

From: [REDACTED]
To: PublicComments@SeaTacWA.gov
Cc: [City Council](#); [Carl Cole](#); [Gwen Voelpel](#); [Kristina Gregg](#)
Subject: 1/10/2023 Council Study Session RE: Human Services
Date: Monday, January 9, 2023 9:34:18 PM
Importance: High

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Gentlemen:

I have been advised that you will potentially be discussing an increase to the city's Human Services Budget during the subject study session. My previous comments on this topic for the December 6th "Special Meeting Parks and Recreation - Human Services" are still applicable (copied below). **The current budget for the subject services is almost 2.5 million dollars – almost triple the per capita expenditure that the city of Seattle is spending on such services, as well as several of the other surrounding cities.** Most economists are projecting a significant recession will occur extending well into 2023. Any increase in this budget will place a further tax burden on our residents – unlike the federal government SeaTac cannot print money – it must ultimately come out of the residents' pockets. I remind the council members of their election promises to reduce expenses. I am curious how some other cities apparently receive funds and/or provide such services without significant line-item budgets. Are we failing to apply for or receive entitled grants or funding?

As to the accountability, audits, and support specifically to SeaTac residents, as well as the review process, the original recommendations again should be followed. There is an additional nuance that should also be applied. **These funds – including those for refugees – should only be made available to lawful residents of SeaTac.** This past year, it is estimated that up to 5 million individuals have entered the United States illegally, primarily through our southern border states, about 250,000 in the most recent month with compiled data. For comparison, the population of the entire Puget Sound Basin, including 19 tribes, is about 4.7 million individuals. It is not appropriate and technically illegal to expend any taxpayer funds to support this mass migration/violation of our laws. There are private organizations that will provide humanitarian aid to these individuals, should one choose to contribute. **However, taxpayer dollars must not be used, if for no other reason than it is in support of an illegal activity. Thus, distribution of funds to such organizations must cease.** This in turn requires the audits and accountability/tracking of funds as noted above. The City of SeaTac must not encourage/support the violation of our existing federal statutes and regulations. **Funds expended by SeaTac must go to residents of SeaTac – through organizations that have an active presence in SeaTac!** There are many worthy charities, but as a City, SeaTac has an obligation to prioritize distribution of tax dollars to those who pay the city's excise taxes – its residents (not transients)! The council has a fiduciary duty to carefully track the expenditures, uses, and distribution of these monies.

Finally, any councilmember that received political contributions from or provides services to an organization under consideration to receive these humanitarian funds for distribution must identify such and recuse themselves from the decision process. It is a direct conflict of interest.

Thank-you for your consideration!
Sincerely,
Roger Kadeg, SeaTac resident taxpayer

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 11:48 PM
To: City Council (CityCouncil@seatacwa.gov) <CityCouncil@seatacwa.gov>
Cc: Carl Cole (ccole@seatacwa.gov) <ccole@seatacwa.gov>; Gwen Voelpel (gvoelpel@seatacwa.gov) <gvoelpel@seatacwa.gov>; Kristina Gregg (kgregg@seatacwa.gov) <kgregg@seatacwa.gov>; Kyle Moore <kmoore@seatacwa.gov>; Mary Mirante Bartolo (mmbartolo@seatacwa.gov) <mmbartolo@seatacwa.gov>
Subject: Special Meeting Parks and Recreation - Human Services
Importance: High

Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that several council members have voted against the Citizens Advisory Committee recommendations and 1.) approved funding for certain human service agencies that had failed the review process, 2.) requested funding in excess of the already generous city funds available in the city budget, 3.) provided no transparent means or accountability for how such funds will be used to explicitly benefit the residents of SeaTac and 4.) bypassed the accepted, established application and review process for such dispersal and distribution of taxpayer's funds.

I along with other residents object to these actions in the most strenuous terms, and request an immediate reconsideration and rescinding of these actions/vote, and to follow the committee's recommendations. There is also concern for the potential liability to the City for violation of state statutes. It appears that in least one (and possibly more) organizations receiving these funds were directly involved and/or contributed to the political campaigns of members who voted for their approval. At a minimum, this constitutes a direct conflict of interest, and members that received such support should have been recused from the discussion and voting. There may be other legal ramifications or recourse.

It should be noted that the organizations that failed the committee review process have a documented history of either: failure to deliver contracted services, failed audits, lack of expenditure records/accountability, no presence/history of services to SeaTac residents, or some combination thereof. Contracting with organizations with such known history creates liability. There is a reasonable basis for the committee review process.

Human services are an important function of local government. However, on a per capita basis the City of SeaTac already expends significantly more as a percent of its total budget than most if not all cities in the area, including the City of Seattle. There is no clear justification for the increase from the amount budgeted. It is incumbent that these taxpayer funds be managed in accordance with protocol, with transparent accountability for every dime spent, and go fully to the tangible benefit of the residents of SeaTac. They are not to be used as a piggy bank for political advantage or payback, from either side of the aisle.

Please include these remarks as part of the official record for the December 7th meeting and elsewhere as appropriate. Thank-you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Roger Kadeg, SeaTac resident taxpayer