Immigrant and Refugee Commission – June 4, 2013 BUDGET PROCESS OVERVIEW

General Fund Revenues – Where does it come from?



Expenditures – Where does it go?

The Big Picture



2013 Proposed Budget totals \$4 billion, \$951 million of which is in the General Fund Budget grows to \$4.3 billion in 2014, including \$975 million in the General Fund

2013 Proposed Expenditures - All Funds, \$4.0 Billion (in millions of dollars)

2013 Proposed General Fund Expenditures -\$951.0 Million (in millions of dollars)



The Basics:

- Executive's budget process starts in February leading to submittal of the "proposed" budget to the City Council in late September.
- We have a two-year budget approval process (biennium budget) that begins on every odd year (2013-2014).
- This means in the fall of 2012, the Council considers the 2013-2014 budget. In the fall of 2013, we consider only the 2014 budget.
- The City budget must be adopted no later than December 2.

The Basics:

City Budget Process



Graphic from City Budget Office presentation to City Neighborhood Council Budget Conference, January 29, 2012

The Council Process: Schedule

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
SEPTEMBER 2013				
23	24	25	26	27
Mayor presents			CBO Overview of	
2014 Proposed Budget and 2014-2019			2014 Proposed Budget 9:30 a.m noon	
Proposed Capital			9.50 a.m 1100m	
Improvement Plan (CIP)				
2:00 p.m.				
30	\//////////////////////////////////////			
		OCTOBER 2013		
	1	2	3	4
	8		Public Hearing	
			Council Chambers	
			5:30 p.m.	
7	8	9	10	11
		ent Budget Overview Pres	1	
	9:30 a.m. – noon 2:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.	9:30 a.m noon 2:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.	9:30 a.m noon 2:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.	
14	2:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.	16	17	18
14	15		∣ ⊥⁄ ership Confer	
21	22	23	24	25
		Issue Identification		
		9:30 a.m noon	9:30 a.m noon	9:30 a.m. – noon
		2:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m 5:00 p.m.
			Public Hearing	
			Council Chambers	
			5:30 p.m.	
28	29	30	31	<u> </u>

The Council Process: Schedule



The Council Process: Terms

- Output: Public Hearings: Two evening opportunities for individuals and groups to testify in front of the Full Council on their budget priorities.
- Department Budget Overview Presentations: Department Directors and staff present to the Council their proposed budgets. This usually includes a summary of key changes (funding increases or reductions) to specific program areas. Councilmembers ask questions.

The Council Process: Terms

- Issue Identification: Council policy staff (Central Staff) walks the Council through department specific issue ID papers that highlight potential areas for further examination. These can focus on funding changes to existing programs but also discussions around new initiatives.
- Green Sheets: After issue identification, any proposed financial change to the budget needs to be documented as a "Green Sheet". The green sheet explains the change being proposed in both monetary terms and explanatory narrative.
- Statements of Legislative Intent (SLIs): Policy directives by the Council, typically requesting specific review or work to be done by a department that is tied to a budget action or has potential future budget implications.

The Council Process: Terms

 Round 1: Council Staff presents green sheets and SLIs for discussion by Councilmembers.

Round 2: Green sheets and SLIs are modified as necessary and votes are taken on changes to be made to the proposed budget.

Approaching Advocacy:

- Know the facts
- Know the context and political history
- Know your target audience
- Strength in numbers
- Be clear about your ask
- In human services we fund outcomes not agencies

Things to Keep in Mind:

- General Fund Budget = \$951 million
- Council Changes = Likely \$5 10 million or roughly around 1%. Sometimes up to 2%.
- Human Services are a consistent priority year over year
- Follow the "green-sheets"
- Things move fast (45 day process) Understand the Council timeline for action
- "Advocate" at public hearings, send emails and try and get individual face-time with councilmembers
- Begin your advocacy with the Mayor early in the year
- Five votes make policy at City Hall

Questions?

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