

CC 05-17-2023

#1

FY 2023-24 Proposed
Budget

Written Communications

From: [Kitty Moore](#)
To: [Kirsten Squarcia](#)
Subject: Fw: Budget 5/17 Written Communications Apple Sheriff Donation RE Budget Question
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 12:17:13 PM

Hi Kirsten,

I had the date of the meeting wrong, it is not 9/8/2018 but 9/18/2018 and have fixed it below. Please submit the edited email instead, sorry I did not catch that!



From: Kitty Moore <Kmoore@cupertino.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 11:11 AM
To: Kirsten Squarcia <KirstenS@cupertino.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@cupertino.org>
Subject: Budget 5/17 Written Communications Apple Sheriff Donation RE Budget Question

Dear City Clerk,

Please include the following written communications for the Budget meeting 5/17/2023:

I appreciate that Apple makes a donation(s) to the City.

The Apple Sheriffs' Donation seems like a complicated problem and it is in the Budget as "Miscellaneous" Law Enforcement revenue. I had noticed it a while ago and brought it up at the councilmember 1:1 Budget review last week. It was an excellent Budget review, by the way, great to have the department directors to quickly go through it.

I rewatched item 15, Apple donation for Sheriffs, from the September 18, 2018 Cupertino City Council meeting and reviewed the attachments from that meeting. That appears to be where the donation topic first was made.

The Law Enforcement section of the Budget has included "Miscellaneous" which does not say what it is for which would be more transparent and is now revenue over \$1M. I have been told that this is the money donated by Apple for extra Sheriffs as mentioned above.

The recording from the 2018 meeting seemed to indicate that the Council would discuss the donation at the future Budget meetings, but we have not discussed it for the past two annual Budget meetings.

I would like the Budget to state what the Miscellaneous Law Enforcement revenue is for along

with an update as to what the assignment of the Sheriffs entails since 5 years have passed with no reports.

The 2018 agenda item included a table which said there would be 2,725 hours of Sheriff service covered by the donation by Apple, this is quite a lot less than 40 hour weeks at 48 weeks per year for two sheriffs, so I am wondering how many hours per week have the two Sheriffs assigned to Apple been historically serving? Is Apple donating more or less than they should? Do they receive special treatment? Does the donation cover vehicles? How is extra Sheriff support for Apple events paid for? Is it waived? Is that more Miscellaneous revenue under Law Enforcement?

Staff on the recording spoke about beat C5 receiving the extra Sheriffs. I actually show up on the recording as a member of the public mentioning break-ins at Vallco (which is gone) and that the EIR might not have adequately addressed public safety if this Sheriff requirement is the result of the new campus.

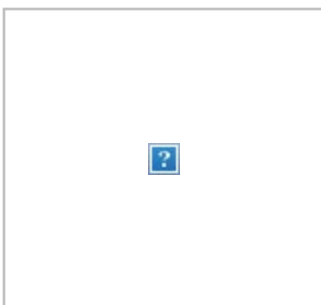
Do the Sheriffs visit all of the Apple buildings or just C5?

Should a different instrument than a Donation form typically for donating a bench or something which may have a plaque with the donor's name on it be drafted? It seems we are still accepting donations from Apple for Sheriffs based on a 2018 donor form. Additionally, if it's really more of a contract, and now millions of dollars have passed through the City to the Sheriffs, what are the terms for the City's side? The Sheriffs? It is hard to understand this.

Lastly, does it muddy the waters to actually have a donation be to have Sheriff services (I think of donations without that reciprocity element)? Should Apple make their donation directly to the Sheriff instead? Do all in the City receive equal Sheriff service when two are apparently assigned to a specific area paid for by a specific business? Please advise how this is typically done by cities.

Thank you,

Kitty Moore



Kitty Moore

Councilmember

City Council

Kmoore@cupertino.org

(408) 777-1389



From: [R.W.](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: City Council Agenda Item #1 Budget 5/17
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 8:49:00 AM
Attachments: [City Employment copy.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council,

One of the largest opportunities to balance the budget comes from staffing. There seems to be minimal talk about reduction in workforce and reduction in open head count, yet there seems to be a lot of discussion about cutting programs.

The city not only has spending problem along with a budget shortfall, but also an accountability problem. These issues should have been raised by a competent city staff earlier than later.

Now, we are spending time talking about selling or leasing out public lands, wasting millions on a City Hall we can't afford, and cutting programs and services the residents expect.

Let's apply some basic business principles to local government. The largest portion of the budget is in headcount. Why are we not starting there?

According to the City's own data of FTE counts for the past decade, in 2022 we saw massive increases in staffing for

Administration - up 36.1%
Community development - up 31.6%
Administrative services - up 18.8%

Over the past 10 years, the public works headcount has also exploded by 27.8%

Our population has remained fairly consistent over time, yet we keep adding FTE's. Why is that?

The questions that the residents expect council to address are:

1. How do you plan to balance the budget without dipping into savings? Dipping into savings is not balancing the budget.
2. What FTE's will you cut to meet the budget? We have an explosion in FTE's. Other than innovation and technology, why the sharp increases in administration, community development, and administrative services?
3. Given the potential millions in tax shortfall from the Apple issue, what is being done about 10 years of negative budgets in the plan?
4. Why has the city continued to fail to meet its state reporting requirements on accounting and budgets?

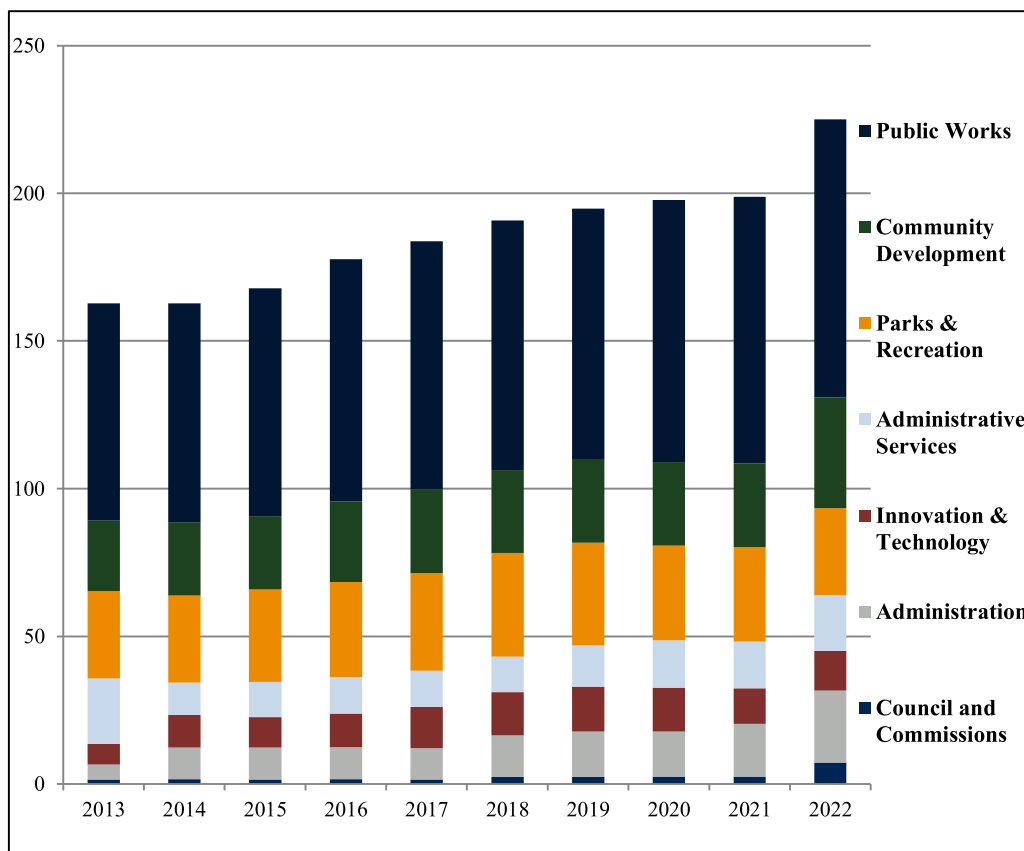
5. Why have we waited so long to address this issue if city staff is doing such a good job.
6. Where is the oversight on city staff on spending and what have you done to deliver on this oversight?
7. Why are so many projects over budget and over time? What is being done to reign in the spending?

Warmest regards

R “Ray” Wang
Former two-time Chair of the Planning Commission
Cupertino Resident

CITY OF CUPERTINO
Full-Time Equivalent City Employees by Function/Program
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(Unaudited)

Function/Program	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Council and Commissions	1.52	1.57	1.55	1.60	1.55	2.35	2.35	2.51	2.53	7.3
Administration	5.05	10.75	10.75	10.85	10.57	14.12	15.47	15.15	17.85	24.3
Innovation & Technology	6.90	11.00	10.25	11.40	13.95	14.55	15.05	14.95	11.93	13.4
Administrative Services	22.26	11.00	12.00	12.30	12.30	12.00	14.00	16.00	15.90	18.9
Parks & Recreation	29.53	29.48	31.28	32.18	33.08	35.13	34.80	32.10	31.90	29.5
Community Development	23.90	24.83	24.80	27.30	28.18	28.08	28.13	28.29	28.49	37.5
Public Works	73.59	74.12	77.12	82.12	84.12	84.52	84.95	88.75	90.15	94.1
Law Enforcement	0.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	162.75	164.75	169.75	179.75	185.75	192.75	196.75	197.75	198.75	225.00



Source: City of Cupertino Budget

From: [Peggy Griffin](#)
To: [Thomas Leung](#); [Kristina Alfaro](#); [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: 2023-05-17 City Council Meeting Agenda Item #1-Budget Study Session-BREAKOUT FUNDS FOR VISIBILITY
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 3:35:23 AM

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PLEASE INCLUDE THIS EMAIL AS PART OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA.

Dear Budget Manager Leung, Director Alfaro and City Council,

There are several general budget information items that would help make the budget more transparent and easier to follow the money from one year to the next.

REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

1. Breakout any restricted funds that are currently held in the General Fund; identify them specifically.
 2. List the special government revenue funds such as
 - a. SB1
 - b. Measure B 2016
 - c. Via Shuttle
 3. List the individual Special Projects and CIP projects
 4. Add 2 Enterprise Funds
 - a. Senior Center – this is critical! There are many financial activities going on there that need to be transparent. I have several Sunnyvale friends that say they use our services because they are cheaper, even for non-residents!
- i. Tours – they occur almost every month
 - ii. Hidden Treasurers
 - iii. Bingo
 - iv. Memberships
 - v. Cost for meals, supplies, etc.
 - vi. Staff support
 - b. Blackberry Farm picnic and pools
4. For ALL the funds
 - a. Show the actual end-of-year balances/carry-overs – this would give clear visibility of what is left in the funds.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peggy Griffin

From: [Peggy Griffin](#)
To: [Thomas Leung](#); [Kristina Alfaro](#); [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: 2023-05-17 City Council Meeting Agenda Item #1-Budget Study Session-CONTINGENCY AMTS?
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 2:46:01 AM

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PLEASE INCLUDE THIS EMAIL AS PART OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA.

Dear Budget Manager Leung, Director Alfaro and City Council,

Q: Referring to the paragraph below, all contracts I've seen seem to have a 10-15% contingency amount. Is this proposed budget a change from this convention?

Attachment D, Page 5 of 12

- Cost Allocation represents Cost Allocation and Internal Service charges to user departments.
- Contingencies, 1.5% of budgeted materials and contract costs, are designed for unexpected expenditures and/or emergencies.
- Capital Outlay represents expenditures for tangible fixed assets including land, buildings, furniture, equipment, and City vehicles.
- Special Projects represent any one-time projects or costs.
- Debt Service represents principal and interest payments on outstanding debt.
- Other Financing Uses represent depreciation expenses.
- Transfers Out represent transfers to other City funds.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peggy Griffin

From: [Peggy Griffin](#)
To: [Kristina Alfaro](#); [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: 2023-05-17 City Council Meeting, Agenda Item #1 FY 2023-24 Budget Study Session-LAW ENFORCEMENT-Apple Deputies
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 2:40:08 AM

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PLEASE INCLUDE THIS EMAIL AS PART OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA.

Dear Director Alfaro and City Council,

I have several questions related to the information in "Attachment J – Law Enforcement".

Number of Deputies

Q1: How many deputies does this SCC Sheriff's contract include for FY2023-24?

Q1a: Is this the same number as in FY2021-22 and FY2022-23?

Response Time Worsening

Q2: Why is the projected performance measures for Priority 1 calls predicted to be 6.98 minutes, almost 2 minutes above the targeted time? This is a significant increase from the numbers shown in the ACFR Report.

PDF Page 5 of 12

Performance Measures

Goal: Maintain a safe environment to live, work, learn and play.

Benefit: All members of the community are safe, informed, empowered and supported.

Performance Measure	FY 2021 July-June	FY 2022 July-June	FY 2023 July-Dec	Ongoing Target
Response time for emergency calls				
Priority 1	3.40	3.27	6.98	5 minutes
Priority 2	6.07	6.66	7.07	9 minutes
Priority 3	11.80	11.73	11.28	20 minutes

Dedicated 2 Apple Deputies

Apple has an agreement with the City of Cupertino that Apple will pay for 2 deputies and their patrol cars per year to only patrol the C5 beat (Apple Park area). Apple pays the city each year for this service.

Q3: Why is the cost of these 2 Apple deputies listed as "Miscellaneous Revenue" when it is dedicated funds for a specific purpose?

Q3a: If "Miscellaneous Revenue" includes other stuff, too, then why isn't the Apple amount identified separately since it's dedicated?

Attachment J – Law Enforcement

PDF Page 9 of 12

Program Overview

The Law Enforcement program provides law enforcement, emergency communications, and School Resource Officers. Law enforcement services are provided by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office, while communications services are provided by the Santa Clara County General Services Administration. Other services include general law enforcement (patrol), traffic enforcement and investigation, detective services, and additional resources from specialized units.

The State allocates the Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) grant to cities and counties for front-line law enforcement purposes. Funding is allocated proportionately based on population size with a minimum allocation of \$100,000 per jurisdiction. This grant will be used to partially offset the cost of a second School Resource Officer that was added in the FY 2016-17 school year. Furthermore, the City receives an annual donation for enhanced law enforcement services (two additional deputies) in the C5 beat.

PDF Page 10-11 of 12

Proposed Budget

It is recommended that City Council approve a budget of \$17,812,608 for the Law Enforcement program. This represents an increase of \$1,047,512 (6.2%) from the FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget.

The increase in Contract Services funding is due to contractually agreed-upon increases in salary and benefits for Sheriff's Deputies and increases in the West Valley Substation facility lease agreement.

Revenues and Expenditures

The following table details revenues, expenditures, changes in fund balance and General Fund costs by category. It includes actuals for two prior fiscal years, the Adopted Budget for the prior fiscal year, and the Proposed Budget for the current fiscal year.

Category	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Adopted Budget	2024 Proposed Budget
Revenues				
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 156,727	\$ 161,285	\$ 156,000	\$ 161,094
Charges for Services	\$ 410,824	\$ 558,777	\$ 61,000	\$ 115,000
Fines and Forfeitures	\$ 102,396	\$ 188,053	\$ 202,000	\$ 180,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 837,329	\$ 887,259	\$ 948,721	\$ 1,006,552
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 972,987	\$ -	\$ -
Total Revenues	\$ 1,507,276	\$ 2,768,361	\$ 1,367,721	\$ 1,462,646

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Peggy Griffin

From: [Peggy Griffin](#)
To: [Kristina Alfaro](#); [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: 2023-05-17 City Council Meeting, Agenda Item #1 FY 2023-24 Budget Study Session-LAW ENFORCEMENT-ERROR??
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 2:14:55 AM

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PLEASE INCLUDE THIS EMAIL AS PART OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA.

Dear Director Alfaro and City Council,

This question is related to the information in "Attachment J – Law Enforcement".

CORRECTION NEEDED: There appears to be 2 conflicting paragraphs – see below.

Q: Which is correct?

Sincerely,

Peggy Griffin

PDF Page 6 of 12 says

Proposed Budget

It is recommended that City Council approve a budget of \$17,812,608 for the Law Enforcement department. This represents an increase of \$998,089 (5.9%) from the FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget.

The increase is due to contractually agreed-upon increases in salary and benefits for Sheriff's Deputies and increases in the West Valley Substation facility lease agreement.

PDF Page 9 of 12 says

Proposed Budget

It is recommended that City Council approve a budget of \$17,812,608 for the Law Enforcement program. This represents an increase of \$1,047,512 (6.2%) from the FY 2022-23 Adopted Budget.

The increase in Contract Services funding is due to contractually agreed-upon increases in salary and benefits for Sheriff's Deputies and increases in the West Valley Substation facility lease agreement.

From: [Raman Kapur](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Regarding Blackberry Golf course
Date: Friday, May 12, 2023 3:41:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the City Council,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my strong support for keeping the Blackberry Golf Course golf course open in our city.

As an avid golfer and a resident of this community, I have personally experienced the tremendous benefits that the golf course brings to our city. It serves as a hub for recreational activities, fosters a sense of community, and contributes to the overall well-being of residents. The golf course is not just a place to play golf; it is a cherished recreational asset that enhances the quality of life for individuals of all ages.

The golf course provides an opportunity for individuals to engage in outdoor physical activity, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle. It serves as a gathering place where friends, families, and colleagues can come together, enjoy the beautiful surroundings, and participate in a sport that brings joy and relaxation.

Moreover, the golf course has a positive impact on our local economy. It attracts visitors from outside the city, who contribute to the local businesses, restaurants, and hotels, thereby stimulating economic growth. Additionally, the golf course creates employment opportunities, supporting the livelihoods of individuals directly and indirectly associated with its operations.

I understand that there may be considerations regarding budget constraints and other competing interests. However, I firmly believe that the value provided by the golf course outweighs the associated costs. The benefits it brings to our community in terms of physical health, mental well-being, social cohesion, and economic vitality cannot be understated.

In light of these reasons, I kindly request that the City Council carefully consider all available options to ensure the continued operation and maintenance of our beloved golf course. I encourage you to explore partnerships, seek sponsorships, and actively engage with the community to explore creative solutions that can help sustain this valuable asset.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and dedication to serving our community. I trust that you will make a decision that reflects the best interests of our residents and the long-term prosperity of our city.

Yours sincerely,

Raman Kapur

23255 Eastbrook Ct., Los Altos, CA 94024. P 6509069398

From: pv_r959@yahoo.com
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Re: City Budget issues
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 9:51:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello:

As a long time resident (over 25 years), this is the first occasion that I've heard of this city having budget woes. To be sure, I would not want the city to cut services. If any services that may be deprioritized is any expenses related to supporting homeless especially if they are not originally from our city.

The city is also a home to large corporations - why not increase taxes on these "most valuable company" in the world to help shore up the budget shortfall - when the campus was built in the city; hardly any of the tax base trickled down to the city.

What will be good is if the city shares all the details of the shortfall in a newsletter (especially over the past two or three years) so that as a community we can size the problem!

Please make sure this is posted in the meeting notes and if there is a response, I would welcome one.

Rajeev Joshi

From: [Tessa Parish](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Comment for Meeting May 17th (Item #1 Budget Study Session)
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 12:09:47 PM

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The city is in a potentially dangerous situation. It is important to be viable WITHOUT the use of the City's savings. Savings are for a rainy day, such as an unexpected tax bill.

On the subject of cutting expenses, assuming the idea is to be viable, the cuts need to reflect that.

1. There were proposed cuts to public grants but no cuts to the grant for the Historical Society. While I believe that preservation of historical items and history is important, I don't think it should replace community grants that the community has become accustomed to and expecting.

The Historical Society does not have a Director to perform or oversee the work paid for by the grant. My suggestion is hold back the funds back until such time as they are ready to use the funds.

Another option is to cut both 50% so it's fair to both. Please consider an option to pay funds that may not be used for several years.

2. I think that before cutting expenses from City events, we should consider cutting expenses by reduction of fee waivers, removing free rentals such as those provided to the Chamber of commerce. The chamber has money to pay for its fees.

2. I am thinking that if I can find these two items, there are others that could be found before the city uses of their savings or the sale of properties. Selling hard assets in my opinion should be a last resort.

Are there other places where the city is giving away funds that may reduce the chance of cutting community programs.

3. Please consider tighter oversight of expenses.

Adopt policies to prevent overspending such as:

- 0. Prior to spending, write a Purchase Order to be approved by the Dept Director.
- 1. If you spend it before it is approved by the Director you pay for it.

Ex. 2 If it's a last-minute item then somebody didn't plan ahead, you pay for it.

During the crash of 2010 our then manager talked to all the staff and ask them for a voluntary proposal on what they could do to help the company stay afloat. Everyone cut a little bit and we didn't have to close.

During times of distress, most companies have to lay off staff. It appears that the city is increasing the number of staff? Has the population grown proportionally?

Lastly, if someone's income is being reduced and there is a potential of a large tax bill, I don't think one should buy a mansion. The city should consider earthquake retrofit instead of committing to a new City Hall that will likely incur additional costs, putting the city in a more serious situation.

Tessa Parish

Resident of Cupertino

From: [S B](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk; Cupertino City Manager's Office](#)
Subject: Cupertino Budget
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 2:22:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello everyone,

I have taken the budget survey and I want to reiterate the points about where we can save money.

To start with why is the survey continuing for 2 more weeks if you have already received an update from the city staff, I hope it is a preliminary report and that you will receive a final report again.

We don't need a \$100M city hall, we don't have the money, we don't need festivals or events, they raise money for the organizing group, and cost the city more than the revenue they bring in. We need to ensure that city property is not sold to fund crazy ideas and finally we need to ensure the monthly accounting reports are presented without delays

Regards

Sashi

From: [Kirsten Squarcia](#)
To: [Santosh Rao](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: RE: Kindly see survey comments provided by the community enclosed below as input for your 05/17/23 city council meeting on the annual city budget.
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 2:17:36 PM
Attachments: [image009.png](#)
[image029.png](#)
[image030.png](#)
[image031.png](#)
[image032.png](#)
[image033.png](#)
[image034.png](#)
[image035.png](#)
[image036.png](#)

Good afternoon Santosh (Council moved to Bcc), your comments have been received for the May 17 City Council meeting and will be included with the written materials for the meeting.
Regards, Kirsten



Kirsten Squarcia

City Clerk
City Manager's Office
KirstenS@cupertino.org
[\(408\) 777-3225](tel:(408)777-3225)



From: Santosh Rao <santo_a_rao@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 10:23 AM
To: City Council <CityCouncil@cupertino.org>; Kirsten Squarcia <KirstenS@cupertino.org>
Subject: Kindly see survey comments provided by the community enclosed below as input for your 05/17/23 city council meeting on the annual city budget.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

Please include the below as written communications for 05/17/23 city council meeting.

Dear Mayor Wei, Vice-Mayor Mohan and city council,

I am writing to you today on behalf of myself only.

I would like to draw your attention to the community input sent via comments in response to the community budget survey.

As you may have noticed the community budget survey places options to raise revenues, cut community programs but does not offer any survey questions to allow the community to provide you input on cutting expenses such as staff headcount, \$100M city hall, administrative expense, study projects and under utilized CIP.

I sincerely hope you are as curious as us residents on why staff would create a one-sided budget survey with no options provided for cutting staff headcount, cutting administrative headcount, cutting expenses, cutting study projects, cutting CIP projects and ending the \$100M city hall and ongoing studies on golf course and memorial park.

Why would you accept a survey that places all the burdens on residents with no options that involves cutting expenses.

I sincerely hope that these questions come from all of you.

However we have one of the most intelligent community resident population in the world here in Silicon Valley. A biased survey did not prevent the community from providing you their real input. It appears the community residents wrote in their comments at the end of the survey for the question that allowed for additional comments. You can see the sentiment of the community in the comments that I point to below. Note that these are not my comments but I am pointing to the community input to the survey available for everyone to read.

You can see the comments first hand for yourself at the link below. You can click on the link for word cloud at the bottom of the page and read public comments for yourself.



**CITY OF
CUPERTINO**

[Open City Hall](https://communityfeedback.opengov.com)

communityfeedback.opengov.com

To make it even easier for you, I took snapshots of the comments from the survey results posted above and am including directly below for your reading.

Allocate zero budget to improvements to City Hall. Absolutely not needed.

No mention of reducing staff in these questions. How many employees does the city have? Reduce that by 20%.

Can we go cheaper on city hall? This wasn't in the survey....

I assume Cupertino should be one of the wealthier cities in the bay area, where is all the money going?

City services should pay for themselves.

Do NOT sale Blackberry Farm Golf Course! Upgrade and maintain and increase fees to generate more revenue. Make BBF GC is a revenue generating asset for Cupertino.

Never sell city owned property because it will always be valuable. Keep control of its use. Land is money in the bank for our future

CUT the administrative budget. RESTRICT discretionary spending. CANCEL plans for a new City Hall with only minor remodeling allowed.

I don't consider bike lane expansion programs as part of Street Maintenance.

Don't sell blackberry farm. Cut city employees and salaries starting at the top; end frivolous nimby lawsuits; develop Valco

The City should cut staff during this crisis. Those who were anti housing should lose their jobs first. The planning director and staff did everything to stop growth. Now our schools are suffering with low enrollment, business can't keep staff due to no affordable housing. Now WE are paying the price and City staff is still getting my tax dollars. I'm angry!

Have you considered cutting back on SPENDING rather than cutting services or selling property??

What about reducing the cost of paying so many city employees or cutting their salaries? Has this even been considered??

Why is there such a large budget problem?

Staff salaries are excessively high. See www.transparentcalifornia.com for fellow citizens to see for themselves.

Please do not spend on building a new City Hall. These are times of austerity.

I don't like the dots on the sidewalks and at stores. I have a disability and walk with a walker and the dot bumps cause me to fall.

Please stop city sponsored obstructive lawsuits against housing. Waste of money

1. Please stop wasting money on development law suits. 2. Stop sending building plans out for expensive outside review. Building department used to do most of the review in house. 3. Remember that the city departments work for residents. They should be working to smooth the way, not obstruct the path.

Reduce the salaries of the overpaid city manager, assistant city manager, public works director and many overpaid department heads.

Evaluate why the shortfall happened, and where the expenses are disproportionate to (A) the size of our City, (B) the size of our city government, and (C) the size of the Total Revenue. Indiscriminately increasing expenses without consideration of future revenue generation capability is financial insanity.

I don't want to see the sale of any city owned property.

Do not sell City-Owned properties. That is something that would affect future generations for a long time. Why not start with fees/taxes, which can be adjustable and do not have the same long-term effects?

Please do not resort to deficit financing in order to meet the expenses

Not only reducing services is a way to balance the budget, reducing projected capital spending also is worth considering. Thank you.

Cupertino

Don't increase Council's salary until staff salaries first are increased. The City should only provide services which citizens can't provide themselves in maintaining the physical City. Remember there are many seniors unable to do some of the newly-desirable activities. Keep Blackberry Golf Course--IT'S THE ONLY CITY ACTIVITY open to all regardless of age or ability and is healthy exercise and affordable. This City property must be maintained in good condition as is other City property.

no new city hall

I disagree with the question on revenue-generating avenues, which basically forces the survey taker to select between undesirable options. There should be an option for "Focus on cutting city expenses first, before forcing citizens to bear the burden of the cost through taxes, fees, or asset sales." Why are you budgeting to increase staff by 11%? Finally, we should not be making such permanent decisions on a 10-year forecast. Need to look at historicals too.

Please do not sell properties, cancel events, increase taxes, reduce law enforcement. Instead please cancel city hall project, cancel Bollinger road lane removals, cancel Steven's creek bike lane extension, cancel DeAnza bike lane extension, Limit DOLA to fenced areas only, cancel staff roles and reduce staff, cancel study projects.

The city recently spent a large sum of money to replace the fencing and plantings on the Stevens Creek Blvd median in front of DeAnza College. Not sure why, but if done to save water, this seems like an investment with a very low return. Medians

The city recently spent a large sum of money to replace the fencing and plantings on the Stevens Creek Blvd median in front of DeAnza College. Not sure why, but if done to save water, this seems like an investment with a very low return. Medians should be maintained, but the frequent replacement of plants, as is now being done near City Center, seems unnecessary. Street sweeping could be done monthly rather than every two weeks. Encourage people to sweep leaves in front of their homes.

Please don't even think about selling any city owned property. That would cause a huge rebellion from the residents. Practice austerity and learn to live within the means. Cut unnecessary study programs and unfunded new city hall.

In addition to increasing user fees and no longer waiving fees for festivals, consider where you can combine positions. Many cities have parks and recreation combined with public works, thus eliminating the need for one department head.

lease cupertino sports center to 3rd party .
hire good lawyers to fight against law suits

Cut unnecessary study programs; CANCEL
new city hall -- what are you even thinking;
CANCEL Bollinger Road lane approval;

Cut unnecessary study programs; CANCEL new city hall -- what are you even thinking; CANCEL Bollinger Road lane approval; LIMIT DOLA to fenced areas only; Cancel Deanza bike extension; CANCEL Stevens creek bike lane extension; Do NOT sell city properties; Cancel STAFF roles; CANCEL sister city programs; LIMIT library hours; STOP resurfacing streets when they still look good; STOP printing community events

Instead of looking ways to cut services. The city should look for ways to provide the same services with fewer staff. That is what a private company would do first. Why can the city do the same?

Cancel city hall project, Cancel staff roles and reduce staff, Cancel Bollinger Rd lane removals

Cancel the City Hall Project. Cancel the Bollinger road plans.

Focus on the daily living elements, reduce the occasional elements. Shift hours into evening and reduce day.

Cupertino is one of, if not the best maintained city in all of the Bay Area. That fact is the reason my family moved here. To hear that the city is trying to make significant budget reductions is absolutely absurd considering Cupertino is home to one of the biggest company's in the world. If anything should be reduced, it's the salaries of those on the city council and other high paying positions that are supposed to be responsible for managing said budget.

Law enforcement is critical to keeping the city a good place to live and there should be no cuts there. Recreation classes and city wide events should not be funded by the city, but be funded by the beneficiaries of those events. Fees for all services should match the cost of providing those services. If funds are scarce prioritize law enforcement, roads and parks maintenance where it is hard to collect fees from individual users.

Do not overspend. Spend money where it is needed. Do not build any new structures like big community hall etc.

Do not build new City community hall. Do not waste money.

City officials stop wasting money, e.g Hung Wei and another woman spending two weeks in Taiwan on city's money. Stop such

City officials stop wasting money, e.g Hung Wei and another woman spending two weeks in Taiwan on city's money. Stop such waste, it does not improve my life in Cupertino and city wants to cut services to me while its elected officials like current mayor are wasting money and being lapdogs to developers from outside the US.

I am extremely disappointed in this budget issue. I am strongly against selling off Cupertino owned properties, especially to developers who want high density housing.

Stop spending money on baseball fields that are mostly used by residents of other cities. Start investing in dog parks. Dog ownership is up, provide more DOLAs for residents

I think the City should do everything in its power to challenge the decision that has created this budget crisis.

Please DO NOT build a new city hall. If it's really necessary, renovate one of the existing city owned building.

Forget a new city hall, implement the Annex expansion

Leave the golf course alone.

Everything is more expensive lately, especially in CA. Raising taxes just makes it worse. And they never go down so this is historically a dishonest avenue of revenue generation in lean times. Those activities funded by bounty in high revenue times should be reduced first. Core services that keep us safe need to be protected. If better times are expected ahead then previous capital investments should not be irreversably eroded unless not needed and sold.

Don't sell water rights. Don't sell Blackberry Farm Golf Course.

Encourage more businesses in Cupertino to help increase tax revenue.

Finding a revenue generating use for the former Vallco should be a priority for the city. It's such a waste to have it sitting empty.

The city should first eliminate waste in existing programs before raising taxes or fees.

Why the HECK is Cupertino in this situation when APPLE COMPUTER had MANY, MANY facilities in our city????!!!!!!??????

I see a lot of waste in the city. The whole street safety (mainly bicycle) seems trial-and-error, not thought out. The city planted many shrubs on the ramps to the walking bridge over 280. But failing to keep an eye on the watering had resulted in almost 3/4 of these shrubs dying! What a waste! Maybe you should replace the city code enforcement guy (Is this still a job in the city?) with a waste reduction guy! And replace some of the cops with social service people!

The staff presentation on budget outlooks is based on 10 year projections. Although that reduces the impact due to the huge revenue reduction, this is an unrealistic scenario given the immediate nature of the budget cuts. After five years of heavy proposed cuts, the city is operationally impacted, but not close to stability. Please consider adding 5 year scenarios for consideration. Although unpleasant, this is a more realistic view of the necessary changes.

I would not reduce funding for city street maintenance. Any reduced funding could cause damage to cars and bikes. Also, it has been shown that deferred maintenance to pavement costs more money in the long run and does not save money

We need the city to keep Blackberry Farms Golf. Such a a gem of the city that keeps a great sense of community and a great weekend activity. We should allocate the city budget towards maintaining the parks such as Blackberry Farms golf

MinimalCityHall and ERC seismic retrofit. DevelopersPayInfrastructureCosts - no costs externalized to City or community.

Why does so much of our tax revenue get sent to the county instead of staying within Cupertino? We are SUCH a small city with a large tax generating revenue that it's ridiculous just how little benefits we get in return (e.g., no school buses?!).

Don't pander to developers by selling property.

This should never have happened. You should only spend what you have.

The dot survey is very, very confusing. I hope I completed it correctly. You should use numbers. I don't think your data will be valid.

Reduce Staff. There is way too much staff. Budgeted staff keeps increasing without increase in services. Reduce studies that will never result in a project. \$200k for greywater where a quick estimate shows it isn't feasible. A \$150k Cupertino store or \$40k to spend on where to take selfies in Cupertino? What a waste. Survey is awful. Cannot say yes to increase tot and no to parcel/sales tax. Same for sales of properties. Sell Byrne now. Keep water and bbf.

ESTABLISH AN OVERSIZE VEHICLE
PARKING ORDINANCE & FASTER
ACTION ON REMOVAL OF HOMELESS
ENCAMPMENTS

Can we just tax Apple more? They occupy a good chunk of the city real estate, and are worth trillions of dollars

Less focus on car centric budgeting and more on community spaces such as parks, library, and sport center

1. Cancel city hall project 2. Cancel study projects 3. Cancel Bollinger Rd lane removals 4. Cancel Steven's Creek bike lane extension 5. Cancel DeAnza bike lane extension 6. Limit dola to fenced areas only 7. Above all, reduce staff roles and reduce staff. I do not think a reduction in law enforcement should ever be looked out or

1. Cancel the city hall project, this is not necessary and a waste of money that we don't have 2. Stop Bollinger Rd lane removals 3. Cancel Steven's Creek bike lane extension 4. Stop DeAnza bike lane extension 5. Dola to fenced areas only 6. MOST IMPORTANT reduce staff and reduce staff pay. DO NOT REDUCE LAW ENFORCEMENT. DO NOT sell city assets, this would be the downfall of the city

Don't give up on reclaiming Apple revenue. Zone for more retail to diversify our revenue sources. No new city hall. No more boondoggle travel. Stop wasting city resources investigating prior councils.

I understand why 988 viewed this survey, but only 194 have submitted responses. It seems the City has predetermined ideas about what to cut and how to raise revenue and is not interested in gathering responses that stray off message. Do not cut swimming lessons. Do not build a \$100M+ City Hall, when renovation of existing City-owned buildings solves the problem at 1/3rd the cost. Do not sell public real property. Why has staff headcount increased by 100+?, while population remains mostly flat?

Why wasn't City Hall project/staff reduction on survey? Stop the City Hall project and do remodel instead, increase TOT tax but NOT others. increase fees for RTR golf and non-

Don't raise tax on residents or local businesses, don't fund the chamber or a new city hall, get control of spending on the credit card and don't sell city property

Don't cut sheriff services. Streets are in quite good condition for now, especially compared to our neighboring cities. Don't sell, make every attempt to retain key city properties. Budgeting requires consistent, ongoing income and conservative spending. In the future, when income increases, our properties will be valuable for residents' benefits.

Do not raise taxes, Please cut city hall and city staff especially administration. Reduce headcount now and cut study projects to less than 5 in total. Why expensive converter cinder block bike lane project, scrap it

please do not increase taxes, please cut expenses like city wide events, recreation classes, etc.

I would like to see the following to reduce city spending. A. Cancel city hall project B. Cancel study projects C. Cancel Bollinger Road lane removals D. Cancel Steven's Creek bike lane extension E. Cancel DeAnza bike lane extension F. Limit DOLA to fenced areas only G. Cancel staff roles and reduce staff

Keep cultural/educational programs such as Shakespeare in the Park

Keep the community safe should be the number 1 priority

Look at ways to increase Apple's contribution to the City Budget. Ensure they are covering their impacts to streets, law enforcement, etc. One time sale of city owned properties is not a fix to a potential long term problem and should be avoided. The City's Code Enforcement group does not initiate fines even after multiple years of violations by some homeowners (and is not enforcing the new garden tool noise ordinance). Publish Code Enforcement statistics monthly for accountability.

Some parks are really too old compare to other cities. such as Monte Vista park.

You can get \$50K from the "nice people" who authorized the asinine book drop outside the library...they must pay the city / library back for the cost of that unsafe, unwise error in judgement.

Perhaps we could put all the new park renovations (Blackberry, Jollyman and Memorial Parks) on hold for 3-5 years

Don't sell city properties, Cancel city hall project

1. Cancel city hall project 2. Cancel study projects 3. Cancel Bollinger Rd lane removals 4. Cancel Steven's Creek bike lane extension 5. Cancel DeAnza bike lane extension 6. Limit dola to fenced areas only 7. Cancel staff roles and reduce staff

1. Cancel city hall project 2. Cancel study projects 3. Cancel Bollinger Rd lane removals 4. Cancel Steven's Creek bike lane extension 5. Cancel DeAnza bike lane extension 6. Limit dola to fenced areas only 7. Cancel staff roles and reduce staff

Improve safety for citizens and elderly. Practice austerity and trim down administration costs. Please consider options other than selling any city owned property. Reduce or remove unnecessary study programs and unfunded new city hall. Include in retail projects more homes for sale (BMR included) and Senior living options. Improve intercity mass transit - consider BART extension to Cupertino. Build a city with a culture.

Please review efficiency of various ongoing operations versus a standard, then focus to improve to meet standard where necessary

I understand that there is a projected shortfall in the budget. At this time, would suggest the city prioritize needed/essential items over wanted/vanity items. For example, postpone and/or remove the following - 1) proposal to build a new city hall 2) experiments and study projects like vanity road projects and park projects like unfenced DOLA (can cause potential issues). Avoid property sales. Also I would suggest that the city investigate potential optimizations in the city operations.

Cancel city hall project, study project, bike lane expansion project, unnecessary sidewalk repairs, reduce staff and load remaining staff with proper work load

Don't close the public schools, and don't cramp up the city with a lot of commercial development

DO NOT sell city properties; rent them out to create revenue. Selling would be very shortsighted. Also, no new capital investments. No unnecessary upgrades to any city buildings.

1. Cancel city hall project 2. Cancel study projects 3. Cancel Bollinger Rd lane removals 4. Cancel Steven's Creek bike lane extension 5. Cancel DeAnza bike lane extension 6. Limit dola to fenced areas only 7. Cancel staff roles and reduce staff

Stevens creek trail and other projects seems lacking or not done. Very disappointed at what city have done for this.

Increase the efficiency of operations; Be always mindful that the city officials are to serve its citizens and not to bully them.

Cupertino City Council and City Manager should not be considering tearing down City Hall, you should be doing the seismic retrofit and maybe some of the renovation to modernize and maybe better utilize some space.

Please reconsider the new City building and proceed with much less expensive retrofit.

Expedite revenue generating projects that will increase the tax base of the city.

It's about balance. Safety is probably paramount but city wide activities are important as they foster a sense of community with residents.

I'd be fine with reducing hours of the City Hall, Community Centers, and Sports Centers, but not the library--there was no way to state this.

Cut mayors budget no travel

Thank you for your patience reading the community input from the survey as shared above. I sincerely hope you will factor this input into your deliberations today at the city council meeting to discuss the annual city budget.

Thank you for working on behalf of residents.

Thanks,
Santosh Rao

From: Sharon Blaine <1sjeba@gmail.com>

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 3:04 PM

To: City Council <CityCouncil@cupertino.org>, Pamela Wu <PamelaW@cupertino.org>

Subject: Fwd: Regarding the grant for Historic Society

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello City Manager, Mayor Wei and Councilmembers,

Yesterday I received an e-mail from Councilmember Liang Chao regarding the contract between the Cupertino Historical Society and the City of Cupertino. Below please find the e-mail from Councilmember Chao and my answer to her.

I hope that my answer explains some of our activities since receiving the grant monies. These activities are by no means the only ways in which the grant money is being spent.

I know that you have a very important meeting tonight to discuss the City's budget. Unfortunately our board members will not be able to attend as we are holding a fundraising event (this evening) at Paul & Eddie's Monta Vista Tavern. Wish you were able to attend.

Please let me know if there is anything else you would like to know about the CHSM grant.

Sincerely, Sharon Blaine, Past Pres. CHSM

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Re: Regarding the grant for Historic Society

Date:Tue, 16 May 2023 20:47:15 -0700

From:Sharon Blaine <seblaine@comcast.net>

Reply-To:seb@theblaines.net

Organization:Blaine Family

To:Liang Chao <LiangChao@cupertino.org>

Hi Liang, Hope you are well. I received your e-mail and want to assure you that the Cupertino Historical Society is very aware of our obligations under our contract with the City. We have been keeping a detailed and complete financial accounting which will be forwarded to the City by or before the due date which I believe is July 15, 2023.

Just a few of the community activities we have participated in this year are: An open house at the museum during the City's Tree Lighting and Holiday celebration; Greeting the public and assisting at the presentations at the Blacksmith's Shop in McClellan Ranch Park; A program celebrating the Cherry Blossom Festival in conjunction with the Toyokawa Sister City Committee and the San Jose Kimono Club (over 2,000 visitors in 2 days)! Our Traveling Trunk presentations at local schools and senior citizens facilities is up and running.

An on-going project which started in the autumn, is curating our collection, making sure we have accurate documentation for all items. We have also continued collecting oral histories from people who have been instrumental in Cupertino's history. The latest person interviewed is Barbara Rogers, Cupertino's 1st woman mayor.

These are just some of the things CHSM has been doing in the past few months.

Liang, I thank you for your past support for CHSM. I hope we can continue to count on your support in the future.

Sharon

On 5/16/2023 1:29 AM, Liang Chao wrote:
Sharon and Darryl,

I have sent the following questions to Pamela. Perhaps information is already provided to the City or perhaps CHS could help to provide more information.

Jon.
FYI, since we spoke about this.

Liang

=====

1. 1. Request for information for the May 17 Budget Study Session

Chris confirmed that "my understanding is that the Grant Funding and License Agreement with the Cupertino Historic Society (CHS) can be terminated with 30 days' notice, so this is something Council could consider as a cost reduction measure."

Given that the city is cutting the subsidies, grants and services in many areas, please include the grant to the Historic Society and any other similar grants or agreements with community organizations for the May 17 Budget Study Session for consideration.

2. Request for Information on Operational Item:

As I have brought up at my 1:1 with the City Manager and she requested that I sent it in writing, I wonder whether is any report in terms of activities or financial accountings for the FY 2022-23 from Historic Society?

I have been supportive of the CHS since I value their services and also because their Executive Director Jennifer Furlough has demonstrated her ability to deliver wonderful programs, which I have not seen before with CHS.

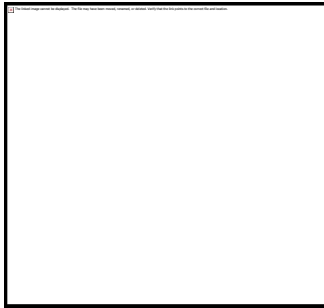
So, I feel responsible and wish to be accountable to Cupertino taxpayers.

I just wish to ensure that a grant recipient has delivered on their promises per the agreement, and they will deliver the promised services despite staffing changes.

I am not sure who or how this is done by the City. More information for transparency and accountability on our tax dollars is appreciated.

Thanks,

Liang



Liang Chao

Council Member

City Council

LiangChao@cupertino.org

408-777-3192



From: [Rhoda Fry](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: 5/17/2023 City Council Budget Session
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 4:01:09 PM
Attachments: [City Employment.pdf](#)

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Dear City Council,

Regarding the survey, I think that if people had been asked about whether they supported increasing TOT in parity with other cities, the response would have been YES and naturally, increasing parcel/sales tax would have been NO. I don't think that we had enough granularity here.

The budget is not proposing a soft-landing. It looks more like landing on a featherbed than on a futon. In taking a deeper dive into the budget, the gluttony of the past and present is shocking. Draining our resources for a decade and likely more, is not a solution.

Recommendations:

1. Sell Byrne now while the weather is good – this is prime time to get it on the market. Do not delay. It costs the City to maintain it and sadly, it is causing blight in the neighborhood.
2. Do not sell Water or Blackberry Farm golf course, these were paid for explicitly by our taxing ourselves. Water in 1960 and Blackberry in 1990 with the initiation of the UUT (utility user tax).
3. Consider enhancing the Business License tax in parity with other cities – also known as a head tax (Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Los Gatos etc...) or consider square footage (as is done in East Palo Alto). We need to put head tax / square-footage tax on the table.
4. Remodel the City Hall / Annex now. City Hall has been known to have seismic issues since 2005. Yes, the old building can be made to be zero-net energy. Studies without implementation are draining our resources.
5. Employment and Benefits are huge contributors to the budget. Per attached, employment has exploded in our City. Not filling 14 jobs is not a cut. Right now, there are 5 fulltime job openings. 2 admins, 1 public works project manager, 1 plan checker, 1 communications officer and even more part time jobs. The reductions are insufficient. It is like saying instead of eating 5 desserts, you'll only eat 3 and instead it should be cut to 1 or 0. We need to go on a diet after all!!!
6. We need a full understanding of cost centers. There are multiple places where we have money going out to the Senior Center, Pool/Picnics, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce etc... The cost centers for these are spread out – we need transparency. In the past, the Chamber got free use of rooms, free festivals, and money. What are these numbers now? Please run wholistic reports on these so that we can make educated decisions. We need to make sure that our public money is benefitting us Cupertino taxpayers. With respect to the Historical Society, the donation should be removed because the executive director left – funding should be removed until a new executive director is working.

7. The supplemental report is alarming. Doing more development won't help our City's financial situation long term. One-time development fees do not pay for additional ongoing costs. And if we don't have good retail, doing more development will not increase our sales taxes. Getting good retail in our City that attracts purchases from neighboring cities will help our bottom line. Please, don't be fooled.
8. Please take a look at the AFCR report – and frankly, I don't see how we can move forward on the budget until the AFCR errors are corrected. And by the way, Admin has more than doubled, why?
9. Look for other opportunities for savings. Don't study anything that won't be implemented within 5 years. The parks and rec catalog is printed on nicer paper than in the past. Send out postcards and ask people to opt in/out. If it costs less to send a 4x6 postcard than a 5x7 postcard then please do that.
10. We can't dip into savings forever. Please make the budget more realistic.

Thanks,
Rhoda Fry

From: [Peggy Griffin](#)
To: [Kirsten Squarcia](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: 5-17-2023 CC Mtg ITEM1- Peggy's Slide
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 6:37:37 PM
Attachments: [Peggys Slides.pdf](#)

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Hi Kirsten,

Could you please display this when I speak.

Thank you,
Peggy

PROPOSED 31% INCREASE IN CRITICAL PRIORITY 1 RESPONSE TIME!

Over 1.6 minutes longer!

ACFR Page 128 of 131

2020	2021	2022
3.51 Min.	3.40 Min.	5.33 Min.
6.37 Min.	6.07 Min.	6.94 Min.
11.96 Min.	11.80 Min.	11.73 Min.

ATTACHMENT J – Law Enforcement Page 5 of 12

Performance Measures

Goal: Maintain a safe environment to live, work, learn and play.

Benefit: All members of the community are safe, informed, empowered and supported.

Performance Measure	FY 2021 July-June	FY 2022 July-June	FY 2023 July-Dec	Ongoing Target
Response time for emergency calls				
Priority 1	3.40	3.27	6.98	5 minutes
Priority 2	6.07	6.66	7.07	9 minutes
Priority 3	11.80	11.73	11.28	20 minutes
% programs maintaining minimum attendance				
Teen Academy	92%	98%	75%	80%
Citizen Academy	N/A	N/A	N/A	80%