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Report

Date: 4/7/2022, Item No. 2

## Summary of Budget Comments, March 4 to March 30, 2022

This report transmits resident budget comments received by the Budget and Research Department between March 4 and March 30, 2022.

### Summary

Each month staff provides a monthly report to City Council summarizing comments received on the budget directly to the Budget and Research Department via phone and email. Comments received are responded to by Budget and Research staff and/or the appropriate City department.

Virtual Community Budget Hearings are being held from Saturday, April 2, 2022 through Friday, April 15, 2022, to gather feedback on the City Manager's 2022-23 Proposed Trial Budget. Future General Information Packet reports will include a summary of community feedback, as well as minutes from the hearings, electronic and voicemail comments, FundPHX submissions, and social media statistics.

### Summary of Community Feedback

Below is a summary of the comments received on the budget in February and March 2022.

## Comments for additional funding/support of the budget:

- (48) in support of installing pickleball courts at city parks, including (46) comments for Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee, (1) for Roadrunner and Paradise Valley Parks, and (1) for G.R. Herberger Park.
- (12) in support of street enhancements for roadway safety, including (10) comments specifically calling for traffic calming measures citywide.
- (8) additional funding for Police and to hire more officers.
- (3) additional funding to make the Gated Alley Pilot Program permanent.
- (2) additional funding to plant more native shade trees.
- (2) additional funding for Parks and Recreation.
- (2) additional funding for affordable housing, including (1) for housing individuals experiencing homelessness.
- (2) additional funding to include 19th Avenue neighborhoods in the 27th Avenue

Corridor Safety Plan.

• (1) additional funding for community gardens and gardening education.

# Comments for reduced funding/opposition of the budget:

- (2) reduced funding for Light Rail.
- (1) in opposition of increased funding for Police or in favor of reducing the Police budget.

# General comments received:

- (2) promoted using electronic communication for the City Services bill to reduce costs associated with hard copy mail.
- (1) promoted rescinding tax-exempt status for churches.

**Attachment A** transmits a summary of the electronic and voicemail comments regarding the budget for March 4 through March 30, 2022.

# **Responsible Department**

This item is submitted by City Manager Jeffrey Barton and the Budget and Research Department.

### ATTACHMENT A



To: Jeffrey Barton City Manager Date: April 1, 2022

From: Amber Williamson Budget and Research Director

Subject: BUDGET COMMENTS SUMMARY MARCH 4 – MARCH 30, 2022

This report transmits a summary of the comments received in the Budget and Research e-mail inbox and voice mailbox regarding the budget from March 4 – March 30, 2022. In total, staff received and responded to 68 emails. No calls or voicemails with community budget feedback were received.

Virtual Community Budget Hearings will be held from Saturday, April 2, 2022 through Friday, April 15, 2022. Future General Information Packet reports will include a summary of community feedback, as well as minutes from the hearings, electronic and voicemail comments, FundPHX submissions, and social media statistics.

At <u>www.phoenix.gov/Budget</u>, residents can access the 2022-23 City Manager's Trial Budget, Virtual Community Budget Hearing Information, and other detailed budget information. Under Virtual Community Budget Hearings, residents can view the following:

- Information on how to participate in Virtual Community Budget Hearings
- Schedule of the Virtual Community Budget Hearings
- 2022-23 Budget Tabloid in English and Spanish
- FundPHX Budgeting Tool
- Budget Hearing presentation video
- Videos of completed Virtual Community Budget Hearings

#### VOICEMAIL, ELECTRONIC, AND WRITTEN BUDGET COMMENTS RESPONDED TO MARCH 4, 2022 – MARCH 30, 2022

#### <u>Emails</u>

- 1. Shannon Richmond sent an email asking that surplus funds from the Police budget be used for technologies that can assist in solving murders and other crimes.
- 2. Robyn Bezanson sent an email opposing cuts to the Police budget and would like to see an increase in the Police budget.
- 3. Claudia Deley sent an email in support of adding funds to house the unsheltered instead of funding the Police department.
- 4. Carrie McNeish sent an email in support of building new pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee and recommended resurfacing and repainting the underused tennis courts to accommodate tennis and pickleball if building new courts cannot be budgeted in FY 2022-23.
- 5. Bernice Volinsky sent an email in support of building new pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee and recommended resurfacing and repainting the underused tennis courts to accommodate tennis and pickleball if building new courts cannot be budgeted in FY 2022-23.
- Debbie Weigert sent an email in support of building new pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee and recommended resurfacing and repainting the underused tennis courts to accommodate tennis and pickleball if building new courts cannot be budgeted in FY 2022-23.
- 7. Donna Lee Leeds sent an email in support of building new pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee and recommended resurfacing and repainting the underused tennis courts to accommodate tennis and pickleball if building new courts cannot be budgeted in FY 2022-23.
- 8. Mark Benson sent an email in support of installing a light and crosswalk at the intersection of Marketplace and Desert Foothills Parkway in Ahwatukee to create a safe pedestrian crossing to Desert Foothills Park.
- Dalton Zingali sent an email in support of upgrading the basketball courts at Desert Foothills Park to include changing from double rim to single rim hoops and replacing or painting the backboards to include the bank shot box.
- 10. Moses Sanchez sent an email in support of installing sixteen pickleball courts and a parking lot at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 11. Kathe Munyan sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts and a parking lot at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.

- 12. Nicole Koester sent an email in support of upgrading the existing tennis courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee to include pickleball lines and nets.
- 13. George Lemley sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts and a parking lot at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 14. Eileen Sloan sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 15. Judy Oelkers sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 16. Sande Thoune sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 17. Skylar Troupe sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 18. Cindy Mercardo sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 19. Bruce Cather sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 20. Connie Schneider sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 21. Destin Baron sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 22. Carrolette Winstead sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 23. Debbie Roos sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 24. Marie Shuttleworth sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 25. Deborah Stevens sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 26. Janice Malasek sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 27. Valerie Peters sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 28. Susan Burress sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.

- 29. Victoria Hart sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 30. Wendy Oliver sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 31. Meade Laney sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 32. Teresa Salazar sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 33. Tracy Ryan sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 34. Barry Skeens sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 35. Becky Skeens sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 36. Michelle May sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 37. Catherine Olvera sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 38. Man-Yun Chin sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 39. Christine Ahlstrand sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 40. Regina Schottmuller sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 41. Teresa Akrish sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 42. Teri Spiker sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 43. Gene Kochert sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 44. Johnny Byrd sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 45. Dawn Hansen sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.

- 46. Robert Blazek sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 47. Andrew Hansen sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 48. Sheryl Schweissinger sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 49. Lindsay Skiba sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 50. Sara Whitlock sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 51. Karen Maish sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Desert Foothills Park in Ahwatukee.
- 52. Nelson Strasser sent an email in support of installing pickleball courts at Herberger Park.
- 53. Mary Anne Curran sent an email in support of funding to update the restroom facilities and additional activity areas, such as pickleball courts, at Roadrunner Park and Paradise Valley Park.
- 54. Teri George sent an email opposing adding wish list items from the public in this year's budget and suggested splitting the city into smaller cities to gain a better connection with citizens.
- 55. Jennifer F. sent an email to support adding funds to add 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan and increasing Public Works and Neighborhood Services budgets to make the Gated Alley Pilot Program a real and official program for Phoenix residents to address homeless encampments and criminal activity. She also requested the city code be updated to reflect current day challenges.
- 56. Kat Bur sent an email in support of adding funding to the 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor along the light rail to make the area safer.
- 57. Crystal Ann sent an email in support of increasing the budget for the Gated Alley Program.
- 58. Mike C. sent an email in support of increasing the budget for the Gated Alley Program.
- 59. Alicia Tocco sent an email in support of adding funding to make the current Gated Alley Pilot Program into a city-wide program available to all residents to address homeless encampments and various criminal activity.
- 60. George & Rosemary Holusha sent an email in support of funds to restore Encanto Park by replanting trees, flowers, and flowering bushes.

- 61. Rick sent an email in support of creating additional community gardens and teaching residents how to grow their own food and become more sustainable.
- 62. Sally Kelen sent an email in support of banning the sale and removal of all nonnative palm trees in the City of Phoenix, as they do not provide shade and need to be watered regularly in high temperatures.
- 63. Richard Herman sent an email in support of removing all non-native palm trees and reallocating funds to plant more native trees that provide shade.
- 64. Theresa Harned sent an email in support of making housing infrastructure a city and county priority instead of using funds to supplement financial support to landlords, and requested funds be used to build affordable housing for those that make \$15 an hour or less.
- 65. Karen Batenic sent an email in support of stopping physical water bills from being mailed to residents who sign up for electronic bill pay to save the city money, postage, and paper waste.
- 66. Colleen Steppa sent an email in support of using funds to help with homeless resources, affordable drug treatment programs, affordable housing, and to expand the light rail and recycling programs to accommodate the growing population.
- 67. Dorothy Williams sent an email in support of rescinding churches' tax-exempt status.
- 68. Jeremy Schachter sent an email in support of adding traffic calming measures in the Willo District on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues similar to what has been installed in the Roosevelt District.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Lambert Administrative Assistant I Marie Rabusa Management Assistant II