



**SANTA MONICA BUDGET TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

SANTA MONICA INSTITUTE TRAINING ROOM
330 OLYMPIC DRIVE, 2ND FLOOR (PLAZA LEVEL)
SANTA MONICIA, CA 90401

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019
6:00PM**

santamonica.gov/BudgetTaskForce

- I. Call to Order at 6:03pm
- II. Roll Call and Introductions

Present

Judy Abdo, former Mayor
George Brown, retired attorney
Janine Bush, business and human resources consultant
Laurence Eubank, neighborhood leader and retired business owner
Ina Godoy, Assoc. Dir. of Finance & Business at UCLA
Dominic Gomez, retired telecommunications CEO
K. John Lee, former CPA, now green building contractor
Kimberly Ong, managing engineer for Purple Line at Metro
Brandi Lockhart, Staff Assistant, Housing & Economic Development
Dominick Bei, Firefighter, Fire
David Nanjo, Administrative Analyst, Big Blue Bus
Jeremy Peterson, Communications and Marketing Coordinator, City Manager's Office
Matt Rice, Sargent, Police
Phillip Ticun, Capital Projects Manager, Public Works
Concepcion Rechtszajd, Principal Community Services Supervisor, Community & Cultural Services

Absent

All Task Force members were present.

In addition, the following City staff were also in attendance:

Rick Cole, City Manager
Katie Lichtig, Assistant City Manager
Lane Dilg, City Attorney
Brandon Ward, Deputy City Attorney

Lori Gentles, Chief People Officer
Gigi Decavalles-Hughes, Director of Finance
Susan Lai, Budget Manager, Finance
Stephanie Lazicki-Meyer, Principal Analyst, Finance
Jennifer Young, Senior Budget Analyst, Finance
Jonathan Tang, Senior Budget Analyst, Finance
Landry Doyle Wiese, Management Fellow

III. Overview of the Task Force and its Purpose

City Manager Rick Cole opened the meeting and discussed various topics including but not limited to: Santa Monica's fiscal condition, the City's strong credit rating, the recent Pension Advisory Committee, and the City's commitment to paying down its unfunded pension liability. The Task Force was instructed to develop consensus recommendations on a variety of staff proposals—with the goal of reaching \$1.5 million in savings. For each proposal, the Task Force was asked to consider a range of options: to eliminate a program, to reduce a program, to restructure a program, or to keep a program running as is, without significant change.

IV. Selection of Interim Chair

The City Manager selected Judy Abdo as the Interim Chair and Dominic Gomez as the Interim Vice-Chair.

V. Swearing-In of All Budget Task Force Members

Deputy City Attorney Brandon Ward swore in the Task Force members, who each signed an oath of affirmation.

VI. Brown Act Training

Deputy City Attorney Brandon Ward presented a Brown Act training, including but not limited to, application of Brown Act to the voting members only, prohibition of serial meetings and group discussions outside of the meeting, and public right of participation (see Attachment A). City Attorney Lane Dilg reiterated key Brown Act implications for Task Force activities.

VII. Citywide Budget Overview

Finance Director Gigi Decavalles-Hughes presented the City's budget overview (see Attachment B). Topics included, but were not limited to the City's values, the biennial budget process, the Framework for a Sustainable City of Wellbeing, highlights from the FY 2019-21 biennial budget, the ten-year forecast, flattening revenue growth, increases

in the unfunded pension liability, steps the City has already taken to mitigate financial challenges, and the role of Budget Task Force to recommend further reductions.

VIII. Public Input

There was no public comment.

IX. Future Meetings and Agenda Items

The next meeting is Monday, November 18, 2019 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Landry Doyle Wiese
Secretary

Judy Abdo
Interim Chair

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