

## 2019-2020 City Council Budget Priorities

### Public Safety/ Crime Prevention

In an effort to take a holistic approach to crime reduction and prevention, the focus of the *Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction* will include, but is not limited to, the following goals:

1. Complete a city-wide crime reduction inventory.
    - a. Investigate the efficacy of current programs
      - i. After-school programs
      - ii. Mentoring programs
      - iii. Summer activities
      - iv. Extra-curricular activities in schools, etc.
      - v. Parenting skills programs
      - vi. Programs for ex-offenders and other programs for adults
    - b. Make recommendations for how the City can leverage existing resources, expand successful programs and/or create new programs
    - c. Continue to support efforts with local non-profits
  2. Coordinate and/or fund community-based organizations to provide a level of continuity regarding essential services.
    - a. Improve *quality of life* through positive youth development and exposure
    - b. Utilize *transportation* resources to promote mobility for education and employment
  3. Synchronize Workforce Training Program Components.
    - a. Education
    - b. Transportation
    - c. Increased business partnerships
    - d. Work for Felons (rehabilitation/intervention)
- Establish Metrics and Goals to monitor the attainment of goals and areas that need further attention.
  - The Mayor is requested to place \$1 million dollars in a Designated Contingency for Crime Prevention, to be appropriated by the City Council based on recommendations received by City Council from the Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction.

### Quality of Life

- The Mayor will increase funding to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department for the purpose of improving the maintenance of city parks, athletic fields and playgrounds, boat ramps and riverfront walkways.
- Increase the Countywide Parks and Recreation projects budget by \$1 million (from \$2 million to \$3 million) for FY 2019/20. These funds will be used for maintenance, upgrades, and repairs associated with existing parks in Duval County. Projects such as fencing replacement, playground replacement, gym floor surfacing, field renovation, restroom renovations, safety lighting, trail repairs, and drainage improvements.

- Maintain \$2.2 million for Parks, Recreation and Community Services budget for mowing in Parks and Cemeteries, which will aid in the pickup of trash in various parks.
- Provide an additional \$125,000 to Parks, Recreation and Community Services for increased security guard services.
- Increase the Litter Pickup in City Right of Way in Public Works Department budget to \$1.5 million from \$827,272 the prior year. The increase will be used to contract additional litter crews.
- Maintain the 2018-2019 budgetary funding to support litter pick up through the JSO Work Crew Program, in which retirees from the Corrections Office supervise the program in which their main task is litter pick up with the trustees.
- Encourage the Administration to coordinate with FDOT and explore possible opportunities to coordinate regarding high visibility corridors.
- Coordinate and/or fund community-based organizations to provide health services.

#### **Affordable Housing/ Homelessness**

- Maintain and increase funding for programs designed to reduce homeless populations and maintain MHRC Link and Quest program on the Sulzbacher Campus. (\$86,000)
- Establish a proactive program in Neighborhoods to secure residential properties for the City in declining neighborhoods that are “upside down” in value versus outstanding City liens. (\$200,000)
- Hire a professional firm to assess the City current zoning code in light of future affordable housing needs and goals, and make recommendations for changes in the code that will enhance affordable housing efforts and programs. (\$69,500)
- Establish a fund to clear titles on City owned residential properties before they are donated to non-profits and CHODAs for building new housing or renovating old housing in targeted neighborhoods. (\$357,000)

#### **Infrastructure/ Transportation**

- Increase funding pedestrian safety through the use of traffic calming and other systems.
- Resilience initiatives: Strive to fund bulkhead repair/replacement at target level (bulkhead repair/replace is \$1.5 million/target \$2.5 million); design new and replacement docks to better withstand storm and tidal impacts.
- Improve traffic flow in downtown business core through the use of enhanced traffic signalization and other systems.
- Update Traffic Study and Parking Downtown with goal to improve ingress and egress to and from downtown.