



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

October 18, 2023

RE: File 230986 – Charter amendment to require mayoral approval of certain proposed budget changes for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA).

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Should the proposed Charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would not affect the cost of government. However, should the proposed Charter amendment be approved, the SFMTA's budget will be dependent on future decisions made by the Mayor through the newly proposed budget process.

The proposed Charter amendment would establish a new role for the Mayor to review and approve SFMTA proposed changes to transit fares, maximum parking meter rates, and parking meter operating hours and days. Currently, SFMTA has exclusive authority to set fares, meter rates, and hours of operations for meters, although transit fare changes may be rejected by seven out of 11 members of the Board of Supervisors.

The proposed Charter amendment would require SFMTA to submit a proposed budget with any proposed changes to transit and parking meter changes for approval on April 15 of each even-numbered year. After going through the typical process of review, the department would submit its proposed budget to the Mayor by May 1 of the same year for the Mayor's affirmative approval or rejection. If the proposed change to fares, meter rates, and hours of operation is not approved by the Mayor, the SFMTA would be required to submit an alternative budget.

In Fiscal Year 2022-2023, SFMTA's estimated revenue from transit fares on Muni buses, trains, and streetcars was \$88 million. During that same period, the department's estimated revenue from parking meters was \$50 million, when the parking meters were operating across the city from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and Sunday in select locations.

Sincerely,

Janice Levy 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.