



CITY OF OAKLAND

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 25, 2021
TO: City Council and Members of the Public
FROM: Council President Nikki Fortunato Bas, District 2
SUBJECT: **Amendment Of The Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget**

Dear City Council Colleagues and Members of the Public,

I respectfully request that, in order to ensure a transparent and accountable budget process, the Council engage in the following:

A Discussion And Potential Direction Regarding Amendment Of The Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget To: (1) Balance The Budget; (2) Appropriate And Allocate The American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) Dollars In The Estimated Amount Of One Hundred Ninety-Two Million Eighty-Four Thousand One Hundred Five Dollars (\$192,084,105) To The ARPA Fund (Fund 2072); (3) Allocate The Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) The City Will Receive From The Oakland-Alameda County Joint Powers Authority (“JPA”); (4) Restore Services Affected By Fiscal Year 2020-21 Administrative Reduction Actions; (5) Fund Services That Are Needed To Address The Negative Health, Safety, Welfare, And Fiscal Effects Of The Pandemic; And (6) Make Such Additional Or Alternative Adjustments To The FY 2020-21 Budget As May Be Determined To Be Necessary Or Appropriate By The City Council.

As the Council considers amending our current budget and allocating \$192M in ARPA funds to address our projected budget shortfall, it is imperative that we ensure a transparent and accountable budget process that provides for public input. We must use the ARPA funds responsibly by ensuring the funds support a just recovery and aid Oakland’s most vulnerable residents, and that the maximum amount of funds are used for our next two-year budget.

To achieve these goals, we have already identified the need to have an independent analysis of our financial situation, similar to the checks and balances of many other jurisdictions and legislative bodies. This analysis from Harvey Rose Associates will be heard at our March 29th meeting. It must be complete in order for Council to determine the exact budget shortfall and make amendments to our current budget. The public has asked for specificity to understand exactly how any ARPA funds would be allocated this fiscal year.

In addition, Council must ensure the ARPA funds are allocated properly and should receive a legal memo on permissible uses and any issues to research.

Council President Nikki Fortunato Bas, District 2
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I acknowledge that many of us and our constituents are eager to restore critical services, which were cut in December by the Administration. Our discussion will provide an opportunity for the Council to give direction on the service restorations we wish to see.

I have called a **Special Council Meeting on Monday, April 12th at 1pm** so that the Council can take action on amending our current budget. By this time, I anticipate that the independent analysis will be complete and that questions raised by the Council and public will be answered.

For questions regarding this memo, please contact Miya Saika Chen, Chief of Staff, Office of Council President Nikki Fortunato Bas, at mchen@oaklandca.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nikki Fortunato Bas
Council President, District 2

Attachment:

1. Draft Resolution Prepared by Administration Amending the FY 2020-2021 Budget with Exhibits