

# BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

## Information and

by Geoff Link, Stan Hutton and Sherry Barto

Voters face an array of 18 local proposition, some of which would affect Tenderloin residents more than others.

The wording of these propositions on the ballot is abstract and seldom states what is at stake for voters if they vote yes or no.

*The Extra* offers the following analysis of the local measures that could most affect Tenderloin residents. We don't cover every angle or legal nuance of these propositions; often who is for and who is against them is telling in itself.

### A – Branch Library Bonds

Prop. A would enable the city to raise more than \$100 million through general obligation bonds to acquire, renovate or construct branch libraries. A two-thirds majority vote is needed.

Proponents include: The mayor and all supervisors except Barbara Kaufman, San Francisco Tomorrow.

Opponents include: Golden Gate Taxpayers Association, Alliance for a Better District 6.

### B – District Aide

Prop. B would authorize supervisors to continue to employ three aides.

Proponents include: All supervisors except Barbara Kaufman, Gavin Newsom and Leland Yee, San Francisco Tomorrow, Alliance for a Better District 6.

Opponents include: San Francisco Republican Party, Good Government Alliance.

### D – Children's Fund

In 1991, the city allocated 2.5% of the property tax to services for children. Of the \$18 million generated, \$12 million to \$13 million a year funds 180 programs citywide, making the Children's Fund a mainstay of programs for kids. Prop. D would boost the property tax percentage to 3%, adding roughly \$4 million more to the Children's Fund, and continue the Fund until 2016.

Proponents include: The mayor and entire Board of Supervisors, Alliance for a Better District 6.

Opponents: No cogent arguments against Prop. D.

### H – Landlord/Renters Costs

If Prop. H passes, landlords would not be allowed to pass along to tenants their costs of capital improvements, rehab work or energy conservation measures. Only costs for seismic work certified by the city Rent Board could be charged to tenants, but no more than 5% of a tenant's base rent. The costs charged to the tenant would be spread over 20 years.

Proponents include: San Francisco Tenants Union, Senior Action Network, Affordable Housing Alliance, Alliance for a Better District 6.

Opponents include: Small Property Owners of San Francisco, Republican candidate for Congress Adam Sparks.

### I – Business Tax Revision

San Francisco business taxes are now figured either as 1.5% of payroll or an amount between \$1.23 and \$3 per each \$1,000 of gross receipts. Prop. I would eliminate the gross receipts method of calculating business taxes and raise the payroll tax to 1.7% for the 2000 tax year. In future years, the tax would increase or decrease depending on previous tax receipts. Small businesses would continue to be exempted from the tax.

Proponents include: Mayor Brown, Treasurer Susan Leal, City Attorney Louise Renne, Alliance for a Better District 6.

Opponents include: S.F. Taxpayers Association, S.F. Republican Party.

### J -- City Contractor Contributions

Prop. J would ban any city official from accepting a gift, payment, job or campaign contribution from a person or group if the official had previously approved granting a contract, lease, franchise, land use variance, special tax benefit or monetary payment to the person or group. The rule would remain in effect for two years after the official leaves public office.

Proponents include: Good Government Alliance, S.F. Republican Party, Harvey Milk

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Democratic Club.

Opponents include: No opposition.

### K & L – Office Development Controls

Prop. K was placed on the ballot by Mayor Brown and Supervisors Alicia Becerril, Michael Yaki, Amos Brown and Barbara Kaufman.

Prop. L got on the ballot through the signatures of 30,000 voters.

Both propositions would amend the current ordinance regulating the amount of new office space allowed to be built in the city each year. Both propositions would include office space for multimedia and computer services (dot-com companies) in the annual 950,000-sq.-ft. office space cap, which is not the case under the current ordinance.

Prop. K would exclude from the annual cap office space development located in government buildings in the Presidio, Hunters Point Naval Shipyard and Naval Station Treasure Island; in the Mission Bay Redevelopment Area or Port property; and office space rented to nonprofits at a reduced rate. It would also suspend for not more than two years office development over 25,000 sq. ft. in the Mission and office development over 50,000 sq. ft. on Potrero Hill. Under Prop. K, authority to reduce the annual office space cap would be shifted from the Board of Supervisors to the voters.

Prop. L would exclude from the annual office space cap certain government buildings and buildings located at the Presidio, Pier 70 or Hunters Point Naval Shipyard; create a new use category for "community services," which would not be defined as office space; and allow new office development over 6,000 sq. ft. only in specialized areas, such as parts of downtown, existing Redevelopment Agency areas and Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. Office development would not be allowed in parts of South of Market, Potrero Hill, the Northeast Mission Industrial

Zone and the Bayview-Hunters Point Survey Area until these areas are studied and rezoned. Under Prop. L, city policy regarding commercial development would be linked to transit and traffic capacity and fees levied to developers for affordable housing, child care and transit impact costs would be adjusted each year based on inflation rates. Prop. L would classify all live/work units as housing units and put restrictions on new permits for live/work units to ensure that new units are fully integrated with the working space of artists and artisans. Live/work units could not be converted to office space.

Proponents of Prop. K include: Mayor Brown, Supervisors Michael Yaki, Alicia Becerril, Amos Brown, Leslie Katz and Mabel Teng, SPUR, S.F. Republican Party.

Opponents of Prop. K include: Supervisor Tom Ammiano, Alliance for a Better District 6, and S.F. Tenants Union.

Proponents of Prop. L include: Campaign to Save San Francisco, Alliance for a Better District 6, Coalition of S.F. Neighborhoods

Opponents of Prop. L include: Citizens Against Waste.

If both proposition receive more than 50.1% of the vote, the proposition receiving the greater number of votes will be enacted.

### M – Taxicab Permits

No new taxicab permits are being issued and for permit holders to keep their medallions, they must spend a lot of time behind the wheel. Prop. M would allow the city to issue special permits that do not have to meet the requirements of the current permits and would be issued to meet such specific needs as wheelchair-accessible taxis, taxis that would operate only during certain "peak-time" business hours, and neighborhood-specific taxis and airport-only taxis. Current permit holders expect to lose business.

Proponents include: Mayor Brown and 8 supervisors

Opponents include: Two of seven Taxi Commission mem-

bers, Supervisors Tom Ammiano, Sue Bierman and Gavin Newsom; Disability Community Democratic Club.

### N – Controls on Rental Conversions

In a convoluted rules change, Prop. N would make it tougher to convert rental property into condominiums and prohibit eviction of seniors and disabled in a condo conversion.

Proponents include: S.F. Tenants Union, Tenderloin Housing Clinic, Affordable Housing Alliance.

Opponents include: Chamber of Commerce, S.F. Republican Party, SPUR.

### O – Public Campaign Finance

If this proposition is approved, candidates for the Board of Supervisors who raise \$7,500 in private contributions and agree to limit their spending to \$75,000 in the general election and \$20,000 in any run-off campaign would receive up to \$43,750 in public funding for the general election and up to \$17,000 in a run-off election. Candidates would be excused from spending limits if an opponent or independent committee exceeded the limits. Prop. O also establishes limits for personal and group contributions to candidates and grants power to the Board of Supervisors to amend the city's campaign law.

Proponents include: San Francisco Ethics Commission, S.F. Alliance for Democracy, Gray Panthers, S.F. Common Cause Board.

Opponents include: Supervisor Barbara Kaufman, S.F. Republican Party, Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club.

### Q – Pedestrian Safety Fund

Prop. Q would make it city policy to allocate \$2.4 million a year to a Pedestrian Safety Fund to pay for improvements such as pedestrian countdown clocks, lighted crosswalks, high-visibility crossing signs and a hotline to report dangerous intersections.

Proponent: Supervisor Mabel Teng

Opponent: Good Government Alliance

CALENDAR	CALENDAR	CALENDAR	CALENDAR	CALENDAR	CALENDAR	CALENDAR	CALENDAR
Oct. 26 District 6 candidates housing development p.m. at St. Anthony's Dining Room, 45 Jones at Golden Gate. Information: Chris Mohr at 776-2151 x125.	Oct. 26, 27, 28 EXIT Theatre, Thu., Fri., Sat. 8 p.m. <b>Shmucktoberfest 2000</b> by the Thrillpeddlers. An evening so shocking no one else would dare produce it. Tickets \$15. On the program: Brush with Death, Slumber Party Panic, Wedding of the Relentless Beating, Orgy in the Lighthouse. \$15 at the door.	Oct. 28 District 6 Cleanup, 5 p.m. kickoff with coffee and donuts in Boeddeker Park, 45 Jones, Turk and Mason. To participate, contact Brian Bloch at 330-1415 or Nicholas Rosenberg at 921-7320.	Oct. 28, 29 Screening Filipino 2000 Annual Filipino American cine festival and competition. Main Library, Lower Level, Koret Auditorium 3-5:45 p.m. (Oct. 28), Golden Gate at Hyde, 4-5:30 p.m. Information: 359-9210.	Oct. 31 4th Annual Tenderloin Trick n Treat event at Tenderloin Children's Center, 570s Ellis at Hyde. 4:30 p.m. BBQ, games, prizes; 6 p.m. Trick n Treat. Information: Jim Thompson at 673-5765. This year's event dedicated to the	Nov. 2 Pedestrian Safety Fund sponsored by Tenderloin Safe Communities Coalition. 5:30 p.m. at St. Anthony's, 121 Golden Gate at Jones. Help identify problem and generate solutions. Information: 921-7320.	Nov. 1 – 30 EXIT Theatre, 8 p.m. Arrivals/Departures by Daniele Nathanson, Tania Katan and... EXIT Theatre, 8 p.m. <b>Home</b> , a comedic look at what happens when a woman named Felix, appraisers from the Pacific Book Auction Galleries. Limit of 3 books exchanged from Main Library, 6th Floor Book Arts and Special Collections Room, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (discussions conducted in the Russian language and 2nd Wed. of every month)	Nov. 1 – 30 EXIT Theatre, 8 p.m. <b>Home</b> , a comedic look at what happens when a woman named Felix, appraisers from the Pacific Book Auction Galleries. Limit of 3 books exchanged from Main Library, 6th Floor Book Arts and Special Collections Room, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (discussions conducted in the Russian language and 2nd Wed. of every month)