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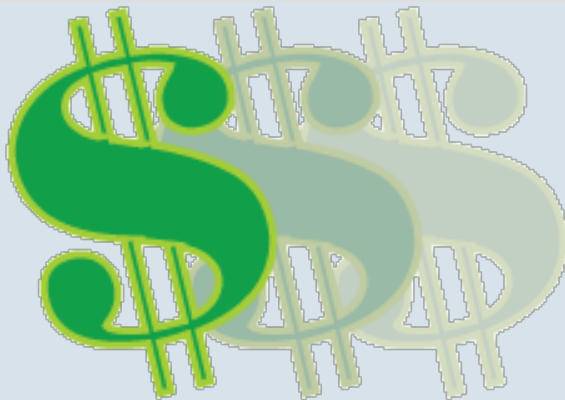
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On the Budget!



First Ward News and Update

Sabra Briere
First Ward Council member

Talking about the budget

The City Administrator develops and presents a budget to Council. Council members may approve the budget as presented or amend it.

This year the Council and the City's administrative staff met in a series of open meetings to discuss the City Administrator's proposed budget. Each administrator was challenged to decrease spending in his or her unit; their proposals were presented at working sessions in January and February. Council members asked questions and made comments.

Now it's your turn.

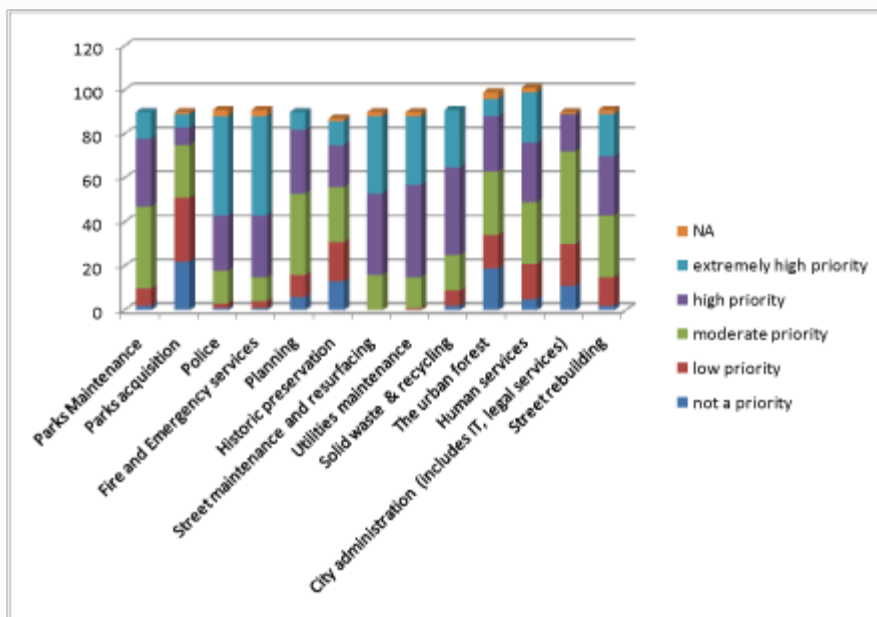
The City Administrator will present the final (proposed) budget to the Council on Monday, April 11. On Wednesday, April 13th, at 7 pm, the City will hold a Town Hall on the budget at CTN's studio. There will be limited seating available, but it will be televised.

If this event isn't convenient, or you have still more questions and concerns, or you just need a night out talking about money, please join Council member Sandi Smith and me on either Thursday, April 14th at 6:30 pm at the Arrowwood Community Center or on Wednesday, April 20th at 6:30 pm at the Northside Grill.

For more background information on the budget, before Monday, here are reports on the budget retreat and working sessions at Council: [Council retreats January 31](#) [February 7](#) [February 14](#) [February 28](#)

Here's an updated chart showing community priorities as reflected in my most recent online survey (still ongoing). Does this chart reflect your values and priorities for Ann Arbor's budget? Take the [survey](#), and let me know!

And if this chart is too small to see, come to the meeting to get the survey results!



Coffee wakes some of us up

For the last month I've been holding office hours (7:30 am to 9 am on Mondays at the Northside Grill). I've talked with people about the Library Lot project, street resurfacing, union contracts (I'm not on that committee), and the weather. No one likes the weather.

Recently I was pleased to have people join me who had so much to discuss that I stayed late. I just



Did you take the Survey?

Just a few questions, but your responses mean alot to me.

The Library Lot: You may believe every decision has been taken, but the next steps include the DDA and a "robust public process" for all the surface lots between Division, Ashley, Liberty and William. What should that process include? There's room for your comments and suggestions.

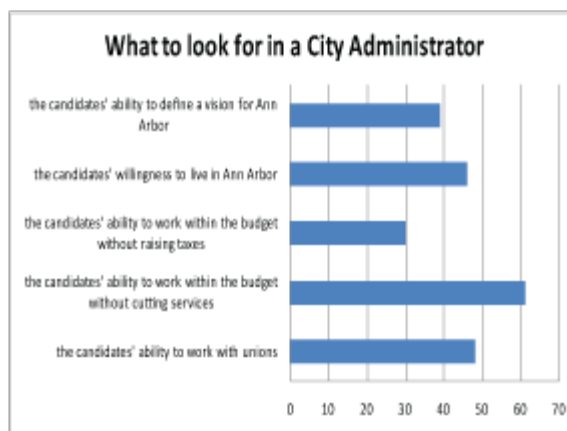
The budget: Your priorities matter. The Council cannot add dollars, but can recommend changes. What to take and give - and from where? You help frame the answers.

never know what will happen. When I have a quiet moment, I work on Council business -- and, of course, I eat breakfast. The Northside Grill should benefit, since I'm occupying their booth.

They have French Roast and are polite. They put up with political talk early in the morning. If you see me there, please wave, and if you have time, please, join me for coffee and a chat.

The next City Administrator: I'm on the search committee, but the entire Council decides. Should there be room for a public process in this selection? What skills do you believe will benefit the City the most?

Survey results so far:



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