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CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS



CITY OF DALLAS

Memorandum

DATE August 18, 2023

TO T.C. Broadnax, City Manager

SUBJECT **Revised FY 2023-24 Budget**

Dear Mr. Broadnax:

Please review the attached memo from Chairwoman Cara Mendelsohn and develop a revised FY 2023–24 Budget based upon a no-new-revenue (NNR) tax rate. Please submit this revised NNR-based budget to the City Council for its review no later than September 1, 2023 at 5 p.m. for discussion during the September 6, 2023 Budget Workshop.

I commend you and your staff for your work to develop a FY 2023–24 Proposed Budget. I am encouraged to see that this budget includes significant investments to support our city's police and fire departments, an increase in the property tax exemption for residents who are over 65 or living with a disability, and a reduction in our city's tax rate.

However, I am concerned by the looming structural deficit that our city's five-year budget forecast reveals and believe it is necessary to deliver essential services more efficiently and substantially reduce our spending starting now to secure our city's financial future.

In addition, one of my top three priorities is providing meaningful tax relief to the residents of Dallas. My goal is to ensure Dallas residents actually pay less this year in city property taxes than they did last year and for Dallas to become the major city with the lowest tax rate in the North Texas region.

It is for these reasons that I am fully supportive of a NNR-based budget that includes funding for an outside, professional efficiency audit to ensure the future financial health of our city. I urge you to review Chairwoman Mendelsohn's recommendations for how to achieve this outcome and to discuss any questions regarding the feasibility of her recommendations with her directly and to include Chairman West, as chair of the Government Performance and Financial Management Committee, in these discussions.

The residents of Dallas deserve, and can have, a city that taxes them less, spends less, and delivers essential services more efficiently and cost-effectively this upcoming fiscal year and in future years.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter critical to the financial health of our city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Johnson'.

Eric L. Johnson
Mayor

c: Honorable Members of the Dallas City Council
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Tammy Palomino, Interim City Attorney

Mark Swann, City Auditor
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager