

Office of Mayor Charlie Hales City of Portland

Convening Budget Committee

- I am convening the Budget Committee for the purpose of receiving the budget message. Committee members received copies of the budget document yesterday.
- This budget is the product of months of work by the City Council, citizen budget advisors and residents, City bureaus, and the City Budget Office.
- My Proposed Budget includes recommendations from City Council subcommittees to study and modify the ratio of managers to workers, reduce administrative processes, and allocate excess reserves to prevent layoffs in Police and Emergency Communications.
- My Proposed Budget asks for shared sacrifice from all bureaus. In recent years, Police and Fire have been "held harmless" as other bureaus bore the brunt of tough times. Under my budget, that is no longer true.
- I worked hard to save Portlanders money on utilities. The Water Bureau requested a 7.8% increase this year; I am proposing 3.6%. The Bureau of Environmental Services asked for a 7.85% utility increase; I am proposing 5.33%.
- I called for reduced cost-of-living adjustments for most employees, saving over \$2 million in General Fund discretionary resources.

- I put \$1 million into an innovation fund to be used as start-up funding for projects that will reduce the cost of providing City services.
- I put \$3 million into a contingency fund designed to be used only for real emergencies and unforeseen costs.
- In closing, my Proposed Budget reflects the reality of our times by refocusing the City on core services, making difficult but needed cuts, investing wisely in programs that work, and keeping utility rates as low as possible.
- I want to again thank my colleagues on the Council, and everyone in our community, for helping shape this budget.
- Are there any questions or comments from the committee?
- This meeting of the Budget Committee is continued to Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 PM at Council Chambers in City Hall, where we will hear public testimony on the budget. City Hall is located at 1221 SW 4th Ave. I look forward to seeing you all there.
- I am now reconvening this group as the City Council.

Agenda No. REPORT NO.

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AGENDA	FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:
TIME CERTAIN X Start time: 9:30 a.m.		YEAS NAYS
Total amount of time needed: <u>15 minutes</u> (for presentation, testimony and discussion)	1. Fritz	1. Fritz
	2. Fish	2. Fish
	3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman
REGULAR Total amount of time needed: (for presentation, testimony and discussion)	4. Novick	4. Novick
	Hales	Hales P

1140