <http://www.sfchronicle.com/news/article/Expected-SF-teacher-raises-aren-t-enough-to-12336403.php>

## G

## Schools Parcel Tax

**PROS**

- Paying educators more could help SFUSD address its teacher shortage and attract high-quality teachers.
- Higher salaries would keep teachers in the classroom and reduce the crippling effects that turnover has on student performance.
- Increasing pay would create incentives for higher performance and could increase educators' quality of life.

**CONS**

- The tax would not be high enough to actually solve the problem of low pay for San Francisco educators.
- It is problematic to tie a program with ongoing needs to a funding source that will expire at a set date.
- As a flat tax, this parcel tax would punish single-occupancy property owners while forfeiting an opportunity to collect more revenue on multiple-occupancy parcels.

**SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION**

The cost of living in San Francisco is a significant burden on the teachers and staff whom we entrust with a critical mandate: educating our children and youth. While SFUSD can rightly be proud of the investments it has made into innovative programs and services that support students, teacher salaries are far below those of other cities in the region and untenable for a growing number of educators.

Competitive pay would help SFUSD attract top talent in the midst of a historic state-wide teacher shortage. It would also keep teachers in the classroom and cultivate an experienced staff cohort. This measure is an opportunity for San Francisco to reaffirm its support for educators and their value to the city. We should no longer ignore teachers' degrading quality of life, nor accept that they make just over half of the median income in San Francisco.

San Franciscans have made investments in students and in capital improvements for public schools; now they face an opportunity to make needed investments in teachers. On its own, this parcel tax will not solve the problem of low salaries for SFUSD educators, nor will it solve the affordability crisis they face. However, in combination with the negotiated agreement between the district and the union to raise salaries, this measure is a necessary — and long overdue — next step in the right direction.

**Vote YES on Prop G.**





## Police Use of Tasers

### Policy for the Use of Tasers by San Francisco Police Officers

Requires that all SFPD officers be equipped with electronic stun guns by December 2018, subject to training, supervision, reporting and accountability requirements.

VOTE NO



#### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

This measure would authorize the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) to purchase and deploy Tasers (a brand of electronic stun gun) for each uniformed officer beginning as early as August 2018, subject to training, supervision, reporting and accountability measures. Should the proposition pass, all officers would be equipped with these electronic weapons by December 31, 2018.

Only police officers who successfully complete the SFPD's new de-escalation training would be authorized to carry Tasers. The measure would give police officers the right to use Tasers whenever they believe someone is "actively resisting, assaultive, exhibiting any action likely to result in injury to an officer, themselves or another person." Every time an officer uses a Taser, intentionally or unintentionally, the SFPD would be required to conduct an investigation. Should the measure pass, it would require that funds be allocated annually to implement and support the program. Prop. H would give the Police Commission and the SFPD the right to create orders or policies to implement the ordinance as long as they are consistent with the ballot measure.

The ordinance could only be changed or rescinded by a future vote at the ballot box or by an ordinance adopted by a four-fifths vote of the Board of Supervisors.

#### THE BACKSTORY

In 2016, the Police Commission revised the SFPD's use-of-force policy to put more emphasis on the sanctity of life, instructing officers on de-escalation tactics and using force as a last resort. At the same time, the U.S. Department of Justice, after conducting a six-month review of the SFPD's practices, issued a report that included 272 recommendations for department improvements, two of which addressed the use of Tasers. The report recommended that the SFPD and the Police Commission work with key stakeholders and community members to make an informed decision about the use of Tasers in San Francisco and that San Francisco should "strongly consider deploying [Tasers]." The SFPD is one of the last major police forces in the country without Tasers.

In November 2017, the Police Commission voted 4-3 to allow the SFPD to equip police officers with Tasers as a use-of-force option. This is noteworthy as the Police Commission had rejected or tabled several previous proposals for Tasers over the past 13 years. The evidence in favor of Tasers is not clear-cut. While proponents of Tasers argue that they are a less lethal alternative to firearms and can de-escalate situations and reduce injuries to people and officers, opponents note that Tasers are disproportionately used on people of color and vulnerable populations and that the introduction of Tasers has not led to a reduction in police use of firearms.

The San Francisco Police Officers Association, the union representing the SFPD, was displeased that the Police Commission's vote did not include guidelines or funding and would not allow SFPD officers to use Tasers until December 2018 — two years after the new use-of-force policy went into place. The association led a successful effort to collect voter signatures to place this measure on the June 2018 ballot.

Since the measure was placed on the ballot, the Police Commission has requested funding for Tasers and finalized its Taser policy in March 2018. The policy was developed over several months with input from the SFPD, the Police Officers Association and community stakeholders and includes extensive research into legal and medical considerations and lessons learned from other jurisdictions.

There are several differences between the ballot measure and the Police Commission's policy. Notably, they differ on when officers can employ Tasers. The ballot measure would allow the use of Tasers when an individual is "actively resisting," whereas the Police Commission's policy only permits Taser use when an individual poses a credible and immediate threat of physical injury to an officer or the public. In addition, the Police Commission policy requires officers to de-escalate when feasible before resorting to Taser use. Because Prop. H states that any orders or policies to implement the Taser ordinance must be consistent with the ballot measure, the more lenient language in the measure would supersede the Police Commission's more restrictive conditions.

The police chief, the president of the Police Commission and the mayor have come out against this measure.

## H

## Police Use of Tasers

**PROS**

- The measure would leave some discretion for the police chief and Police Commission to issue general orders and policies regarding training and the use of Tasers.

**CONS**

- The Police Commission — the body appointed by the Board of Supervisors and the mayor to create policies for the SFPD — is an expert commission and its role is to help the SFPD set policy, budgets and strategy. Police department policy should be determined by the police chief and the Police Commission in response to the city's public safety goals and needs, not by the voters.
- The ballot measure would force an accelerated timeline for the implementation of Tasers that is inconsistent with the timeline set by the Police Commission in recognition of the reforms the SFPD is currently implementing to further its de-escalation policy.
- The measure would prevent the Police Commission and the SFPD from altering the policy should new best policing practices arise or should there be issues with the use of the weapon. The policy could only be changed or rescinded by a future ballot measure or by an ordinance adopted by a four-fifths vote of the Board of Supervisors.
- The measure would allow for a more permissive set of policy conditions surrounding the use of Tasers than the Taser policy developed by the SFPD, which could increase the use of Tasers, harm people and expose the city to unnecessary liability.

**SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Decisions regarding use of force and similar policies should be decided by the Police Commission and not at the ballot box. The expedited timeline this measure would put in place is not necessary and not worth circumventing the authority of the SFPD and the Police Commission. Furthermore, the conditions outlined in the measure are more permissive than the parameters established by the Police Commission and the SFPD, many of which would be moot should the measure pass. The SFPD and the Police Commission engaged in thoughtful deliberation with a range of stakeholders on the use of these weapons in San Francisco, taking into account the city's values around use of force and de-escalation and the use of Tasers on vulnerable populations.

San Francisco should not be locked into an approach that is out of step with the expectations of the Police Commission, the SFPD and community stakeholders or that would thwart the Police Commission and SFPD's ability to govern the use of the weapon.

**Vote NO on Prop H.**





# Sports Teams

## Relocation of Professional Sports Teams

Conveys the opinion that the city should not encourage or condone the relocation of well-established sports teams to San Francisco nor condone sports team owners avoiding payment of outstanding public debt.

VOTE NO



### WHAT THE MEASURE WOULD DO

Prop. I would direct the city not to invite, encourage or condone the relocation of professional sports teams that have already established themselves in other locations. As a declaration of policy this measure would provide an opportunity for voters to express their opinion but would not directly lead to any legal, regulatory or budgetary change.

### THE BACKSTORY

The Golden State Warriors are leaving Oakland for San Francisco; the Chase Center arena is under construction in the Mission Bay neighborhood and will open for the 2018-19 basketball season. Prop. I asserts that this move comes at the “emotional and economic expense” of communities that have supported the team for years. The proponents are especially frustrated that San Francisco actively courted the Warriors when the team was looking to leave Oakland and that the Oracle Arena, jointly owned by the City of Oakland and Alameda County, has been left with \$40 million in outstanding debt. The Warriors and the Oakland Coliseum Authority are currently in arbitration regarding what debt, if any, the team owes the authority upon leaving Oakland. The Chase Center in San Francisco, however, is privately financed, and the city did not provide the Warriors with land or tax breaks for construction of the new arena.

Proponents seek to demonstrate that the majority of San Franciscans don't want their city to play an active role in courting professional sports teams away from other locations.

The measure was added to the ballot by voter signatures collected by the Good Neighbor Coalition, led by a concerned San Francisco resident.

### PROS

- This measure would raise awareness that when one city actively courts a sports team to leave a neighboring city, it can negatively impact the neighboring city even if it doesn't have a negative impact on the region as a whole.

### CONS

- As a nonbinding policy statement, this measure would not impact the Warriors' move from Oakland to San Francisco, nor have any tangible impact on the way the city conducts its affairs in the future.
- This measure is directed at the City of San Francisco, but it is sports team owners, rather than city officials, who decide when a sports team relocates.
- This measure does not need to be on the ballot. As with most nonbinding policy statements, a resolution passed at the Board of Supervisors would be a better vehicle to express this opinion.

### SPUR'S RECOMMENDATION

Sports teams are businesses, and like other businesses, they often choose to relocate for financial and other reasons. Cities, in turn, often compete to host these businesses. Certainly, there are policy arguments to be made about how actively San Francisco should court businesses or about how cities within the Bay Area should consider economic development more broadly. This ballot measure is not the right vehicle for those conversations.

As a nonbinding policy measure, this proposition would do nothing to stop the Warriors from moving from Oakland to San Francisco, nor would it require any changes to the city's economic development policy in the future. From a process perspective, this measure would have made more sense as a resolution for consideration by the Board of Supervisors.

**Vote NO on Prop I.**







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