



City of Scottsdale
Budget Review Commission
Regular Meeting

Notice and **MARKED** Agenda

1:00 p.m., Friday, April 11, 2025
Kiva – City Hall
3939 Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Call to Order / Roll Call 1:00 p.m.

David Smith, Chair (departed at 4:46 p.m., returned at 4:51 p.m.)
Daniel Schweiker, Vice-Chair
Carla, Commissioner
Brad Newman, Commissioner (departed at 3:05 p.m.)
Jim Ransco, Commissioner
Sharyn Seitz, Commissioner (departed at 4:27 p.m.)
Mark Stephens, Commissioner

One or more members of the Budget Review Commission may be attending the meeting by telephone, video, or internet conferencing, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431(4)

PRESENT: Chair David Smith, Vice-Chair Daniel Schweiker, Commissioners: Carla, Brad Newman, Jim Ransco, Sharyn Seitz, and Mark Stephens

Public Comment

Citizens may address the members of the Budget Review Commission regarding items on the agenda and items that are not on the agenda. Unless otherwise noted by the Chair, public comment on agendized items will be taken during the discussion of that agenda item. Public comment on items that are not on the agenda will be taken during the public comment portion of the meeting. Citizens wishing to speak may complete a Request to Speak "Public Comment" card and submit it to City Staff. **Public testimony is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker unless otherwise noted by the Chair.**

Written comment cards are also being accepted for agendized and non-agendized items and may be submitted to City Staff at any time. Please note that Arizona State law prohibits the Commission from discussing or taking action on an item that is not on the prepared agenda.

Public Comment time is reserved for Scottsdale citizens, business owners, and/or property owners to comment on non-agendized items that are within the Budget Review Commission's jurisdiction. Citizens wishing to speak may complete a Request to Speak "Public Comment" card and submit it to City Staff before the close of Public Comment. Public testimony is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker unless otherwise noted by the Chair.

Chair's Report

1. Approval of Minutes of March 27, 2025

Request approval of minutes of the March 27, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting.

Commission Action: Discussion and action.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to approve the March 27, 2025 Meeting Minutes, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

2. Consider, Prioritize and Approve Recommendations to Council

The Commission will discuss recommendations submitted by Commissioners and possible report formats and consider approving its final recommendations and report to be presented to the Council for the April 22 meeting with Council. The recommendations include recommendations for the FY2025/26 Proposed Budget as well as recommendations for other budget and financial considerations. Discussions and recommendations include but are not limited to, the following topics (recommendations submitted by Commissioners have been grouped into the following topics for discussion purposes):

Commission Action: Information, discussion and possible action

- A. Recommendations related to Capital Project Funding, Capital Project Management and Processes and Capital Projects Proposed in the FY25/26 Proposed Capital Budget and 5 Year CIP

Approved as Amended 7-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to approve Recommendations I.1 as amended by Chair Smith and I.2 as written, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Commissioner Seitz to recommend that City Council consider how to ascertain and mitigate the city's ultimate financial liability for modifying and raising Bartlett Dam as described in Project W104, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 6-1: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker that Recommendation I.6 be approved for submission to City Council, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. Commissioner Carla dissented. There was 1 dissenting votes.

Approved as Amended 7-0: Motion by Commissioner Carla that Recommendation I.7 be approved for submission to City Council with additional language regarding the impact to the surrounding senior community, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Commissioner Seitz that Recommendation I.8 be moved to the future and to not be considered in the current budget at this time, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Commissioner Seitz that Recommendations II.1, II.2, and II.3 be struck without any further discussion, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Commissioner Stephens that Recommendation III.16 be adopted in concept and integrated with other concepts within that section relating to it, with the removal of Recommendation III.16.c and modification of “task force” to “City-directed team”, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker that the report encompass Recommendations IV.1, IV.4, IV.5, IV.6, and IV.7 combined into one item, 2nd Commissioner Stephens; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker that Recommendations IV.2 and IV.3 be approved together for submission to City Council, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

B. Recommendations related to Major Operating Budget Revenues

Approved 5-2: Motion by Chair Smith that the advisory to City Council be to consider suspending by City Council action, the City’s 1.70 percent tax on groceries, 2nd Commissioner Newman; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Newman, Ransco, and Seitz voted in the affirmative. Commissioners Carla and Stephens voted against the motion.

Approved 7-0: Motion by Commissioner Newman to approve the Budget Review Commission’s recommendation that City Council consider suspending the 0.15 percent preserve tax (once all preserve debt and other liabilities have been repaid or provided for with preserve fund cash reserves) to ensure future taxes are not collected from citizens for no approved obligations, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Newman, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 6-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to move Recommendations II.5 through II.11 to a future Budget Review Commission agenda following this year’s budget and not appear in the report to City Council, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

C. Recommendations for Operating Department Budgets Included In the Proposed FY2025/26 Operating Budget

Approved 6-0: Motion by Commissioner Stephens to approve Recommendation C.3 for submission to City Council, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 6-0: Motion by Commissioner Stephens to adopt the substance of Recommendations C.11 and C.12, including elements of Recommendation C.2 for submission to City Council, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 6-0: Motion by Commissioner Stephens to approve Recommendations C.4, 5, 6 and C.20 in concept as a cost recovery comment, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 6-0: Motion by Commissioner Seitz to delete Recommendations C.7 and C.20, and that Recommendations C.8 and C.9 be rephrased to acknowledge that the Budget Review Commission will work on them in the future, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 6-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to delete Recommendations C.7 and C.10, and that Recommendations C.8 and C.9 be rephrased to acknowledge that the Budget Review Commission will work on them in the future, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 6-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to recommend that City Council give consideration to establishing a consistent process of city manager and treasurer review of overtime on a quarterly basis, 2nd Commissioner Seitz; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-1: Motion by Commissioner Carla to remove Recommendations C.15 and C.16, 2nd Commissioner Seitz; Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. Chair Smith voted no on the motion.

Approved 5-1: Motion by Chair Smith to approve Recommendation B.II.7 for submission to City Council, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, and Seitz voted in the affirmative. Commissioner Stephens opposed the motion.

Approved 6-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to remove Recommendations C.18, D.3 and D.5, followed by the approval of Recommendation D.8 for submission to City Council in an abbreviated form, 2nd Vice-Chair Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, Seitz and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to remove Recommendation C.17, 2nd Commissioner Stephens; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation C.19, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

D. Recommendations Related to Pension Costs

Approved 5-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to remove Recommendation D.1, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation D.2, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation D.4, 2nd Commissioner Stephens; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to remove Recommendation D.6, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation D.7, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to withdrawn Recommendation D.9, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

E. Recommendations Related to Fund Balance, Reserves and Contingencies

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation E.1, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Stephens to merge and shorten Recommendations E.2 and E.4, before approving them for submission to City Council, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Stephens to merge Recommendation E.3 into the previously approved motion for Recommendations E.2 and E.4, 2nd Vice-Chair Schweiker; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 4-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation E.5, 2nd (made off camera and off mic); Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

F. Recommendations for Budget Governing Financial Policies

Approved 4-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation F.1 and schedule it for discussion next season, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 4-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation F.2, 2nd Commissioner Carla; Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Carla to remove Recommendation F.3, 2nd Commissioner Stephens; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 3-2: Motion by Commissioner Carla to remove Recommendation F.4, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. Chair Smith and Vice Chair Schweiker both dissented.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Ransco to remove Recommendation F.6, 2nd Commissioner Stephens; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Vice-Chair Schweiker to approve Recommendation F.7 for submission to City Council, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

3. Discuss and Consider Additional Recommendations to Council

Commission will discuss, consider and approve additional recommendations to be included in the report and presented to Council.

Commission Action: Information, discussion and possible action - **No action taken**

4. Discuss and Approve Finalizing Report and Method of Presentation to Council

Commissioners will discuss the method and manner which recommendations will be presented to Council for consideration, including but not limited to, the general form of the report, selecting and approving the representative(s) of the Budget Review Commission who will work with city staff to finalize the Report and the Representative(s) who will present the Commission's Recommendations to the City Council.

Commission Action: Information, discussion and possible action

Approved 5-0: Motion by Commissioner Carla that Commissioner Stephens be appointed as the Commission's representative working on the report with staff, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

Approved 5-0: Motion by Chair Smith that the Chair, Vice-Chair, and their designees be appointed as the Commission's official representatives to answer City Council questions regarding the Report, 2nd Commissioner Ransco; Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.

5. Identification and Approval of Possible Future Agenda Items

Commission members may request items or proposed topics be voted on to be placed on future agendas. Commission members may also request and vote on items or proposed topics to be provided via a memorandum or other documentation from city staff instead of a presentation on a future agenda. The Commission may not discuss, deliberate, or take legal action on any matter in the "Identification and Approval of Possible Future Agenda Items" unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Commission Action: Information, discussion, and action - **No action taken**

Adjournment 5:29 p.m.

Approved 5-0: Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Ransco, 2nd (made off camera and off mic); Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Schweiker, Commissioners Carla, Ransco, and Stephens voted in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes.



Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting Carol Banegas Stankus at 480-312-2427. Requests should be made 24 hours in advance, or as early as possible, to allow time to arrange the accommodation. For TTY users, the Arizona Relay Service (1-800-367-8939) may contact Carol Banegas Stankus 480-312-2427.