

Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Final Digest
On: Thursday, March 5, 2026
Members: Packard, Anderson, Troy, Wong

The Way It Is Now: The City owns and operates infrastructure for public safety and emergency response, including:

- The Emergency Firefighting Water System consisting of about 135 miles of dedicated high-pressure pipeline, hydrants, cisterns and pump stations that draw water for emergencies;
- Fire and police stations and other related first responder facilities; and
- The Muni bus storage and maintenance facility at Potrero Yard, which provides buses to transport disaster service workers, and emergency responders and supplies.

The Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee monitors the spending of general obligation bond funds.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ is a bond measure that would authorize the City to borrow up to \$535 million by issuing general obligation bonds. The City would spend this money on improvements and seismic upgrades to infrastructure used for emergency response and recovery.

Earthquake safety projects funded by the bonds could include construction, acquisition, improvement and completion of:

- The Emergency Firefighting Water System;
- Fire and police stations;
- The Muni bus storage and maintenance facility at Potrero Yard; and
- Other disaster response facilities.

Proposition ___ would allow an increase in the property tax to pay for the bonds, if needed. City policy is to limit the amount of money it borrows by issuing new bonds only as prior bonds are paid off. In rent-controlled residential units, landlords would be permitted to pass through to tenants up to 50 percent of any resulting property tax increase.

Proposition ___ would require the Citizens' General Obligation Bond Oversight Committee to review how these bond funds are spent.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want the City to issue up to \$535 million in general obligation bonds for earthquake safety projects, including the construction, acquisition, improvement and completion of the Emergency Firefighting Water System, fire and police stations, Potrero Yard, and other disaster response facilities.

A "NO" Vote Means: If you vote "no," you do not want the City to issue these bonds.

**Working title, for identification only. The Director of Elections determines the title of each local ballot measure; measure titles are not considered during Ballot Simplification Committee meetings.*