

CD9 BUDGET TOWN HALL QUESTIONS

Why are city employees not receiving a pay raise yet the general fund budget increases by \$8 million from 2020 to 2021?

CM: So let me dissect that a little bit. Part of that is the amount of money that we have going from one year to the next. And when I said to meet current obligations and open new facilities. Much of that money was already been spoken for. Now it is also my emphasis to keep performance pay going for city employees. It's also an acknowledgement of what's going on in our community in that. If I go back to February and think about the unemployment rate was 3%. And now the unemployment rate is. I know it was near 15 at one point in time, it's probably less than that now about the number of businesses that have closed that includes restaurants and retail. Thank goodness it's part of all trying to pull together with the limited resources we have. And again, I think it's going to be in a more difficult situation, next year.

What is the city's budget for alleyway maintenance for fiscal year 2021?

CM: I don't know that number off the top of my head but it was in the capital budget presentation. And I don't remember the number but I do expect it grew by somewhere between two and a half and 3% year over year.

How can citizens get an understanding of the total funds the department has to spend each year?

CM: We do have a slide that was in the operating budget presentation that showed the spending by department of the operating, and I think you can also go to our website on the budget and get much more detail on each of the

Is it correct that you have a hiring freeze for every department except for civil service police?

CM: We have a hiring freeze for every position. Unless there's a recruiting class underway and then. So we do have some recruiting classes and police and fire that are underway so right now Civil Service has positions that are being filled.

Why the city has not properly funded transit?

CM: I'll start with that one and you can jump into a few if you'd like. So adequately funding trends, by people thinking we've adequately funded and fill in the blank. There is not a department that I think feels inadequately funded. And there are many initiatives to the city participates in that people may not think they're adequately funded so you come to this point in time in the budget, and you have to decide where the limited resources are going to get allocated for the upcoming fiscal year. In the current fiscal year, other than the 20 Metro

budget that currently exists. We have we put in 1.5 million for pilot programs or other initiatives to help train the metro. That's the same amount of money that's in next year's recommended budget. So it's the same. I know that they requested 10 million more dollars to me. Again, we have to look at what we were going to take out of the budget so we can put that new money in.

Zadeh: So I'll chime in as well I know David probably thinks I'm stacking the deck with people who are supporting transcripts at this meeting, but he's very aware of my, my support portrayed. That way, we, the question I have for David and I'm going to continue to ask is that we have grown the other departments by two and a half to 3% as was mentioned when somebody asked the question about outweigh me, but I'm turning you Metro are on the public transit budget we mean that name. We have in the past only relied on the half cent of sales tax that goes to 20 Metro and have not included in our budgeting is the way we did last year and are continuing to do this year so I do think that that is a step in the right direction but I too agree that we should be funding at a higher level for public transport because I think that it has a return on investment in a lot of other areas that would be beneficial and it also speaks to the equity that we're. We are going about doing going forward as well. So, something that I'm still going to advocate for changing, and turning Metro is generous enough to put it in there are some things that I think are already in the city's wheelhouse and that is sidewalks and ADA accessible ramps and making the bus stops that people need to access as accessible as possible and safe lit and all of that and that is a part of the money that we have identified as our contribution to public transit and I think that that's something we should probably be doing anyway and shouldn't count against the total number turning metrics that are for public transit so I agree though that every year, all of the departments come forward with their budgets and I'm pretty sure that all of their requests are above what money is available and so pretty much everybody coming forward with a budget request has to scale that back and those budget requests are built upon the communications that we have throughout the year as council members and as city staff as we are out in the community, providing the services. We get definitely more requests for service than, then we have funding available. So I understand the trade off when we ask for something else to be funded more we are going to have to find a place to subtract and nobody wants to subtract so it's a tricky question, but I'll definitely continue to advocate for more funding for public transit for sure.

How will public input during these town halls be processed?

CM: Well, I know that we're going to take all the questions and post them on our website. We share all the information with all the council members, each council member is also, I believe, having their own meetings too so I think this is all about gathering public input in sharing it broadly with the mayor and the council member.

Zadeh: Yeah, I think it's important to note that all of the information that comes in at this meeting will be shared with all the other council members I know that in the past when we have public meetings on say an upcoming bond election that we have very much, you know, the city is guilty of this ourselves and elected officials and staff that the squeaky wheel gets the grease and so the more you show up and let us know what it is you want prioritize that the more likely that is to happen, but in all the conversations we've been having over the last few years, this, this desire to be more equitable in our service delivery flies in the face of the squeaky wheel gets the grease so that is definitely something we need to be very careful of and try to move away from but I do encourage you to make sure that you attend at least one of these meetings but I would hope that all of the questions that comes out in each of these meetings is shared with all of the counselor, and I will be looking at anything that comes out of the other council members meetings in my advocacy going forward, the work sessions that we have where we have to add things and subtract things going forward.

What are the main factors in projections for a multiyear property tax decline versus a much shorter sales tax decline?

CM: Okay, let me start with the property tax, and we saw this year being the lowest growth of existing values in the past number of years. Here's how I see it. If you own buildings now that have office space with more vacancy. If you own build tale space that is now vacant. If you own office buildings or buildings that had restaurants in it that are now vacant. Your, I'm going to bet you're going to be able to make the case that that buy you that property has a lower value. And so when that value is here on the commercial side for some of those functions. We'll come back less than this year. That's far I see a decline in the property tax side, not necessarily on residential, but I think on commercial space, whether it's office restaurant. I do think there's an argument that those values will be less. And I think we'll watch that play out over the next 12 to 18 months. That's why I think it'll cross two fiscal years, the sales tax on the other end, took a steep decline in March and April, as people stay at home. And maybe then learn to buy stuff online I'm not sure but sales tax has actually been coming back a little bit stronger this fiscal year than we first thought it would. The information that we share with the council at tomorrow's meeting will show that the sales tax. In June of 2020 was actually higher than the sales tax of June, 2019, so we don't believe that we believe that the sales tax has bounced back a little bit quicker. And as long as we don't have another shutdown of the economy on a broad scale, we think that sales tax will remain on that trajectory.

How will the city evaluate be funding and committing to the shift of funding prevention rather than just control and enhanced enforcement.

CM: I think we, a meeting on last Friday was taped to Ed Krauss his presentation. So I don't want to steal his thunder I think he also wanted to reorient some of the spending that was in the general fund is better oriented than CCPD and vice versa. So that was part of it. And I think part of it was looking at how we could fund more community programs. And in a way again that still makes sure that we get the outcomes that we want for crime prevention, and for long term crime reduction. And you might want to.

Zadeh: Yeah, there were specific I mean there was a shift in some funding to the general fund which I think there have been some things put into the CCPD over the years that probably shouldn't have been put into the CCPD. So I think that shift is an appropriate shift and then there is a definite increase with that other with that shift of those programs going back to the general fund of dollars available for those community partners. And so there's a significant increase in the CCPD going to those community partners and then I think there's actually a set aside of some dollars to contemplate some additional partners that haven't been identified yet, and I've been hearing from several of those that fit into parameters that folks have been asking us to consider and that is, I'm looking at mental health professionals to respond to some of the things that police have responded to in the past that are not appropriate for police to be responding to. So some of those organizations have been coming forward I met with a woman today virtually who runs a program that would be looking at some of that kind of response because we had that. The CIT team that responds but that is been led by police and so the goal would be to have that led by mental health professionals, and then also there's not enough resources available if you find somebody with a mental health issue and you try to find them services those services, often are available. And he is overwhelmed and MHMR, you know, can't respond to every single thing and we want to try to have programs in place that don't that intervene before a crisis, so that we're crisis response. I again will be advocating for more of those programs to be supported by the CCP going forward, and evaluating those.

Why does the stockyards get a dedicated officer security detail through CCPD Southside does not?

CM: I'm not aware of the dedicated security detail through CCPD. I know that we have done things in response to entertainment districts and the near sell side has had an enhanced availability, they're not funded through CCPD so if the question is specifically to, you know, the funding. That's something I would ask David to look into and determining when, how those decisions are being made, but as far as security in entertainment districts. I think that that's the stockyards, the downtown area the West seventh area have been places that were identified in the past, Southside is kind of a mixed use district that does have an entertainment element, but I'm not sure it qualifies as being an entertainment district in the same way that drives the need for the security that maybe arises in a downtown area and a stockyards area and a West area

but that's just off the top of my head I don't have that that's been factual information but we can look into that further.

Does sitting leadership intend to reinstate community board for CCPD spending, rather than the city council, serving as the board?

CM: Again we had that conversation on, on Friday I think there are three options. It was either only a council, only board you can commit to them, or creating a NZ advisory board for CCPD funding.

Zadeh: Yeah, under state laws, is that it has to be either or a full elected official board. It can't be a hybrid of the two. And I think the reason I was not around when the decision was made to change it from the distance board as we started out with to the electric board, the reasoning behind that was a concern about citizens making decisions about tax, the spending of tax dollars. So I'm from what I have heard. You can ask them in their meetings of what they would be supportive of but my, my feeling at this point is that the support is to continue to have it be the council members as elected officials being the official board, but that there would be absolutely more in input from citizens. We have meetings that are open to the public again but not always that gene and now that more people want to be engaged, and we continue to try to broaden the ways in which we get input from people. I'm not required to come to us with an opportunity meeting that's held. I think any opportunity to have that citizen input would be something that would be beneficial to all of the decisions being made going forward so I definitely that citizens input to the CCPD process.

I am concerned that Mr. Cook's responses to the questions, make it seem like they're set in stone is for public feedback before this budget is adopted. Are they?

Zadeh: I can start on that one day because I think I might have in the conversation that you and I had earlier today, because I think often our responses when we are having these public meetings is very much to say. This is a balanced budget that has been recommended by the city manager and in this city manager form of government that we operate under in the city of Fort Worth all requests have come in from the various departments and this budget has been built and it is a balanced budget so therefore any changes that occur when you add something somewhere, you're going to have to subtract something somewhere else. So that does seem like something that is going to be insurmountably difficult to do. But if we're having public meetings, it doesn't seem it's disingenuous to say that this budget could not change during the public meeting process and the fact that we're having these participatory budget meetings bonuses to town hall ones gives us more flexibility to have those conversations, my desire was to have this meeting. Prior to the work sessions that the council already has on the budget because I want the input before I go into those meetings where we're going to continue to hash

out these decisions. I want to be informed by the citizens that I represent as to what things that I should be bringing forward besides those that I already have been advocating for just because it's information that I have coming up to this point. So I definitely think that if we need to have the budget change during these public hearing processes that that is a very disingenuous position to start from and so my goal is that that not be the situation that as hard as it is and as much as you have to find someplace to subtract from when you think that's something that we should be willing to do and staff and should be willing to do that hard work alongside the council members.

With the increase of violent mobs and northern cities and an increase in people migrating to Texas to flee unsafe places, can we increase police funding to ensure safety for Fort Worth citizens?

CM: Let me answer that this way. The police budget is going up from fiscal year 20 to fiscal year 21. So if you go back and look at the amount of money in the general fund for this year and next year in the budget it's going up about 5.8 million. Even though the CCTV budget is going down by about 4 million and that's because of the sales tax drop the police budget is still going up one fiscal year to the next.

What is the focus in equity spending for neighborhoods?

CM: I think that the Planning and Development Department and it has shifted and been renamed recently but there is a data analytics element of that department that looks at an amazing range of information to determine which neighborhoods are identical. At Neighborhood Improvement Program that we implemented starting four years ago when we've completed three different neighborhoods, going back to that concern that we had about the squeaky wheel gets the grease delivery system that we have been operating under in the past has left some neighbor, with less resources less infrastructure more poor for more poorly maintained infrastructure than some other neighborhoods. Noticing and admitting that concern at stake. This program has been put in place to try to address some of those areas that need to be brought up to a higher standard. So, the neighborhoods are chosen based on that, and it's a very intense process with a lot of factors that the staff looks at. And I know that all of that is available for the because everything that we do is available to the public and so I would hope that if you would have interest in that matrix and how they decide which neighborhoods are chosen that it get that for us specifically. Let me add, let me add to that, there's also money we added in this year is transportation department to address a number of difficulties. So it would be straight lines pavement markings street signs traffic signals and road repaving a reconstruction. And there was more money put in this year's budget to be targeted toward majority minority areas to make sure, or to look at the equity of spending so that we feel that the investment is equitable equal in different areas of the city.

We had a homeless camp set up in our little neighborhood park. And they were concerned that the city's response was, as long as they don't pose a health and safety threat, the camp will remain there an officer was assigned to work with the homeless, and said that there was a massive amount of human waste in the parks department needed to clean it up. Will city staff assigned to work with the homeless be educated on threats they actually pose to the neighborhoods.

Zadeh: I recognize this question so that it's been responded to. There was some concern because during. I mean, just to when you find an encampment, it's not as easy as just throwing and telling people they have to leave and there's some concern with the folks who use that park in their neighborhood of that not being able to occur as quickly because of safety concerns. So, the whole team is very well versed on about that, and they do a really good job of it but they are under resourced and I think that that team will definitely need to have additional resources assigned to it in order to be as responsive as we need to be but it's definitely a complicated issue and in a time of COVID as well it's difficult to be responsive and keep everybody safe, that's involved. Definitely, that desire to have people not have to be living in parks. We would like people to be connected to resources and permanent supportive housing and affordable housing, and we keep moving in a direction of trying to make sure that we have more of that available so that those connections can be made and people are not driven to a position where they have to live in unsafe and unsanitary.

The fiscal budget document that's online shows a CCPD budget of about 86 and a half million dollars, but your presentation showed 83 million. What is the reason for the decrease in sales tax?

CM: I'll have to go back and check the numbers I don't know what that difference would be,

Hanson: This is Terry Hanson, and I work in planning and data analytics. And the answer to that is in the presentation, it does not contribute to fund balance, and in the budget book it shows contribution to fund balance to make up that extra \$3 million. So it's an actual contribution to fund balance they have more money than they have earmarked for spending and that's primarily due to a decrease in capital.

How are you determining the equity when it comes to the neighborhood improvements?

CM: So we've done Stop Six, Ash Crescent, North Side and we're now in Rosemont. And in each case we work with people from the neighborhood to decide how we ought to spend that capital investment. And so sometimes it's sidewalks sometimes it's Park improvements road improvements street light cameras. Most of that is at the request of the neighborhood groups that we work with, in those areas.

Zadeh: I think, starting off those neighborhoods. All right, on a basis of looking at areas that were not treated equitably in the past so I think just going into those neighborhoods is an

attempt to do things, equitable way we've identified those neighborhoods as areas that have declined or are in need of investment because of a lack of investment in the past so we start from there but going like, I agree with what David said, it's a program that is heavily intensive of the neighborhood itself. And we are definitely facing a challenge with Rosemont, which is the first neighborhood in district nine to be selected for this, and I waited patiently for the to be recommended by the data so that I wouldn't be contradicting myself of doing this on an equitable way I supported the three neighborhoods that were chosen prior based on the data that being in need first in Rosemont is one we're working on now and we are definitely having challenges of doing this in a time of. Normally we would be able to go we did actually get some door to door activity where we got to walk the neighborhood, the area identified in the neighborhood and put fliers on doors to inform folks. We had one large public meeting before we had to reduce all of that with COVID and to get some input and so thankfully we did get quite a bit of input from the neighborhood, and we're continuing to try to roll out those improvements, checking back in with the neighborhood they haven't acted. And we continue to try to get input from everyone and inform everybody of what we're trying to do and get their input back to make sure that what we're proposing and implementing is in fact what it is that they would like to see happen in their neighborhoods.

How are you specifically connecting with the unhoused?

Zadeh: I think with connecting with people who are experiencing homelessness. Yeah. I think that COVID actually gave us a, there is art we have directions home staff that works with the homeless community partners across Tarrant County, to try to work together to bring resources to support. Folks moving through a shelter system in order to not just continue to have a temporary shelter to make homelessness short term, non-reoccurring. And I think those are the two things short to try to have people not fall into homelessness to begin with, to make it short term and non-reoccurring COVID, when the city stepped in to, to manage and operate an overflow shelter in the convention center. We actually had an opportunity to house some folks that we probably would not have had the opportunity to house had we not taken on those operations. And then also coming out of COVID. We had designated some funding to permanent supportive housing from COVID cares act dollars that we've government, which would result in units of permanent supportive housing that would be maintained for years versus the use of COVID cares act dollars that might just be a short term infusion and not carry on going forward so I thought that was a really unique and good way to use some COVID cares act dollars to try to get some permanent supportive housing that were in dire need of. But all of those organizations and the hope team are in contact with them housed on a regular basis, hopefully when people bring to our attention folks that they see struggling with homelessness, and we have those teams responding in a way that is empathetic and helpful if we bring in resources to the to those people because it's very important that that we do it in that way so if

we're always open to that there's other ways if you think that we're missing a segment of the population of unhoused. We would be happy to hear about that. Directions Home Team and. Okay, her name just went out of my head, the toys, officer who heads the hook team. Last, Lieutenant Ladd. They are, you know, always people when they bring things to our attention, and everybody of course wants to improve and do things the best way that we can.

Can the Directions Home staff begin doing more than just outreach efforts?

CM: I think the directions home staff is doing a lot more than just outreach efforts. We can get a more detailed, I guess if you want to call it job description of all the things they do that, you know,

Zadeh: They've done a lot more than just outreach to individual homeless they've actually convened a group of developers who are interested in helping to create and build permanent supportive housing and affordable housing nonprofits who are interested in funding that effort but don't have the, the wherewithal to do the actual building and builders who want to create, as well, and have come up with some teams that are going to be able to go forward with creating that housing so they're definitely being very proactive because you know you can't fix homelessness if you don't have places for folks to live and affordability and permanent supportive housing is always a thing that's lacking, that makes it more difficult. So they're definitely working in that arena as well.

Since we recognize that there's been communities like Stop Six and North Side for many years. Are we now willing to have an over investment in the same neighborhood? If so, for how long.

CM: So I think it's a multi part strategy is recognizing that these areas of the city need more investment that's what the infusion of dollars is all about the other strategy that we've tried to do over the last number of years and this is with the mayor and council support is invest more money in the maintenance of our infrastructure, so that as we go forward. We're not picking and choosing which neighborhoods get investment in which one we should be maintaining lecture at a certain level, regardless of the zip code in the city.

Zadeh: I think it's definitely, I mean I don't I'm repeating myself when I say that in the past I think we've done a lot of squeaky wheel gets things and it's a difficult thing to do when somebody asks for their street to be redone to, you know, let them know that while their street might be in a poor condition or a, you know, inadequate in their opinion condition that there are streets in the city of Fort Worth that don't even have curb and gutter. And so we definitely need to look at bringing every part of our city up to a certain level before we go back and make sure that some areas that might be in need of some attention, are done ahead of areas that have been in decline for. And I think that that's definitely something we need to continue to do

and I think we're being better about looking at Tw has done like a survey of the entire city and they have a database that shows the condition of every single city at city street, and then ranked by what can be fixed with PAYGO dollars like something that can be done just in the regular course of things and things that are meeting every complete and total reconstruction that might take bond funding. And so in in going forward. I think when I first got on council six years ago and David started as the city manager, same night, and there was a lot of kind of moving things around to respond to folks that work to be done and then when you went back to do something else that had been promised, some of that money had been moved somewhere else, I do not see that happening now and I think that's definitely what leads to inequities and a way that we should not be doing things so prioritizing identifying the priorities, and then delivering that in an equitable way is, is the way we need to be doing things and when we don't do it that way I would like someone to pointed out to us.

Why did the city cut the recommended funding for permanent supportive housing?

CM: So let me, I want to start this way, I would say. Isn't it wonderful that the city took \$9.3 million of discretionary cares Act funding to the Board of housing, there was a proposal. At the time to take 18 point 6 million. And what that meant is we would choose to exhaust the remaining part of our discretionary cares dollars for permanent supportive housing. And I think there are arguments that we ought to have some of that money still available for businesses or individual citizens that are on difficult time during COVID-19, so I see it as a very positive moves to take 9.3 million of our discretionary cares money and put it toward permanent supportive housing.

How is the city bringing more diversity to citizen advisory boards and committees? In other words, add is adding citizens from the not so squeaky wheel neighborhoods.

Zadeh: Many of those appointments are made by individual council members and I have made an effort to expand the pool from which I'm choosing those appointments. In the past I served on the zoning commission for six years and I'll tell you that the only reason I got appointed there was because my, the person in that position before me wanted out and at the time was not going to let his own replacement case anymore I have multiple, multiple people offering to serve on the boards and commissions that I now. District nine is a very engaged district with a lot of people willing to serve. Other council members, you can ask them, but my understanding is everybody is in an effort to expand the diversity on those boards and commissions in every way. And that has occurred I think that there is still it's still not where it needs to be. The mayor has implemented a program just recently. To get more women on appointments for boards and commissions. Many of these meetings, though. Much of the business of the city occurs during workday hours, and so there you're always going to run into a challenge of finding people who have the ability to take time. There are many businesses in Fort Worth that support the city of

Fort Worth and offer those days off for their employees in order for them to serve the city in that capacity. And I would encourage other businesses to do that so that you know we can get a broader range of folks that are have the availability to serve in those positions but it's difficult. If you're on commission for example, that's pretty much at least a half a day, once a month so it's a commitment and it's difficult. I think we're moving in the right direction.

Can remove the fine on retailers if people are not wearing mask. It says the science is undecided on masking it we should not have to wear a mask when they may actually cause more harm than good.

CM: I think the city's position is we're encouraging everybody to wear masks, when they're out in public. And again to practice.

As a result of COVID, the city cut Parks and Rec budget by 4.1 million transportation by 32 million in economic development by 200. Meanwhile, the police department's budget which gets substantially more funding than any of those other categories was cut by only \$10. Will future cuts continue to come from community programming and the police budget remains untouched.

CM: So not knowing where those numbers are coming from, which I'd be glad to look into each of those. I'm not sure. Anyway, I'm going to look at those numbers. I don't think we're cutting maintenance in infrastructure, all of the page you go money that we froze for a little bit during this year has been reallocated back to each area. And so, we only had to this year budget by about 22 million in total. And so, I have to look where the numbers came from. Again, as I mentioned 22 million out on the current year and we've already identified the strategies to balance that out. And it didn't include any cuts in maintenance and capital.

Why does the city always cut staff for libraries and recreation centers? Those services are widely used by the citizens.

CM: I don't know about the premise I can say always if you look at the reductions that are on the list and a presentation that I, the libraries did reduce 13 positions Parks and Recreation. 12, you know, part of the Congress departments is asking them to identify where they would make the reductions. And those were offered by our library department or a Parks and Recreation Department, as were the ones from Municipal Court property management, police and some of the other departments.

What factors go into calculating the reduction of budgets in various departments and why and how are jobs cut?

CM: Let me start with the first question which is the amounts. So far we have asked departments to identify areas they believe they can cut without impacting services. So these cuts that you're seeing in the current year budget, have been identified by each department. I am not a big believer of saying everybody has to pony up five or 10% because not every service

across the city is equally important. So some of this we leave up to departments, identify what they think they are able to reduce the other one about positions and employees. This is one of the reasons we put a hiring freeze in place. In March, we had to reduce the size of the workforce. What this does in a large organization like the city of Fort Worth, is we have over 7000 employees, and we want to try to reduce the workforce in a corporate wide matter, not a department by department matter. So when a position is becomes vacant. And we think it's important to fill, we allow that position to be filled in, which creates another vacant position within the organization. So we have a lot of positions that had an employee can go from one department to another, and take a position. The goal of that is to reduce the size of the workforce, without impacting employee. We do work with employees if their job is going to be eliminated. We look for other positions that are available in the city. It might be a different position. But our goal is to work through a reduction in the size of the workforce. With that in negatively whenever possible.

Will public comment be taken at the budget work budget work sessions?

CM: The budget work sessions are normally for the council to have conversations among themselves and with staff. And that's up to the mayor and the council decide if they want public comment during those meetings, usually for council members to have conversations about those issues. But they are open to the public and if there's any comment that you want to make you can always communicate with your council member or any council member, an email. If anything comes up during those discussions that, that you're doing that you would like to have your opinion known on so I encourage you to do that.

Will changes be made to budget reporting so citizens can better understanding how much is allocated to their specific district?

CM: Right now I don't believe we try to divide the budget into council districts, I do think we have geographic reference data in a number of departments like transportation and public works. Maybe neighborhood services the water department so we are able to do it under other geographic. And again, I think what we're trying to look at is the equity part of that question, and not the Capital District part of that question, although some may overlap.

Why is the independent Office of police monitor not listed as a line item in the city manager office budget, because that's the office or the department that it falls under, but it is independent? The people should know exactly how much money that office is. Apart from the city manager's office, how much money is allocated for the police monitors office and 2021. How many positions will that office now have and what are they?

CM: We'll get that budget divided out so with that spending for you.

Question: Has there been any discussions about paying some of our higher city salaries, like Mr. Cook's, more in line with our sister cities as a way to help balance things as opposed to not funding transit and implementing hiring freezes.

CM: I'll answer that for the management team. All our salaries are based on cities and being competitive in the marketplace.

COMMENTS

I really just want to make sure that it's very clear that that we should have translations obviously there's going to be translated thank you for answering that question, but true Spanish translators should be common practice in the city of Fort Worth. So I know that was an issue in one of the city council meeting somebody called and there wasn't somebody to answer or translate. So I just want that, that requesting a translator is just another barrier for our Hispanic community. So thanks for that.

Please spend more of the budget on neighborhoods and areas, updated roads and grocery stores.

The Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club is respectfully requesting that the city supports and fully fenced Trinity requests for fiscal year 2021, Sierra Club advocates for clean air, clean water and fully protecting and conserving our natural resources. We will, we also work and advocate for environmental justice communities low income communities where people are disproportionately impacted by air pollution water pollution extreme flooding and industrial pollution. I understand that David cook put forth in 2021 budget for 20 the metro of 1.5 million. That is a great disparity between the request and the city's line item. The 1.5 million does little to nothing to provide expanded reliable and inexpensive transit to citizens of Fort Worth, most notably the city left out at Trinity metros request for increased frequency for areas of the city that are 65% minority, the southeast zip zone which is a high minority area and the Alliance express service and Amazon route, which would serve employees of those areas and john says we. These people need transit to get to work in all the city's budget item for Trinity Metro leaves minority and low income people high and dry and does nothing to clean up our air and improve transit in Fort Worth, we will continue to bring up the rear from medium to large cities transit alternatives.

Southside businesses were told that they had to pay for from their own money in order to get security.

Your decision to not fund transit does not square with your budget goals of equity and access within the city. Trinity Metro requested 10 million in the city, we'll fund it at 1.5. That's quite a disparity and does nothing for transit equity and Fort Worth to serve minority and low income populations. This

simply isn't enough money to go towards transit. We have 86 organizations that represent 3100 plus companies, and 31,586 individuals who believe we need more support.

Our neighborhood associations had to fight for TP w for \$3,000 for gate repairs in our neighborhood, the city was responsible for such maintenance. We've learned that departments will always say we don't have the funding.

As far as the race and culture taskforce, are we ensuring that we are emphasizing patriotism and American tradition, are not progressive lies from George Soros and the Marxist agenda?

The benefits that investment and transit will provide are more important now than ever. Essential workers minority populations low income populations, those that need to access health care, etc. On the transit investments because it's not a convenience for them it's a necessity. If you aren't practical prioritizing it, you aren't prioritizing equity, as you say, we need safe accessible and frequent transit service for those that rely on it just to live their lives. The response to Trinity metros request is not considerate of the city's actual needs.

Near Southside detail is funded by private businesses.

I don't believe there's dedicated Security Police detail in the stockyards a portion of the Northwest division is located near the stockyards but they're not dedicated to the stockyards Mike says that the Magnolia business owners pay for enhanced patrols answer that question. Fernando says we need a full citizen board, please. David says this needs to be changed back to the citizens board there's two tourists with the City Council who says we need a full citizen board for CCPD and we are serious about preventing crime CCPD board council needs to fully fund VIP Fort Worth, Pastor Rodney McIntosh is doing an excellent job but he needs support and more racist source program in order for the program to flourish and be its most effective Lizzy says we are concerned about the city council making decisions about spending on police budget since the Police Officers Association has made campaign contributions to each council member. That's a big conflict of interest.

You all represent the people not your own personal interest, all input from the people should be taken into consideration for the final budget. Thank you for hosting this meeting and thank you, community engagement for making it happen.

The police are already the largest category of spending from the city's general fund and it hasn't been touched in major cuts to other departments through COVID-19 taxpayers of Fort Worth spend nearly \$1 million per day on policing, they have more than enough money. David Cooke mentioned that it

decreased from the projections because the sales tax, didn't meet projections because of COVID if that helps.

We've been told by PD that they didn't have funding to install a security camera on him till to monitor activity on a shopping strip would benefit the neighborhood and PD. When will departments realize it isn't their budget, it is ours.

04:00

The \$5 million increase in police funding could be put toward organizations that help prevent crime like STEM programs, and could be put toward Trinity metros requests that would definitely improve transit equity.

Brown people make up the majority of Fort Worth, not the minority, please correct that in your language moving forward.

The city's initial response to J MSL Park almost issue was dismissive question.

Funding the police department should not be the only priority. There, there are so many areas like transit that will contribute to safety in our communities, the police department already has plenty of funding. Additional funding should be diversified in other areas to support safety and crime reduction in other way.

First language is free. It costs zero dollars to call someone a person, experiencing homelessness instead of a homeless or homeless people, etc.

Now I understand how much work goes into developing a city's budget.

Most crime is never reported and most reported crime is never solved. Police spend over 4% of their time responding to violent crime in the majority of their time on paperwork and responding to nonviolent calls that don't actually pose a threat to public safety.

We need to have an evening meeting.

Thank you. The information was useful and well-presented we appreciate this town hall.

Thank you to the council people for all their service. I know your hearts are in the right place. God bless.