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

June 24, 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. The amendment would also establish a new seven-member Public Works Commission to replace the existing five-member Public Works Commission that oversees DPW. Additionally, the amendment would eliminate the existing five-member Sanitation and Streets Commission and establish a new seven-member Sanitation and Streets Commission that will oversee DPW maintenance of the public right of way and sanitation standards and protocols.

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.

Sincerely,

Natasha Mihal

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.