

CITY BUDGET APPROVALIF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

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TERRY PARKER
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PORTLAND, OREGON 97213-0503

**Subject: Testimony to the City Council on the City of Portland Fiscal Year 2010-2011
Budget - May 26, 2010**

What we have here, is a hoard of misaligned priorities. When giving guidance to a stubborn donkey, things have to be repeated. You are obviously not listening to the objections of mainstream Portlanders. By dipping into water and sewer ratepayer dollars, the Mayor is creating an exclusive slush fund to pay for his own special interest and social engineering agenda. Increasing already astronomical utility rates, and then looting those dollars to fund bioswales for bicycle infrastructure, student scholarships, tree maintenance and staffing costs for the river plan is a classic form of embezzlement. In the private sector, such a scam would likely be called "cooking the books". Excessive utility rates significantly increase housing costs not only for low income people and the ten percent plus of Portlanders that are unemployed, but also for the declining middle income working class where wages have not even kept up inflation. Additionally, an increase in garbage rates does the same. More recycling must be financially self-sustainable equating to lower, NOT higher rates

These insensitive utility rate increases along with raiding those dollars for pet projects is totally out of touch with reality. So is budgeting funds for street parties like the Sunday Parkway events – especially when it is in the face of sizeable police bureau layoffs. Like bicycle infrastructure, the Sunday parkway events need to become the financial responsibility of the lip service rich, freeloading bicycle community.

In closing, do you get it yet? The general public does – in the shorts! It is time you respond what mainstream Portlanders are saying and truly represent public opinion by cutting back these basic service utility rate increases. It is also time to heed the advice of the Portland Utility Review Board by using utility ratepayer dollars only for the delivery water and sewer services. Be prepared, cuts in funding resources from the State of Oregon are on the horizon. **Top priority for this city budget must be to provide adequate funding for the core basic services such as police and fire services, and for maintaining the infrastructure that is already in place such as roads, parks and underground utilities.**

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Parker
Northeast Portland

Parsons, Susan

From: Frank DiMarco [frank@dimarcoimages.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2010 10:53 AM

To: Parsons, Susan

Subject: Budget Testimony Comments

Dear City Council Members,

I am dismayed at there being no opportunity to have my voice be heard regarding the budget at the May 26, 2010 City Council meeting.

Therefore I would like to have my comments taken and made part of the record of public testimony:

Can anyone recall Mayor Sam Adams being issued an ATM card tied to the Portland Water Bureau's bank account? It seems, however, with his \$20 million "surplus" grab for a bike path and, now, a demand for higher water/sewer rates to pay for more pet projects, that he is spiraling out of control.

Instead of returning surplus funds to the ratepayers, Adams seems to be feeding his addiction to easily accessed public funds.

It's not your money, Mr. Mayor.

The Mayor and Portland Water Bureau should return money to ratepayers that has been used for other than Water Bureau business.

Sincerely,

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5/25/2010