

**Carson City
Agenda Report**

Date Submitted: March 12, 2013

Agenda Date Requested: March 21, 2013

Time Requested: 15 Minutes

To: Mayor and Supervisors

From: Supervisor Shirk

Subject Title: For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action regarding the annual budget process including conducting budget hearings whereby departments would present their detailed budgets.

Summary: When it comes to budget specifics, instead of being able to have a discussion with Department Managers, one prior Board opted out, preferring to have a discussion at the policy level only with City staff. Board members can ask for special close door discussion - one with City staffers only.

My opinion - without having Department Managers present there is no challenge to reveal budget details and demand clarity. I believe change is needed in how we negotiate a balanced budget. A prior Board sequestered public input and eliminated their inclusion in the budget review process with Department Managers. This is wrong and needs to be reversed by this Board to permit openness and transparency.

Budget reform requires tackling the accepted, yet, expensive and inefficient ways we conduct business. If we truly want to improve and overhaul our budget, then the Board must start by reforming the way they conduct budget hearings. The outcome of these hearings will have a direct impact on taxes spent, the quality of life experienced and the financial health of families, therefore, their presence should be encouraged.

Type of Action Requested: (check one)

Resolution

Ordinance

Formal Action/Motion

Other (Specify)

Does This Action Require A Business Impact Statement: Yes No

Recommended Board Action: To be determined by the Board.

Explanation for Recommended Board Action: See Summary.

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Explanation of Impact: N/A

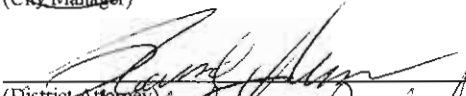
Funding Source: N/A

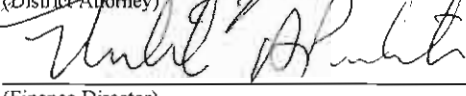
Alternatives: N/A

Supporting Material: N/A

Reviewed By:  Date: 2-28-13
(Supervisor Shirk)

 Date: 3/12/13
(City Manager)

 Date: 3/12/13
(District Attorney)

 Date: 3/12/13
(Finance Director)

Board Action Taken:

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)