OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Greg Wagner
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 20, 2024

RE: File 240495 – Charter Amendment to Provide for the Election of the Director of the Department of Police Accountability

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Should the proposed Charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would increase the cost of government by approximately $300,000 for any citywide ballot which includes this election, and minimum annual costs for campaign regulatory functions.

The proposed Charter amendment would make the position of Director of the Department of Police Accountability (DPA) elected rather than appointed beginning with the general election in November 2026. The first elected DPA Director would serve a shortened term, then would be elected every four years starting in 2028.

If approved, it would cost approximately $300,000 per election to add an additional elected position to the ballot. The additional cost would cover added printing costs for the ballot content and the candidate statements in the voter information pamphlet and other related election costs. If an additional ballot card is required, costs may escalate an additional $850,000.

The proposed charter amendment would also increase the costs for campaign regulatory functions performed by the Ethics Commission by approximately $70,000 to $200,000 per year.

The Civil Service Commission would set the salary of the DPA Director every five years, which will likely be similar to the salary of the current director position.

Sincerely,

Natasha Mihal

For Greg Wagner
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.