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YOU CAN SEND BY MAIL TO THE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS CITY
COUNCIL, BOSTON CITY HALL,
BOSTON 02201 OR E-MAIL
CC.WM @BOSTON.GOV.

I'M JOINED BY COUNCILLOR TIM
McCARTHY TO MY LEFT, COUNCILLOR
JOSH ZAKIM AND COUNCILLOR ED
FLYNN AND TO MY RIGHT,
COUNCILLOR O'MALLEY.

WE'RE HERE TO LOOK AT DOCKETS
0559 THROUGH 0563.

ORDERS FOR THE FY-19 OPERATING
BUDGET FOR DEPARTMENT
OPERATIONS, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION
FOR THE SCHOOL PARTMENT,
APPROPRIATION FOR OTHER POST
EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, A PRONITION
FOR CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION AND
PUBLIC GROUND IMPROVEMENTS AND
APPROPRIATION FOR CERTAIN PARK
IMPROVEMENTS.

DOCKET 0564 AND 0565, CAPITAL
BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS INCLUDING
LEASE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS.
WELCOME, COMMISSIONER, TO YOUR
FIRST CITY COUNCILLOR HEARING.
I'LL HAND IT OVER TO YOU.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO THE
BUDGET HEARING.

I'M GAIL WILLETT.

I'M HERE TO PRESENT THE 2019
BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS.

AS A NEW COMMISSIONER, I'M
LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH
THE CITY COUNCIL.

IT'S BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST
THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT WILL
PROVIDE EXCELLENT CUSTOMER
SERVICE IN RESPONDING TO
CONSTITUENT ISSUES AND
QUESTIONS.

THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT IS
RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING THE
TAXABLE VALUE FOR ALL REAL
ESTATE IN THE ECONOMY.
CHALLENGES THE DEPARTMENT IS
FACING IS KEEPING UP WITH AN ACC

AT THIS TIME REAL ESTATE MARKET.
THIS IS NEEDED FOR US TO ACHIEVE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
CERTIFICATIONS AND MIDDLE OUT
THE THIRD QUARTER BILLS THAT GO
OUT IN JANUARY.

THE DEPARTMENT IS IN THE PROCESS
OF A CAMA CONVERSION SYSTEM.
THAT HELPS US DETERMINE PROPERTY
VALUES.

THE CURRENT SYSTEM IS REACHING
THE END OF ITS USEFUL LIFE.
WE HAVE CHOSEN A NEW VENDOR AND
IT'S BEEN BUDGETED FOR AND THE
PLANNED CONVERSION WILL HAPPEN
WITH THE NEXT REVALUATION IN
2020.

THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO WORK
ON IMPROVING THE ACCURACY OF OUR
ASSESSMENTS, THE FY-18
ABATEMENTS ARE AT AN ALL-TIME
LOW.

IT CARRIES OVER TO APPEALS
NUMBERS, WHICH IS HELPFUL FOR
FREEING MONEY FOR THE OVERLAY
ACCOUNT.

WITH THESE REMARKS COMPLETE, I
TURN TO FLOOR OVER TO YOU.
WE'VE BEEN JOINED BY COUNCILLOR
ESSAIBI-GEORGE.

I SEE THE BUDGET HAS BEEN
BEEN
INCREASING.

CAN YOU SPEAK TO THAT?

>> THE DEPARTMENT HAS THREE
UNIONS AND ALL THREE CONTRACTS
HAVE BEEN SETTLED.

>> GREAT.

I'M ASSUMING STAFFING LEVEL IS
FLAT?

>> I BELIEVE SO.

>> CAN YOU SPEAK TO -- WE HAD
OUR BUDGET OVERVIEW.

OBVIOUSLY WE RELY HEAVILY ON THE
PROPERTY TAX.

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE NEW
GROWTH VERSUS THE EXISTING TAX
BASE.

CAN YOU SPEAK TO THAT AS WELL?

>> SURE.

NEW GROWTH MAKES UP A HUGE PART
OF WHAT THE MONEY THAT THE CITY
COLLECTS.

LAST YEAR NEW GROWTH WAS RECORD
HIGH OF \$77 MILLION.
THIS YEAR WE'RE PREDICTING \$55
MILLION.

WE'RE CONSERVATIVE WITH THE
ESTIMATES TO MAKE SURE THAT AS
MARKETS TURN, WE'RE BEING
CONSERVATIVE AND NOT FINDING
OURSELVES AT THE END OF THE
BUDGETING YEAR WITH NOT HAVING
ENOUGH MONEY THERE WE'RE IN
ROBUST MARKET.

THERE'S LOTS OF NEW GROWTH THAT
IS COMING FROM NEW CONSTRUCTION.
80% OF THE NEW CONSTRUCTION IS
RESIDENTIAL, WHICH IS KEEPING
WITH THE MAYOR'S GOALS OF
INCREASING HOUSING IN THE CITY.
FOR FISCAL 19, WE EXPECT THIS TO
CONTINUE.

>> BEFORE I HAND IT OVER,
COUNCILLOR O'MALLEY, THE
PETITION I FILED WILL HELP, TO
GET IT PASSED, WILL ALLOW FOR
THE RESIDENTIAL EXCEPTION TO BE
APPLIED TWICE A YEAR SO SOME
FOLKS, FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS
WON'T HAVE TO WAIT SOMETIMES UP
TO AS MUCH AS 18 MONTHS TO
REALIZE \$2,500 TAX CREDIT
BASICALLY.

SO I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING
WITH YOU TO GET THAT PASSED
SOON.

>> AS DO I.

>> GREAT.

>> COUNCILLOR McCARTHY.

>> THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER.

COUNCILLOR CIOMMO, COMMISSIONER
WILLETT WELCOME.

>> THANK YOU.

>> I USUALLY ASK THE SAME
QUESTIONS.

AS YOU KNOW, AS WELL AS I DO,
70% OF OUR BUDGET THIS YEAR IS
MADE UP OF PROPERTY TAXES.

WE DEPEND ON SOME OF OUR
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO
HELP US OUT.

GIVE ME A BALLPARK WHERE
EVERYBODY IS AND WHO IS GIVING
AND WHO IS LACKING.

>> WELL, SO THEY ARE -- THE
PILOTS ARE POSTED ON OUR

WEBSITE.

FISCAL 17 IS THE MOST CURRENT
POSTED.

THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS,
THE MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS ARE
CERTAINLY HIGHER PAYERS THAN THE
CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS.

THE MAJORITY OF THE THREE TYPES
OF INSTITUTIONS DO GIVE
COMMUNITY BENEFITS EVEN IF THEY
ARE LESS THAN THEIR CASH PILOT
OR NO MONEY ON THE CASH PILOT.
CERTAINLY THE HOSPITALS ARE THE
HIGHEST PAYERS, EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS PROBABLY SECOND AND
CULTURAL WOULD BE THIRD.

THE CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS, PART
OF IT IS HAVING A DIFFERENT
ECONOMIC BASIS THAN THE MEDICAL
AND THE EDUCATIONAL.

BUT YOU KNOW, WE HAVE A LOT OF
COMMUNITY BENEFITS THAT ARE
COMING THROUGH TO THE CITY.
AND THAT CERTAINLY HAS A VALUE.
THE CASH PAYMENTS ARE NICE, BUT
THE COMMUNITY BENEFITS ARE
HELPFUL, ESPECIALLY TO SCHOOLS
OR TO BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH
COMMISSION.

>> I DO APPLAUD THE MAYOR AND
HIS EFFORT TO MAKE THE
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE
MORE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR
OUR YOUNGEST AND CERTAINLY SOME
OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE
POPULATION THAT ARE HAVING
TROUBLE SWINGING COLLEGE.
IT'S IMPORTANT.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILLOR ZAKIM.

>> I JUST WANT TO ECHO
COUNCILLOR McCARTHY'S COMMENTS
ON THE PILOT PAYMENTS.
IT'S AN ONGOING ISSUE.
CERTAINLY MANY OF THE PEOPLE I
REPRESENT, COUNCILLOR McCARTHY'S
CHECKS THAT GO TO WENTWORTH.
WENTWORTH IS A PRETTY GOOD ONE
WHEN IT COMES TO PILOT PAYMENTS.
THANK YOU, COUNCILLOR McCARTHY,
FOR THAT PASS-THROUGH IN THE
NEIGHBORHOODS.

I DO JUST WANT TO -- ON A MORE

SERIOUS NOTE, WHEN IT COMES TO PILOT PAYMENTS, EVERYBODY IS READY TO BE ADVOCATES TO WORK WITH YOU IN YOUR DEPARTMENT, TO PUT THE -- IT'S A VOLUNTARY PROGRAM -- PRESSURE ON THESE INSTITUTIONS.

THEY BRING A LOT TO OUR CITY ECONOMICALLY AND I'M THRILLED THAT WE HAVE SO MANY NONPROFITS HERE.

THEY DO DRAW ON OUR RESOURCES. I THINK THE PILOT PROGRAM AS I SAID OVER AND OVER AGAIN, IS A VERY FAIR ASSESSMENT BASED ON ALL THE INTANGIBLES THAT THEY BRING HERE AS WELL AS WHAT THE CITY EXPENDS ON THAT.

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR WORK.

>> ABSOLUTELY.

I ALSO DID WANT TO NOTE THAT THE MAYOR HAS BROUGHT IN A LIAISON, CASEY BROCK WILSON THAT GIVES US ANOTHER DIMENSION IN REACHING OUT TO THE PARTICIPANTS.

>> GREAT.

THANKS.

COUNCILLOR FLYNN.

>> THANK YOU.

I JUST WANTED TO FOLLOW UP ON MY COLLEAGUES QUESTIONING ON PILOTS.

ARE WE ABLE TO GET ANY DATA SPECIFICALLY WITH THE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND HOSPITALS, WHAT TYPE OF BENEFITS THEY ARE PROVIDING AND THE SUCCESS OF THOSE PROGRAMS?

INSTEAD OF JUST GETTING A PIECE OF PAPER SAYING THEY'RE DOING THIS, CAN WE MEASURE IT AND SEE WHAT THE SUCCESS OF THAT PROGRAM IS?

>> YES.

I KNOW THAT RIGHT NOW WHAT WE'RE PUTTING OUT FOR THE COMMUNITY BENEFITS IS ESSENTIALLY THE CREDIT AMOUNT.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT WITH CASEY BROCK WELL FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IS PUTTING OUT THE ACTUAL BENEFITS THEMSELVES ON OUR WEBSITE AND A CASH EQUIVALENT TO THOSE.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT WE'RE
WORKING ON NOW.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT I CAN PUT
TOGETHER FOR YOU FOR A LATER
POINT IN TIME.

>> THANK YOU.

I WAS CURIOUS ABOUT IT BECAUSE
THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS WAS
TESTIFYING EARLIER AND FOR MANY
OF THE SCHOOLS, WE HAVE .5
NURSES THAT ARE IN OUR SCHOOLS.
BUT OUR HOSPITALS, THEY PAY NO
TAXES, CAN THEY BE DOING
SOMETHING MORE TO HELP IN OUR
STUDENTS IN TERMS OF MEDICAL
CARE INSIDE THE BOSTON PUBLIC
SCHOOL SYSTEM?

>> I THINK THAT'S AN INTERESTING
IDEA AND PROBABLY WOULD DO WITH
THE BOSTON HEALTH COMMISSION.

>> MY FINAL QUESTION IS, CAN YOU
TALK ABOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF
YOUR OFFICE, GIVES TO DISABLED
VETERANS THAT OWN A HOME?

>> YES.

THERE'S THE VETERANS EXCEPTION
CALLED THE 22 E.

IT'S TIED TO DISABILITY AMOUNT.
GETTING PAPERWORK FROM THE
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT GOES ON
EVERY YEAR.

SOMEONE THAT HAS ALREADY TAKEN
THE EXEMPTION, WE SEND OUT
PAPERWORK THE FOLLOWING YEAR SO
IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT THEY
HAVE TO REMEMBER TO DO IT'S
SOMETHING THAT WE'RE
AUTOMATICALLY DOING FOR THEM AND
FOLLOWING UP WITH A SECONDARY
LETTER IF WE DO NOT HEAR BACK
FROM THEM.

>> AND WHAT PERCENTAGE DO YOU
HAVE TO BE AS A DISABLED VETERAN
TO GET THE ASSISTANCE?

>> LET ME LOOK.

I DON'T KNOW OFF THE TOP OF MY
HEAD.

I'D HAVE TO LOOK INTO IT.

IT'S TIED TO THE LETTER THAT
COMES FROM THE VETERANS
ADMINISTRATION.

>> DO YOU THINK WE COULD -- YOUR
OFFICE COULD WORK WITH

COMMISSIONER STERLING AND MAYBE
COORDINATE WITH HER OFFICE AN
IDENTIFYING DISABLED VETERANS
THAT DO OWN HOMES AND MAYBE
LETTING THEM KNOW ABOUT THE
PROGRAM, GIVING THEN AN
OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE?

>> ABSOLUTELY.

I'M SORRY.

10%.

THEY HAVE TO BE AT LEAST 10%
DISABLED.

YES, THAT'S ABSOLUTELY -- I
THINK THAT THAT WOULD BE A GREAT
WAY FOR US TO CONTINUE OUR
OUTREACH.

>> THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER.

>> THANK YOU.

WE'VE BEEN SINCE JOINED BY
COUNCILLOR KEN JANEY.
COUNCILLOR RECOGNIZES MATT
O'MALLEY.

>> THANK YOU.

GOOD AFTERNOON, COMMISSIONER.
GREAT TO BE WITH YOU.

YOUR PREDECESSOR HAS HAD BIG
SHOES AND YOU'VE BEEN FILLING
THEM WONDERFULLY.

THANKS FOR YOUR GREAT WORK.
WELCOME TO YOUR FIRST BUDGET
SEASON.

>> THANK YOU.

>> CALLING UP ON BOTH THE
CHAIRMAN AND MY GOOD COLLEAGUES
FROM SOUTH BOSTON'S QUESTION, I
HAVE AN IDEA -- I HAVE HAD A
DISCUSSION WITH YOU AND THE
COMMISSIONER ON WHO IS A
DISABLED VET.

HE HAD A PROBABILITY TAX BREAK
BECAUSE OF THAT.

HE MOVED.

THE -- MUCH LIKE THE RESIDENTIAL
EXCEPTION, IT DOESN'T MOVE
AUTOMATICALLY AND THERE'S A YEAR
OR SO, MAYBE 1 1/2 YEARS WHERE
HE AND HIS WIFE WON'T BE ABLE TO
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT.

I ASSUME THAT WOULD BE SIMILAR
TO THE EFFORTS THAT THE CHAIRMAN
IS WORKING ON THROUGH A HOME
RULE PETITION.

BUT IT'S MORE OF A FIX THAT WE
WANT TO LOOK AT.

MY WIFE AND I MOVED, WE'RE NOT -- EVEN THOUGH WE'RE FULL TIME RESIDENTS IN OUR NEW HOUSE, WE WON'T HAVE ACCESS TO THE RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION FOR A WHILE.

WOULD YOUR OFFICE BE SUPPORTIVE IF WE EXPANDED ON THE GOOD WORK OF THE CHAIRMAN TO ADDRESS THE VETERANS, DISABLED VETERANS TAX?
>> ABSOLUTELY.

YES.

LOOKING FORWARD TO IT WITH THE RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION.
>> YES.

ABSOLUTELY.

THANKS VERY MUCH.

THERE WERE 1,157 ABATEMENT APPLICATIONS IN THE LAST FISCAL YEAR, FY-18.

>> CORRECT.

>> THAT IS THE LOWEST NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR NONREVALUATION ON RECORD.

>> YES, THE LOWEST EVER REALLY.

>> WHY IS IT, DO YOU THINK?

>> I THINK WE'RE BECOMING MORE ACCURATE IN HOW WE'RE ASSESSING THE PROPERTIES.

WE'RE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS LIKE MLS, LOOKING AT LISTINGS, COMPUTER MODELS ARE BECOMING MORE SOPHISTICATED. OUR LOW APPEALS NUMBERS AND RESOLVING ISSUES WE HAD.

>> THAT'S GREAT.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

ARE YOU USING NEW TECHNOLOGY OR IS THE EXISTING TECHNOLOGY MORE ACCURATE?

>> EXISTING TECHNOLOGY, BETTER TECHNIQUES.

>> GOOD ANSWER.

WE DON'T DO IT ENOUGH, BUT THE CENTRAL STAFF THAT Poured THROUGH THIS INFORMATION FOR THESE HEARINGS.

THROUGH THEIR GOOD WORK, I CAME ALONG LINE 53, 700.

AN INCREASE.

I'M CURIOUS WHAT DOES THAT COVER?

>> SO AFSCME NEGOTIATED A CLOTHING ALLOW WEDNESDAY.

THAT COVERS THE ASSESSORS IN THE FIELD.

THAT WOULD BE A BOOT OR A COAT ALLOWANCE.

AT ALL TIMES OF THE YEAR THEY'RE HEADING OFF.

>> THAT MAKES SENSE TO ME.

THANKS VERY MUCH.

THAT'S ALL WE HAVE FOR NOW.

WHAT YOU DO IS SO IMPORTANT.

I'VE SAID THIS BEFORE.

YOU AND YOUR TEAM, WE DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU, IT'S 70% OF OUR BUDGET COMES FROM PROPERTY TAXES, COMES FROM YOUR GREAT WORK.

YOU SELDOM GET THE RECOGNITION YOU DECIDE BUT YOU LEAD A TEAM OF PASSIONATE AND HARD-WORKING INDIVIDUALS.

YOU'VE BEEN A TREMENDOUS RESOURCE.

LAURA IS GREAT.

I APPRECIATE IT.

CONTINUING TO WORK WITH YOU AND THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

>> COUNCILLOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE.

>> THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE.

I HAVE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS ON PILOTS THAT I'LL GO THROUGH BECAUSE I KNOW MY COLLEAGUES HAVE BROUGHT UP IMPORTANT POINTS.

IN 2010, THE RECORD, THERE WAS A REPORT THAT SAID 52% OF BOSTON'S LAND WAS NOT TAXABLE.

WHAT IS THE PERCENTAGE NOW?

>> I HAVE THE SAME PERCENT OF BEING 52%.

THAT WAS FISCAL 16.

BUT I DO NOT KNOW AS OF FISCAL 18.

>> I'M CURIOUS, I IMAGINE BETWEEN 2010 AND EVEN 2016 OR 2015 FOR FISCAL YEAR 16, THAT MANY OF OUR NONPROFITS IN THE CITY, THEIR FOOTPRINT HAS GROWN. I'M CURIOUS AS TO THE VALIDITY OF THAT NUMBER AND CAN WE LOOK AT THAT OFF LINE.

I WONDER ABOUT THE GROWTH AND VALUE FOR THAT PROPERTY, WHAT HAS BEEN THE INCREASE OVER TIME.

I THINK THE LAST REPORT THAT WE REFERENCED IN PREPARING FOR TODAY'S HEARING REFERENCED 2007 VALUES FOR MOST OF THE COLLEGES AND THE UNIVERSITIES.

2007 VALUE WAS \$7 FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND FOR HOSPITALS IT WAS ABOUT \$6 BILLION.

IN THE 2017 PILOT ANALYSIS, THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS ARE BASICALLY THE SAME.

HAS THE PROPERTY VALUE BEEN REASSESSED AT ALL FOR OUR NONPROFITS?

>> NO.

MY UNDERSTANDING IS THE AGREEMENT THAT THE COMMISSIONER ENTER INTO WITH THE PILOTS IS THAT THEY WOULD HOLD THOSE VALUES FOR FIVE YEARS TO GET THEM USED TO MAKING THESE PAYMENTS AND AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE PILOT WOULD BE DOING. THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN INCREASED BY 2.5% AFTER THAT POINT.

>> WHEN WAS THE FIVE YEARS

EXPIRED?

>> I DON'T KNOW.

>> WE'VE BEEN HERE 2 1/2 YEARS AND WE HAVEN'T LOOKED AT PILOT OR THOSE ASSESSMENTS.

WHEREAS WE GET CALLS FROM RESIDENTS BOTH NEW RESIDENTS, ELDERLY RESIDENTS, EVERYONE IN THE MIDDLE WHO EVERY YEAR HAVE SEEN THEIR ASSESSMENT ON THEIR PROPERTY VALUE INCREASE TREMENDOUSLY.

SO THEY FIGURE OUT WAYS TO PAY THEIR PROPERTY TAX, WE CONTINUE TO DEPEND ON MOSTLY FOR OUR REVENUE, WE NEED TO MAKE SURE OUR NONPROFIT PARTNERS ARE BEING REASSESSED.

NEVER MIND THE COLLECTION PIECE, WHICH IS ALSO, YOU KNOW, WE CAN ASSESS THEM ALL WE WANT.

IF WE'RE COLLECTING ON IT, THAT'S A CHALLENGE FOR US TO LOOK AT.

REGARDING -- WE'VE TALKED A LOT HERE ABOUT MATH PILOT PAYMENTS.

THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITY
AS OCCUPYING SPACE.
CAN YOU REFERENCE THEIR
CONTRIBUTIONS?
>> FOR FISCAL 17, THEIR PILOT
PAYMENT WAS 17.9 MILLION.
FOR FISCAL 18, THEIR PILOT
PAYMENT IS \$18.2 MILLION.
I KNOW THAT THEY HAVE
CONSISTENTLY PAID THEIR PILOT.
AND THEY HAVE BEEN FULFILLING
THAT?
>> YES.
THE PILOT PAYMENTS HAVE GONE IN
TWO SEPARATE BILLINGS.
THE FIRST BILL FOR 18 HAS BEEN
PAID.
>> LAST YEAR WE WERE GOING TO
GET AN INCREASE BECAUSE OF THE
EXPIRING OF THE RENAISSANCE
HOTEL.
IS THAT A \$1 MILLION BUMP?
IS THAT WHAT WE'RE SEEING THERE?
>> IT'S NOT EVEN A MILLION.
>> WHERE IS THAT INCREASE?
>> OH, NO, NO.
THAT'S NOT PART OF THE PILOT
PAYMENT.
THAT WAS 121 A THAT EX-SPIRED.
THE RENAISSANCE HOTEL -- LET ME
SEE IF I HAVE IT.
IT DID GO INTO THE GROWTH
NUMBERS FOR FISCAL 18.
ALL I HAVE IN MY NOTES IS THE
COMMERCIAL \$26.5 MILLION IN
TAXES IS PART OF THE NEW GROWTH.
PART OF THAT WAS THE RENAISSANCE
HOTEL.
I DON'T HAVE WITH ME WHAT THE
VALUE ON THE RENAISSANCE HOTEL
IS RIGHT NOW.
>> IT'S NOT REALLY A PILOT.
>> NO.
IT'S SEPARATE FROM THE PILOT.
THAT WAS A 121 AGREEMENT THAT
EXPIRED.
>> ON OUR PROPERTY OR --
>> THE LEASE WITH MASSPORT FOR
THE HOTEL.
>> THAT MAY BE WHERE MY
CONFUSION IS HERE.
MY LAST QUESTION IS ON SHORT
TERM RENTALS.
WE HAVE -- THAT'S A CONVERSATION

THAT CONTINUES HERE.
THE MAYOR CONTINUES TO TALK
ABOUT POLICY.
WE HAVE A LOT OF UNITS ACROSS
THE CITY THAT ARE NOT OWNER
OCCUPIED THAT ARE USE AS SHORT
TERM RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES.
DO WE EVER LOOK TO TAX THEM AT A
COMMERCIAL RATE AS OPPOSED TO A
RESIDENTIAL RATE?
>> I HAVE SAT IN ON MEETINGS
WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE ABOUT
THAT.
LEGALLY WE COULDN'T DO THAT
RIGHT NOW.
THOSE ARE RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTIES.
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR US TO TRACK
HOW OFTEN SOMEONE IS RENTING
SOMETHING, HOW MUCH THEY ARE
RENTING SOMETHING.
I KNOW WHEN I HAVE DONE SOME
PRELIMINARY LOOKINGS, A LOT OF
TIMES THE ADDRESSES ARE NOT
LISTED.
SOMETIMES WE FIND THEM BY
NEIGHBORS COMPLAINTS, WHICH I'M
SURE YOU'VE HEARD ALSO.
BUT EVEN THEN, IT'S DIFFICULT TO
DETERMINE WHAT PROPERTY IT IS,
HOW OFTEN IT IS RENTED, WHICH
UNITS IT COVERS IN THE BUILDING,
THE ENTIRE BUILDING.
SO CERTAINLY SOMETHING ON OUR
RADAR, CERTAINLY SOMETHING THAT
WE'VE BEEN TALKING TO THE MAYOR
ABOUT BUT NO, NOTHING THAT WE
CAN LEGALLY TAX THEM RIGHT NOW.
>> AND A COMMERCIAL RATE, MAYBE
NOT A HOTEL RATE --
>> THE HOTELS ARE AT A
COMMERCIAL RATED.
>> AND THEN IF AN OWNER OCCUPIED
HOME SHARE UNIT WAS SHARED OUT
MORE THAN THE RESIDENTIAL
EXEMPTION -- LET ME BACK UP.
HOW MANY DAYS DOES AN OWNER
OCCUPANT NEED TO TO BE IN HIS OR
HER HOME FOR THE EXEMPTION?
>> THERE'S NOT A NUMBER OF DAYS
REQUIREMENT.
THAT THAT IS YOUR -- YOU OWN AND
OCCUPY THE PROPERTY, SO IT'S NOT
IN DAYS.

IT'S DETERMINING OCCUPANCY,
WHICH CAN BE DIFFICULT.
SO A LOT OF TIMES WHAT WE'RE
LOOKING FOR, WHERE HAS SOMEONE
FILED THEIR STATE INCOME TAXES.
THAT'S WHAT THE DEPARTMENT OF
REVENUE HAS GIVEN US.
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR.
THERE'S LOTS OF PEOPLE THAT HAVE
A RESIDENT HERE AND MAYBE A
RESIDENCE AT THE CAPE.
IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE
WHERE SOMEONE RESIDES, BUT IT'S
NOT NECESSARILY THE NUMBER OF
DAYS THAT THEY'RE STAYING THERE
IS WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR AS A
GUIDELINE.
>> GREAT.
THAT'S IT FOR ME.
THANK YOU.
>> COUNCILLOR JANEY?
>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.
WELCOME COMMISSIONER.
>> THANK YOU.
>> I WANT TO ECHO MANY OF THE
POINTS THAT WERE ALREADY MADE
ABOUT THE PILOT.
I WON'T ASK ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS
THERE.
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD
TELL ME WHAT THE CITY ALREADY
OFFERS IN TERMS OF TAX FOR OUR
SENIORS.
>> I CAN.
SO WE HAVE THE 41 C, WHICH IS
ONE OF THE PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS
FOR SENIORS.
THIS IS FOR SENIORS THAT REACH
THE AGE OF 65.
THIS IS INCOME AND AN ASSET
REQUIREMENT.
WE ALSO HAVE --
>> WHAT IS THAT INCOME?
>> ON THIS GROSS INCOME, NOT
EXCEEDING \$24,523.
A SINGLE INCOME NOT EXCEEDING
\$36,785.
IF MARRIED, WHOLE STATE, NOT --
THIS IS EXCLUDING THE VALUE OF
THE PROPERTY NOT TO EXCEED
\$40,000 IF SINGLE OR \$55,000 IF
MARRIED.
AND FOR THE COUPLE, WHAT WAS THE
GROSS AGAIN?

>> \$36,785.

>> IS THERE ANY THOUGHT TO
UPPING THAT AMOUNT SO THAT MORE
FOLKS COULD QUALIFY FOR THE
RELIEF?

>> SO THAT'S SOMETHING THAT IS
SET BY THE STATE.

SOMETHING THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO
GO TO THE LEGISLATURE TO LOOK TO
HAVE CHANGED.

I KNOW LAST YEAR IN REVIEWING
THE TAPES, WE TALK ABOUT TAKING
INTO CONSIDERATION INFLATION,
WHICH IS A GREAT ARGUMENT AND
CERTAINLY A WAY THAT THAT CAN BE
MOVED.

SO SOMETHING THAT I WANT TO LOOK
INTO BASED ON THE CONVERSATION
FROM LAST YEAR.

>> ARE THERE OTHER WAYS THAT
SENIORS COULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
DIFFERENT PROGRAMS THAT WOULD
OFFER TAX RELIEF FOR SOME OTHER
KINDS OF RELIEF IN TERMS OF THE
ASSESSMENT OF THEIR PROPERTY?

>> CERTAINLY THERE'S -- 17 D,
WHICH IS LESS RESTRICTIVE THAN
THE 41 C THAT IS AN AGE AND AN
ESTATE.

THAT'S FOR ANYONE OVER 70.

THERE'S ALSO THE DEFERRAL.

SO THIS YEAR WAS THE FIRST --
PREVIOUSLY WE'VE HAD DEFERRALS
THAT ARE FOR AGE 65 AND OVER.
HOMERS CAN DEFER THEIR TAXES AT
A 4% INTEREST RATE.

AND THEN STARTING THIS YEAR WAS
THE FIRST YEAR THAT WE HAD A
HOME PETITION TO 55 YEARS OF AGE
SO THAT SOMEONE COULD DEFER
THEIR TAXES.

IT'S A WONDERFUL WAY FOR
HOMEOWNERS THAT ARE HOUSE RICH
AND, YOU KNOW, POCKET POOR TO BE
ABLE TO STAY IN THEIR HOUSES.

>> I APPRECIATE IT.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> JUST TO WRAP UP.

THE 4%, IS THAT ALSO DICTATED BY
STATE LAW OR CAN WE -- DO WE
HAVE ANY FLEXIBILITY WITH THE 4%
RATE?

>> I'M NOT SURE.

I'M NOT SURE.
I BELIEVE THAT IT WAS -- USED TO
BE 8%.
MAYBE TEN YEARS AGO.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS A CITY
COUNCIL CHANGE OR A STATE
CHANGE.
I CAN LOOK INTO THAT.
>> AND THE REASON I ASK, I JUST
RECENTLY WAS LOOKING AT OTHER
CITIES AND TOWNS THAT HAVE A
DEFERRAL PROGRAM.
I BELIEVE, YOU KNOW, MIGHT HAVE
BUT NEWTON OR BROOK LINE AS A
1%.
I THINK, YOU KNOW, WITH INTEREST
RATES SO LOW STILL ON THE
BORROWING SIDE BUT ALSO ON THE
EARNINGS SIDE, WE MIGHT WANT TO
CONSIDER THAT IS THAT IS AN
OPTION.
>> THAT WAS ON INTERESTING
ARTICLES IN THE GLOBE.
I DIDN'T REALIZE THERE WAS
SOMEBODY --
>> I DIDN'T EITHER.
I THOUGHT 4 WAS A GOOD DEAL.
>> I DID, TOO.
>> AND I THINK JUAN USED TO TELL
US WHAT THE AVERAGE TAX BILL IS
FOR A RESIDENT, A HOMEOWNER IN
THE CITY OF BOSTON.
>> SURE.
THE AVERAGE SINGLE FAMILY
PROPERTY TAX BILL REMAINS LOW AT
\$3,324.
CERTAINLY COMPETITIVE WITH THE
SURROUNDING TOWNS TO BOSTON.
>> I THINK WE'RE PROBABLY IN THE
LOWER END, LIKE LOWER 6/10,
TENTH PERCENTILE OR SOMETHING.
>> YEAH.
I DON'T KNOW OFF THE TOP OF MY
HEAD.
I KNOW WHEN THE GLOBE PUBLISHES
SURROUNDING TOWNS, PART OF IT IS
THE INCREASE IN THE RESIDENTIAL
EXEMPTION RATE FROM 30 TO 35%.
SO RIGHT NOW WE'RE AT 2,538 FOR
A RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION FOR
FISCAL 18, WHICH FOR A LOT OF
TAXPAYERS IS HALF THEIR BILL.
>> THAT'S RIGHT.
ESPECIALLY WITH THE VALUATION

GOING UP SO DRAMATICALLY.
AND JUST LAST QUESTION.
I KNOW A LOT IS MADE ABOUT
PILOTS.
NONPROFIT PARTNERS SHOULD BE
PAYING MORE.
I WOULD ALSO SAY WHEN FIRST
ARRIVED HERE, I THINK THE TOTAL
PILOT PAYMENT TO THE CITY WAS IN
THE \$35 MILLION RANGE, OF WHICH
HALF OF THAT WAS MASSPORT.
CAN YOU TELL US WHAT THE TOTAL
REVENUE FROM PILOTS IS?
PROJECTED FOR NEXT YEAR, I
GUESS.
>> SO I DON'T HAVE THE FISCAL 18
NUMBERS WITH ME.
THE FISCAL 17 NUMBERS.
SO BETWEEN CASH AND COMMUNITY
BENEFITS, 84.7 MILLION.
>> OKAY.
WHICH IS THE REVENUE PART?
HALF -- IT'S HALF --
>> 32.4 IS THE CASH PAYMENTS.
52.3 IS THE COMMUNITY BENEFITS
PORTION.
>> GOT YOU.
THAT'S LESS THE MASSPORT.
>> NOT YET.
THAT IS NOT INCLUDING MASSPORT.
THAT IS THE ENTITIES THAT ARE
PART OF THE REGULAR PILOT
PROGRAM.
THE MASSPORT IS A SEPARATE TYPE.
>> OKAY.
GREAT.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
NICE TO HAVE YOU BEFORE US
TODAY.
LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN
THE FUTURE.
IF NOBODY ELSE HAS ANY
QUESTIONS, THIS HEARING STANDS
ADJOURNED.
>> THANK YOU.
AS WELL AS AN ANNUAL STATE
DISTRIBUTION FROM THE
MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY
PRESERVATION TRUST FUND.
THE STATE MATCH WAS RECENTLY
ANNOUNCED AND WILL BE A 11.5%
MATCH.
THE GENERAL LAWS PROVIDE IN EACH
FISCAL YEAR THE COUNCIL WILL

MAKE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE FUND AND WILL DEEM AS NECESSARY FROM THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE. THESE APPROPRIATIONS WILL NOT EXCEED 5% OF THE FUNDS ANNUAL REVENUE.

TODAY WE'RE ASKING THAT YOU REVIEW AN ORDER WITH TWO COMPONENTS.

ONE IS FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET AND THE SECOND IS FOR THE APPROPRIATED RESERVE.

THE APPROPRIATED RESERVE WILL PUT FUNDING INTO THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND SO THAT WHEN PROJECTS ARE APPROACHED WHO WILL RETURN TO THE COUNCIL AND ASK THAT THE COUNCIL VOTES TO APPROVE THOSE PROJECTS.

AND AS I MENTIONED, TALK ABOUT WHERE WE ARE IN THE PROCESS AND THE FIRST ROUND OF FUNDING THAT WE ANTICIPATE, WHICH WE ANTICIPATE THE CPCC WILL VOTE ON IN JUNE AND RETURN TO ACTUAL A PRONITION OF INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS, THIS IS TO FEED THE RESERVES SO THE FUNDING IS AVAILABLE FOR FY-19.

WITH THAT, I'LL TURN IT OVER TO CHRISTINE AND TALK ABOUT THE BUDGET.

>> THANK YOU.

FIRST, I DO WANT TO THANK THE COUNCILLORS.

I'VE WORKED WITH ALL OF YOU. FROM THE FORUMS AND LETTING PEOPLE KNOW ACROSS THE CITY AND THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND AND HOW TO APPLY.

WE'VE BEEN SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS.

WHAT WE'RE DOING, SORT OF HOW IT'S ROLLING OUT AND HOW WE INITIATED.

THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO DO A PILOT PROGRAM THIS SPRING.

A SMALL BUCKET OF FUNDING THAT WILL GO OUT TO PROJECTS THAT ARE SHOVEL-READY, READY TO GO INTO THE GROUND THIS SUMMER AND REQUIRE \$500,000 OR LESS TO

GET -- TO FINISH A PROJECT.
WE HAVE -- THE DEADLINE IS THIS
COMING FRIDAY.
WE TALKED TO WELL OVER 50 GROUPS
AND PROJECTS.
WE DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE ALL
COME FRIDAY.
AND IF ALL OF THEM ARE QUITE
READY.
BUT IT'S EXCITING TO THINK THAT
WE COULD HAVE SOME RIBBON
CUTTINGS AS EARLY AS SEPTEMBER.
I THINK THAT'S -- SHOULD I -- I
COULD WALK THROUGH THE BUDGET
IS.
THAT HELPFUL?
>> NO.
THAT'S OKAY.
WE'LL OPEN IT UP TO QUESTIONS.
THANK YOU.
THE MATCH PART, I THINK WE ALL
ANTICIPATED THAT IT WASN'T GOING
TO BE AS ROBUST AS IN YEARS
PASSED.
IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, WE KIND
OF ALWAYS ESTIMATED THAT WE
WOULD BE GETTING \$20 MILLION.
BUT IT SEEMED TO BE MORE IN THE
REALM OF LIKE, YOU KNOW, \$50
MILLION FROM THE CITY AND \$5
MILLION.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BARELY GETTING
HALF OF THAT FOR A MATCH.
SEEMS LIKE WE OVERPERFORMED IN
OUR ESTIMATE FROM WHAT WE'RE
GETTING FROM THE TAXPAYERS.
IS THAT CORRECT?
>> YEAH, IF YOU WANT ME TO --
I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE STATE
MATCH OBVIOUSLY CLOSELY.
WHAT HAS HAPPENED IS MORE AND
MORE -- 174 CITIES AND TOWNS
ACROSS THE STATE HAVE PASSED CPA
IN THEIR CITY OR TOWN.
BOSTON AND SPRINGFIELD PASSED IT
AT THE SAME TIME.
ADDING TWO BIG CITIES LIKE THAT
MEANS THAT THE MATCH IS A STATIC
AMOUNT.
IT DOESN'T CHANGE.
THERE'S NO -- DOESN'T GO UP
EVERY YEAR BASED ON INFLATION OR
COST OF LIVING OR ANY OF THOSE
THINGS.

IT'S -- THE \$20 FILED EVERY TIME
PROPERTY CHANGES HANDS IN THE
STATE.

BECAUSE THAT HAS NOT CHANGED,
THE STATIC AMOUNT OF MONEY GOES
DOWN AS MORE AND MORE TOWNS AND
CITIES ARE ASKING FOR THE MATCH.
A LOT OF LEGISLATIVE WORK TO
INCREASE THE \$20 FEE THAT IS
PAID.

AND IT HAS NOT HAPPENED YET.
THERE WAS AN AMENDMENT IN THE
BUDGET THAT WAS PROPOSED BY ONE
OF THE BOSTON DELEGATES THIS
TIME AROUND.

I THINK IT WAS WITHDRAWN.
SO YOU KNOW, WE HOPE AT SOME
POINT THAT THAT WILL CHANGE.
THE GOAL IS TO GET EVERYBODY'S
MATCH UP TO 30% FROM 11.5.

>> OKAY.

>> WE ASK THAT OBVIOUSLY HAVING
THE CPA FUNDED ON THE CITY SIDE
AS A SURCHARGE RELATED TO
PROPERTY TAXES GIVES US MORE
INSIGHT AND CERTAINTY AROUND
WHAT THE CITY PORTION IS.
GIVEN THE FACT THAT, YOU KNOW,
OVER RECENT HISTORY, STATE
FUNDING HAS COME FROM
CONSOLIDATION AND HAS CREATED
UNCERTAINTY WHAT THE MATCH WILL
BE.

>> TO SPEAK TO THE LEGISLATION
THAT CHRISTINE IS TALKING ABOUT.
THERE'S AN EFFORT BY, I BELIEVE,
COUNCILLOR EDWARDS TO HELP
SUPPORT THAT EFFORT, TO INCREASE
WHAT CHANGED THE FORMULA BY
WHICH WE ADD TO THE CPA FUNDING.
SO WITH THAT, LET ME RECOGNIZE
COUNCILLOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE.

>> I'M OKAY WITH QUESTIONS.

>> OKAY.

>> WELL, LET ME JUST SAY, THIS
HAS BEEN A REALLY GOOD MONTH
PREPARING FOR THE FIRST ROUND OF
APPLICATIONS.

THE COMMUNITIES ARE EXCITED.

THAT'S IT.

>> THANK YOU.

COUNCILLOR O'MALLEY.

>> THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN.

I'M HAPPEN TO BE HERE.

TO MY NEIGHBOR, CONGRATULATIONS
ON A GREAT JOB YOU'VE DONE WITH
YOUR TIME.

OBVIOUSLY DELIGHTED THAT WE'RE
AT THIS POINT AND KUDOS TO THE
COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND COUNCILLOR
FLAHERTY FOR THEIR GREAT EFFORTS
IN GETTING THIS ON THE BALLOT
AND PASSED.

SO ARE YOU FULLY STAFFED AS OF
NOW, CHRISTINE?

>> WE ARE FOR THE PRESENT.

>> HOW BIG IS YOUR STAFF?

>> THREE PEOPLE.

>> AND THE OTHER POSITIONS?

>> ONE IS OPERATIONS MANAGER.

>> FANTASTIC.

>> IS THERE ANY TALK OF GROWING
THE STAFF?

>> THIS PILOT WILL TELL US A LOT
IN TERMS OF -- THAT'S REALLY --
WE'RE HAPPY FOR THE PILOT
BECAUSE WE GET TO EVALUATE OUR
SYSTEMS AND THE PROCESS AND THE
APPLICATION MATERIALS AND OUR
STAFFING.

WE HOPE THE COMMUNITY WILL BE
HAPPY BECAUSE THEY'LL START TO
SEE SOME PROJECTS.

SO WE'LL KNOW MORE.

IN THE BUDGET THERE'S ROOM NOR
ADDITIONAL STAFF IF NEEDED.

>> GOOD.

YOU ALSO HAVE -- YOU'RE
CONTRACTED SERVICES HAVE
INCREASED.

WHICH SERVICES DO YOU CONTRACT?

>> WE HAD ANTICIPATED THAT WE
MAY NEED TO CONTRACT FOR
LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION,
COMMUNITY WORK.

>> ALL FOR THESE MEETINGS.

>> RIGHT.

FOR FORUMS AND ENGAGEMENT AND
SUPPORT OF GROUPS APPLYING FOR
PROJECTS.

THAT WAS ONE OF THE CONTRACTED
PIECES.

AND THEN THE OTHER PIECE WAS A
LOT OF COMMUNITY GROUPS HAVE
COME TO US WITH IDEAS, BUT

REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW TO
IMPLEMENT.

WE HAVE MONEY FOR A LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPER CONSULTANT THAT CAN WORK WITH A GROUP TO HELP THEM PUT TOGETHER A PACKAGE AND IDENTIFY WHO THEY SHOULD BE WORKING WITH TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN, IF A PARKS -- IF IT'S CITY LAND, COULD BE THE PARKS DEPARTMENT, ET CETERA.

THAT WAS OUR ORIGINAL BUDGET. THEN THE COMMITTEE, THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE ASKED US TO INCREASE THAT SO WE COULD HAVE MONEY TO HIRE AN OUTSIDE EVALUATOR IF NEEDED.

>> GREAT.

DO MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY RECEIVE A STIPEND?

>> NONE.

VOLUNTEERS.

>> ALL VOLUNTEERS.

THANK YOU.

IT SAYS IN THESE -- IN THIS PACKET THAT THE BUDGET WAS 3%, 3.46% OF TOTAL REVENUE.

IS THAT ON PAR WITH OTHER MUNICIPALITIES?

>> MOST MUNICIPALITIES USE THE FULL 5%.

>> REALLY?

>> BUT THEY HAVE A SMALLER AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT THEY TAKE IN.

AND THEY NEED SOME COMPARABLE STAFFING.

BOSTON IS MUCH BIGGER THAN ANYWHERE ELSE, INCLUDING SPRINGFIELD.

>> DO YOU ANY CITIES OR TOWNS HAVE STAFFS BIGGER THAN THREE?

>> NO.

>> FINALLY JUST WANT TO ECHO THE POINT.

WITH 174 CITIES AND TOWNS NOW PARTICIPATING IN CPA, THAT'S GREAT.

LOOKS TO ME UNLESS WE HAVE SOME REFORM AT THE STATE LEVEL, WE'RE AT TIPPING POINT WHERE IT'S NO LONGER AS AN EFFECTIVE TOOL FOR CITIES AND TOWNS THE USE.

>> RIGHT.

I MEAN, NO ONE WILL SNEEZE AT

\$20 MILLION FOR THESE IMPORTANT PROJECTS.
IT'S INCREDIBLY MEANINGFUL.
IT'S HARD TO SAY IT'S -- THE MATCH MAKING NO SO EFFECTIVE.
>> YEAH.
>> BUT THE FUND IS GOING TO MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE IN BOSTON.
>> I AGREE.
I TEMPER MY REMARKS.
THIS PASSED SO OVERWHELMINGLY WHEN 17 OR 16 YEARS EARLIER IT FAILED AT THE BALLOT BOX IS A -- IS A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN TO EXPLAIN WHY THIS WORKS AND THE FACT THAT WE WERE SENDING MONEY TO THE STATE THAT WE WEREN'T SEEING.
I'D ASSOCIATE MYSELF WITH REMARKS FROM OTHERS TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO FIX IT AT THE STATE LEVEL TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE MORE MONEY COMING TO CITIES AND TOWNS.
THANKS FOR THE WORK.
>> THANK YOU.
>> COUNCILLOR FLYNN?
>> THANK YOU, COUNCILLOR CIOMMO.
THANK YOU CHRISTINE.
WE HAD SEVERAL MEETINGS OVER THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS IN SOUTH BOSTON, THE SOUTH END.
WE HAD ONE TONIGHT AT FOUR POINT.
WE HAVE ONE IN CHINA TOWN THE NEXT COUPLE MONTHS.
I ENJOY WORKING WITH YOU.
YOU'RE PROFESSIONAL AND DEDICATED.
IN CHINATOWN, IT HAS VERY FEW PARKS.
I'M WORKING WITH THE PARKS AND RECREATION NOW ON HOPEFULLY A LONG-TERM PLAN FOR CHINATOWN.
COULD YOU WORK WITH US TO MAKE SURE THAT CHINATOWN GETS THEIR FAIR SHARE OF SERVICES?
>> YEAH.
ABSOLUTELY.
I THINK THE -- CLEARLY PARKS IS OF INTEREST AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH SOME GROUPS TO HELP WITH THE DND REAL ESTATE PEOPLE TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THERE ARE --

WHERE THERE MIGHT BE LAND THAT
COULD BECOME A SMALL POCKET
PARK.

THERE'S WAYS TO TAP INTO THE
POTENTIAL AND FIGURE THAT OUT.
THOSE PROJECTS THAT TAKE THAT
KIND OF PLANNING WHERE IT'S A
GREAT IDEA BUT IT'S NOT IN PLACE
YET, THOSE ARE A YEAR OR TWO
DOWN THE ROAD.

BUT I THINK WE'LL SEE A
DIFFERENCE IN THOSE TWO YEARS.
>> OKAY.

WHEN YOU MEET WITH THE DND,
COULD YOU LET ME KNOW AND ATTEND
THE MEETING IF POSSIBLE?

>> SURE.

>> THANK YOU, CHRISTINE.

>> THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILLOR ZAKIM.

COUNCILLOR CAMPBELL.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILLOR CIOMMO.

THANK YOU TO CHRISTINE.

THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK.

I SEE YOU IN THE COMMUNITY.

SO MANY DIFFERENT FOLKS LETTING
US KNOW ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF
THE CPA AND THE IMPORTANCE OF
THE CONTINUED ADVOCACY AT THE
STATE LEVEL TO INCREASE THE
MATCH.

MY QUESTION HAS BEEN ANSWERED.
I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR THE
HARD WORK.

>> THANK YOU.

>> COUNCILLOR JANEY.

>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.

THANK YOU, CHRISTINE.

THANK YOU, EMMA.

I'M REALLY EXCITED ABOUT THE
PILOT AND WE'RE JUST HOPING THAT
YOU COULD GIVE US MORE OF AN AN
UPDATE FOR THE PILOT AND WHAT IS
HAPPENING.

>> WE HAVE TWO APPLICATIONS SO
FAR.

WE WILL KNOW SO MUCH MORE FRIDAY
AT 5:00.

>> WHEN YOU -- THAT'S THE
DEADLINE?

>> YEAH.

I THINK WE HAVE REALLY
ENCOURAGED PEOPLE TO FILL OUT
FOR THE FIRST SORT OF SIX MONTHS

I WAS ON BOARD, I HAD A PROJECT INTEREST FORUM ON LINE. AND THEN ONCE WE HAD DECIDED ON THE PILOT, WE PUT AN ELIGIBILITY FORUM AND HAD MORE DETAIL. ANYBODY THAT DID A PROJECT INTEREST FORM, WE CONTACTED THEM DIRECTLY TO TALK THROUGH THE PROJECT AND SEE IF THEY WERE ELIGIBLE.

ELIGIBILITY -- WE CAME BACK TO THEM AND WE WERE EVALUATING ELIGIBILITY IN TWO WAYS.

ONE IS TO MAKE SURE THEY FIT IN THE STATE LAW AND THE REQUIREMENTS AND BOUNDARIES OF THE STATE LAW CREATES WITH THIS PROGRAM.

AND THEN TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY WERE REALLY SHOVEL READY FOR THE PILOT.

BECAUSE IN THE -- I SHOULD HAVE SAID IN THE FALL, WE DID THE PILOT VERY PURPOSEFULLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH A FALL ANNOUNCEMENT.

WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THE ROUNDS OF FUNDING WILL LOOK LIKE GOING FORWARD BUT WE'RE HOPING TO APPLICATION PERIOD A YEAR. WE HAVE TO FIGURE -- THE PILOT WILL HELP US FIGURE THAT OUT.

>> DID YOU SAY JUNE THEY WILL BE NOTIFIED?

>> WE'RE TRYING TO HAVE A CONTRACT SIGNED WITH THOSE RECEIVING FUNDS BY THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR.

AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH -- I TALKED TO COUNCILLOR CAMPBELL AND COUNCILLOR FLAHERTY AND HAVE A VOTE BY THE END OF JUNE BEFORE THE CLOSE OF YOUR FISCAL YEAR SESSION.

>> VERY EXCITING.

THANKS FOR YOUR WORK.

>> THANK YOU.

>> EVERYBODY GOOD?

THANK YOU.

THANKS AGAIN.

I THINK THIS IS A GREAT NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR OUR CITY.

I WOULD ASK -- YOU MENTIONED THAT THAT LEGISLATION OR

AMENDMENT TO THE BUDGET HAS BEEN
WITHDRAWN?

>> I UNDERSTAND THAT.

AND I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY.

I E-MAILED -- MAYBE NEIL'S
OFFICE CAN HELP EXPLAIN.

>> WE'LL GET THAT OFF LINE.

THANK YOU.

AND THEN JUST ONE LAST -- I
BROUGHT THIS UP WHEN COUNCILLOR
CAMPBELL AND COUNCILLOR FLAHERTY
BROUGHT THIS TO THE FULL
COUNCIL.

THAT WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO
CONTRIBUTE MORE FUNDS THROUGH
IDP.

>> ABSOLUTELY.

>> SOMETHING THAT WE SHOULD
CONSIDER AS A WAY THE GET MORE
OF THAT MATCH MONEY, I GUESS.
I'LL DO IT -- LEAVE IT FOR THERE
FOR TODAY.

THIS HEARING STANDS ADJOURNED.