



MARINA DIMITRIJEVIC
ALDERWOMAN, 14TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIR

• Finance and Personnel Committee

VICE-CHAIR

• Steering and Rules Committee

MEMBER

• Community and Economic Development Committee

August 14, 2025

To: Budget Director Nik Kovac
From: Finance & Personnel Chair Ald. Dimitrijevic
Subject: Finance & Personnel Committee Priorities for the 2026 Budget

Director Kovac,

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I write to share the Committee's key budget priorities for the Mayor's consideration in preparing the executive budget for the upcoming fiscal year. These priorities were identified during a publicly noticed meeting of the Finance & Personnel Committee on July 29, 2025, and reflect the Committee's collective commitment to fiscal responsibility, community well-being, and sustainable growth.

While the Committee has not ranked these priorities in order of importance, we respectfully request that each be given serious consideration during the budget development process:

- Adequate funding for local roads to ensure safety, accessibility, and infrastructure longevity.
- Identification of realistic and sustainable revenue sources dedicated to the ongoing maintenance and improvement of local roads.
- A re-evaluation of the need for a self-imposed borrowing cap, to avoid pushing infrastructure repair and replacements cost further down the road.
- Investment in housing, particularly initiatives that address affordability, accessibility, and stability for residents.
- Violence prevention efforts and the development of safer communities, including support for community-led safety programs.
- Equitable delivery of City services, with a focus on eliminating disparities and improving outcomes across neighborhoods.
- Continued attention to the City's debt limit and the broader implications for our financial future.
- A commitment to fiscal responsibility, ensuring that expenditures align with strategic goals and available resources.

- Sustainable funding for library operations and programming, recognizing the library's role as a community anchor.
- Support for youth activities and programming, to provide safe, accessible, and enriching opportunities for children and teens.

These priorities reflect a balanced approach that addresses pressing infrastructure needs, promotes community safety and equity, and reinforces responsible financial stewardship.

Note that this list is not exhaustive. Individual members of the Committee, including myself, may follow up directly with your office to provide additional input, clarify priorities, or discuss department-specific considerations.

We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the budget planning process and look forward to continued collaboration with your office and the Mayor as the 2026 Executive Budget takes shape.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or requests for additional input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marina', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Ald. Marina Dimitrijevic, Chair
Finance and Personnel Committee