



July 22, 2026

Dear Ballot Simplification Council,

With appreciation for the incredibly important work you do, we are writing to request reconsideration of the digest for the measure that would convert Sunset Dunes park back into a roadway. As currently drafted, the digest fails to align with recent precedent of similar measures, and in doing so fails to inform voters of the intent and primary effect of the proposed legislation.

The draft digest goes against all recent precedent for similar measures

The BSC has written digests for multiple measures in recent years that asked voters whether they wanted to close a roadway in order to create a new open recreation space. In every instance, the digest informed voters that they would be closing the roadway in order to open the space as a park. This approach was correct and an accurate summary of the measures by the BSC, as voters need to be informed of both sides of the legislation when changing the use of public land: what is going away, and what is added.

In this digest, the BSC draft digest describing the proposal and what a “YES” vote means wholly ignores that the current use of the public land is as a park, and that the public land would no longer be usable as a park if this measure succeeded. This approach would fail to adequately inform voters, and would also be counter to BSC’s precedent on similar measures in the past. This incongruence with past precedent would be biased towards treating a road closure as more important than a park closure - a bias that I trust is not the BSC’s intent, so I am hopeful you will correct this.

Proposition J (2022) Digest Excerpt

“YES” Vote Means (Prop J)	A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to affirm the Ordinance the Board adopted in May 2022 reserving portions of John F. Kennedy Drive and certain connector streets in Golden Gate Park as open recreation spaces, closing those streets seven days a week to private motor vehicles with limited exceptions.
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Proposition K (2024) Digest Excerpts

The Proposal	The Proposal: Proposition ____ is an ordinance that would allow the City to use the Upper Great Highway for public open recreation space, permanently closing it to private motor vehicles seven days a week, with limited exceptions. It would continue to allow emergency vehicles, official government vehicles, intra-park transit shuttle buses and similar authorized vehicles to access the Upper Great Highway at all times. The General Manager of the Recreation and Parks Department would have the authority to determine an emergency exists and allow private motor vehicles to use the Upper Great Highway
YES Vote Means	A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want the City to use the Upper Great Highway as public open recreation space, permanently closing it to private motor vehicles seven days a week, with limited exceptions

The current measure, in essence, seeks to reverse Proposition K, which was approved by voters in 2024. The Proposition K digest was explicit to voters that Proposition K would “permanently clos[e] [the Upper Great Highway] to private motor vehicles seven days a week...” in order to allow the “City to use the Upper Great Highway for public open recreation space.” The digest informed voters of both sides of the tradeoff of the legislation: the opening of a park, and the closing of a road.

To ensure voters are adequately informed by the digest, and to ensure that the information is non-biased and aligned with directly relevant precedent, we respectfully request that the BSC amend the current digest to inform voters that this measure would close the current use of the space - as a park called Sunset Dunes - in order to open the same space as a roadway.

The digest fails to inform voters of their choice

We appreciate the Committee’s dedication to accurately reflecting the proposed legislation without embellishment. In this instance, the legislation - written by the park opponents themselves - proactively chooses to ignore that the public land impacted by the measure currently has a park and park features on it. That choice in drafting the measure should not require pulling wool over voters’ eyes as well, nor do the City Charter’s rules for the Ballot Simplification Committee require that the Committee hide this reality from voters in the digest. In contrast, it is critical that voters be informed of the fundamental effect of the choice before them.

This is not a matter of interpreting the legislation, but is instead just plainly stating what the legislation would do if it is enacted. If a measure proposed to build a soccer field where City Hall currently stands, fairly summarizing the measure would require informing voters that the proposed measure would raze City Hall in order to build a soccer field. In this instance, voters deserve a summary that informs them that the proposed measure would close a park in order to open a roadway.

There are a lot of possible ways to express the tradeoff between a park and a road that voters are being asked to make, but we believe that the Committee will not have served voters in making an informed decision if the digest does not explain that this tradeoff is the fundamental question posed by the measure. Voters need to know what will change in the world as a result of their vote. The only possible effect of this measure is that the City will close, convert, cease use, or otherwise stop the use of the space as a park and remove park features and instead install roadway features like traffic signals.

In summary, we believe that this measure cannot be accurately summarized without informing voters that:

- **The proposed measure closes a park in order to open a roadway.** Sunset Dunes replaced the Upper Great Highway from Lincoln to Sloat, and was formally named as a park by the city. The sole purpose and effect of the proposed measure is to **close** the park **in order to** open the space as a roadway. The digest as currently drafted does not inform voters of this in any manner, leaving voters to make a choice with only half of the measure summarized for them.
- **The measure would require removal of park improvements.** The former Upper Great Highway - now Sunset Dunes Park - currently has physical park features on it which wholly preclude its use as a roadway without construction to remove those features. As just one example, concrete skate park features are currently on both sides of the former roadway.

We respectfully submit the below proposed edits to ensure that voters understand the core choice and effect of the proposed measure: that in order to open a roadway, they would need to forego a park and any park features included in that park.

Draft Digest - Allowing Private Vehicles on The Upper Great Highway in Sunset Dunes Park

The Way It Is Now: Sunset Dunes Park is an open recreational space that replaced the Great Highway between Lincoln Way and Sloat Boulevard (Upper Great Highway and is closed to private vehicles at all times. [Since opening, numerous park features have been installed on the former roadway, including a skate park, bike park, and seating throughout the park.](#)

[Sunset Dunes Park, like other parks across the city,](#)~~The Upper Great Highway~~ is open to emergency vehicles, official government vehicles, intra-park transit shuttle buses, and similar authorized vehicles.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ would [close Sunset Dunes Park in order to](#) reopen the Upper Great Highway to private vehicles on weekdays from Monday at 4:00 a.m. through Friday at 6:00 p.m., unless the weekday falls on a holiday.

The Upper Great Highway will remain open to emergency vehicles, official government vehicles, intra-park transit shuttle buses, and similar authorized vehicles.

Proposition __ would close Sunset Dunes Park, removing all park features, in order to reopen the Upper Great Highway to private motor vehicles, subject to ~~require~~ the City ~~to~~ obtaining all necessary approvals, including any permits required by the California Coastal Act or from other government agencies, ~~to reopen the Upper Great Highway to private motor vehicles.~~
~~This would include removal of some of the Sunset Dunes Park recreational features.~~

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want the City to close Sunset Dunes Park, and remove all park features, in order to reopen the Upper Great Highway to private on weekdays from Monday at 4:00 a.m. through Friday at 6:00 p.m., unless the weekday falls on a holiday.

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

Thank you for your consideration,

Lucas Lux

President
Friends of Sunset Dunes