



Sandy City Council Office

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To: Sandy City Council

From: Marci Houseman – At Large

Date: June 9th, 2023

Subject: FY2024 Budget Proposal

Councilmembers, as I stated in my newsletter, I believe now is not the time to raise taxes. While Sandy City does have many critical needs, it simply is not the time to address them all at once by putting an additional burden on our residents. I am proposing a budget alternative that will allow us to move forward with a budget that will not require a property tax increase. This proposal allows us to incrementally increase our compensation plan without increasing property taxes, which I detail below. Part of that calculus includes restoring the one-time money the council appropriated for the permanent 3:2 Fire Staffing. I believe taking our capital needs to the voters rather than unilaterally issuing bonds that would require a tax increase to cover the debt service is the right decision at this moment. These concepts are not new but rather returning us to the path the council set forth earlier in the year. This proposal also removes a majority of increases to ongoing line items proposed in the tentative budget. While those items would be nice to have right now, it is upon us as a City to make do with what we have.

- 1) I propose reducing the COLA portion of the compensation plan to 5.0%. This will leave any market and merit increases intact as proposed to supplement the COLA. This reduction would save approximately \$1,000,000 annually and would directly reduce the proposed tax increase amount significantly.
- 2) I propose reallocating the funds proposed for the All-Inclusive Playground to be used towards the new Alta Canyon Sports Center.
- 3) I propose removing all proposed new FTEs except for those outlined in the Fire Department's budget, which shall be paid for with one-time money from Payroll Management. Finance staff would need to bring an amended one-time funding schedule to reflect these changes. In addition, I proposed eliminating all reclassifications.
- 4) I propose removing the debt service payment for Fire Station 31 and funding the Fire Station on a G.O. bond.
- 5) I propose removing a majority of increases to ongoing line items in the general fund excepting an increase of hours for a Crime Prevention Specialist. This creates a savings of approximately 1.2 million.
- 6) Update IT, Telephone, Risk, and Fleet O&M Charges, following any necessary internal service studies, to compensate for the amendments I'm proposing to appropriations throughout this proposal.