



Legislation Text

File #: 2019-1091, Version: 1

Report to Mayor and City Council

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Consent

SUBJECT:

CONSIDER CALENDAR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET WORKSHOPS AND PUBLIC HEARING (CITY COUNCIL)

I. SUMMARY

Staff requests the City Council schedule four budget workshops prior to adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget.

II. RECOMMENDATION

1. SCHEDULE budget workshops for March 17, 2020, April 21, 2020, and May 19, 2020.
2. TENTATIVELY SCHEDULE the public hearing to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget on June 2, 2020.

III. ALTERNATIVES

1. SELECT alternative dates for budget workshop agenda items.
2. CONSIDER scheduling a special meeting dedicated to a budget workshop.

IV. BACKGROUND

A public agency may not spend public funds without the legal authorization to do so. A budget appropriates public funds, thereby providing the legal authorization from the governing body to expend the funds. The Carson Municipal Code (CMC) Section 2953 requires adoption of a budget for the new fiscal year by July 20th. California Government Code Section 53901 requires the City to file its budget with the county auditor within 60 days after the beginning of its fiscal year (by August 30th).

The City's budget, adopted by the City Council, is the spending plan to execute City

Council policy and the authorization to expend City funds. Prior to adoption of the budget, the City Council provides opportunities for the public to comment on proposed expenditures. Every department and division of the City participates in preparation of budget recommendations. Therefore, it is essential to schedule budget meetings in advance.

To maximize public participation, Staff recommends budget workshops be held during regular City Council meetings scheduled for March 17th, April 21st, and May 19th. This will give staff sufficient time to revise recommendations based upon City Council direction; and improve the City's ability to adopt a budget on time. A draft budget calendar has been prepared, and incorporates budget-related activities of the Planning Commission and the Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee (see Exhibit A).

Staff recommends scheduling the budget public hearing for June 2nd. This gives the City Council a scheduling cushion, with one additional regular meeting available prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year. The recommended schedule is virtually identical to the schedule used in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget process.

As an alternative, the City Council may consider scheduling a dedicated budget workshop on a day other than a regular meeting.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommendation.

VI. EXHIBITS

A - Draft Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Calendar (page 3)

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