



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

Ben Rosenfield
Controller

Todd Rydstrom
Deputy Controller

June 27, 2016

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

RE: File 160586 – Charter amendment renaming the Office of Citizen Complaints as the Independent Police Oversight Department and creation of budget set-aside (first draft)

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Should the proposed charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would have a significant impact on the cost of government as it creates a new funding baseline.

The proposed amendment would rename the Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC) to the Independent Police Oversight Department (IPOD). Though the amendment does not change the existing authority granted to the OCC, it states that IPOD may conduct general reviews of how the Police Commission, the Police Department, and IPOD have handled claims of officer misconduct and report on the results of those reviews. The proposed amendment also separates the IPOD budget from the budget of the Police Department and states that IPOD will submit its budget directly to the Mayor.

Additionally, the proposed amendment would create a new baseline funding requirement in fiscal year (FY) 2017-18, binding on the Mayor and Board of Supervisors, equal to the FY 2015-16 OCC budget which is approximately \$5.7 million. Beginning in FY 2018-19, this baseline amount would be adjusted at the same rate as the percentage increase or decrease in the City's discretionary revenues. The amendment allows the City to temporarily suspend growth in baseline funding in years when the City forecasts a budget deficit of \$200 million or greater. The proposed amendment does not include a sunset date.

This proposed amendment is not in compliance with a non-binding, voter-adopted city policy regarding set-asides. The policy seeks to limit set-asides which reduce General Fund dollars that could otherwise be allocated by the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors in the annual budget process.

Sincerely,


Ben Rosenfield
Controller

This analysis reflects our current understanding of the proposal. We will update this analysis as additional information becomes available. Should this item be placed on the November 8, 2016 ballot, we will prepare a fiscal impact statement for the Voter Information Pamphlet.