

AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 6/18/24 ITEM NO. 2A 8,20

21, 27, 28, 32, 35,
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Aliza Barraza

From: gailault [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, June 15, 2024 10:27 AM
To: COB_mail; District1; District2; District3; District4
Subject: Board of Supervisors Meeting 6/18/2024

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Please include the following comments on the 6/18/24 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Thank you.

Come on Supervisors - sometimes your job is to do the hard stuff like postpone funding for frills in a time of budget crunch. As a taxpayer I am concerned with the slow creep upwards in my taxes, especially when it results in no noticeable improvement in services. Item 8 reflects that some reduction in spending has occurred - congratulations - but, please, do more.

Certainly funding for the renovation of Teatro Carmen (**Item 27**), when funds are flush, could be justified - but not now! Certainly tourism brings dollars to our community and funding the attraction of visitors (**Item 28**) is worthwhile when we have the funds but not at the cost of added cost to our taxpayers. Reduce each of these agency/program recommendations by 10 percent and the groups will still exist next year. Likewise the Pima County Cooperative Extension Appropriation (**Item 32**) could be reduced by 10 percent and the enhancements will probably still occur.

Item 20 Grant Acceptance Institute of Museum and Library Services, Library Services and Technology Act to provide for the Writers in Residence in libraries:

Three Writers in Residencies paying over \$800/mo to individual "writers". These writers "spend assigned time with library customers through consultations, workshop and other educational opportunities." What known benefits to library patrons are realized from this program?

Certainly these programs are being monitored and evaluated for the cost of the program versus benefits received. If our county citizens are receiving a valuable benefit I would like to know, wouldn't you supervisors?

This year, with given budget constraints, might be a good year to temporarily suspend this program - let's see if there is a hue and cry from the taxpaying public.

Item 21 Grant Acceptance Institute of Museum and Library Services, Library Services and Technology Act to provide for serving Patrons' Psychosocial needs in the library:

What is the mission statement of the library?

This seems like mission creep. While the library staff must react to inappropriate actions of individuals in the building, they are not responsible for correcting the mental or social actions of patrons. This belongs to an agency better equipped to handle these issues.

Additionally other library actions seem to contradict the need for the expansion of non-library related services including those related to social or mental conditions of customers. For several years, the library has been expanding its mission with Libby, audible, outside pickup of library materials, and other ways to reach individuals without requiring them to actually come inside the library building.

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What does research show in the amount of traffic that actually enters the library building? Has this increased or decreased? Stop the Mission creep!

Item 35 Attractions and Tourism Metropolitan Tucson Convention and Visitors Bureau request for \$5,600,000 seems excessive and you've already allocated \$400,000 to outside agency funding - delete at least \$400,000 from Item 35.

Item 39 City of Tucson, Intergovernmental Agreement regarding Eviction Legal Services - Emergency Housing - \$1,197,683.00. Certainly a reduction in unsheltered and homeless individuals is an admirable event but the goal is for the individuals to become responsible citizens. Amend the IGA but for a lesser amount. The County just does not have the funds!!

Thank you.

Gail Ault

Pima County resident since 2003

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