



News from
Office of the Mayor
PRESS CONTACT:

Paul Rose
510-238-7914
pwrose@oaklandnet.com

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Mayor Ron Dellums Orders Review of City Budget Situation as Part of Top-To-Bottom Evaluation of City Administration

Announces Team to Address Administrative Issues and Further the Mayor's Vision of a Seamless Strong Mayor Form of Government

OAKLAND – Mayor Ron Dellums today announced that he will reevaluate the city of Oakland's budget deficit, which could be significantly higher than what was presented during the previous mid-cycle budget review. At the direction of the mayor, Acting City Administrator Dan Lindheim asked city departments to reevaluate their budgets in an effort to get a better sense of Oakland's financial situation.

“As part of my office's top-to-bottom assessment of Oakland city government, I have ordered a comprehensive review of the city's fiscal situation, so we can move forward in a way that is financially responsible and accountable to Oakland residents. As the CEO of Oakland, it is my responsibility to ensure that government is operating in the most efficient, seamless and responsible manner, which reflects the strong mayor form of government.”

Mayor Dellums said: “A strong mayor form of government will provide strong leadership from all branches of government to return stability and excellence to City Hall, by implementing a series of reforms and uniting key players to remove political and bureaucratic barriers for the benefit of this city. We have to streamline the lines of communication, enhance the decision-making process and centralize all executive functions in an efficient and seamless manner.”

During the press conference, the mayor also announced the designation of a team composed of nationally recognized consulting firm Public Financial Management, Inc., led by former Oakland City Administrator Robert Bobb, and former Oakland Budget Director Marianna Marysheva-Martinez, who will serve as a Policy Advisor to the mayor. The team will work with the Mayor's Office, department directors, and elected officials over the next few months, to conduct an objective assessment of city finances and recommend revisions to budget; develop measures to control spending and hiring; audit the current executive and management structure of the city and recommend changes appropriate for the strong mayor form of government - consistent with the mayor's vision for Oakland; and develop a strong and effective communications strategy, internally and externally.

The team will also develop a profile for the new city administrator, appropriate for the strong mayor form of government and consistent with the Mayor's vision for Oakland as a model city. A nationwide search for the new city administrator will be conducted based on the established profile.

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