

**From:** [Earl Gipson](#)  
**To:** [A&F PublicComment](#)  
**Cc:** [Erin Sitterley](#); [Peter Kwon](#); [Stanley Tombs](#); [Senayet Negusse](#); [Pam Fernald](#); [Clyde Hill](#); [Carl Cole](#); [Gwen Voelpel](#); [Gwen Pilo](#); [Mary Mirante Bartolo](#); [Mark Johnsen](#)  
**Subject:** [EXT] - Comments- 07/30/2020 A&F Meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, July 30, 2020 11:36:47 AM

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Dear Council,

(A&F) Proposed Budget Adjustment 07/30/2020.

I disagree with tapping the 301 Fund (Municipal Capital Improvements) for shortfalls in operating expenses. Even though this fund is unrestricted (should change that) it was set up to be use for Municipal Capital projects only. The use for ARC costs are legitimate the \$1.4 million to the General Fund is not.

Look first at utilizing reserves, reducing expenses, and reducing recurring costs (personnel, etc.). I know of one department that causes more problems than they solve (Planning) and the City would not miss a temporary reduction in force (and Power Point could use a rest).

Should the Council unwisely use the 301 Capital fund for operating expenses at least put a proviso on it that it is a loan to the General Fund to be replaced in full when the economic crisis has passed.

The Council's previous fiscally responsible policies should not be so easily undermined in a temporary situation. Please show the self-discipline that the people who refuse to wear masks in public do not when the COVID virus is known to be airborne/contact spread (idiots), ergo extending the crisis/infection rate.

Thank you,

Earl Gipson  
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Those Bcc'ed . FYI

**From:** [Vicki Lockwood](#)  
**To:** [A&F PublicComment](#)  
**Subject:** [EXT] - Proposed Budget Adjustment  
**Date:** Monday, July 27, 2020 8:56:42 PM

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Council Members and Staff,

I object strongly to subsidizing day-to-day operation and maintenance costs with capital funds. This is a financial road that eventually leads to disaster. If our general fund revenue does not cover our day-to-day costs then we MUST (yes, 'must', not 'should' or 'may') reduce our on-going day-to-day costs.

Subsidizing operational costs with capital funds is akin to a 40-year old subsidizing their current life-style by taking money out of their retirement funds. Initially, there will be no noticeable effects of such a short-sighted decision, but the day of reckoning will come. The 'AHA' moment and realization of such a short-sighted decisions should be NOW.

Council Members, there is a reason that entities have capital dollars separated from operation and maintenance dollars. Many businesses and governments have made bad financial decisions and arrived at their 'AHA' moment when they are face-to-face with bankruptcy. There is no reason for our City to start down such a path.

We all believe the wisdom of:  
'The Budget is The Budget.'

Add a 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence to this mantra:  
'Capital Funds are for Capital Expenditures.'

Thank you for taking the time to understand the long-term effect of a short-term solution.

Vicki Lockwood