



April 25, 2024

Dear Mayor Steinberg and Members of the City Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on budget priorities as you deliberate on significant budget reductions. We also appreciate the community outreach, including the survey that many of our neighborhood association members participated in, and the Clunie Center community meeting.

We hope that the City Council will be able to reduce the impact of the cuts by focusing on Levels 1 and 2 reductions presented by City Staff, as well as any revenue enhancements. We largely agree with the letter sent by neighborhood associations led by Jennifer Holden with the Mangan Park Neighborhood Association but wanted to add a few thoughts of our own.

We agree that maintaining Police and Fire services should be a very high priority and that any cuts be limited to non-essential expenditures. Please try to avoid any Police and Fire cuts outlined in the Level 3 and 4 lists. Law Enforcement is essential and these services are already understaffed.

We agree that there should be full transparency on funding to non-profit organizations. We understand they provide many essential services, but there should be full accountability.

Please avoid any Level 3 and 4 reductions in the Youth Parks and Community Enrichment Department as these programs serve so many, especially in low-resource areas.

Although we did see reductions in the list to core services such as homelessness outreach and services and park and street maintenance, we hope that these basic services will remain intact.

Please feel free to contact Tricia Stevens, ESCA President, at president@eastsacramento.org if you have questions.

Best regards,

Tricia Stevens

Tricia Stevens, President
East Sacramento Community Association (ESCA)