



**OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Ben Rosenfield  
Controller  
Todd Rydstrom  
Deputy Controller

Ms. Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

July 5, 2022

RE: File 220635 – Charter amendment combining Public Works Department and Sanitation and Streets Department and establish the Public Works Commission and the Sanitation and Streets Commission

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Should the proposed Charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would significantly reduce the cost of government.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2022-23 (FY23), estimated savings would start at approximately \$3.5 million and decrease to \$2.5 million in FY24. Cost savings under this amendment would likely increase in future years if the Board were to authorize independent administrative support for Department of Sanitation and Streets (SAS).

This amendment will make changes to Proposition B, a Charter amendment approved by voters in November 2020 to separate the Department of Public Works (DPW) into two separate departments and establish a commission for each.


The proposed Charter amendment would transfer the responsibilities of the SAS back to DPW, eliminating the newly created SAS.

Approximately 765 full-time equivalent employees would be moved from SAS to DPW. Recombining departments would reduce the number of staff needed to perform administrative functions for both departments by 9.7 full-time equivalent employees in FY23 and 12 full-time equivalent employees in FY24. DPW would no longer need additional accounting, contracts and information technology staff and SAS would no longer need a department head or administrative staff. Additionally, the proposed amendment would create other one-time and ongoing costs savings including reductions to administrative services, equipment, and professional services.

The amendment also will remove the requirement for the Controller to conduct an annual audit regarding waste and inefficiency in the two departments, however the Controller will retain the

authority to audit DPW. Note that the proposed amendment would change the duties of the Controller's Office, which has prepared this statement.

Sincerely,



**FOR** Ben Rosenfield  
Controller

Note: This analysis reflects our understanding of the proposal as of the date shown. At times further information is provided to us which may result in revisions being made to this analysis before the final Controller's statement appears in the Voter Information Pamphlet.