

Lemos, June

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: New eComment for City Council - Via Video Conference



New eComment for City Council - Via Video Conference

Jacob Patterson submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council - Via Video Conference

Item: 8B. 20-874 Receive Report and Consider Adoption of Joint City Council/Municipal Improvement District Resolution Approving Budget Amendment 2021-05 Adjusting Selected Expenditures and Revenue Budgets

eComment: See attached

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I will reserve comments on the propriety of the rest of the proposed budget amendments (and potential future budget amendments) and note that it is inappropriate in my opinion to use existing General Plan Maintenance Fee funds to prepare a study for the fee itself. The proposed \$15,000 expenditure for a fee study should be funded by the General Fund instead as the proper source of the funding for this prudent effort. The General Plan Maintenance Fee is explicitly supposed to be used only for projects and programs that revise or implement the General Plan, including adopting ordinances and revising codes that are necessary to advance the goals and policies set out in the General Plan. Studying the projected costs that are used to calculate and justify the rate and basis for the General Plan Maintenance Fee has a tenuous connection to that explicit purpose and is not what permit applicants paid to have happen when they were assessed the fee as part of the building permit process. It can hardly be considered a “benefit” to a property to be subjected to a financial exaction, the General Plan Maintenance Fee, in the same way that actually updating the City’s General Plan or land use regulations that determine how the property can be developed has a clear connection to the fee paid (albeit historically lacking a clear proportionate nexus).

Had this fee study been conducted when the General Plan Maintenance Fee was first adopted, as is required for all development impact fees, the City would not have been able to pay for the work using General Plan Maintenance Fee funds because they did not exist yet. Simply shifting this required project into the future when the City was caught for not originally following the proper adoption procedure does not change the nature of the expense and does not magically transform it into an appropriate use of General Plan Maintenance Fee funds. Likewise, the City has not charged the staff time associated with preparing the annual and five-year reporting about the General Plan Maintenance Fee to the funds generated by that fee because basic accounting and reporting about the fee itself does not advance the purpose of the fee to implement the General Plan. This shouldn’t be any different just because we are suddenly facing more budget constraints and this special funding is an attractive alternative way to pay for normal administrative overhead.

This is not a case of no one is looking and no one cares, this is an apparent case of the City organization taking other people’s money that is supposed to be used for limited purposes and trying to repurpose it to something else. Do none of you recall the \$3,000,000 cost allocation plan shenanigans? Smaller amounts don’t make proper fund accounting any less important.

Lemos, June

From: Norvell, Bernie
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Fwd: 2020-2021 Budget Amendment

For tonight

B.

Bernie Norvell Vice Mayor City of Fort Bragg

Begin forwarded message:

From: William Bennett <fawn2@sbcglobal.net>
Date: October 13, 2020 at 3:12:23 PM PDT
To: "Norvell, Bernie" <Bnorvell2@fortbragg.com>
Subject: 2020-2021 Budget Amendment


Good afternoon, Vice Mayor Norvell:

I am writing you today in regards to the proposed amendment to our City's budget. I am happy to hear that our TOT and Sales tax dollars are up over projections and last year actuals. I do believe this speaks volumes about the direction our City Manager, staff and CC have taken to navigate our community as safely as possible through these very difficult times.

I would like to see continued funding to our Visit Fort Bragg campaign. Tourism has become vital to our community. Many of our businesses are working very hard to ensure we can still keep our tourism going and keep our community safe.

I would also like to express my support to the proposed "future considerations" of funding the positions of Administrative Services/Finance Director and PD Captain. The reasons listed for adding and funding these positions are very logical and prudent.

Sincerely,
Nancy Bennett

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