



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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333 West Ocean Boulevard 6th Floor • Long Beach, CA 90802

July 14, 2009

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the schedule for the workshops and hearings on the Fiscal Year 2010 Proposed Budget to hear presentations by the Mayor, Budget Oversight Committee, City Manager and City Department representatives and to provide an opportunity for all interested persons to be heard regarding the Proposed Budget. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The City Charter, as modified on May 1, 2007, requires that the City Manager submit the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2010 (FY 10) to the Mayor "not later than ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year," or July 3, 2009. The City Charter also requires that the Mayor transmit the proposed budget to the City Council "not later than sixty (60) days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year," or August 2, 2009. The City Council must adopt the budget "not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the end of the current fiscal year," or September 15, 2009, at which time the Mayor will have an additional five (5) days to review the Adopted Budget. The Mayor may at that time concur or exercise a line-item veto of any expenditure. The City Council has until the end of the fiscal year to concur with the Mayor's changes, or override the veto.

Based upon direct feedback from the Mayor and City Council, an effort was made to bring additional transparency and dialogue to the budget development process for FY 10. To this end, the City Manager and Financial Management Department's staff supported monthly Budget Oversight Committee meetings beginning in December 2008, with five meetings held to date. In addition, the City Council has held six Special Budget Meetings from January 2009 through July 2009 that were not held in prior years. Additionally, the City Manager and Financial Management staff have attended 15 community meetings since April 2009 to share information on the City's fiscal situation and encourage direct community input on the budget.

To provide as much lead time as possible for the City Council, community, and staff, the following preliminary schedule is recommended for City Council workshops, public hearings, and budget adoption:

DATE	SUBJECT
July 30 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Oversight Committee Meeting
August 4 Workshop 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor's and City Manager's Budget Overview Public Input
August 2009 Date & Time TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Oversight Committee Meeting
August 11 Workshop 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Presentations (as requested) Public Input City Council Discussion and Recommendations
August 18 Workshop 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Oversight Committee Recommendations Public Input City Council Discussion and Recommendations
August 18 Hearing #1 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Presentations (as requested) Public Input City Council Discussion and Recommendations
August 25 (Dark Tuesday) Hearing #2 5:00 - 7:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Necessary
September 1 Workshop 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Presentations (as requested) Public Input City Council Discussion and Recommendations
September 1 Hearing #3 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Presentations (as requested) Public Input City Council Discussion and Recommendations Budget Adoption
September 8 Workshop 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Presentations (as requested) Public Input City Council Discussion and Recommendations
September 8 Hearing #4 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Presentations (as requested) Public Input City Council Discussion and Recommendations Budget Adoption (must be adopted by September 15)
September 15 Hearing #5 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Necessary
September 22 Hearing #6 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Necessary
September 29 Hearing #7 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If Necessary

Budget presentations at the proposed workshops and hearings are primarily intended to present recommended changes in major service categories and to answer questions by the City Council. Specific topics will be added as requested. The workshops and hearings will include an opportunity for City Council deliberation and input from the public. In addition to this initial schedule of meetings, during the months of August and September staff will be available for direct outreach on FY10 budget proposals at neighborhood associations and community meetings, district budget summits or other events at which information can be shared and public comment collected.

Should all discussion be completed prior to the end of the September 8, 2009 hearing, the City Council may make its final budget decisions and then amend and/or adopt the Proposed Budget and the related Ordinances and Resolutions for FY 10 at that hearing or at the subsequent hearing.

This matter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Heather A. Mahood on June 24, 2009.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Charter Section 1703 requires that the City Council shall hold one or more public hearings before adoption of the budget. Section 1704 states that the City Council shall adopt a budget no later than September 15, 2009, or the City Manager's Proposed Budget will be deemed the official budget adopted by the City Council for FY 10. If the Mayor shall fail to act upon the budget and appropriations ordinance within five (5) calendar days after its adoption by City Council, it shall thereupon become effective. Accordingly, timely City Council action is requested to meet the requirements noted above.

FISCAL IMPACT

Scheduling of the budget workshops and hearings has no fiscal impact.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



LORI ANN FARRELL
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/CFO

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER