

4-6-2020

### What's Next With This Quarantine Shutdown

It has been opined that our economy has forever been damaged. To that I say poppycock. This is America. We are the greatest country on this earth and we will overcome. What we need now in this time of forced shutdown is a responsible and prudent revision to our City's budget.

We do not know if this shortfall is short-term or long-term. Our Governor has called for a projected \$687 million budget cut over the next few years. Of utmost urgency within our City's needs is immediate budget adjustments. We need an in house assessment of what this loss of revenue might be. I call on our Mayor to immediately call for budget hearings and to set the Internal Finance Committee to work on finding innovative solutions that will minimize the financial effects of this loss of revenue.

Multiple areas of finance can be adjusted. First and foremost, please, Mr. Mayor use your emergency powers, by way of "Force Majeure", to see that the recently approved purchase of \$2.5 million for vehicle replacement is cut from the budget. Here are some other budget items that should be considered for re-evaluation, 11 approved new full time positions; freeze wage and benefits increases and hiring; reprioritize all capital improvement projects. We need to take this opportunity to search for innovative efficiencies that will see our City forward to a better future.

As always Maurice "Mo" would like to hear from you at 775-297-6484, [MauriceForWard2@gmail.com](mailto:MauriceForWard2@gmail.com) or on FB at Maurice For Ward 2.