

City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2016

FROM: COUNCILMAN MIKE SOUBIROUS WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: RESPONSIBLE SPENDING VISION PLEDGE

ISSUE:

Adopt Responsible Spending Vision Pledge.

PROPOSED PLEDGE:

The Riverside City Council is committed to sound revenue policies that maximize the highest return for the people of Riverside. The City Council recognizes the need to protect the City's assets and ensure a solid economic base is maintained in order to accomplish its mission of providing the best possible service to its people and customers.

The City of Riverside, like many cities in the United States, is experiencing rapid change in two ways.

Technological and economic trends are affecting traditional ways of employment and business, thereby putting pressure on municipal budgets.

The Federal and State governments have their own financial challenges, which have limited their ability to assist local government, especially in the area of infrastructure needs.

Therefore, in the event there are any significant increases in the City of Riverside's revenues, we believe that the majority of any of this newfound income should be used to maintain City infrastructure and equipment.

We also believe that whenever additional revenue gains are realized, City leadership should seek opportunities to pay off, pay down, consolidate or refinance the City's outstanding debt.

Finally, the City Council believes it is in the City's best interest to raise the level of the City's General Fund Reserve from its current minimum of 15% to a more appropriate 20%. The Council will use all reasonable efforts to meet this goal over the next five years or sooner, if new revenues become available. Once accomplished, we believe this 20% reserve goal must be strictly maintained in order to protect the residents of Riverside in the event of a natural disaster or severe economic downturn.

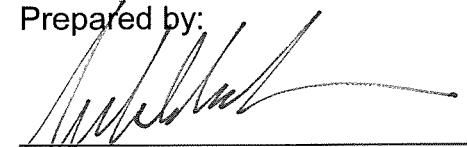
RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council adopt the Responsible Spending Vision Pledge.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

Prepared by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Soubiros", written over a horizontal line.

MIKE SOUBIROUS
Councilmember, Ward 3