

Mistretta, Susan

From: Diane Weir <diane@dianeweir.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2020 10:53 AM
To: City Council - All
Subject: Please do not approve the budget

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Dear City Councilors.

Please do not approve this year's budget as presented.

Along with many other residents and businesses, my family's finances have been significantly impacted by the current crisis. We continue planning for how to stretch every dollar -- taking inventory of our pantry, turning down our heat, etc..

We need the city to be in this with us.

Now is not the time to move a "business as usual" budget forward.

It is absolutely not time to approve any new hiring.

It is definitely not a year to override the tax cap.

It should be a time for reducing the budget if possible, or at least saving what we can:

- Implement a hiring freeze and delay filling any current vacancies
- Implement a salary freeze
- Implement a purchasing freeze -- prohibit departments from spending down their budgets
- Furlough or reduce hours of non-essential staff -- or redeploy them to emergency preparedness duties

I appreciate your consideration.

Diane Weir
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