

SUMMARY OF FY2005 CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS

ORDINANCE NUMBER	DATE ADOPTED	SUMMARY
Ord. #2004-0681	June 23, 2004	Interim Spending Plan that provides for the continuation of available resources until the FY2005 Budget and General Appropriations Ordinance is adopted.
Motion #2004-0680	June 16, 2004	Study the feasibility and cost effectiveness of entering into a joint purchasing agreement for the purchase of prescription drugs and health insurance between the City of Houston and other local governmental entities.
Motion #2004-0681	June 16, 2004	Consider developing a city-owned garage in downtown and city-wide.
Motion #2004-0684	June 16, 2004	Establish a goal for Strategic Purchasing Division of the Finance and Administration Department to use the reverse auction procurement procedure in FY2005 for 50% or more products purchased from the General Fund and 50% or more products purchased from the three enterprise funds.
Motion #2004-0686	June 16, 2004	Reduction of large sedan – fuel-inefficient vehicles. All employees using city owned vehicles, who do not respond to emergency, shall be moved into smaller, cost and fuel-efficient vehicles, as appropriate.
Motion #2004-0688	June 16, 2004	Implement the FY04 budget amendments that states to increase green fees for non-city residents using COH golf courses.
Motion #2004-0710	June 23, 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the 2004 property tax rate by one-half cent to \$.65/\$100 of assessed value (tax rate cut is the equivalent of projected revenue reductions resulting from 7% cap that are already reflected in Proposed FY05 Budget). • Reduce the 2004 property tax rate from \$.655/100 of assessed value to \$.650/\$100 of assessed value resulting in approximately \$5.15 million decrease in property tax revenues.
Motion #2004-0712	June 23, 2004	Require FY2005 Municipal Pension contributions to go directly into an escrow account to be managed at the Mayor's discretion until such time the negotiations between the Mayor and the Pension Board have been resolved, to the extent the law allows.
Motion #2004-0714	June 23, 2004	A special Council committee shall be appointed by the Mayor to recommend reforms in the governance of the Houston Municipal Pension System, the Houston Police Officers Pension System and the Fire Department Pension System. A committee shall seek input from experts who can make recommendations consistent with best practices and the governance and administration of public and private pension funds. The committee shall recommend the nature and frequency of independent audit reports to the City concerning pension liabilities and propose any changes in governance to be made by legislature.

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Motion #2004-0716	June 23, 2004	<p>The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, not later than 90 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, with ongoing input and recommendation from the appropriate Council Committee(s), a City-wide policy concerning training City employees including standards for curriculum, eligibility for training, facilities, training related expenses, and other relevant issues, including assessment of the E.B. Cape Center for training and other purposes, and to report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of enhancing performance, cutting unnecessary costs, avoiding duplication with other agencies, and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service. Training expenses should be fairly charged to the Department or activity of the employees trained; and</p> <p>The City shall make the E.B. Cape Center available to other municipalities for professional development training classes, for a fee, to assessed by the City an to report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of reducing overall costs and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service.</p>
Motion #2004-0717	June 23, 2004	Develop a legislative strategy to address the loss of franchise fees due to increase of wireless devices.
Motion #2004-0719	June 23, 2004	<p>The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, not later than 120 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, a plan to improve the performance of the Neighborhood Protection Division, and to report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of maximizing resources, avoiding duplication, enhancing efficiencies and improving the ability of the City of provide superior customer service.</p>
Motion #2004-0720	June 23, 2004	<p>Conduct a study of how to revise the city's drainage permitting process to include, but not limited to, 1) hiring a staff hydrologist and a team of dedicated drainage inspectors; 2) mandated drainage plans for ALL new construction &/or existing building permit applications; 3) a proposed drainage permit fee to assist with cost recovery; 4) tax abatements incentives; and 4) the coordination and execution of all drainage permits & inspections under the PWE Department. Study would return recommendations by December 31, 2004.</p>
Motion #2004-0722	June 23, 2004	<p>The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, within 120 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, a policy for all departments on the payment of Membership and Professional License Fees for City employees, and to report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of maximizing resources, avoiding duplication, enhancing efficiencies and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service.</p>

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Motion #2004-0723	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, with 120 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, a policy for all departments on the payment of Travel Expenses for City employees, for both Training and Non-Training purposes, and to report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of maximizing resources, avoiding duplication, enhancing efficiencies and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service.
Motion #2004-0724	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, within 120 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, a policy for all departments on the payment of Travel Expenses for City employees, for both Training and Non-Training purposes, and to report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of maximizing resources, avoiding duplication, enhancing efficiencies and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service.
Motion #2004-0727	June 23, 2004	The Administration shall analyze the implementation a set aside from TIRZ increment revenue to be used for public safety." For the original amendment, "Develop study on the implementation of a 6% Public Safety set aside from TIRZ revenue."
Motion #2004-0732	June 23, 2004	Analyze the possibility of dedicating revenue generated by the sale of city owned taxed foreclosed property to water, sewer and infrastructure projects and the assemblage of land LARA for redevelopment purposes.
Motion #2004-0733	June 23, 2004	Study the feasibility of creating taxicab zones that would include a fee implementation.
Motion #2004-0734	June 23, 2004	Study the feasibility of modifying the current ordinance relating to grease within the sewerage collection system so as to reduce re-occurring sewage spills.
Motion #2004-0736	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston Health Department shall evaluate unused or underutilized space in various city clinics and develop plans to fully utilize the space, including exploring options with Federally Qualified Health Centers, the Hospital District and other public and private providers to share unused or underutilized space.
Motion #2004-0738	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall develop and initiative to increase by 8,000 doses the number of flu vaccinations for high risk, low-income patients. Each dose costing \$8.10 would be subsidized with extra revenue produced by offering flu vaccinations at market rates for non-eligible clients.
Motion #2004-0739	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, not later than 90 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, with ongoing input and recommendation from the appropriate Council Committee(s), a City-wide policy concerning the most efficient approach to allocating personnel and resources across Departments, regarding the operation and maintenance of grounds and buildings, and the

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Motion #2004-0739 (Continued)	June 23, 2004	management of capital projects involving grounds and buildings, and to report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of maximizing resources, avoiding duplication, enhancing efficiencies and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service. This policy shall specifically include the Building Services, Parks and Recreation, Convention and Entertainment Facilities, Library, Health & Human Services, Police, Fire and Housing and Community Development Departments.
Motion #2004-0742	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall analyze and present, within 90 days, a rationale for those City boards and commissions for which members receive payment, and make recommendations for change, if warranted.
Motion #2004-0743	June 23, 2004	Fully implement take-home vehicle audit recommendations (savings: according to audit report, \$463,482).
Motion #2004-0747	June 23, 2004	The budget shall include the funds to fund an additional police cadet class and additional officers on patrol and by June 30, 2004 the administration shall identify the source of funding and include an analysis for phasing out the jailers.
Motion #2004-0749	June 23, 2004	Require all City departments to submit a zero-based budget for certain activities for the 2006 Fiscal Year.
Motion #2004-0751	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall develop a plan to increase the number of squads and ambulances in the Fire Department so as to provide at least one ambulance or squad in every fire station.
Motion #2004-0752	June 23, 2004	Creation of a competitive bid process for the public and private sectors for landscaping installation and maintenance currently provided by the Parks Department. (The amendment passed in the FY04 budget, however, was never implemented.)
Motion #2004-0753	June 23, 2004	Creation of a competitive bid process for the public and private sectors, for right-of-way mowing. (The amendment passed in the FY04 budget, however, was never implemented.)
Motion #2004-0754	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston Health Department shall initiate a plan to significantly increase child immunizations throughout the City.
Motion #2004-0756	June 23, 2004	The Administration shall report to City Council within 21 days a list of SimDesk products, similar to those deployed by the City of Houston, that have been sold to and used by businesses, non-profit organizations and public sector entities with more than 5,000 users, for periods of time greater than one year, as the principal operating software for their computing needs. This report shall include the number of daily users, whether it is the exclusive office software for the users of those entities and the time period for which the product has been used exclusively."

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Motion #2004-0759	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston Health Department and Fire Department shall support and advance the Make the Right Call program to the greatest extent possible within its existing budgets, which will result in the reduction of unnecessary trips to the emergency room.
Motion #2004-0761	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department shall support and advance Texas Children's Hospital's efforts to combat childhood obesity to the greatest extent possible within its existing budget.
Motion #2004-0763	June 23, 2004	The Administration shall enter into good faith negotiations into a lease with Keep Houston Beautiful for surplus office space and other necessary space without rent payment in return for specified services for an equivalent value, with the tenant paying for tenant occupancy expenses.
Motion #2004-0764	June 23, 2004	Reduction of large – sedan-fuel-inefficient vehicles. All employees using city owned vehicles, who do not respond to emergency, shall be moved into smaller, cost and fuel-efficient vehicles as appropriate.
Motion #2004-0766	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, not later than 90 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, a policy concerning the provision and use of portable communications devices, including cell phones, radios, pagers, and data devices, and to report the result to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of maximizing resources, avoiding duplication, enhancing efficiencies and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service.
Motion #2004-0768	June 23, 2004	Create a policy for selling COH liens as allowed by law and create a policy for below market leases and present both to City Council within 90 days.
Motion #2004-0772	June 23, 2004	Reduce Finance and Administration Department expenditures on Real Estate Office Rentals (line item 3400) from \$94,470 to \$76,280 and reduce the F&A budget to reflect this change (savings: \$18,190).
Motion #2004-0780	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall develop a plan to address repair of cracks to roads and maintain road shoulders on a timely basis and shall accordingly allocate funds to the Public Works and Engineering Department to implement this plan.
Motion #2004-0781	June 23, 2004	That the administration shall develop a plan to fund a HIV/AIDS state of emergency Task Force and a hepatitis Task Force with a funding source and specifically identify, and report back to Council within 60 days.
Motion #2004-0782	June 23, 2004	Maintain Police Athletic League (PAL) funding at FY04 level.
Motion #2004-0783	June 23, 2004	Maintain funding level for all after school programs at FY04 levels.

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Motion #2004-0785	June 23, 2004	That the Administration use their best efforts to find the funding to increase the amount of funding from \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00 for the Aging Family Caregiver Program (Health and Human Services Department).
Motion #2004-0787	June 23, 2004	\$375,000.00 currently allocated to the Riverside Clinic, now being used at the Third Ward Multi-Service Center, shall be allocated to the provision of health services at the Riverside Clinic when it is officially reopened.
Motion #2004-0788	June 23, 2004	The City of Houston shall analyze and develop, not later than 90 days from the adoption of the FY05 Budget, with ongoing input and recommendation from the appropriate Council Committee(s), a city-wide policy concerning: Combining the City of Houston Bureau of Animal Regulation and Care (BARC) with the Harris County Rabies/Animal Control (HCRAC) and report the results to the appropriate Council Committee(s), with the goal of avoiding duplication, reducing overall costs and improving the ability of the City to provide superior customer service.
Ord. #2004-682	June 23, 2004	Ordinance approving the annual budgets for Fiscal Year 2005 for the General, Enterprise, Special, Internal Service, Revolving, Debt Service, and Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone funds; appropriating excess funds in the General Fund fund balance and authorizing their transfer; providing for future adjustment to the beginning fund balances; making various amendments to the proposed budgets; and establishing a cost for copies of the budget.