

;;;BCC 190604

MY NAME IS MARK CIOMMO THE CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS AND IT IS ALLSTON BRIGHTON CITY COUNCILOR, TODAY IS TUESDAY, JUNE 4TH I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND FOLKS THIS IS A PUBLIC HEARING, BOTH BEING BROADCAST LIVE AND RECORDED FOR FUTURE VIEWING ON COMCAST CHANNEL 8, RCN 82, VERIZON MEAN 64 AND STREAMED AT BOSTON.GOV/CITY-COUNCIL-TV I WOULD ASK FOLKS IN THE CHAMBER TO SILENCE THEIR ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

THIS IS A PUBLIC HEARING.

I HAVE A SIGN INSHEETS OFF TO MY LEFT, I ASK THAT YOU SIGN IN.

STATE YOUR NAME, ANY AFFILIATION AND WHAT ASPECT OF THE BUDGET YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON.

WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS WHETHER HERE IN THE CHAMBER OR AT HOME TO TAKE A MOMENT TO GET INVOLVED IN OUR BUDGET PROCESS AND YOU CAN ALSO E-MAIL US AT CCC.WM@BOSTON.GOV AND WE ARE HERE TODAY REGARDING DOCKETS 0622 THROUGH 0625, ORDINANCE FOR THE FY-20 OPERATING BUDGET, INCLUDING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS, ANNUAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENT FOR OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND APPROPRIATION FOR CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS.

AS WELL AS DOCKETS 0626, 0628, THE CAPITAL BUDGET

APPROPRIATIONS INCLUDING LOAN ORDERS AND LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS.

I AM JOINED BY SEVERAL OF MY COLLEAGUES, TO MY FAR LEFT IN ORDER OF THEIR ARRIVAL, COUNCILOR AT LARGE, ALTHEA GARRISON, TO MY IMMEDIATE LEFT, VICE CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS, COUNCILOR TIM MCCARTHY.

AGAIN, TO MY FAR LEFT, MY FRIEND FROM SOUTH BOSTON, COUNCILOR ED

FLYNN AND MY FRIEND FROM BACK BAY, COUNCILOR GEORGE ZAKIM TO MY FAR RIGHT, I HAVE SEVERAL PEOPLE .. I WILL GET RIGHT INTO PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

NOW, FOLKS DID NOT CHECK THE BOX SO I AM GOING TO CALL YOU IN ORDER OF SIGNING UP AND IF YOU DO WISH TO TESTIFY, JUST GO RIGHT TO THAT.

MICROPHONE THERE.

SO RUBY REYES IS FIRST, STEPHANIE JACKSON AND MONT NEIL.

>> AND AGAIN, IF YOU WANT TO SPECIFY WHAT PART OF THE BUDGET, IF AT ALL, THERE IS A PART THAT YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO.

>> OKAY.

>> THANK YOU.

>> MY NAME IS RUBY REYES, I AM THE BOSTON EDUCATION JUSTICE ALLIANCE DIRECTOR. RESIDENT OF DORCHESTER, DISTRICT 4.

AND I AM HERE TO TALK ABOUT THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET CUTS.

THEY REPRESENT PARENTS, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS WORKING TO IMPROVE THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS, REQUESTING AN ADDITIONAL \$20 MILLION TO BE ADDED TO THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUDGET THIS YEAR TO ENSURE THERE ARE NO SCHOOL PROGRAM CUTS, AND TO ADD STUDENT -- SUPPORT STAFF TO SCHOOL COMMUNITIES.

THIS YEAR'S BUDGET PROPOSALS WOULD CREATE SIGNIFICANT BUDGET SHORTFALLS TO 44 PARTICIPANT OF BPS SCHOOLS, EAST BOSTON HIGH, LOWELL WILL EXPERIENCE A CUT OF OVER \$1 MILLION.

EAST BOSTON AS WHOLE WILL EXPERIENCE A LOSS OF OVER \$2 MILLION AND DORCHESTER WILL LOSE APPROXIMATELY \$1.5 MILLION IN SCHOOL FUNDING.

THE RESIDENTS OF THESE COMMUNITIES ARE PRIMARILY BLACK AND LATINO.

THESE BUDGET SHORTFALLS ALSO COME ON THE HEELS OF SCHOOL VOTING -- CLOSE TO SCHOOL.

>> THE WEST BURY, HYDE PARK HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE CITY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY THE O ROGERS SCHOOL IN HYDE PARK IS SLATED TO BECOME LUXURY HOUSING AS OUR CHILDREN LOSE THEIR SCHOOLS, DEVELOPERS GAIN PROPERTY. EACH YEAR THE MAYOR INCREASES BPS'S BUDGET BETWEEN TWO TO FOUR PERCENT, BUT THIS DOES TO THE MEET THE RISING COSTS OF INFLATION, SCHOOLS THAT APPEARANCE OFFICIAL LOSS ARE EXPERIENCE AGO SHORTFALL BECAUSE THE BUDGET INCREASE DOES NOT ACCOUNT FOR INFLATION. COUPLED WITH TWO TOO LITTLE STATE AID BOSTON FACES INADEQUATE FUNDING FOR ALL OF OUR SCHOOLS, EVERY STUDENT SHOULD HAVE AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN WHICH THEY FEEL SAFE AND CARED FOR AND CAN PARTICIPATE IN HIGH QUALITY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS. IN THE CURRENT SYSTEM, WHEN ONE SCHOOL WINS, ANOTHER EXPERIENCES A CUT. THIS IS THE FIRST SOAP SCHOOL CLOSURE. THIS CREATES A CULTURE WHERE SURVIVAL MEANS WINNING AT ANOTHER SCHOOL'S EXPERIENCE. BPS FURTHER THIS IS CULTURE THAT THOSE WHO HAVE SHRINKING BUDGET TO SHOWCASE HOW GREAT THEIR RESOURCES ARE TO GET NEW BUILDINGS OR GET REFIRES THEIR CURRENT SPACE. THIS IS NOT SAFE OR HEALTHY FOR CHILDREN BUT STANDARD SET BE AT THIS DISTRICT AND REINFORCED BY INADEQUATE INCREASES TO CITY BUDGETS AT THE CITY LEVEL. WE WERE EXCITED TO HEAR ABOUT THE GAINS WON BOY THE BOSTON SCHOOL TEACHER UNION, ININCREASING THE NUMBER OF MENTAL HEALTH STAFF, DESPITE AND WITH THESE GAINS ONLY HALF OF BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL HAVE A FULL-TIME MENTAL HEALTH STAFF PERSON. THAT MEANS THAT ONLY HALF OF BPS

STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THESE MUCH NEEDED SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS. BOSTON IS INCREASINGLY RICH CITY.

WE ASK THAT YOU TAX THE WEALTH IN ORDER TO INVEST IN OUR CHILDREN. THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUNNED ALL OF OUR SCHOOLS SO THAT ALL OF OUR STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO HAVE ACCESS TO QUALITY WELL RESOURCED EDUCATION.

THIS YEAR THE COUNCIL CAN FIND \$20 MILLION MORE BY TAPPING THE PARKING TICKET FUND, AND ALSO ASK THE COUNCIL CON'T TO PUSH A PRIVATE -- COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PAY THEIR PAYMENT AND ROAD TAXES COMMITMENT.

TOGETHER THEY NOW OWE OVER \$77 MILLION.

THANK YOU.

>>

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

THE CHAIRMAN CIOMMO, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THANK YOU.

MY NAME IS MONTY NEIL AND LIVE IN JAMAICA PLAIN, AND I AM A MEMBER OF THE BOSTON EDUCATION JUSTICE ALLIANCE, OR BEJA AND ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

BEJA AS RUBY POINTED OUT, ENSURE AN INCREASE OF \$20 MILLION IN THIS YEAR'S SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET P YOU WILL HEAR TODAY THERE OTHERS ABOUT THE PRESSING NEEDS OF THEIR SCHOOLS.

THROUGHOUT THE \$20 MILLION THE CHILDREN IN MANY SCHOOLS WILL SUFFER SERIOUS PROGRAM CUTS.

ALL IMMEDIATE FUNDING IN ADDITION TO THE IMPORTANT GAINS IN NURSES AND COUNSELORS WON BY THE BOSTON TEACHERS UNION IS NECESSARY TO STAVE OFF A THESE CUTS, BOSTON WEIGHTED STUDENT FORMULA IS ALSO A PART OF THE PROBLEM.

THE FORMULA ESTABLISHES PAR TOO SMALL A BASE FOR ADEQUATE STAFFING.

AS A RESULT, MANY SCHOOLS LACK

NECESSARY PROGRAMS AND SCHOOLS WITH SMALL DECLINES IN POPULATION SUFFER TOO MANY NECESSARY PROGRAM CUTS. BEJA BELIEVES THE STUDENT FORMULA MUST CHANGE TO BE BUILT ON TOP OF THE NECESSARY BASE. SUCH A BASE WOULD ENSURE THAT EVERY SCHOOL HAS AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING.

STRONG CULTURALLY RELEVANT ACADEMIC PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE ARTS AND SCIENCES WITH LABORATORIES.

LIBRARIANS, IN USES, COUNSELORS, LEND THEIR HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS.

ADEQUATE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER AND STUDENT WITH DISABILITIES PROFESSIONAL AND PARRA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES STAFF TO ENSURE SUCCESSFUL FULL INCLUSION PROGRAMS AND STAFF IN EVERY SCHOOL DEDICATED TO BUILDING RELATIONS WITH RESOURCE PROVIDERS AND PARENTS TO SERVE STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES AS BEJA PROPOSED HUB SCHOOLS, HIGH QUALITY FOOD AND DRINKABLE WATER AND SOUND FACILITIES IN GOOD REPAIR -- TO FACILITATE LEARNING.

MOST OF OUR SCHOOLS LACK SOME OF THESE.

BOSTON NEEDS A DIFFERENT PROCESS TO DETERMINE SCHOOL FUNDING.

0, WE HAVE BUILT WITH EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION A MODEL OF WHAT OUR CHILDREN ACTUALLY NEED TO COMPLETE HIGH SCHOOL, READY TO BE THRIVING, ACTIVE ENGAGED ADULTS -- UNCERTAIN FUTURE, AS OUR CHILDREN FACE ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES, ONGOING RACISM AND DEEPENING ECONOMIC INEQUALITY.

THE CITY SHOULD THEN CONSTRUCT A PLAN TO GET FROM HERE TO THERE QUICKLY.

THAT PLAN WILL REQUIRE THAT THE CITY TAX THE RAPIDLY GROWING WEALTHY AND CORPORATE SECTORS, TO FUND EDUCATION, BUILD THE CHILDREN COMMUNITIES THAT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS LEAVING BEHIND.

WE SHOULD BE ACTIVE IN THIS PROCESS AND GO TO SUPERINTENDENT CASSELLIUS, THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL AS WELL AS THE COMMUNITY TO RETHINK AND RESIGN THE PURPOSE AND FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN BOSTON.

FOR THIS YEAR, WE SEEK A MODEST DOWN PAYMENT OF \$20 MILLION TO BUILD TOWARD THAT BETTER FUTURE.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

AND WE HAVE BEEN JOINED BY MY FRIEND FROM JAMAICA PLAIN, COUNCILOR MATT O'MALLEY.

>> I HAVE A PARENT WHO SUBMITTED TESTIMONY TO READ ON HER BEHALF.

>> OKAY.

>> SHE WAS NOT ABLE TO BE HERE TODAY BECAUSE SHE AT WORK.

>> MY NAME IS TIFFANY JACKSON A MEMBER OF -- I AM A MOTHER OF TWO WONDERFUL PEOPLE, MY SON TREMENDOUS VAN AND DAUGHTER SHE INSIDE I CAN'T WHO IS 13 AND IN THE SEVENTH GRADE, I WAS COMPELLED TO WRITE THIS TESTIMONY TODAY BECAUSE MY DAUGHTER SHE INSIDE I CAN'T RECENTLY DIAGNOSED WITH JUVENILE DIABETES TYPE 1, APRIL 4 IS A DAILY NEVER FORGET AND NEITHER WILL SHE.

IF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THIS TYPE OF INCURABLE I DON'T KNOW MICK CONDITION, PLEASE LISTEN AS IF YOU WERE A MOTHER OR FATHER, UNCLE, BROTHER, SISTER, OR GUARDIAN.

AS I PICKED MY PERFECTLY HEALTHY DAUGHTER UP FROM SCHOOL ON THURSDAY, APRIL 4TH, BECAUSE SHE WAS NOT FEELING WELL, I DECIDED TO TAKE HER TO THE DOCTOR TO SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON.

NEVER THINKING THAT SHE WOULD BE RUSHED TO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND WHERE SHE WOULD BE OUT OF NOWHERE DIAGNOSED WITH TYPE ONE DIABETES.

TYPE 1 DIABETES IS A CHRONIC

CONDITION, HER PANCREAS, JUST STOPPED MAKING INSULIN, SOMETHING YOU ALL HAVE IN A FUNCTIONING AUTOMATICALLY PRODUCED BY OUR BODY FOR US TO LIVE.

HEARING THAT NOW, TO LEARN MY BODIES NO LONGER DOES WHAT IT SHOULD ON ITS OWN AND BE INSULIN DEPENDENT FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE SHE WILL NEED INSULIN TO EAT CARBOHYDRATES.

>> TO CALCULATE THE FOOD YOU EAT EVERY DAY TO SURVIVE AND THE CARBOHYDRATES YOU EAT.

WE ARE OUT AT HOME IN A SOCIAL EVENT, IN SCHOOL AND YOU NEED TO INJECT HERSELF SEVERAL TIMES A DAY JUST TO EAT.

THINK BACK TO WHEN YOU WERE 13. THIS IS MY DAUGHTER'S LIFE HOW. INJECTIONS FOR FOOD, INJECTIONS TO CORRECT HER BLOOD SUGARS, INJECTIONS TO MAINTAIN AND TO SURVIVE CAN YOU IMAGINE THE LIFE ADJUSTMENT THIS REQUIRES?

I THANK GOD EVERY DAY THERE ARE TWO FULL TIME NURSES AT MY DAUGHTER'S SCHOOL.

ONE THAT I SPEAK WITH EVERY SINGLE DAY.

MY DAUGHTER GOES TO THE NURSE CAN FIVE TIMES -- FIVE TO EIGHT TIMES A DAY BECAUSE HER BLOOD SUGAR IS LOW.

SHE IS IN A STAGE THEY CALLED THE HONEYMOON PHASE AND COULD REMAIN IN THAT PHASE FOR UP TO TWO YEARS.

THE HONEYMOON STAGE IS WHERE HER BLOOD SUGAR LEVELS FLUCTUATE CONSTANTLY, BUT THE SCARY PART ARE THE LOWS, ONE LOW AND MY DAUGHTER COULD DIE.

LET ME REPEAT TO YOU, SO YOU FULLY UNDERSTAND WHAT I SAID.

ONE LOW BLOOD SUGAR AND MY DAUGHTER COULD DIE.

IF SHE DID NOT HAVE THE TWO FULL-TIME PHENOMENAL NURSES SHE HAS I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD HAVE DONE.

I AM A WORKING FULL TIME MOTHER AND BUSINESSWOMAN.

I SPEECH WITH SHANIA'S NURSING TEAM DAILY TO GO OVER THE NUMBERS AND BRAINSTORM WHY SHE DROPS LOW SEVERAL TIMES A DAY. AND HOW WE SHOULD ADJUST HER NUMBERS.

I CAN DESCRIBE A SMALL PORTION OF THE EFFORT AND DEDICATION IT TAKES FOR BOTH NURSES TO KEEP MY CHILD SAFE AND HER MOTHER CALM AND ABLE TO WORK.

I NEVER WORRY ABOUT MY DAUGHTER'S HEALTH AND SAFETY WHILE SHE AT SCHOOL.

I KNOW NURSES ARE THERE ON TOP OF HER NEEDS.

THEY ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE IN CLOSE AND IN CLOTHES COMMUNICATION.

THEREFORE, I APPLAUD THE MEMBERS OF THE BOSTON TEACHERS UNION AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR WORKING SO HARD TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FULL TIME NURSES IN THEIR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.

JUST THINK YOU MAY HAVE JUST SAVED A LIFE BY PROVIDING A FULL-TIME NURSE FOR EVERY CHILD AND EVERY SCHOOL.

WHAT A GREAT MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

HOWEVER, I CHALLENGE YOU NOT TO STOP THERE.

CONTINUE TO SAVE CHIRPS LIVES AND SUPPORT FAMILIES YOU REPRESENT.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE TO DO HONORABLE AND MORAL WORK.

I ASK YOU AS A MOTHER AND EMPLOYEE BUSINESSWOMAN AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE IF YOU WOULD INCREASE THE BPS BUDGET BY 20 MILLION ADDITIONAL DOLLARS TO FURTHER SUPPORT THE EDUCATION AND WHOLE, HOLD CHILD AND APPEALS IN YOUR 2019-2020 -- \$20 MILLION WILL SUPPORT THESE FAMILIES BY ENSURING THAT STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE A BUDGET CUTS THIS YEAR, IT INCREASES TO A HEALTH STYLE THAT ONLY PROVIDES SUPPORT STAFF TO HALF OF THE SCHOOLS IN BPS.



STUDENTS AND FAMILIES DESERVE  
HEALTH, SAFE AND HEALTHY  
SCHOOLS.

THANK YOU, TIFFANY JACKSON.

>> THANK YOU.

>> LINDA FREEMAN AND AL VEGA.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

I AM A LINDA FREEMAN FROM  
ROXBURY I HAVE A SON IN THE BPS  
AND HE IS AS AT BOSTON ACADEMY  
AND LEARNING IN THE INDEPENDENCE  
PROGRAM, AND AS I INDICATED HE  
IS A -- STUDENT.

I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF ALL OUR  
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND  
THOSE WITH -- WHO ARE ELL.

IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO -- AS  
WELL.

WE DON'T HAVE A STUDENT WITH  
DISABILITIES OR A CHILD OR A  
STUDENT WHO IS ELL WHEN THEY MAY  
NOT UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEX  
DIFFICULTIES THAT PARENT GO  
THROUGH AND GUARDIANS GO THROUGH  
AND WHAT OUR STAFF GOES THROUGH.

IT IS BETTER TO HAVE THE PROPER  
FUNDING TO -- THE RESOURCES THAT  
ARE NEEDED FOR OUR STAFFS AND  
PARENTS AND ALL INVOLVED  
INCLUDING OUR NURSES WHO ALSO  
HAVE TO ADMINISTER THE  
PRESCRIPTIONS AND MEDICINES FOR  
SOME OF OUR STUDENTS.

SOME OF OUR STUDENTS ARE IN  
COMPLEX MEDICAL APPARATUS AS  
WELL.

00 TO HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF  
IT YOU TO OBSERVE.

I HAVE OBSERVED FROM YEARS AGO,  
A STUDENT WHO HAD COMPLEX  
DISABILITY AND WAS TERMINALLY  
ILL.

AND DUE TO THE HUMANITIES OF  
BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ALLOW  
THIS STUDENT TO REMAIN, AT THAT  
SCHOOL, BECAUSE HE HAD A  
TERMINAL ILLNESS, THEY WANTED TO  
TRANSFER HIM AND IT JUST  
ESCALATED HIS MI'S -- STUDENTS  
WITH DISABILITIES AND WHO ARE  
ELL -- IT IS HARD ENOUGH TO THE  
-- EXCLUDED BUT TO KEEP THEM  
INCLUDED IN INCLUSION.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY --

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

MY NAME IS AL VEGA, I AM DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND PROGRAMS AT -- I AM ALSO A LONG TIME RESIDENT BORN AND RAISED IN JAMAICA PLAIN.

WE ARE -- WE ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE BOSTON EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE.

FOR OVER 20 YEARS WE HAVE WORKED WITH THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS THROUGH OUR HEALTHY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE TO CREATE AWARENESS AMONG THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC ABOUT OVERALL HEALTH WITHIN OUR SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND SHARING SOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO FIX BOTH SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM PROBLEMS WE SEE FIRSTHAND.

ALTHOUGH WE HAVE MADE MANY STRIDES TOWARD IMPROVING SCHOOLS WITH CLEANERS REQUIRED ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITS AND POLICIES SUCH AS INTEGRATED TEST MANAGEMENT TO REDUCE INFESTATIONS WE FACE AN UPHILL BATTLE WHEN IT COMES TO GIVING SCHOOLS THE MUCH NEEDED FOUND PROVIDE THE PROPER LEVELS OF MAINTENANCE TO KEEP SCHOOLS HEALTHY AND CLEAN.

THE LIST OF MAJOR -- TO ERADICATE MANY OF THE PROBLEMS WE SEE THROUGHOUT SYSTEM ALSO CONTINUE TO GROW YEAR AFTER YEAR.

WE KNOW WHAT THE SLASHING OF THESE BUDGETS GOES TO SCHOOL ATTEMPTING TO PROVIDE ALL OF THE RESOURCES NEED TO ENSURE OUR KIDS ARE GETTING THE BEST EDUCATION AND BUILDING THAT ULTIMATELY MAY NEGATIVELY IMPACT THEIR HEALTH IN THE LOCK RUN.

THE PROPOSED BUDGET DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALL OF THESE CONCERNS AND SCHOOLS THAT ALREADY HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING TO

DO MORE WITH LESS, PARTICULARLY AFTER CUTS THAT STARTED IN THE ECONOMIC CRISIS OF MORE THAN A DECADE AGO. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE MANY WHO DO NOT SIMPLY UNDERSTAND THE 0 TRUE IMPACT OF THAT DECISION TO FAMILIES IN THE COMMUNITY AND ACROSS OUR CITY WE MUST BE COGNIZANT OF WHAT WE WILL CONTINUE -- WHAT CONTINUED DEFICIT OF PUBLIC DOLLARS WILL MEAN TO OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AND THAT WE WILL CONTINUE SENDING OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS TO THE DILAPIDATED INADEQUATELY MAINTAINED BUILDINGS THAT MAY ELEVATE THE POTENTIAL OF THOSE OCCUPANTS BECOMING SICK OR THE RISK OF BEING EXPOSED TO HAZARDS THAT SHOULD NOT BE FOUND IN OUR 0 SCHOOLS.

WE BELIEVE NOW IS A TIME TO STOP THE BLEEDING OF RESOURCES AND ENSURE THAT SCHOOLS ACROSS THE CITY DO NOT HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN PROVIDING TEXTBOOKS AND TABLETS OR FIXING THE LEAKY ROOF AND HEATING SYSTEM.

WE WILL NEVER IMPROVE THESE CONDITIONS IF WE SEE A LACK OF NEEDED MAINTENANCE OR PROJECTS BEING PUT ON HOLD FOR AN INDEFINITE NUMBER OF YEARS.

IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ENSURE WE HAVE THE MOST HIGHLY EDUCATED STUDENTS AND A STRONG AND MOTIVATED CADRE OF TEACHERS AND STAFF WHILE THE BUILDINGS THEY SPENT MOST OF THEIR LIVES IN CONTINUE TO CRUMBLING ABOUT THEM WHILE WE PLEA FOR CONDITIONS.

CLIMATE CHANGE CONDITIONS ARE ALREADY MAKING THINGS WORSE, AND THE NEED FOR AIR CONDITIONING IN ALL BUILDINGS AND HEAT STRESS POLICIES ARE SOMETHING THAT OTHER CITIES AND DISTRICTS AROUND THE COUNTRY ARE FOCUSED ON ALREADY TO BE PROACTIVE AS CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO GET MORE EXTREME.

AND WE ARE HOPEFUL CITY AND THE DISTRICT ARE ACKNOWLEDGING SOME

OF THESE ISSUES IN THE BUILD BPS  
MASTER PLAN, WE ARE VERY  
CONCERNED THAT THERE IS A LACK  
OF TRANSPARENCY AND TRUE  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NEEDED TO  
ENSURE WE SEE A BUILDINGS AND  
EDUCATIONAL SPACES OUR CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES WANT AND NEED.  
THE BUSINESS AS USUAL MENTALITY  
MUST STOP AND WE MUST PROPERLY  
MAINTAIN ALL OF OUR BUILDINGS  
AND REDUCE THE BUILDING PLUS  
DOLLARS WORTH OF REPAIR PROJECTS  
OUR SCHOOLS NEEDS TO BE DEALT  
WITH IN A TIMELY AND JUST MANNER  
TO AVOID THE FATE OF THE SCHOOLS  
IN THE ROCKS RECOGNITION COMPLEX  
AND THE COMMUNITY THERE.  
WE HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR HELP OR  
YEARS ON THIS AND NOW.  
NOT ABLE TO DO ENOUGH AND NOW  
STUDENTS AND FAMILIES AS WELL AS  
TEACHERS ARE SCRAMBLING TO  
FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO NEXT.  
WE CAN'T KEEP APPROVING A BUDGET  
LIKE THAT WILL ONLY CONTINUE  
FIGHTING EACH OTHER FOR WHAT IS  
LEFT OF THE PIE.  
WHAT WE HAVE SEEN OVER THE LAST  
FEW ENGINEERS NOT WORKING AND  
YOU HEARD OR WILL BE HEARING  
FROM MANY OTHERS HEAR WHY WE  
ENCOURAGE YOU TO VOTE NO ON THIS  
BUDGET AS IT STANDS AND AT A  
MINIMUM ASK FOR AN ADDITIONAL  
\$20 MILLION TO HELP SCHOOLS WITH  
THIS CREATED BY THE UNDERFUNDING  
OF OUR DISTRICT. THIS IS ONE OF  
THE MANY AREAS WE MUST BE MORE  
VIGILANT AROUND SO STUDENTS AND  
TEACHERS LIVE, WORK AND PLAY IN  
AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS SAFE AND  
HEALTHY FOR ALL AND THIS WILL  
ONLY BE POSSIBLE WHEN WE  
PROPERLY ADDRESS ALL OF OUR  
SCHOOLS WHICH SHOULD BE A  
PRIORITY FOR MAYOR WALSH AND ALL  
MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL WITH  
US HERE TODAY.  
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.  
>> THANK YOU.  
-- RODRIGUEZ, NANCY.  
SORRY.  
>> MY NAME IS JUANITA RODRIGUEZ,

I HAVE LIVED IN EAST BOSTON FOR THE LAST 20 YEARS.

>> I AM A MOTHER OF THREE CHILDREN AND I AM A SINGLE MOTHER.

>> I AM HERE TODAY TO FIGHT FOR MY CHILDREN AND THEIR FUTURE AND THE LACK OF RESOURCES FOR US AS PARENTS AND FOR THEIR EDUCATION.

>> I HAVE ONE SON WHO IS ON AN IEP FOR ATTEMPT DEFICIT DISORDER AND I HAVE ANOTHER SON WHO IS ALSO ON AN IEP.

>> THE CHILD THAT I HAVE THAT HAS ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER AT HIS SCHOOL -- THE PERSON THAT HELPED HIM WITH HIS KIND OF BRAIN PATTERNS AND BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS IS LEAVING THE SCHOOL.

>> I WANT A BETTER FUTURE FOR MY SON AND FOR MY CHILDREN.

I DON'T WANT MY CHILDREN TO BE ON MEDICATION.

I WANT THEM TO HAVE ACCESS TO THINGS LIKE ARTS IN SCHOOL. LIKE MUSIC OR SOME OTHER PROCESS THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR -- THAT IS A PART OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROGRAMMING.

THE OTHER PART IS TRANSPORTATION.

>> IT IS A HUGE PART OF AN IEP PROCESS IS FINDING SOMEONE TO BE A MONITOR ON THE BUS AND MANY TIMES THERE AREN'T BUS MONITORS ON THE BUSES.

IT IS ALSO A HUGE PROBLEM FOR US BECAUSE WE SIGNED FOR AN IEP BUT ASK FOR A BUS MONITOR TO TAKE CARE OF OUR CHILDREN THAT HAVE ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER.

>>

>> AND WHAT WE LOOK FOR IN PARENTS IS SAFETY FOR OUR CHILDREN SO THAT NOTHING BAD HAPPENS.

THIS IS A HUGE IMPACT ON MY FAMILY BECAUSE I AM FIGHTING AS A MOTHER AND FATHER FOR MY FAMILY AND I KNOW THAT CUTS WILL BE MADE IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS AROUND THESE RESOURCES AS WELL AS TRANSPORTATION.

>> THE OTHER QUESTION IS OF LOW

INCOME AND WORKING AND FIGHTING  
AS A MOTHER AND PARENT TO -- AND  
A FAMILY AND IT IS HARD FOR ME  
TO DEAL WITH THESE TYPES OF  
RESOURCE CUTS IN THE BOSTON  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR IN EDUCATION.

>> AND I THINK -- I THANK GOD  
THERE ARE TEACHERS THAT ARE  
FIGHTING AND WORKING FOR OUR  
CHILDREN, BUT IT IS HARD FOR  
THEM TO RECUPERATE THESE  
RESOURCES FOR OUR KIDS.  
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING.

>> THANK YOU.

>> GOLETA SMALLS.

>> COLETA SMALLS.

>> 57D, AND WE HAVE BEEN JOINED  
BY MY FRIEND COUNCILOR FRANK  
BAKER.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

>> MY NAME IS COLETA AND I WORK  
FOR THE BOSTON TEACHERS UNION.  
I AM AN ORGANIZER THERE AND  
RESPONSIBLE FOR MOVING OUR  
ENTIRE BASE AROUND THE ISSUES  
THAT MATTER TO MY MEMBERS THE  
MOST.

I AM A MEMBER OF THE -- TRYING  
TO GET HERE TODAY TO SPEAK TO  
YOU VERY DIRECTLY ABOUT THE  
ISSUES AND CONCERNS THEY HAVE  
AROUND THE CUTS THAT HAPPEN TO  
OUR SCHOOLS.

EVERY SINGLE YEAR WE THEN HAVE  
TO FIGHT FOR MORE RESOURCES TO  
PUT BACK SO THEY CAN ADEQUATELY  
DO THE BEST JOB THAT THEY CAN IN  
A SEASONAL WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE  
THAT WE HAVE, THEY DESERVE OF  
PUTTING THEIR BEST SELVES INTO  
EVERYTHING.

I AM A PRODUCT OF BOSTON PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS AND LIVED IN BOSTON ALL  
MY LIFE AND RAISED A CHILD THAT  
GRADUATED FROM MADISON PARK HIGH  
SCHOOL SO I UNDERSTAND VERY  
DEEPLY JUST WHAT SOME OF THE  
PROBLEMS ARE AND THE CONSTRAINTS  
AROUND IT, THAT WE HAVE TO FACE.  
WE LITERALLY DON'T HAVE AVENUES  
TO TRY TO ADDRESS THE TREMENDOUS  
AMOUNT OF ISSUES THAT HAPPEN IN  
OUR SCHOOLS EVERY SINGLE YEAR.

THIS IS ONE OF THE VERY FEW WAYS  
WE HAVE TO ASK YOU TO REALLY PAY  
ATTENTION TO MAKE SURE OUR YOUNG  
PEOPLE HAVE THE THINGS THEY  
DESERVE TO LEARN WELL IN THE  
CLASSROOM.

OUR FUNDING STRUCTURE, BOTH  
STATEWIDE AND LOCALLY ARE  
FLAWED.

AND THEY CONTINUE TO BE FLAWED  
IN THE, AND SHORTCHANGE OUR  
CHILDREN.

UNTIL THAT GETS FIXED YOU WILL  
SEE -- YOU WILL SEE US HERE AND  
OTHER SPACES ADVOCATING HARD FOR  
WHAT WE BELIEVE THEY DESERVE.

WE JUST, WITH JUST ONE TENTATIVE  
AGREEMENT OF THE CONTRACT IN THE  
TEACHERS UNION WE ARE VERY  
EXCITED ABOUT THAT TA, IT TOOK  
US 18 MONTHS TO GET THERE.

BECAUSE WE REFUSED TO WALK AWAY  
FROM THAT TABLE WITHOUT WHAT WE  
THOUGHT WOULD REALLY  
DRAMATICALLY CHANGE THE REALITY  
AND THE QUALITY OF THE EDUCATION  
ABLE TO BE DONE IN THE  
CLASSROOM.

WE DID NOT GET EVERYTHING WE  
WANTED IN THAT CONTRACT.  
THAT CONTRACT HADN'T EVEN BEEN  
APPROVED YET.

WE WILL LOOK AT THAT NEXT WEEK  
AND HOPE WE CAN MOVE FORWARD  
WITH IT WHAT ARE OTHER THINGS  
OUR SCHOOLS NEED THE DESPERATELY  
THAT WE BELIEVE YOU HAVE THE  
POWER AND CONTROL OVER THE  
BUDGET TO GIVE THEM?

THAT IS MONEY.

RIGHT NOW, IT IS \$20 MILLION.

UNDERSTAND THAT THAT \$20 MILLION  
HELPS KEEP US AFLOAT.

IT DOESN'T FIX THE FUNDAMENTAL  
THINGS THAT ARE WRONG WITH OUR  
SYSTEM.

THERE IS US ASKING FOR ANOTHER  
BAND-AID SO AN MS. CHILDREN AS  
POSSIBLE CAN MAKE IT THROUGH  
NEXT SCHOOL YEAR.

OUR SYSTEM IS DEEPLY FLAWED AND  
WE NEED TO ADDRESS THOSE  
CHALLENGES.

FIRST \$20 MILLION, WHICH IS VERY

IMPORTANT AND WILL ADD VALUE TO THE SYSTEM.

IT IS STILL NOT ENOUGH.

AND SO WE IMPLORER YOU TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE AUTHORITY AND ACCESS YOU HAVE RIGHT NOW TO HELP OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND MAY COME BACK TOGETHER AND ACTUALLY LOOK SERIOUSLY AT THE WEIGHTED STUDENT FORMULA AT THE FUNDING CYCLE AND THE WAY THAT STATE FUNDS, PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FIX THE PROBLEMS THAT ARE BROKEN THERE, BECAUSE THAT IS ULTIMATELY WHAT IT IS THAT WE NEED.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>> TIM MAR.

>>

>> DID I SAY IT WRONG?

TIM MARK.

>> I AM HERE --

>> OH, I AM SORRY.

YES.

>> THANKS.

>> SO LET'S EVERYONE THAT, THAT IS EVERYONE THAT WISHED TO TESTIFY TO DATE.

LY TAKE A BRIEF RECESS AND WE WILL BE BACK IN THE CHAMBER WHEN THERE ARE MORE SPEAKERS.

>>

COUNCIL WILL BE BACK IN SESSION.

I'D LIKE TO CALL UP AT THIS TIME, DAVID RUSSELL.

THAT SHOULD BE LIVE, I THINK. THERE YOU GO.

>> MY NAME'S DAVID RUSSELL.

I'M A TEACHER AT MCKINLEY SOUTH BEND ACADEMY SINCE 1988. AND JUST GIVE A BRIEF PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE NEED FOR MORE MONEY.

WE ROUTINELY DIG INTO OUR POCKETS FOR ALL KINDS OF THINGS. AT A MEETING YESTERDAY, WE WERE PLANNING OUR END-OF-THE-YEAR ACTIVITIES WITH AN ORATORY CONTEST THAT'S GOING TO BE THE 20th ANNUAL ONE. IT'S BEEN A WONDERFUL EVENT



WHERE THE KIDS PRESENT POEMS AND  
WE HAVE A GROUP OF JUDGES THAT  
COME IN AND WE OFFER SOME  
PRIZES.

WE PAY FOR IT.

THAT'S THE ONLY WAY IT CAN  
HAPPEN.

WE HAVE A FIELD DAY AT THE END  
OF EVERY YEAR.

WE HAD A MEETING YESTERDAY TO  
MAKE PLANS FOR THAT.

WE ALL PAY FOR THAT.

THAT'S JUST -- THAT'S JUST  
ORDINARY.

COUPLE YEARS AGO, I DID A SURVEY  
IN THE SPRING OF STAFF JUST TO  
TRY TO GET A LITTLE MORE NUMBERS  
ON, OKAY, SO WE ROUTINELY PULL  
OUT OUR WALLET.

HOW MUCH DOES THAT COME TO?

AND THE INCOMPLETE RESULTS, WE  
GOT 23,000 AND SOMETHING DOLLARS  
THAT HAVE BEEN SPENT BY STAFF.

WE'RE A FAIRLY SMALL SCHOOL.

, ABOUT 75 STAFF.

AND IT'S -- AND WE'RE NOT  
MISSING MEALS FROM DOING THIS.

SO WE DO IT BECAUSE THE CHOICE  
IS THERE'S THINGS THAT THE KIDS  
NEED.

EITHER THEY DON'T GET THEM OR WE  
PAY FOR THEM.

AND DIFFERENT EVENTS TO  
DIFFERENT EXTENTS CAN, OF  
COURSE, THAT'S NOT THE BEST FOR  
THE KID BECAUSE IT'S NOT  
GUARANTEED.

NOT EVERYBODY CAN OR WILL DO  
THAT DEPENDING ON PERSONAL  
CIRCUMSTANCES.

SO STILL A LITTLE PERSONAL PLEA  
FROM EXPERIENCE.

AT OUR SCHOOL WE HAVE -- I'M NOT  
SURE HOW MANY -- QUITE A FEW  
DECADES OLD, OVER OUR WINDOWS,  
SORT OF METAL BARS FOR SECURITY.  
THAT'S ALL RUSTED.

AND THE WINDOWS HAVEN'T BEEN  
WASHED IN WHO KNOWS HOW LONG  
BECAUSE THEY'RE LOCKED ON AND  
DON'T GET OPENED.

AND THE KIDS -- IT FEELS FOR THE  
KIDS LIKE, ALL RIGHT, WE'RE IN  
PRISON.

OF COURSE, THEY ARE FOR SECURITY  
TO STOP BREAK-INS BUT IT GIVES A  
FEELING OF RUNDOWN INSTITUTION  
WITHOUT VALUE.

AND WITHOUT THE KIDS EVEN  
THINKING ABOUT THAT OR  
CONSCIOUSLY CONSIDERING IT, IT  
FEELS LIKE A PLACE THAT'S NOT OF  
VALUE.

AND WE WORK OUR BEST TO PUT  
THINGS TOGETHER FOR THE KIDS,  
AGAIN PICKING UP OUR OWN WALLETS  
TO PAY FOR THINGS.

COUPLE YEARS AGO, A TEACHER WAS  
TRANSFERRED TO A CLASSROOM WITH  
NO FURNITURE.

SO HE SAID, OKAY, I'LL BRING IN  
MY SAW, GET SOME WOOD, START  
BUILDING SOME TABLES.

AND WE ENDED UP FINDING FROM THE  
LOCAL CHURCH AND OTHER SOURCES  
FURNITURE, BUT IT WAS -- KIDS  
ARE COMING.

YOU GOT AN EMPTY ROOM.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

SO THAT'S NOT A TYPICAL STORY,  
BUT NOT -- IT DIDN'T CAUSE A  
WILDFIRE OF INDIGNATION IN THE  
SCHOOL BECAUSE WE TAKE CARE OF  
WHAT WE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF.

WHEN I GOT MY FIRST CLASSROOM, I  
WAS BROUGHT IN THERE.

THERE WAS NO CLOCK.

WENT TO BRAD LEIGH'S AND BOUGHT  
A WHOLE BUNK OF THINGS.

33 YEARS LATER, MY CLOCK IN MY  
ROOM IS ANOTHER ONE I  
PURCHASED .

SO THAT'S NOT IN THE BEST  
INTEREST OF THE KIDS.

>> THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, DAVE.

FOLKS DID NOT CHECK THE BOX, BUT  
ARIEL BRONZE AND CAROLINE BLUE.

>> I WANTED TO SHARE TESTIMONY  
ON BEHALF OF AERIAL BRONZE.

>> OKAY.

SHE THANK YOU MEMBERS OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL.

I LIVE IN DISTRICT 6.

I WORK AT ST. STEVEN'S YOUTH  
PROGRAM IN DISTRICT 2.

ST. STEVEN'S YOUTH PROGRAM HAS  
HAD A DECADE-LONG PARTNERSHIP

WITH THE BLACKSTONE SCHOOL.  
SEVEN YEARS AGO, THE SCHOOL WAS  
PLACED IN TURNAROUND STATUS AND  
ST. STEVEN'S YOUTH PROGRAMS  
PLAYED A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE  
SCHOOL'S IMPROVEMENT PLAN.  
WE REVIVED THE SCHOOL'S 12,000  
TITLE LENDING LIBRARY AND  
CONTINUE TO FUND THE LIBRARY  
COORDINATOR WHO RUNS THE LIBRARY  
AND COORDINATES A TEAM OF  
LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS.  
INITIALLY, OUR COLLABORATIVE  
EFFORT WAS SUCCESSFUL AND SCHOOL  
MET ALL THE GOALS OF ITS  
TURNAROUND PLAN AND WAS PROMOTED  
INTO INNOVATION STATUS.  
THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE  
TURNAROUND PROCESS ENDED NEARLY  
1 MILLION IN SUPPORT HAD TO BE  
CUT FROM SCHOOL'S BUDGET.  
AN ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSITIONS  
HAVE CONTINUED.  
THERE HAVE BEEN SEVEN PRINCIPALS  
SINCE THE TURNAROUND PROGRESS  
BEGAN.  
THE DISTRICT HAS SYSTEMATICALLY  
DISINVESTED FROM THE SCHOOL.  
THIS YEAR, DAU TO YET ANOTHER  
SHIFT IN STATUS, THE SCHOOL  
FACED A BUDGET GAP OF OVER  
\$500,000.  
WHILE STRONG PARENT-TEACHER  
ADVOCACY HAS RESTORED SOME OF  
THE FUNDING AND ALLOWED THE  
SCHOOL TO KEEP SEVERAL CRITICAL  
POSITIONS INCLUDING A COUNSELOR  
AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT  
SPECIALIST, THE SCHOOL STILL  
FACES SIGNIFICANT BARRIERS TO  
PROVIDING HOLLITIONTIC STUDENT  
SUPPORT.  
THE SCHOOL IS USING -- LOSING  
TWO COORDINATORS AND SEVERAL  
PARTNERSHIPS.  
THEY'RE ALSO MISSING AN  
INCLUSION STAND COORDINATE PER  
AND WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT ONE  
COUNSELOR IS MORE THAN MANY BPS  
SCHOOLS ARE ALLOTTED, IT IS  
VASTLY INSUFFICIENT TO MEET THE  
NEEDS OF NEARLY 600 HIGH-NEED  
STUDENTS.  
ST. STEVENS IS HAS A DEEP

COMMITMENT TO THE BLACKSTONE SCHOOL, AND WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL DEMONSTRATE YOUR COMMITMENT AS WELL BY RESTORING THE REMAINING FUNDING FOR MISSING POSITIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS AT BLACKSTONE.

WE ALSO ASK THAT YOU ADD \$20 MILLION TO THE OVERALL BPS BUDGET TO PREVENT DEVASTATING LOSSES AT OTHER SCHOOLS AS WELL. WE HOPE THAT, TOGETHER, WE CAN PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS WITH THE EDUCATION THEY DESERVE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

[ APPLAUSE ]

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

MY NAME IS KAREN ENGEL.

I WORK AT [ INAUDIBLE ] SCHOOL.

I'VE BEEN THERE FOR 11 YEARS.

I JUST WANT TO CHATTANOOGA A

LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE -- CHAT A

LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE SCHOOL'S

80% ENGLISH LEARNERS AND WE DO

NOT HAVE STAFFING AS FAR AS

THERAPISTS TO PROVIDE OUR

STUDENTS HOOPS WHO ARE COMING -- WHO ARE COMING -- AT

LOT OF THEM WITH TRAUMATIC

EXPERIENCES THAT, AS I

MENTIONED, THE STUDENT SUPPORT,

WE USED TO HAVE THE HEALTH

CENTER AT OUR SCHOOL.

THAT WAS INVALUABLE RESOURCE.

IT'S NO LONGER ABLE TO BE THERE.

WE ALSO USED TO HAVE

PSYCHOLOGIST INTERNS THAT WOULD

SPEAK WITH THE STUDENTS TO

PROVIDE THAT SORT OF SUPPORT.

AND THAT'S NO LONGER THERE

EITHER.

OUR STUDENTS REALLY NEED THAT

KIND OF SUPPORT.

IF THEY DON'T GET IT OFTEN

TEACHERS ASK TO FILL IN THOSE

KIND OF AREAS.

SO I TOO AM REQUESTING

\$20 MILLION FOR THE BUDGET SO WE

CAN -- OUR STUDENTS CAN RECEIVE

THOSE SERVICES THAT THEY SO

DESPERATELY NEED.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

[ APPLAUSE ]

>> OKAY.  
COUNCIL WILL BE IN RECESS.  
§§§