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Construction Trades Council

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July 31, 2026
Ballot Simplification Committee
Sent via email to: bsc.clerk@sfgov.org

Dear Chair Packard and Members Wong, Bella, Paxton, and Pon:

I am writing to raise a serious concern about the potential for voter confusion in how this measure is described on the ballot.

The San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council represents thousands of workers who build every kind of housing in our city, including market-rate, affordable, cooperative, and social housing. We support building more housing in San Francisco, and we respect the effort to expand social housing.

But voters should be told plainly what this measure does.

As currently presented, the measure could lead voters to believe they are approving new funding for affordable housing. In fact, it would set aside existing housing funds and dedicate them specifically to a social housing model. That is a significant distinction, and it should be made explicit in the ballot language.

The Housing Trust Fund measure also appearing on the ballot would support affordable housing production and preservation in the conventional sense. This measure is different. It is specifically designed to fund social housing.

Whether voters support or oppose that approach, they deserve an honest and accurate description of the choice before them. The ballot language should clearly state that the measure earmarks existing funding for social housing, rather than suggesting that it creates new, broadly available affordable housing funding.

I appreciate the work you have done to make ballot language understandable and accessible. I urge you to apply that same standard here and ensure voters are given a clear, direct, and truthful explanation of what this measure would do.

Sincerely,

Larry Mazzola, Jr.
President