

October 22, 2023

Mayor Breed, Board of Supervisors and Staff:

Re: Please support placing the Charter Amendment titled : *Mayor Approval Required for Certain SFMTA Budget Proposals*, on the March 5, 2024 ballot.

The Charter Amendment sponsored by Supervisor Asha Safai, supported by Aaron Peskin, would requires the Mayor of San Francisco to approve any proposed increases to SFMTA fares, parking meter maximum rates, and hours or days of operation.

We understand this matter comes before the Rules Committee October 23 and hope you will vote to support this unanimously.

There is a reason for separation of powers. And this is it. We have seen the results of a department run by appointees, that has the authority to write its own ordinances, enforce them and pass judgement on they own work. Appointees have no accountability to the voters. The result is a department that has not fulfilled the hopes and dreams of those who established the system.

As the department has lost sight of its role in servicing the public needs, the public has lost faith in the department. Ridership and fare recovery is down and MUNI is begging for another tax or bond bailout.

Passing this Charter Amendment will not be the answer to all MUNI problems, but we believe holding an elected individual accountable is a good place to start.

The Mayor is clamoring for more power so here is a chance to show how that power may be used to improve an under-performing organization.

Sincerely,

Mari Eliza,  
Concerned Citizen,  
With CSFN and EMIA

Mayoral Approval Amendment