

**From:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)  
**Cc:** [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [BOS-Operations](#); [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: OPPOSING AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED - Budget and Finance Committee Meeting January 14, 2026 Agenda Items #3 and #4 - General Obligation Bond Election - Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response - Not to Exceed \$535 Million - Files #251216 and #251217  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 14, 2026 8:55:32 AM

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Hello,

Please see below for communication from Eileen Boken regarding File Nos. 251216 and 251217, which are Item Nos. 3 and 4, respectively, on today's Budget and Finance Committee agenda.

**File No. 251216:** Ordinance calling and providing for a special election to be held in the City and County of San Francisco on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, for the purpose of submitting to San Francisco voters a proposition to incur bonded indebtedness of up to \$535,000,000 to finance the construction, acquisition, improvement, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion, and seismic retrofitting of the Emergency Firefighting Water System, Firefighting Facilities and Infrastructure, Police Facilities and Infrastructure, transportation facilities for the Municipal Railway Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility at Potrero Yard, and other Public Safety Facilities and Infrastructure for earthquake and public safety and related costs necessary or convenient for the foregoing purposes (collectively, the "ESER Facilities"); authorizing landlords to pass-through 50% of the resulting property tax increase, if any, to residential tenants in accordance with Chapter 37 of the Administrative Code; finding that the estimated cost of such proposed ESER Facilities 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 ESER Facilities; 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 portions of the bond proposal are not a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and adopting findings under CEQA for the remaining portion of the bond proposal; finding that the bond proposal 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, Sections 5.30-5.36; and waiving the time requirements specified in Section 2.34 of the Administrative Code. (Mayor, Mandelman, Dorsey, Wong, Mahmood, Sauter, Chen, Chan, Sherrill, Melgar)

**File No. 251217:** Resolution determining and declaring that the public interest and necessity

demand the construction, acquisition, improvement, rehabilitation, expansion, renovation, and seismic retrofitting of the Emergency Firefighting Water System, Firefighting Facilities and Infrastructure, Police Facilities and Infrastructure, transportation facilities for the Municipal Railway Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility at Potrero Yard, and other Public Safety Facilities and Infrastructure for earthquake and public safety and related costs necessary or convenient for the foregoing purposes (collectively, the “ESER Facilities”); authorizing landlords to pass-through 50% of the resulting property tax increase, if any, to residential tenants in accordance with Chapter 37 of the Administrative Code; finding that the estimated cost of \$535,000,000 for the proposed ESER Facilities 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 therefore by the annual tax levy; finding that portions of the bond proposal are not a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and adopting findings under CEQA for the remaining portion of the bond proposal; finding that the proposed bond is in conformity and consistent with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1(b); and waiving the time requirements specified in Section 2.34 of the Administrative Code. (Mayor, Mandelman, Dorsey, Wong, Mahmood, Sauter, Chen, Chan, Sherrill, Melgar)

Sincerely,

**Joe Adkins**  
**Office of the Clerk of the Board**  
**San Francisco Board of Supervisors**  
**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244**  
**San Francisco, CA 94102**  
**Phone: (415) 554-5184 | Fax: (415) 554-5163**  
**[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org) | [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org)**

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**From:** aeboken <[aeboken@gmail.com](mailto:aeboken@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 14, 2026 3:18 AM

**To:** BOS-Supervisors <[bos-supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:bos-supervisors@sfgov.org)>; BOS-Legislative Aides <[bos-legislative\\_aides@sfgov.org](mailto:bos-legislative_aides@sfgov.org)>; Deborah Murphy <[bridgelady@earthlink.net](mailto:bridgelady@earthlink.net)>; Charles Head <[charlesnhead@hotmail.com](mailto:charlesnhead@hotmail.com)>

**Subject:** OPPOSING AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED - Budget and Finance Committee Meeting  
January 14, 2026 Agenda Items #3 and #4 - General Obligation Bond Election - Earthquake  
Safety and Emergency Response - Not to Exceed \$535 Million - Files #251216 and #251217

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TO: Budget and Finance Committee members and full Board of Supervisors

FR: Eileen Boken,  
State and Federal Legislative Liaison

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods\*

\*For identification purposes only.

RE: Budget and Finance Committee Meeting January 14, 2026 Agenda Items #3 and #4 -  
General Obligation Bond Election - Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response - Not to  
Exceed \$535 Million - Files #251216 and #251217

Position: OPPOSING AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED

In the Capital Planning Committee documentation for its November 17, 2025 meeting, ESER Bonds were described as being for "City public safety and emergency response facilities".

The MTA is not a public safety department and the Potrero Yard is not an emergency response facility.

The Potrero Yard was originally listed in the Transportation Bond and then parachuted into the 2026 ESER Bond.

The Potrero Yard project alone would take 40% of the overall 2026 ESER Bond funds.

There are two police stations and eight fire stations with a Seismic Hazard Rating of 4, which are at high risk of collapse during a major seismic event.

Allowing many of these bona fide emergency response facilities to deteriorate further, while prioritizing a MTA project is beyond questionable.

Also, all new ESER Bond funds for the PUC's Emergency Firefighting Water System should be placed on Controller's reserve until such time as the EFWS is transferred from the PUC back to the Fire Department where it belongs.

The Board of Supervisors has been copied on the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods resolution regarding the rationale for transferring the EFWS back to the Fire Department.

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Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



November 18, 2025

Mayor Daniel Lurie  
Paul Yep, Chief for Public Safety  
Han Zou, Communication Director  
Dean Crispen, Chief of Fire Department  
Garreth Miller, Assistant Deputy Chief, ESER Project Manager  
Carla Short, Director of Department of Public Works  
Scott Anderson, Deputy Director for Project Delivery  
Stephen Robinson, Assistant General Manager for Infrastructure  
Carmen Chu, City Administrator  
Brian Strong, Director for Office of Resilience and Capital Planning

## CSFN Resolution Advocating for the Transfer of the Auxiliary Water Supply System

WHEREAS, As a result of the 1906 earthquake, San Francisco voters approved a General Obligation Bond to build a firefighting system of water pipes, hydrants and pumps which are independent of the City's drinking water system.

WHEREAS, This system was completed in 1913 and was designated as the Auxiliary Water Supply System (AWSS).

WHEREAS, In 1913 AWSS coverage was primarily in the northeast quadrant of the City.

WHEREAS, Even though AWSS has been expanded since 1913, large areas in both the Westside and Southeast currently have no AWSS protection.

WHEREAS, Since 1913 AWSS and its assets have been under the jurisdiction of the SF Fire Department (SFFD) with design and engineering under the auspices of the SF Department of Public Works (SFDPW).

WHEREAS, In 2010, despite an ESER Bond being on the ballot, then Mayor Gavin Newsom balanced the City's Great Recession budget by transferring AWSS jurisdiction and assets from the SFFD to the SFPUC.

WHEREAS, Since 2010 the SFPUC has implemented a number of AWSS policies which have had significantly negative impacts on the system.

WHEREAS, Instead of expanding AWSS, the SFPUC installed a system of cisterns on the Westside.

WHEREAS, Even though SFFD has only 44 fire apparatus, a single cistern requires two fire apparatus to extinguish fires; one to pump water out of the cistern and one to extinguish the fires.

WHEREAS, Once the fires are extinguished, a cistern does not automatically refill but must be refilled manually.

WHEREAS, The SFPUC then attempted to implement the Flexible Water Supply System (FWSS) which uses 350 lb hoses but was forced to abandon this approach as infeasible.

WHEREAS, The SFPUC is now attempting to implement a potable (drinking) water AWSS system which theoretically has the co-benefits of using a single water pipe for both drinking water and emergency firefighting.

WHEREAS, Although the SFPUC has stated that this concept comes from Japan, no fire departments in Japan seem to use it.

WHEREAS, Despite its naming convention, potable water AWSS does not primarily use drinking water but primarily uses "raw" water from Lake Merced.

WHEREAS, Once raw water enters drinking water pipes, the SF Department of Public Health would be required to issue a "boil water" alert.

WHEREAS, Once the catastrophic fires have been completely extinguished, water pipes which have been contaminated with raw water would need to be flushed out over a period of weeks even months.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, Based on the SFPUC's numerous policy missteps regarding AWSS, CSFN insists that the current mayor initiate a process to transfer the AWSS jurisdiction and assets from the SFPUC back to the SFFD including current unencumbered and encumbered AWSS funds in the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response (ESER) Bond program, as well as, any future AWSS funds from the proposed June 2026 ESER Bond.

Deborah Murphy  
President CSFN  
president@csfn.net

**From:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS-Operations](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Entezari, Mehran \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: STRONGLY OPPOSING UNLESS AMENDED Board of Supervisors Meeting January 27, 2026 Agenda Item #7 [General Obligation Bonds - Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response - Not to Exceed \$535,000,000] File #251216  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 27, 2026 11:58:12 AM

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Hello,

Please see below communication regarding File No. 251216:

Ordinance calling and providing for a special election to be held in the City and County of San Francisco on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, for the purpose of submitting to San Francisco voters a proposition to incur bonded indebtedness of up to \$535,000,000 to finance the construction, acquisition, improvement, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion, and seismic retrofitting of the Emergency Firefighting Water System, Firefighting Facilities and Infrastructure, Police Facilities and Infrastructure, transportation facilities for the Municipal Railway Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility at Potrero Yard, and other Public Safety Facilities and Infrastructure for earthquake and public safety and related costs necessary or convenient for the foregoing purposes (collectively, the “ESER Facilities”); authorizing landlords to pass-through 50% of the resulting property tax increase, if any, to residential tenants in accordance with Chapter 37 of the Administrative Code; finding that the estimated cost of such proposed ESER Facilities 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 ESER Facilities; 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 portions of the bond proposal are not a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and adopting findings under CEQA for the remaining portion of the bond proposal; finding that the bond proposal 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, Sections 5.30-5.36; and waiving the time requirements specified in Section 2.34 of the Administrative Code.

Regards,

John Bullock  
Office of the Clerk of the Board  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244

San Francisco, CA 94102

(415) 554-5184

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**From:** aeboken <aeboken@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, January 26, 2026 6:41 AM

**To:** BOS-Supervisors <bos-supervisors@sfgov.org>; BOS-Legislative Aides <bos-legislative\_aides@sfgov.org>; Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>

**Subject:** STRONGLY OPPOSING UNLESS AMENDED Board of Supervisors Meeting January 27, 2026 Agenda Item #7 [General Obligation Bonds - Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response - Not to Exceed \$535,000,000] File #251216

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors members

**cc:** Clerk of the Board

**FR:** Eileen Boken,  
State and Federal Legislative Liaison

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods

**RE:** Board of Supervisors Meeting January 27, 2026 Agenda Item #7 [General Obligation Bonds - Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response - Not to Exceed \$535,000,000] File #251216

**Position:** STRONGLY OPPOSING UNLESS AMENDED

The CSFN proposed amendments to Resolution 251216 are as follows:

Page 1 line 7: AMEND " Emergency Firefighting Water System" to "Auxiliary Water Supply System".

Page 4 lines 10 - 13: AMEND "A. EMERGENCY FIREFIGHTING WATER SYSTEM. Up to \$130,000,000 of the Bond shall be allocated to the renovation, seismic upgrading, improvement, or expansion of the emergency firefighting water system ("EFWS") and related facilities, including but not limited to cisterns, pipes and tunnels, and related facilities (collectively, the "EFWS Project")." AMEND to "A. AUXILIARY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM. Up to \$130,000,000 of the Bond shall be allocated to the renovation, seismic upgrading, improvement, or expansion of the Auxiliary Water Supply System ("AWSS") and related facilities, including but not limited to cisterns, dedicated high pressure and high volume pipes, dedicated high pressure and high volume hydrants, tunnels, Twin Peaks Reservoir, Ashbury Heights Tank, Jones Street Tank, and dedicated salt water pump stations at the San Francisco Fire Department Headquarters (AWSS Pump Station #1), Fort Mason (AWSS Pump Station #2), Ocean Beach (future AWSS Pump Station #3) and Hunters Point (future AWSS Pump Station #4) and related facilities (collectively, the "AWSS Project");and".

Page 5 lines 14 - 15: DELETE "The proposed uses described in this Section 3 are subject, without limitation, to review and revision by the Mayor and the Board."

Page 9 lines 22 and 25: AMEND "EFWS Project" to "AWSS Project".

Page 10 line 4: AMEND "EFWS Project" to "AWSS Project".

Page 10 line 6: AMEND "EFWS Projects" to "AWSS Projects".

These proposed amendments reflect the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods resolution passed unanimously on January 20, 2026 supporting the expansion of the Auxiliary Water Supply System to neighborhoods which are currently unprotected.

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Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone