How will the 21.5% Budget Shortfall Impact City Services?

Background

Since the mid-1980s, the City of Palos Verdes Estates has relied primarily on revenue from the combination of property taxes and a supplemental parcel tax to pay for:

- public safety services;
- street, tree and parkland maintenance;
- the City’s infrastructure;
- community programs; and
- internal operations.

For the past 20 years, the parcel tax was specifically dedicated to covering the cost of fire and paramedic services, allowing property taxes to pay for other municipal services and capital projects.

Measure D, a special parcel tax to renew the funding of fire and paramedic services, was on the ballot for Palos Verdes Estates city voters on March 7, 2017. As a special tax, a two-thirds majority vote was necessary for its approval. It was defeated with 60% of residents voting in favor.

Current Budget Projections

Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 revenue is currently projected to be $13,843,377 in relation to expenditures and transfers of $18,476,243. Not having the parcel tax revenue creates the shortfall.

What Comprises the City Budget

For FY 2017-18, fire and paramedic services are a fixed cost of $4.99 million, so budget balancing reductions must come from all other services and departments. Information on the calculation of this rate can be found at www.pvestates.org under Services/Fire and Paramedic Department. Excluding expenditures for fire and paramedic services, the budget broken down by department is:

Continued on next page
How will the 21.5% Budget Shortfall Impact City Services?

Continued from front page

- Police Department is 55% of the budget,
- Planning and Public Works is 30% of the budget, and
- Finance and Administration is 15% of the budget.

Among these departments, the City’s budget is comprised of:

- Personnel (66%)
- Materials/supplies and contracts (34%)

What is the Structural Deficit for Palos Verdes Estates?

The City of Palos Verdes Estates has a structural budget deficit of $3.97 million (21.5%) for FY 2017-18 beginning July 1, 2017. The imbalance is due to the cost of fire and paramedic services previously funded through a special parcel tax that is no longer received by the City. The deficit is projected to increase in FY 2018-19 due to:

- increasing service contract costs;
- technology and citywide infrastructure needs;
- additional tree trimming, beautification projects, and traffic improvements;
- future pension costs; and
- unfunded state mandates (for example, maintaining storm water runoff).

Historically, such increases have been absorbed by the City’s longstanding practice of conservative budgeting. However, all available resources are now necessary to maintain essential and basic services.

How will Palos Verdes Estates Address the Structural Budget Deficit?

Over the next two months, the City Council will address how to resolve the budget deficit. Among its options are temporary reliance on fiscal reserves, the implementation of budget reductions and the implementation of fee increases. Budget decisions will be made with the goals of maintaining essential and basic services, protecting against risk and liability vulnerabilities, and avoiding an implosion of the City’s sustainability resulting from fiscal uncertainty. As part of the budget discussion, a new tax measure may also be considered to ensure the City’s long-term fiscal health.

The City’s Fiscal Reserves

Funds in emergency reserves, for capital projects, and for equipment replacement are available as an option to temporarily resolve the budget deficit. They are “one-time” sources; once spent, the funds are depleted and could only be re-accumulated from budget savings.

- The City also has $3,581,529 appropriated for infrastructure improvement projects or replacement purchases and $2,714,173 for equipment replacement. If any of these projects are cancelled, the funds can be made available one time to cover operating costs for a limited period.

Conclusion

The City Council seeks community input for determining how to address the budget deficit and for considering new supplemental revenue to carry the City into the future.

- The month of May will be focused on public engagement.
- In June, public hearing(s) will be held for adoption of the annual budget by July 1, 2017.

The impact of fixing the structural deficit will require difficult decisions that will impact services currently received by residents. Therefore, now, more than ever, it is important that residents engage with the City and participate in the budget process.

For more information, please visit and monitor the City’s website at www.pvestates.org. To receive notification of meeting agendas, please sign up on the City’s website at http://www.pvestates.org/how-do-i/sign-up-for-e-notifications.
Date Reminders

Palos Verdes Estates

Date Reminders

Saturday, May 20, 2017
Bulky Trash Pick-up

Monday, May 29, 2017
City Hall will be closed in observance of Memorial Day

Tuesday, July 4, 2017
Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration
Malaga Cove School Site
375 Via Almar
City Hall will be closed in observance of Independence Day

Thursday, July 13, 2017
Pet Vaccine Clinic
5:30-7:30pm
City Hall Upper Parking Lot,
340 Palos Verdes Drive West

Interested in serving on a City Commission or Committee?

Civic minded volunteers wanted! The City is accepting applications for terms on the Planning Commission, Parklands Committee, Investment Policy Advisory Committee, Technology Task Force, and Traffic Safety Committee. Interested Palos Verdes Estates residents are encouraged to volunteer and submit an application for the positions.

There will be two expiring terms on the Planning Commission, two expiring terms on the Parklands Committee and three expiring terms on the Traffic Safety Committee. Appointments are for a two-year term beginning in July. Commission/Committees meet monthly as follows: Planning Commission meets on the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.; the Parklands Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; and the Traffic Safety Committee meets on the 1st Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The Investment Policy Advisory Committee and Technology Task Force are new, and regular meeting dates and times have not yet been set.

Applications and additional information are available at City Hall or online at www.pvestates.org (on the Home Page, click on “How do I...” then “apply to serve...”). The deadline for submittal of applications is Friday, May 19, 2017, but may be extended. City Council interview date is to be confirmed. For questions, please contact the City Clerk at (310) 378-0383 or cityclerk@pvestates.org.

To connect with the City, call (310) 378-0383 or visit www.pvestates.org.
Palos Verdes Tennis Club Junior Round-Up

The Palos Verdes Tennis Club offers fun and challenging group workouts for youth ages 4 to 17. Home to six United States Tennis Association (USTA) certified tennis professionals with notable experience in training juniors, the Club offers a combination of coordination and agility drills to assist in the development of well-rounded tennis players.

Quick start tennis equipment is utilized to get the most out of the “Hot Shots” program which is available to children as young as 4 years old. The “Hot Shots” workout is offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

The older juniors (age 7 and up) are grouped by level from 1 to 4. Levels 1 and 2 are beginners to intermediate, and levels 3 and 4 are more experienced players. Level 1, 2 and 3 workouts are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and level 4 workouts are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

You do not have to be a member of the Palos Verdes Tennis Club to participate in the junior workouts. For more information, and to sign up, please visit the Club’s website at www.pvtennisclub.com.

Palos Verdes Stables Lesson Program

Palos Verdes Stables offers a multi-tiered lesson program from beginner ponies to advanced horses. Lessons are provided for all ages from tots to adults.

Palos Verdes Stables takes great pride in providing a safe and supportive environment for children to thrive and succeed. The tots program introduces young children not only to ride horses but to love them. Participants are taught how to appropriately brush, tack and ride ponies. The lesson program offers a wide range of options from 1/2 hour private lessons for beginners to hour long group rides for more advanced riders.

For more information, call (310) 378-3527.
Bulky Trash Pick-Up – May 20

The popular curbside pickup of bulky items has been expanded to provide two events in 2017. As an extra benefit to residents, e-waste will now also be included. The first combined Bulky Waste and E-Waste collection day is scheduled for Saturday, May 20. Items should be placed at curbside no later than 6:00 a.m. Items placed at the curb after 6:00 a.m. will not be picked up.

Bulky trash is defined as: furniture, appliances, water heaters, refrigerators (compressors removed), stoves, sinks, lawn furniture, doors, windows, screens, mattresses, beds and rugs. E-waste such as TVs, DVD players, radios, printers, computer monitors and microwave ovens also will be accepted. Unacceptable items include: construction waste; green waste; and hazardous waste such as cleaning products, automotive fluids and pool chemicals.

You may contact Athens Services directly if you have construction waste and are in need of a temporary debris container. For more information you may contact Athens Services at (888) 336-6100 or visit www.AthensServices.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Attention All Registered Voters in the City of Palos Verdes Estates

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to California Elections Code Section 1301, the City of Palos Verdes Estates Ordinance No. 16-719, and the action taken by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on April 4, 2017; the date of General Municipal Elections for the City of Palos Verdes Estates shall be changed from March of odd-numbered years to November of even-numbered years, beginning in the year 2020 to coincide with statewide election dates.

As a result of the change in election date, members of the City Council and City Treasurer terms of office that began in 2017 will expire in November 2020. The City Council member terms of office that will begin in 2019 will expire in November 2022.

The next Regular General Municipal Election will be March 8, 2019. For more information, please call the City Clerk’s office at 310-378-0383.

Vickie Kroneberger, CMC, City Clerk
City of Palos Verdes Estates
cityclerk@pvestates.org
Call for Interns!

The City of Palos Verdes Estates is accepting internship applications for the Administration and City Clerk departments. Internships will include opportunities to work with staff on various projects and gain local government experience. This is an unpaid internship program and is open to high school and college students. Hours and length of internship may be discussed.

Applications will be accepted beginning May 1st.

For more information or to complete an application, please visit https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pvestates or call Human Resources at (310) 378-0383.

Living Among Coyotes

Coyotes are found throughout the Southern California and Los Angeles area, and thrive in the urban environment. They survive because the urban environment provides food, water, shelter and space. During the past two years, coyote sightings have increased significantly in the South Bay area of Los Angeles. Whether or not related to coyotes, incidents of missing pets have also increased throughout the region.

Most people see coyotes in the urban environment walking along trails, streets or open spaces. Coyote attacks on humans are very rare, as coyotes are as scared of us as we may be scared of them. However, small pets, such as dogs and cats, are at risk of being the prey of coyotes if precautions are not taken.

Coyotes have adequate natural food supplies and are capable of surviving in an urban environment without our help. Unfortunately, we sometimes unknowingly make it too easy or comfortable for the coyotes to eat and drink at our homes rather than forage for rodents in the open spaces by leaving pet food out or not picking up fallen fruit from fruit trees. The best way to protect people, pets and coyotes is to discourage coyotes from visiting your property by modifying behaviors and reducing attractants.

In Palos Verdes Estates, the Police Department manages animal-related concerns. Ultimately, if a coyote becomes a significant risk to public safety or the protection of private property, the Police Department can initiate efforts for trapping. However, the ideal and preferred practice is that residents and coyotes learn to live symbiotically, as coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem. Residents are encouraged to notify the Police Department to report coyote sightings.

RESOURCES

Visit the Palos Verdes Estates website (www.pvestates.org) and look for the following links on the Coyote Information page:

- Palos Verdes Estates Police Department Coyote Management Strategy
- Monthly Coyote Activity Map
- Living with Urban Coyotes
- Home & Yard Checklist for Coyote Attractants
- Coyote Hazing Techniques
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife Brochure: Keep Me Wild
Become A Neighborhood Watch Member For Free – During 2017

Palos Verdes Estates Neighborhood Watch is a non-profit organization that started in 1980 and is operated by a group of volunteers that are passionate about keeping our community safe. Neighborhood Watch works when neighbors and residents work together to be watchful and aware, incorporating the best practices of crime prevention while also getting to know one another.

In an effort to reach its goal of registering all 5,200 households as members, Palos Verdes Estates Neighborhood Watch is offering a free membership to every household in 2017. In 2016, 676 households were registered as members of Palos Verdes Estates Neighborhood Watch. The normal cost of membership is $10 annually, which is tax-deductible.

Your Palos Verdes Estates Neighborhood Watch donation supports community programs such as National Night Out, Independence Day Celebration, PVE-CARES and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Community Emergency Response Team. Neighborhood Watch also provides holiday meals to our Police and Fire Department working on Thanksgiving and Christmas, and produces the Neighborhood Watch newsletter and website.

Help achieve the 2017 goal to have EVERY HOUSEHOLD in the City become a member of Neighborhood Watch. Sign-up today, for FREE, at pvenwboard@gmail.com or visit www.PVENW.org for more information. JOIN NOW—IT'S FREE!

Remember, be aware. Be prepared. Be safe! If you spot any suspicious or criminal activity, immediately call (310) 378-4211, or call 911 for life-threatening emergencies. Thank you for supporting your Neighborhood Watch.

Palos Verdes Golf Club Accepting Applications

The Palos Verdes Golf Club is currently accepting applications for membership. Guaranteed priority admission is given to Palos Verdes Estates residential property owners. For additional information or to arrange a tour, please contact Donna Myers at (310) 791-7942 or Donna@pvgc.com.

The Palos Verdes Golf Club celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1999. Numerous enhancements over the years have modernized the course, which still retains its traditional character as designed by William (Billy) Bell and West Coast architect George Thomas.

The Palos Verdes Golf Club is semi-private and many of the starting times are reserved for members. The clubhouse is open to the public for dining and special events. More information can be found at www.pvgc.com
The Palos Verdes Beach and Athletic Club (PVBAC) once again will offer youth swim lessons at the PVBAC pool, beginning in June, for club members and non-members.

Lessons are provided for children of all skill levels beginning as young as age six months. Lessons are 30 minutes in duration with the first session beginning at 10 a.m. and the last session beginning at 12:30 p.m. This is a lesson program only – no recreational swimming is available. Non-member resident cost is $180/session.

Space is limited, so please contact the PVBAC at (310) 375-8777 now for more information or to enroll. Sign-ups begin May 1st for PVE Residents. The PVBAC will handle registrations and payments directly.

The PVBAC is also open to non-member Palos Verdes Estates residents, who can purchase day passes to use the pool and pool deck, two jacuzzis, locker rooms, sauna and steam room, and snack shack (open seasonally). Day pass holders are provided access to swimming and water aerobics classes. The cost of a day pass is $30 per person for Palos Verdes Estates residents.

Regular hours of operation include Monday – Friday, 5:45 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday – Sunday, 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. From June 15th to September 4th, hours of operation are extended until 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.
A Message from Police Chief Kepley

As we ended 2016 and started 2017, Part 1 Crimes continue to be low compared to other South Bay cities. This is due to our increased police presence in your neighborhoods, proactive efforts, response to calls of suspicious people and cars, and two-minute response times.

A majority of Part 1 crimes are a result of burglaries and thefts. Many of these can be prevented by your proactive efforts. For example, if you have a house alarm, set it when you leave. If you are going on vacation, fill out a vacation form with the police department so we can have our volunteers check your house while you are on vacation. Also, remember to lock your vehicles, and don’t leave valuables (computer, cell phone, money, purse, etc.) in plain sight.

Also, please get involved with your neighborhood. For example, you can join Neighborhood Watch, or even join our volunteers as a Volunteer in Police Services or a Parkland Ranger.

Working together, we can maintain the recent crime reduction, and continue to send the message that Palos Verdes Estates will not stand for crime. By taking preemptive measures such as not leaving valuables in plain sight within our cars and reporting suspicious people and cars, we can work together to reduce crime in Palos Verdes Estates.

Stay connected with the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department on Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, and Nixle (web addresses can be found on Page 11).

Together, we can make a difference!

Jeff Kepley, PVE Police Chief

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The PVPCERT is a government/community resource that provides basic training in disaster preparedness necessary to help you help your family, your neighborhood, and your community in a disaster. CERT is a registered California Corporation and has IRS Tax Exempt status as a nonprofit entity under IRS 501(c)(3).

The approved CERT course is a 20-hour course and is provided at no charge to community members through grants from the Department of Homeland Security, the State of California and County of Los Angeles. In order to complete CERT Certification, students must complete the entire 20 hour course. Students may make up missed classes with other CERT courses anywhere in Los Angeles County based on availability.

PVPCERT training and participation provides essential training and information to enable you to prepare your homes and families to cope during the critical period immediately following a disaster. That period is when professional emergency services will be taxed beyond capability. PVPCERT will train you to become part of the solution and to do the most good for the highest number of people as part of a trained, well managed team.

Continued on next page
The goal of PVPCERT is to:

- Prepare you, your family and your home to survive a disaster.
- Prepare you to assist families and neighbors in time of a disaster.
- Prepare teams of Peninsula residents as first responders to support regular emergency personnel in a disaster.

Basic training consists of seven comprehensive training sessions which include demonstrations and exercises in such areas as:

- Disaster Preparedness
- Disaster Fire Suppression
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Light Search and Rescue
- Disaster Psychology, Organization and Terrorism
- Disaster Simulation and Exercise

Residents are encouraged to join CERT.
For additional information go to: http://www.palosverdes.com/pvpcert/

In addition to CERT, the City of Palos Verdes Estates has developed a comprehensive community based disaster preparedness and response program known as the Palos Verdes Estates Disaster District Program (DDP). With a select group of volunteers the program is designed to increase disaster readiness and survivability at the neighborhood level during a disaster.

The program divides the City into 6 Disaster Districts, each equipped with a cache of equipment and supplies to support community responders. Managed by sworn Disaster Service Worker Volunteers under the City’s Disaster Services Coordinator, the program integrates the resources of disaster services including area CERT members, Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team (NART), Disaster Service Workers (DSW) and the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department’s Reserve Corps.

Additionally, the Get Ready – Get Certified program has been developed as a component of the DDP devised to enhance resident emergency preparedness. The program is designed to allow residents to self-certify through an easy 3-step process:

- Become informed about Disaster Preparedness and develop, and implement, a household plan using the Get Ready – Get Certified guidelines.
- Acquire and safely store adequate water and food supplies for each household member.
- Acquire and safely store emergency equipment and supplies.

The City will provide the requisite sources of information to accomplish these three actions. When these three steps are complete, a one-page self-certification form that demonstrates the completion of the three step process will be provided. For additional information on this program, or to begin the certification process, contact Community Relations Officer Marcelle Herrera at (310) 378-4211.
Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration

The annual Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for Tuesday, July 4, 2017, on the grounds of Malaga Cove School.

This longstanding, successful community-wide event could not happen without the hard work and dedication of the Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration Committee. This committee initially was founded in 1962 by PVE resident volunteers. The event continues to be funded by private donations from Peninsula residents and is supported by the City of Palos Verdes Estates.

The goal of this event is to applaud American values, celebrate our nation’s independence, highlight our heritage of freedom and promote patriotism.

The committee welcomes residents interested in joining its effort in presenting this community event. For more information on the event or how to donate your time or resources, please contact Donovan Black at (310) 377-1848 or by email: donovannan@msn.com.

Stay Connected to the City

The City’s website is the official source for all City information on meetings, agendas, reports and background information. The City does not receive or monitor social media sites for comments or for receiving public reports and requests. NextDoor, other social media tools (such as Nixle), Neighborhood Watch e-blasts, and the City Newsletter are utilized to share some key information, such as event notification and general information, but residents are encouraged to monitor the City’s website (www.pvestates.org) for official and comprehensive information.

To receive email notifications from the City, select SIGN ME UP to register on the City’s website at www.pvestates.org.

As always, residents can contact the City at (310) 378-0383 with any questions or concerns.

In an effort to have even greater outreach to residents, the City and Police Department maintain accounts on several social media platforms and post information on a regular basis.

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<th>Official City Social Media Accounts:</th>
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<td>Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/CityofPVEstates">http://www.facebook.com/CityofPVEstates</a></td>
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