

# MEMORANDUM

To: Sandy City Council

From: Mayor Kurt Bradburn

Dated: June 26, 2020

Re: Veto

Utah Code Ann. § 10-3b-204:

(2)(a) The mayor in a municipality operating under a council-mayor form of municipal government may veto an ordinance or tax levy or all or any part of an appropriation passed by the council.

(2)(b) If a mayor vetoes an ordinance or tax levy or any part of an appropriation, the mayor shall return the ordinance, tax levy, or appropriation to the council within 15 days after the council presents the ordinance, tax levy, or appropriation to the mayor, with a statement explaining the mayor's objections.

(3) At its next meeting following a mayor's veto under Subsection (2), the council shall reconsider the vetoed ordinance, tax levy, or appropriation.

(4)(c) An ordinance, tax levy, or appropriation passed by council takes effect upon recording as provided in Chapter 3, Part 7, Municipal Ordinances, Resolutions, and Procedure, if: following a veto, the council reconsiders the ordinance, tax levy, or appropriation and passes it by a vote of at least two-thirds of all council members.

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 10-3b-204(2)(a)-(b), as Mayor of Sandy City, I hereby return Resolution #20-23 C, Exhibit A and veto only the adjustments to the Sandy City Council's appropriation, as follows:

1.b. Reduce compensation plan increases to 25% of those proposed in the FY 2020-21 tentative budget, except for fixed benefits appropriations that will match the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget.

2. Additional compensation plan increases throughout FY 2020-21 will be based on revenue benchmarking as outlined in Councilmember Houseman's Benchmark Approach presented in city council meeting on June 23, 2020:

a. Benchmark A – Additional 25% of compensation plan increases proposed in the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget will be released if actual total sales tax revenue for July, August, and September 2020 meets or exceeds 90% of total projected sales tax revenue

for those months in the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget (evaluated in November 2020 and each subsequent month, for the previous 3-month period, until met)

b. Benchmark B – Additional 25% of compensation plan increases proposed in the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget will be released if actual total sales tax revenue for August, September, and October meets or exceeds 95% of total projected sales tax revenue for those months in the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget (evaluated in December 2020 and each subsequent month, for the previous 3-month period, until met)

c. Benchmark C – Additional 25% of compensation plan increases proposed in the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget will be released if actual total sales tax revenue for September, October, and November meets or exceeds 95% of total projected sales tax revenue for those months in the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget (evaluated in January 2021 and each subsequent month, for the previous 3-month period, until met)

d. Progress monitoring updates may also include additional data points of other revenue sources

e. At each benchmark, options will be evaluation for making employees whole relative to the compensation plan proposed in the FY 2020-21 Tentative Budget (retroactive pay, spot awards, bonuses)

3. A one-time appropriation of \$90,000 will be added in the Water fund for the Central Wasatch Commission

Statement of Objections:

- The Sandy City finance team has taken great steps to ensure projections for the FY 2020-2021 are conservative and accurate in this COVID-19 environment. They have based these projections on historical data and have worked extensively with the best economic experts in the state. Proof in point: the actuals for March and April sales tax revenue came in \$400-600k higher than the finance team's conservative projections. I have full confidence that the numbers are more than accurate and can be relied upon to fund the city.
- Furthermore, the budget presented to council contained a 10% reduction in sales tax projections. All non-necessary spending has been identified **and salary increases for elected officials are eliminated**. Essential city services are prioritized and spending on vehicles, equipment, projects and committee memberships are delayed. Benchmark approaches should be applied to line items that do not create complication and uncertainty for city employees and the level of services they provide to our constituents.
- Last year, the council approved a 22% property tax increase with the support of administration. This tax increase was explained to Sandy residents as the city's effort to improve public safety and hire additional first responders. The benchmark approach to funding the Sandy City compensation plan would hinder the city's ability to keep those promises made to residents and make it incredibly difficult to hire additional personnel. By trickling out the funding for the step and grade pay for first responders, the city risks losing qualified individuals to cities that have a competitive pay scales already in place. Three

years ago, discussions began with our first responders about adequate compensation and a plan to make Sandy City competitive to attract more experienced first responders. The step and grade increases were part of this discussion from the beginning. With full confidence in city leaders and an effort to keep the city budget sustainable, Sandy City's first responders agreed to funding this over multiple years. Holding this funding back now will not honor the city's commitment and will ultimately diminish public safety in Sandy City.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Bradburn', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kurt D. Bradburn  
Mayor