
Report of Measure VW Oversight Committee

To
Greenfield City Council

From
Measure VW Oversight
Committee

CC
Jeri Corgill, Director of
Administrative Services

Re
Recommendations
Pertaining to Amendment
to Operating and Capital
Budget, FY 2015-16 and
2016-17, Supplemental
Transactions and Use Tax
Fund (Measures V and W)
Only

Date
September 7, 2016

The Measure VW Oversight Committee met on Monday, August 29, 2016 to discuss the proposed Amendment to Operating and Capital Budget, FY 2015-16 and 2016-17, Supplemental Transactions and Use Tax Fund (Measures V and W) Only.

At the outset of the meeting, the Committee reviewed the following language of Measure W, which was passed by Greenfield voters on November 3, 2015:

“To enhance the health, safety and welfare of Greenfield, to provide greater general City services, such as strengthened public safety; increased youth recreation programs; re-establishment of code enforcement services; and other essential services.”

The Committee was informed that the City Council discussed its priorities for allocation of future Measure W sales tax proceeds at a City Council Planning Session on March 5, 2016 and determined the estimated \$900,000 in revenues be allocated as follows:

\$100,000 toward Recreation; \$200,000 toward Fire and EMS Services and the approximate remainder of \$600,000 toward Police Services.

Initially, the committee was concerned that no funds were allocated towards re-establishing code enforcement services as presented in the ballot measure language. Ms. Corgill informed the committee that the City had recently hired a Building Official/Code Enforcement Officer who will be handling code enforcement for the City. We were further concerned that the revenue allocated toward youth recreation services was too low.

Lastly, we noted that there is \$168,208 remaining in the V&W Fund for FY 2015-16 to be carried over into FY 2016-17.

Measure VW Oversight Committee Members

Robert Urquides, Chair
Stephanie Garcia, Secretary
Beatriz Diaz
Nora Puga
Irene Garcia

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After much discussion of each of the above City Council priorities, we are pleased to make the following recommendations:

1. Recreation

Ms. Corgill informed the committee that the proposed budget amendment allocating funds toward recreation amounts to \$156,500. This consists of \$100,000 to hire a full-time Recreation Manager (base salary: \$75,000, benefits package: \$25,000); \$50,000 for recreational programs and a \$5,000 contribution to Greenfield Little League. The remaining \$1,500 was not designated.

The committee acknowledges that hiring a full-time Recreation Manager would be beneficial to the City at some point in the future; however, because current recreational programs offered to the residents are either contracted out (CCYSO) or directed somewhat independently of the City (Little League, Softball, Cultural Arts Center, Science Workshop), coupled with the lack of an actual recreational facility (ie., pool, basketball gym, etc.), we recommend that the City Council review its contract with CCYSO (\$125,000) and consider merging those funds with Measure W funds to increase hiring power and possibly remove duplication of services. Upon inquiry, we were informed that the contract contains language indicating that the City may determine that "it is in the best interest of the community to provide these services with City employed staff." We believe merging the contracted and Measure W funds may also provide an opportunity to set aside funds to construct a recreational facility to eventually partner with the YMCA or Boys and Girls Club. We are not opposed to hiring a part-time Recreation Director at this time to assist in the coordination of current recreational activities and future community events.

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Greenfield Little League President, Diane Hill, was present at our meeting and discussed the current needs the League has to improve its program which serves over 200 children each year. Separate from the pending construction of a snack shack/storage facility and restroom improvement project, which are outside of Measure W revenue, Little League would like to purchase a pitching machine, construct enclosures for two announcing tables and dugout improvements (enclosing them with plywood and pouring concrete floors in all six dugouts). While the cost for these endeavors greatly exceeds the \$5,000 contribution, Mrs. Hill indicated that the League is willing to use a portion of its limited funds and volunteers to complete these projects as time and money allow.

The Committee recommends the City's contribution to Greenfield Little League be increased to \$10,000, with the additional \$5,000 taken from either the Program Director or recreational programming items.

Subject to the above concerns, the Committee recommends approval of the proposed budget amendment allocating funds toward recreation in the amount of \$156,500.

2. Fire and EMS Services

The committee was informed that the proposed budget amendment allocating funds toward Fire and EMS Services amounts to \$250,000. This consists of a \$200,000 contribution to the Fire District for continued services to Greenfield residents and \$50,000 for the Phase Two Fire Parcel Tax Study. The Committee recommends approval of the proposed budget amendment allocating funds toward Fire and EMS Services in the amount of \$250,000. We

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would also like to note our collective support of the Greenfield Fire District for its professionalism and prompt service provided to Greenfield residents.

3. Police Services

The committee was informed that the proposed budget amendment allocating funds towards police services is in the amount of \$590,300. This consists of funds allocated towards the hire of two additional sergeant positions, one additional officer, a part-time detective, contracted investigative services and a vehicle for each new sergeant. We note that one of the sergeant positions and recently been filled. Furthermore, Ms. Corgill informed the committee that in recent conversation with Chief Frese, filling the remaining sergeant position and purchase of a vehicle for that position could be postponed at this time, in order to watch and see how the revenue stream continues from these tax monies. Also discussed was the Police Department's desire to start a PAL (Police Activities League) program for the youth. The committee is in full support of this desire.

As such, the committee recommends approval of the proposed budget amendment allocating funds toward police services in the amount of \$590,300.

4. Reserves

The committee is pleased that the City is able to set aside a greater amount in reserve for budget stabilization, in the approximate amount of \$500,000.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we are aware the Measure W funds are a temporary source of revenue with a five year sunset date. While we urge careful consideration in the hiring of permanent personnel, we also believe this is an opportunity to

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provide the community with essential services and recreation which may potentially assist the City down the road should it desire to make the Measure W transaction and use tax permanent.

Thank you, Mayor and Council Members, for appointing each of us to this Oversight Committee. It is an honor and privilege to assist our City and we look forward to continuing to serve on this committee.

Respectfully submitted,

City of Greenfield Measure VW
Oversight Committee



Robert Urquides, Chair