



Office of the Mayor

Tom Bates
Mayor

RECEIVED AT
COUNCIL MEETING OF:
JUL 19 2005

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF BERKELEY

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 19, 2005

TO: Members of the City Council

FROM: Mayor Tom Bates

SUBJECT: Alternative Language for Item #33, Referral to Budget Process

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council 1.) request appropriate city commissions (Human Welfare, Homeless, Parks and Recreation, Housing, etc.) provide the City Council with a short list of priority allocations if additional funds are available at the mid-year budget review; and 2.) request the "Save the Safety Net Coalition" and other interested organizations provide the commissions and the City Council with their input and recommendations on community needs and priorities during this process.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the FY 2006 budget approval, the City Council approved the Mayor's budget amendments, including a list of potential funding restorations to be examined at the mid-year budget review in December. The Council directed all applicable funding restorations to be reviewed by our commissions prior to any final decision.

In addition, the Council agreed to examine a possible \$225,000 in unallocated funding for the city's "safety net" programs at the mid-year review, per the recommendations of the "Save the Safety Net Coalition." In their item on the July 19th agenda, Council Members Spring and Worthington have suggested that this additional funding be referred to the Commissions now for their review.

This item makes a small adjustment to that referral by asking the commissions to identify two or three priority allocations if additional resources are available at the mid-year. In addition, it asks the Safety Net Coalition and other groups to provide input and recommendations as part of this review process. This will provide the Council with important information about unmet community needs without setting up a specific budget target and the expectations that go with it.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None at this time, potential expenditures at the mid-year review.