

INCREASE FUNDING FOR MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM
AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING 8/16/12

Late Backup

My name is Stuart Harry Hersh, and like most in Austin, I rent. I am solely responsible for the content of this message.

I support affordable housing funding so that my brothers and sisters who can not afford housing in the marketplace have greater access to housing that is safe, located in mixed-income neighborhoods, accessible to people with disabilities, reasonably-priced, and transit-oriented. Safe, mixed-income, accessible, reasonably-priced and transit-oriented, what we call S.M.A.R.T. Housing.

I support Mexic-Arte Museum's funding request for \$5 million dollars so that my sisters and brothers, young and old, who have been served and will be served by Mexic-Arte can enjoy this experience in a new, iconic museum in the future.

Yesterday, you could not find any money for the Mexic-Arte. Today, I suggest that you could reduce the affordable housing amount that you approved yesterday by \$5,000,000 to fund Mexic-Arte while actually increasing your proposed investment in affordable housing over the next 6 years.

In 2000, you created the Housing Trust Fund with \$1,000,000 funding and approved a 40% set-aside of certain property tax revenue in the Urban Core from sites that were not on the tax rolls in 1997. This funding was supposed to be in perpetuity. If you ask the City Manager to find a way to carry out this adopted policy in next year's budget and for the next 6 years, your investment in General Obligations with voter approval and Housing Trust Funds would be at least \$1,000,000 greater than what was adopted yesterday and proposed in the City Manager's budget.

This is only true if you require Housing Trust Fund dollars for affordable housing, not \$557,000 in staffing costs that are currently proposed. Next year's \$1,000,000 could go for home repair, which could free \$400,000 in Community Block Grant funds for Permanent Supportive Housing in very high and high opportunity neighborhoods, thus promoting the geographic dispersion and housing preservation we all are seeking.

This is a win for affordable housing and a win for Mexic-Arte Museum. The \$557,000 staff funding challenge; \$600,000 for housing planning and initiatives; and other housing needs identified but not proposed for funding can also be addressed if there are answers to the Open Records Request filed on 8/2/12 on potential budget windfalls. I have attached a copy for your review.

Stuart Harry Hersh, 1307 Kinney Avenue #117 78704 shersh@austin.rr.com



Date: Thursday, August 2, 2012 10:40 PM
 From: Van Eenoo, Ed <Ed.VanEenoo@austintexas.gov>
 To: shersh@austin.rr.com
 Subject: Re: Budget Open Records Request

Stuart,
 I have forwarded your request to our Corporate Public Information Office. They will submit your questions to the appropriate departments for responses.
 Thank you,
 Ed Van Eenoo

On Aug 2, 2012, at 3:35 PM, "shersh@austin.rr.com" <shersh@austin.rr.com> wrote:

> I am requesting the following budget information:
 > 1. Number of hotels, motels, bed and breakfast paying Hotel Occupancy Tax
 > 2. Anticipated Hotel Occupancy Tax from hotels, motels, and bed and breakfasts
 > in 2012-2013 assuming increase F-1 revenue
 > 3. Number of hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts paying Housing Code license
 > registration fees
 > 4. Total revenue from Housing Code license registration fees
 > 5. Number of hotel, motel, bed and breakfast license inspections performed
 > in 2011-2012 and anticipated in 2012-2013
 > 6. Total City tax revenue from Mueller, Seaholm, and Green development
 > anticipated in 2012-2013
 > as compared to revenue that would be available if revenue was not used to
 > retire
 > infrastructure bonds
 > 7. Anticipated revenue in 2012-2013 to pay for additional multi-family Code
 > Enforcement
 > inspections
 > 8. Total multi-family code enforcement inspections anticipated in 2012-2013
 > 9. City reports documenting how increasing multi-family inspectors would have
 > prevented balcony collapses at 1900 Burton Drive and other locations
 > 10. Anticipated revenue from fines from Building and Standards Commission
 > orders
 > in 2012-2013 compared to 2011-2012
 > 11. Housing Trust Fund revenue sources in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 and
 > revenue
 > from each of the respective sources
 > 12. Properties in the Urban Core that were not on the City tax rolls in 1997
 > and are not
 > contributing to the Housing Trust Fund
 > 13. Plan review and inspection performance measures for S.M.A.R.T. Housing in
 > 2012-2013
 > 14. Building permit and building plan review revenue anticipated in 2011-2012
 > and 2012-2013
 > and actual revenue in these categories to date in 2011-2012
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