



**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

**OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER**

**Ben Rosenfield  
Controller**

**Todd Rydstrom  
Deputy Controller**

January 16, 2018

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

RE: File 171309 – Charter amendment creating a Livable Streets Commission and Department and transferring parking and traffic authority from the Municipal Transportation Agency

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.

The amendment provides for a new Department of Livable Streets, taking over functions currently performed by the Sustainable Streets Division of the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA). In general, the Department would have authority over parking and traffic matters in the city. The members of the MTA Board of Directors would also act as the Livable Streets Commission. The Department would be responsible for implementing policy goals such as the transit first and Vision Zero mandates, would set the rates and fees for parking, and would have authority over street usage, design and regulations.

The amendment requires the appointment of a new Director of Livable Streets. Various functions including transportation analysis and modeling, environmental impact analysis, parking and street design, engineering, construction management, financial and debt management for parking facilities, parking contracts and other management would be transferred from the MTA to the new Department. There would be added costs for the legal, financial, human resources and administrative actions required to accomplish the transfer, create and operate the new Department. The MTA manages a variety of complex debt financings using revenue bonds, administers state and federal grants for transportation, and has other financial instruments that will need to be evaluated for potential legislative, regulatory and financial impacts under the proposed amendment. We will develop estimates for these costs as the Board of Supervisors considers this legislation.

Sincerely,

*for* *Ben Rosenfield*  
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.