

**Ann Arbor City Council Session: July 5, 2011
Email Redactions List Pursuant to Council Resolution R-09-386**

<u>Received Time</u>	<u>Sent Time</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>Redactions</u>	<u>Reason for Redaction</u>
10:15 PM	10:15 PM	Hathaway, Mary	Taylor, Christopher		Email address; Second sentence in body of email.	Privacy
10:15 PM	10:15 PM	Palms, Jeannine	Taylor, Christopher	Briere, Sabra; Kunselman, Stephen; Anglin, Mike	Email address; street address; and phone number	Privacy
9:40 PM	9:40 PM	Hohnke, Carsten	Whitaker, Tom	House, Fortino, Adrian; Middlebrook, Anne; Newcomb, Bill; Johnson, Bob; Steven (Don); Ewy, Wayne; Schielke, Gerald; Bockbrader, Howard; Howard, Curtis T.; Paulisson, Jerry; Nassen, Kent; Bancel, Paul; Lewis, Paul; Mooney, Pete; Powers, Joe; Rcmarsa; Ricardo; Shaw, Ronald; Schwarz, Roy, Whitfield, Shane; Horvath, Steve; Rapundalo, Stephen; Dombey, Stuart; Holler, Tod; Burzynski, Tom; Whitfield, Lloyd	Email address	Privacy
8:51 PM	8:51 PM	Cooke, Len	Dyer, Richard		Email addresses	Privacy
8:11 PM	8:11 PM	Rapundalo, Stephen	McCormick, Sue		Email address	Privacy
7:58 PM	7:58 PM	Taylor, Christopher	Paul, Ara		Email address; street address	Privacy
7:57 PM	7:57 PM	Hiefje, John	Paul, Ara		Email address; street address	Privacy
7:35 PM	7:34 PM	Elias, Abigail	Rapundalo, Stephen		Entire email	Attorney-Client Privilege
7:34 PM	7:34 PM	Hiefje, John	Barrell, Karin		Email address	Privacy; street address

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 10:15 PM
To: M Hathaway
Subject: RE: sewer relocation

Dear Mary,

Thank you for writing. [REDACTED]

The information you've received regarding the purpose of the infrastructure improvement is not accurate. We have just today at council had a 30 min conversation about the many sewage, storm, and water benefits associated with this project. The timing of the project is accelerated a year or two to permit the ongoing discussion of Fuller Road Station, but the wisdom of the two questions is entirely distinct.

Thanks again, and I hope to see you in fine fettle soon.

Best,

Christopher

Christopher Taylor

Councilmember (Third Ward)
Mobile: 734-604-8770
Work: 734-213-3605
Home: 734-213-6223
ctaylor@a2gov.org

From: M Hathaway [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 3:08 PM
To: Anglin, Mike; Briere, Sabra; Derezhinski, Tony; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Hieftje, John; Kunselman, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie
Subject: sewer relocation

Dear Mayor Hieftje and Council,

Please reconsider and halt the relocation of the sewer line in Fuller Park. The purpose of the relocation is to facilitate the construction of the proposed Fuller Transit Station. But this construction has not been authorized and may not be authorized. First we need a transparent public process with public hearings on the pros and cons. The Fuller Transit Station would be very expensive, and its benefits to the City of Ann Arbor have not been demonstrated. It would affect our Parkland policies, our transit policies, and our City Budget for many years to come.

Moving the sewer line is premature until all the ramifications of this construction have been explored and understood.
Mary Hathaway

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 10:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Please reconsider- Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Hi Jeannie,

Thanks for writing on this. I voted to reopen discussion of this matter today and enjoyed the subsequent forty minute conversation on the matter.

The short story is that the project will have substantial storm-, sewer-, and water-related benefits without regard to any eventual construction of the Fuller Road Station. These include storm improvements to the current site and associated soccer field, access-ready 60" sewer pipe through critical areas, and water provision to that side of Fuller Road. The consideration of FRS has accelerated the project for I believe a year or so, but that to my eye does not determine the consideration of FRS.

Thanks, as ever, for writing.

Best,

Christopher

Christopher Taylor

Councilmember (Third Ward)
Mobile: 734-604-8770
Work: 734-213-3605
Home: 734-213-6223
ctaylor@a2gov.org

From: Jeannine Palms [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:22 PM
To: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Subject: Please reconsider- Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Hello Chris,

With the celebration of our democracy fresh on our minds, I ask you to reconsider and postpone action on a resolution that was passed at the June 20th meeting: "Resolution to Award a Construction Contract to Hoffman Brothers, Inc. (\$1,216,099.75; Bid No. ITB-4127A) for the Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project" From what I can assess, the purpose for this resolution coming at this time, its relationship to the proposed Fuller Road Station, and its priority with regard to other pressing needs in the city are not clear. If we are to function as a democracy, transparency is of the utmost importance. Therefore, I would like to know:

What funds will be used for it?

What is its priority in the list of pressing needs that the city has?

What is the relationship of this resolution to the proposed Fuller Road Station?

If it is related to the Fuller Road Station project:

-why is this being done when the project has not yet been approved by City Council?

-why is this being done when the project has not had a formal public hearing?

-why is this being done when there is no comprehensive plan for how the project will be funded, phased, or maintained?

-how are the funds for this construction related to the proposed cost sharing with the University for the FRS

If it is not related to the Fuller Road Station project, why is it being relocated instead of just replaced?

How does this benefit the University and what part would it contribute?

I understand that this resolution will be up for discussion tonight. Would you please ask these questions and see that any action to implement this resolution is postponed until answers are obtained? If this is related to the FRS project, please also assure that there is a formal public process for the FRS project, that there is transparency at every step of the way, and that any such project concerning transportation is part of a comprehensive plan to move us beyond dependency on fossil fuels. Let us celebrate our independence by resolving to engage all of us in the work of moving beyond an unsustainable system.

Thank you for your attention. I look forward to hearing from you.

Jeannine

Jeannine Palms



Greenshields, Rachel

From: Kunselman, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:59 PM
To: *City Council Members (All)
Subject: FW: - Can a DDA or TIFA plan spend revenue outside of its development area?

FYI

From: Stephen Kunselman [<mailto:stephenkunselman@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 5:54 PM
To: Kunselman, Stephen
Subject: Fw: - Can a DDA or TIFA plan spend revenue outside of its development area?

<http://www.michigan.gov/taxes/0,1607,7-238-43876-154691--F,00.html>

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:48 PM
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Subject: RE: amendment DC#5

Resolved that the Staff of the City of Ann Arbor shall treat the foregoing information as exempted from disclosure

Christopher Taylor

Councilmember (Third Ward)
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Home: 734-213-6223
ctaylor@a2gov.org

From: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:39 PM
To: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Subject: amendment DC#5

Can you send me your language?

Thanks!

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk

Please Note: The City Clerk's Office has relocated back to City Hall.

City Clerk's Office | Guy C. Larcom City Hall | 301 E. Huron, 2nd Floor · Ann Arbor · MI · 48104
734.794.6140 (O) · 734.994.8296 (F) |
jbeaudry@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org



Think Green! Please don't print this e-mail unless absolutely necessary.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:47 PM
Subject: Read: amendment DC#5

Your message

To: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Subject: amendment DC#5
Sent: 7/5/2011 9:39 PM

was read on 7/5/2011 9:47 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Portside Moderator [moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:41 PM
To: PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG
Subject: Tidbits - July 5, 2011

Tidbits - July 5, 2011

- * Re: Reviving the Strike: Where Do We Go From Here? and on the Huffington Post Strike (Martin Morand)
- * Re: The New War of Independence - Against Corporate Politics (Charles)
- * Re: Obama: His Words and His Deeds (Robert Whealey)
- * Portland Announcement - Christian Parenti Book Reading - July 11
- * Witness for Peace demo against the Free Trade Agreement - July 11 - Washington, DC
- * Marx in Soho (in Vancouver)

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* Re: Reviving the Strike: Where Do We Go From Here? and on the Huffington Post Strike

"the one unifying factor that can achieve the myriad goals of the labor movement is the revival of the effective, production-halting strike"

I could not agree more. But, "'one employer, one union." I trust that the author will deal with the problem of a "production-halting strike" when the "one employer" is a multinational while the unions, despite the word "International" in so many of their titles, are still nationals. It took the entire nineteenth century for local unions in the U.S. to create a national - and that's in one nation with one language and one legal/political system.

Today we see in Greece (and elsewhere in a non-United Europe) evidences of the dilemma: A single currency but 27 nations/politics. In other words, a globalized capital with only nation states to contain it. "...the left wing of the labor movement lacks a common agenda, as it advances a hodge-podge of ideas of what it will take to save unionism in this country..."

Please identify the "left wing" and share with us their "ideas of what it will take to save unionism in this country..."

"We think that because of the values that Arianna stands for: She is progressive, she does care about social justice, we thought she was someone who would actually listen to us and help us," Lunzer said, adding, "I still firmly believe that."

In its early months, the strike caught headlines with a provocative let-them-eat-cake response from Arianna Huffington, who said, "Go ahead, go on strike," and dismissed "the idea of going on strike when no one really notices."

I worked for David Dubinsky who committed multiple ULPs when the staff attempted to unionize. He summed it up as, "If you are a union then I am a boss. I am not a boss. I refuse to be a boss. Therefore, you cannot be a union."

In the Atlanta office of ILG when I arrived one AM to see a picket line of office staff I was outraged and dismayed. (The background had been a personal/political dispute with Tony Zivalich of the Atlanta Teamsters over support for Maynard Jackson's candidacy.) The naivete and misapprehension of true self-interest being displayed amazed me.

"Ingratitude, more strong than traitors' arms, Quite vanquish'd him: then burst his mighty heart." was approximately my feeling.

The reaction of "leftist" union leaders to unions of their employees has been well nigh universally hostile.

When Leo Gerard spoke at SEIU 32BJ in 2005 after meeting Roger Toussaint, newly released from jail, he said: "The Taylor Law, any law which punishes workers for striking and jails their leaders -- is Stalinist." The audience was Shocked into silence. One idiot asked, "Why are you redbaiting."

Ariana's comment echoes. "Suppose they gave a war and nobody came?" The capacity to conflate self-interest with the common good has been the norm for tribal chieftains, monarchs, slave owners and all "benevolent dictators."

Martin Morand

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* Re: The New War of Independence - Against Corporate Politics

"This is the age of corporatized politics"

I would slightly disagree with the statement above, in that the term "corporatized politics" is a bit of an understatement.

This is the age of corporations having the legal status of "personhood", as defined by the current supreme court.

This is the age of lobbyists who can dispense money and influence, at the behest of the aforementioned corporations, who have now become "persons".

This is the age of the largest Ponzi scheme ever perpetrated in human history, engineered by the banking and financial services cartels of Wall Street, with no oversight or regulation.

This is the age of wars being initiated and fought, without "declaring war", and being enhanced with legions of mercenaries and privatized paramilitary "services".

There are more such examples which could be added to this list, but this is enough to convey the basic concept.

I make no claims of US constitutional and related historical wisdom, but I would defy anyone who can claim to indicate where any of the aforementioned aspects of current American governance was intended to be the consequence of our "independence", as celebrated on July 4.

Charles
Berkeley CA

* Re: Obama: His Words and His Deeds

This is an incisive article. I recommend it to all my friends.

Robert Whealey
Historian.
Ohio University
Athens, Ohio

* Portland Announcement - Christian Parenti Book Reading

Tropic of Chaos Reading and Q & A at Powell's in Portland!

Tropic of Chaos: Climate Change and the New Geography of
Violence by Christian Parenti (Nation Books, July 2011)

Nation Books author and Institute Fellow Christian Parenti will read from his new book, Tropic of Chaos: Climate Wars and the New Geography of Violence (Nation Books), and answer questions at Powell's Bookstore in Portland, Oregon on Monday, July 11! Book signing to follow reading.

July 11, 2011 -- 7:30 PM

Powell's Books
1005 W Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97209

The new era of climate war is upon us. Extreme weather brought on by global warming is unleashing cascades of unrest and violence across the globe, from Africa to Asia to the Americas. In Tropic of Chaos, award-winning writer Christian Parenti reports from the front lines of this gathering social and environmental catastrophe. Combining historical insight with on-the-ground reporting, Parenti shows how environmental crisis is colliding with the twin legacies of Cold War militarism and unbridled free market economics to cause fragile nations to disintegrate into failed states. Tropic of Chaos is a survey of a world in peril and an urgent call to action: Those living in the privileged Global North must recognize that our own future security is inextricably linked to the fate of the struggling nations of the Global South.

<http://tinyurl.com/3sjcvfl>

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* Witness for Peace demo against the Free Trade Agreement - July 11 - Washington, DC

I write to send you information about a protest against the Free Trade Agreement which Witness for Peace and other organizations are organizing in Washington, DC. The protest will take place on July 11 at 12pm at Lafayette Park in front of the White House. For more information go to the Witness' Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=158616390875600/>

You can help by informing your acquaintances in Washington, DC. If you have any questions please direct them to Jess Hunter-Bowman, Associate Director, Witness for Peace at jess@witnessforpeace.org.

Thank you,
Gilbert Gonzalez

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After one sold-out show in Vancouver this past November, Karl Marx is coming back to Vancouver...

July 13 and 14th at Vancouver's Rio Theatre ...1660 East Broadway (at Commercial Drive)

Doors open: 7pm Show starts: 7:30pm

Tickets: \$20 or \$10 low income (Available soon at <http://riotheatre.ca/>)

Posters and flyers available at People's Coop Bookstore (1391 Commercial Dr). List of endorsing organizations will be added to this call-out soon.

About the Play

"Don't you wonder: why is it necessary to declare me dead again and again?"

Marx is back! The premise of this witty and insightful "play on history" is that Karl Marx has agitated with the authorities of the afterlife for a chance to clear his name.

Through a bureaucratic error, though, Marx is sent to Soho in New York, rather than his old stomping ground in London, to make his case.

Howard Zinn, best known for his book, 'A Peoples History of the United States', introduces us to Marx's wife, Jenny, his children, the anarchist Mikhail Bakunin, and a host of other characters.

Marx in Soho is a brilliant introduction to Marx's life, his analysis of society, and his passion for radical change. Zinn also shows how Marx's ideas are relevant in today's world.

Brian Jones, an African American actor and activist, has been performing this engaging one-man show across the country since 1999. Marx in Soho is a brilliant introduction to Marx's life, his analysis of society, and his passion for radical change.

<http://www.marxinsoho.com/>

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Greenshields, Rachel

From: Portside Moderator [moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:39 PM
To: PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG
Subject: Europe's Wakeup Call

Europe's Wakeup Call

'Don't be ashamed to ask for the moon: we need it'

By Serge Halimi
Le Monde diplomatique
July 1, 2011

<http://mondediplo.com/2011/07/01europe>

The economic, and democratic, crisis in Europe raises questions. Why were policies that were bound to fail adopted and applied with exceptional ferocity in Ireland, Spain, Portugal and Greece? Are those responsible for pursuing these policies mad, doubling the dose every time their medicine predictably fails to work? How is it that in a democratic system, the people forced to accept cuts and austerity simply replace one failed government with another just as dedicated to the same shock treatment? Is there any alternative?

The answer to the first two questions is clear, once we forget the propaganda about the "public interest", Europe's "shared values" and being "all in this together". The policies are rational and on the whole are achieving their objective. But that objective is not to end the economic and financial crisis but to reap its rich rewards. The crisis means that hundreds of thousands of civil service jobs can be cut (in Greece, nine out of ten civil servants will not be replaced on retirement), salaries and paid leave reduced, tranches of the economy sold off for the benefit of private interests, labour laws questioned, indirect taxes (the most regressive) increased, the cost of public services raised, reimbursement of health care charges reduced. The crisis is heaven-sent for neoliberals, who would have had to fight long and hard for any of these measures, and now get them all. Why should they want to see the end of a tunnel that is a fast track to paradise?

The Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC)'s directors went to Brussels on 15 June to ask the European Commission to pressure Dublin to dismantle some of Ireland's labour legislation, fast. After the meeting, Brendan McGinty, IBEC director of Industrial Relations and Human Resources, warned: "Ireland needs to show the world it is serious about economic reform and getting labour costs back into line. Foreign observers clearly see that our wage rules are a barrier to job creation, growth and recovery. Major reform is a key part of the programme agreed with the EU and the IMF. Now is not the time for government to shirk from the hard decisions."

The decisions will not be hard for everyone, following a course that is already familiar: "Pay rates for new workers in unregulated sectors have fallen by about 25% in recent years. This shows the labour market is responding to an economic and unemployment crisis" (1). The lever of sovereign debt enables the European Union and International Monetary Fund to impose the Irish employers' dream order on Dublin.

The same view seems to apply elsewhere. On 11 June, an Economist editorial observed that "Reform-minded Greeks see the crisis as an opportunity to set their country right. They quietly praise foreigners for turning the screws on their politicians" (2). The same issue analysed the EU and IMF austerity plan for Portugal:

"Business leaders are adamant that there should be no deviation from the IMF/EU plan. Pedro Ferraz da Costa, who heads a business think-tank, says no Portuguese party in the past 30 years would have put forward so radical a reform programme. He adds that Portugal cannot afford to miss this opportunity" (3). Long live the crisis.

Catering only to rentiers

Portuguese democracy is just 30 years old. Its young leaders were showered with carnations by crowds grateful for the end of a long dictatorship and colonial wars in Africa, the promise of agrarian reform, literacy programmes and power for factory workers. Now, with reductions in the minimum wage and unemployment benefit, neoliberal reforms in pensions, health and education, and privatisation, they have had a great leap backwards. The new prime minister, Pedro Passos Coelho, has promised to go even further than the EU and the IMF require. He wants to "surprise" investors.

US economist Paul Krugman explains: "Consciously or not, policy makers are catering almost exclusively to the interests of rentiers - those who derive lots of income from assets, who lent large sums of money in the past, often unwisely, but are now being protected from loss at everyone else's expense." Krugman says creditor interests naturally prevail because "this is the class

that makes big campaign contributions, it's the class that has personal access to policy makers, many of whom go to work for these people when they exit government through the revolving door" (4). During the EU discussion on funding Greek recovery, Austrian finance minister Maria Fekter initially suggested: "You can't leave the profits with the banks and make the taxpayers shoulder the losses" (5). This was short-lived. Europe hesitated for 48 hours, then the interests of rentiers prevailed, as usual.

To understand the "complex" mechanisms underlying the sovereign debt crisis, you need to know about constant innovations in financial engineering: futures, CDs (credit default swaps) etc. This level of sophistication reserves analysis for select experts who generally profit from their knowledge. They pocket the proceeds while the economically illiterate pay, as a tribute they owe to fate, or to an aspect of the modern world that is beyond them.

Let's try the simple political explanation instead. Long ago, European kings borrowed from the Doge of Venice or Florentine merchants or Genoese bankers. They were under no obligation to repay these loans and sometimes neglected to do so, a neat way of settling public debt. Many years later, the young Soviet regime announced that it would not be held accountable for money the tsars had borrowed and squandered, so generations of French savers suddenly found they had worthless Russian loans in their attics.

But there were more subtle ways of getting out of debt. In the UK, debt declined from 216% of gross domestic product in 1945 to 138% in 1955, and in the US it fell from 116% of GDP to 66%. Without any austerity plan. Of course, the surge in post-war economic development automatically reduced the proportion of debt in national wealth. But that was not all.

States repaid a nominal sum at the time, reduced each year by the level of inflation. If a loan subscribed at 5% annual interest is repaid in currency that is depreciating at the rate of 10% a year, the real interest rate becomes negative to the benefit of the debtor. Between 1945 and 1980, the real interest rate in most western countries was negative almost every year. As a result, as *The Economist* remarked: "Savers deposited money in banks, which lent to governments at interest rates below the level of inflation" (6). Debt was cut without much trouble. In the US, negative real interest rates were worth the equivalent of 6.3% of GDP per year to the

Treasury, from 1945 to 1955 (7).

Why did savers allow themselves to be cheated? They had no choice. Capital controls and the nationalisation of the banks meant that they had to lend to the state, and that is how it got its funds. Wealthy individuals did not have the

option to invest on spec in Brazilian stock index-linked to changes in the price of soybeans over the next three years. There was a flight of capital, suitcases of gold ingots leaving France for Switzerland the day before devaluation or an election in which the left might win. However, this was illegal.

Up to the 1980s, index-linked wage rises (sliding scales) protected most workers against the consequences of inflation, and controls on free movement of capital had forced investors to put up with negative real interest rates. After the Reagan/Thatcher years, the opposite applied.

The system has no pity

Sliding wage scales disappeared almost everywhere: in France, the economist Alain Cotta called this major decision, in 1982, "[Jacques] Delors' gift [to employers]" (8). Between 1981 and 2007, inflation was destroyed and real interest rates were almost always positive. Profiting from the liberalisation of capital movements, "savers" (this does not mean old age pensioners with a post office account in Lisbon or carpenters in Salonika) make states compete for funds and, as François Mitterrand said, "make money in their sleep".

Moving from sliding wage scales and negative real interest rates to a reduction in the purchasing power of labour and a meteoric increase in returns on capital completely upsets the social balance.

Apparently this is not enough. The troika (European Commission, ECB and IMF) has decided to improve the mechanisms designed to favour capital at the expense of labour, by adding coercion, blackmail and ultimatum. States bled by their over-generous efforts to rescue the banks, and begging for loans to balance their monthly accounts, are told to choose between a market-led clean-up and bankruptcy. A swathe of Europe, where the dictatorships of António de Oliveira Salazar, Francisco Franco and the Greek colonels ended, has been reduced to the rank of a protectorate run by Brussels, Frankfurt and Washington, the main aim being to defend the financial sector.

These states still have their own governments, but only to ensure that orders are carried out and to endure abuse from the people who know the system will never take pity on them, however poor they are. According to Le Figaro, "Most Greeks see the international supervision of the budget as a new form of dictatorship, like the old days when the colonels were in charge, between 1967 and 1974" (9). The European ideal will not gain from being associated with a bailiff who seizes islands, beaches, national companies and public services and sells them to private investors. Since 1919 and the Treaty of Versailles, everyone knows that such public humiliation can unleash destructive nationalism - and all the more so as provocations increase. The next ECB governor, Mario Draghi, who - like his predecessor - will issue strict orders in Athens, was vice chairman and managing director of Goldman Sachs when the bank was helping the conservative government in Greece to cook the books (10). The IMF, which also takes a view on the French constitution, has asked Paris to insert a "rule to balance public finances"; Nicolas Sarkozy is already working on it.

France has let it be known that it would like the Greek political parties to follow the example of their Portuguese counterparts, "join forces, and form an alliance"; and the prime minister, François Fillon, and European Commission president, José Barroso, have tried to persuade the Greek conservative leader, Antonis Samaras, to take this course. ECB head Jean-Claude Trichet considers that "the European authorities could have the right to veto some national economic policy decisions" (11).

Honduras has established an enterprise zone, in which national sovereignty does not apply. Europe is currently establishing a debate zone for all the economic and social issues no longer discussed by the political parties because these areas have gone beyond their control. Inter-party competition now concentrates on social matters: the burqa, the legalisation of cannabis, radar on motorways, the angry gestures or foul language of a reckless politician or intoxicated artist. This confirms a trend already noticeable 20 years ago: real political power is shifting to areas where democracy carries no weight, until the day when indignation finally boils over. Which is where we are.

But indignation is powerless without some understanding of the mechanisms that caused it. We know the alternatives - reject the monetarist, deflationist policies that deepen the crisis, cancel part of the debt if not all of it, take over the banks, get finance under control, reverse globalisation and recover the hundreds of billions of euros the state has lost by tax cuts that favour the wealthy (?70bn in France in the past ten years, more than \$1 trillion in the US, especially for the top 1% of income earners). And knowledge of these alternatives has been shared by people who know at least as much about economics as Trichet, but do not serve the same interests.

This is not a technical and financial debate but a political and social battle. Of course, the economic liberals will claim that what progressives demand is impossible. But what have they achieved, apart from creating a situation that is unbearable? Perhaps it is time to remember how Jean-Paul Sartre summed up Paul Nizan's advice to people who bottle up their aggression: "Do not be ashamed to ask for the moon: we need it" (12).

Translated by Barbara Wilson

(1) "IBEC in Brussels on concerns about reform of wage rules", IBEC, 15 June 2011.

(2) Charlemagne, "It's all Greek to them", The Economist, London, 11 June 2011.

(3) "A grim inheritance", The Economist, 9 June 2011.

(4) Paul Krugman, "Rule by Rentiers", The New York Times, 10 June 2011.

(5) International Herald Tribune, Paris, 15 June 2011.

(6) See "The Great Repression", The Economist, London, 18 June 2011, which explains the history of this mechanism.

(7) Ibid.

(8) Jacques Delors was France's economic and finance minister in François Mitterrand's administration, before becoming head of the European Commission.

(9) Le Figaro, Paris, 16 June 2011.

(10) See Serge Halimi, "Too big to fail", Le Monde diplomatique, English edition, March 2010.

(11) Reuters, 2 June 2011.

(12) Jean-Paul Sartre, preface to Aden Arabie, Maspero, Paris, 1971. (1) "IBEC in Brussels on concerns about reform of wage rules", IBEC, 15 June 2011.

(2) Charlemagne, "It's all Greek to them", The Economist, London, 11 June 2011.

(3) "A grim inheritance", The Economist, 9 June 2011.

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(12) Jean-Paul Sartre, preface to Aden Arabie, Maspero,

Paris, 1971.

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Greenshields, Rachel

From: Portside Moderator [moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:40 PM
To: PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG
Subject: 'We the People' or 'I the Person'?

'We the People' or 'I the Person'?

By Linda Wagner Schmoldt
CommonDreams.org
July 4, 2011

<http://www.commondreams.org/view/2011/07/04-3>

There is a concerted effort these days by the powers that be to break down the structures that allow people to come together.

It is no accident that we see the Supreme Court taking rights and power away from groups of citizens and workers while increasing the powers of the ruling class and corporations.

On state and federal levels we see rulings that restrict the formation of unions, negate collective bargaining, and squelch class-action suits.

It is harder and harder to hold public demonstrations and protests as codes, laws, and fees limit where, when and how we can gather. We have lost many of our common spaces--places where we can come together and speak truth to power. The rights of civic/social leaders and organizers are threatened with scrutiny and abuse. Exorbitant prison sentences and fines are imposed on those who gather to protest and/or do civil disobedience. The making of crowd control devices is a strong industry in the U.S. (and in our ally, Israel.) We are becoming a police state and the military is waiting in the wings.

When the news covers demonstrations they always focus on the most radical looking people. They don't show the old women and the families walking peacefully with their children. The media relishes any show of violence or aggression. The message is clear. These people are not like you. People like you don't take to the street and protest. We are taught to fear the masses.

And what shall we gather around? It becomes more and more difficult to sort out truth from lies, especially when the lies are echoed across the corporate-owned media and halls of power. Support for Wiki-leaks, or any other organization that exposes the truth behind what is really going on, is labeled as treason. There is a crack down on whistleblowers.

Terrorist alerts and the nightly news, as a police blotter of all the crimes we need to fear, forces us to stay in our homes, to be suspicious of our neighbors and to be fearful of anyone who differs in skin tone, speech, culture or way of life. Report your neighbors; don't talk to them.

Whole groups of people get labeled as a threat to our security, whether it is gays who want to marry, immigrants who want to earn a fair wage for their labors, teachers and other public servants who want to claim the money set aside for their health care or retirement. Our enemies and those we can't trust increase daily.

We are taught that what are most important are our rights as individuals. Our god is free-enterprise, the unchecked, unregulated right to make as much as we like, even at the expense of our society and our earth. We see regulations as a threat to our individual rights to do business and make a profit.

We are urged to think of ourselves first. If I am not old, why should I pay for those on Social Security or Medicare? If I don't have children, why should I care about education? If I'm not gay, not an illegal immigrant, not unemployed, not losing my house, not confronting an unwanted pregnancy!

And when crisis affects me, I will blame myself. I will think I am alone. I will think I have to solve my own problems. I certainly won't blame a broken social system.

Across the world there are huge demonstrations. The powers that be are threatened by masses of people in other countries who force their leaders to put the good of their society ahead of individual and corporate interests. Note the reaction to any resource industry being nationalized. In Venezuela we have spent millions to bring down the popularly-elected Hugo Chavez who has nationalized the oil production and channeled the profits to fund social programs. That's one of the actions that Muammar Gaddafi was threatening to do as well.

Countries or leaders that might want to put their people first are a threat. We constantly hear about the high taxes individuals pay in socialist countries. If we knew the truth we might start to compare how other countries empower their people by meeting their basic needs--that when the needs of the community are put ahead of individual rights, everyone benefits. We are told the myth that the U.S. is number one and do not see the abysmal ranking of our country on meeting social needs.

To those who want to protect their greedy accumulation of wealth and power, We the people (anywhere) are a scary proposition. God forbid that we should come together and discover our commonality and our strength. We might demand education that teaches us to think. We might start to question. We might want transparency in government or demand truth in the media. We might demand justice and equity, a say over our daily lives.

It is effective to keep us isolated. To use wedge issues to keep us divided. To make us think we aren't connected to the rest of the world. To keep us suspicious and fearful. To keep us ignorant. To keep us focused on 'I the person.'

We, together, are obviously a huge threat, otherwise why is so much effort being expended to keep us apart? Some people this Fourth of July will celebrate their independence and the rights they have as individuals. A few will recognize our interdependence. They realize that we can't do it alone, that we need community and that democracy is about We the People, not I the Person.

[Linda Wagner Schmoldt is a 'wonderer, wanderer, writer and social agitator' who lives in Portland, Oregon.
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Greenshields, Rachel

From: Portside Moderator [moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:40 PM
To: PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG
Subject: French Flotilla Boat Sets Sail for Gaza

French Flotilla Boat Sets Sail for Gaza

Activists sail from Corsica as others pledge to continue efforts to reach Palestinian territory with humanitarian aid.

Aljezeera
July 5, 2011

<http://english.aljazeera.net/news/europe/2011/07/201175114643849116.html>

A French boat has set sail for Gaza from Corsica in the latest attempt by activists to deliver aid to the Palestinian territory, according to a journalist aboard the vessel.

The Dignite al Karama, which left the western Mediterranean island overnight is, thus far, the only boat in a flotilla organised by pro-Palestinian activists to successfully sail for Gaza, with most confined to ports in Greece.

The vessel's passengers include Olivier Besancenot, head of the New Left Party in France, French politician and member of the European Parliament Nicole Kiil-Nilsen, and other well-known French personalities.

"We are about 20 minutes from international waters, and when we arrive there, the organisers on the boat will decide what their next move is," Quentin Girard, a journalist with the French newspaper Liberation, told Al Jazeera from aboard the boat.

Girard said that the activists on the boat want to go to Gaza, but are waiting to decide if they will go once the boat arrives in international waters.

"I think they will go if the international committee for the flotilla encourages them to go," Girard said.

Charges dropped

Meanwhile, the captain of a US ship, who was arrested by Greek authorities, was released on Tuesday and all charges against him dropped, Al Jazeera's Jamal Elshayyal reported from Athens.

"He has not been fined for anything, and he is a free man.

This after Greek authorities arrested him or detained him late on Friday as he tried to bring his ship out and take the passengers to Gaza," Elshayyal said.

The Audacity of Hope, also part of the so-called 'Freedom Flotilla', set sail on Friday from the Greek port of Perama and was towed back to shore by the Greek coast guard.

"Many viewed that the case today would be indicative of how likely it would be that this flotilla would actually set sail altogether," Elshayyal said. "And it seems that there is reason for optimism on the part of the participants, since now their captain has been set free."

Greece's coast guard said on Saturday that the captain of The Audacity of Hope faced charges of trying to leave port without permission and of endangering the lives of the boat's passengers.

The US boat is one of nine vessels carrying several hundred activists attempting to deliver aid to Gaza.

Some of the passengers on the US ship have remained on board in solidarity with the jailed captain.

On June 24, an anonymous complaint was filed against the ship's "seaworthiness". The Israel Law Centre (Shurat HaDin), took responsibility for the complaint in the Israeli media.

'No matter how long it takes'

Alejandro Fierro, an activist aboard a Spanish boat, Guernica, that is currently in port in Crete, told Al Jazeera that activists from his boat remained fully committed to going to Gaza.

"We have a few people on the boat now, and they will remain on the boat, in Crete, until they can go to Gaza," Fierro said, "Some people are going back to Spain, but we are going to continue to keep our boat in Crete, and keep people on the boat, until we can sail to Gaza."

Some of the members of the Spanish boat are currently occupying the Spanish embassy in Athens, and have hung a Palestinian flag from the balcony of the embassy.

"We will wait no matter how long it takes. We've learned patience from the Palestinian people who have been resisting Israeli occupation for 60 years, so we can wait. We are not going to move until our government makes some solution for the Greek government to let us sail away," Fierro said.

"Activists aren't taking this lying down," Al Jazeera's Elshayyal reported. "The Spanish contingent of the flotilla has occupied the Spanish embassy here in Athens and has been almost taking it hostage since about 12pm local time... So there is still very much a standoff from which no one seems to be willing to back down."

Kayakers detained

On Monday, a Canadian boat, the Tahrir, was forced to return to harbour in Crete after an attempt to reach international waters was thwarted by the coast guard, according to onboard activists.

The Tahrir sailed 15 minutes out of harbour before it was intercepted, activists told Al Jazeera.

The coast guard ship pursued the Tahrir, using water cannons and eventually boarding the ship.

Ehab Lotayef, spokesperson and coordinator for the Canadian boat, told Al Jazeera from Montreal that the two kayakers and a Canadian-Jewish activist, Sandra Rush, whose name was on the boat papers, were being held.

According to Lotayef, everyone else on the boat remained aboard through the night. On Tuesday, the Greek prosecutor was on board taking statements from the activists.

The group of activists in Corfu seemed to have all but exhausted their attempts to comply with the necessary paperwork for getting official permission to leave port.

In a meeting on Tuesday, the Corfu group discussed staging local demonstrations against the Greek blockade of their flotilla, but did not disclose the nature of the planned protest.

Most activists in the group seemed to reject the idea of breaking out of port, while the captain of the ship said he did not want to copy other breakouts out of fear of jeopardising his sailing license.

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Subject: What We Don't Talk About When We Talk About Jobs

What We Don't Talk About When We Talk About Jobs

By Andy Kroll
www.thenation.com
July 5, 2011

<http://www.thenation.com/print/article/161807/what-we-dont-talk-about-when-we-talk-about-jobs>

This article originally appeared at TomDispatch.com [1].

Like the country it governs, Washington is a city of extremes. In a car, you can zip in bare moments from northwest District of Columbia, its streets lined with million-dollar homes and palatial embassies, its inhabitants sporting one of the nation's lowest jobless rates, to Anacostia, a mostly forgotten neighborhood in southeastern D.C. with one of the highest unemployment rates anywhere in America. Or, if you happen to be jobless, upset about it, and living in that neighborhood, on a crisp morning in March you could have joined an angry band of protesters marching on the nearby 11th Street Bridge.

They weren't looking for trouble. They were looking for work.

Those protesters, most of them black, chanted and hoisted signs that read "D.C. JOBS FOR D.C. RESIDENTS" and "JOBS OR ELSE." The target of their outrage: contractors hired to replace the very bridge under their feet, a \$300 million project that will be one of the largest [3] in District history. The problem: few D.C. citizens, which means few African Americans, had so far been hired. "It's deplorable," insisted [4] civil rights attorney Donald Temple, "that...you can find men from West Virginia to work in D.C. You can find men from Maryland to work in D.C. And you can find men from Virginia to work in D.C. But you can't find men and women in D.C. to work in D.C."

The 11th Street Bridge arches over the slow-flowing Anacostia River, connecting the poverty-stricken, largely black Anacostia neighborhood with the rest of the District. By foot the distance is small; in opportunity and wealth, it couldn't be larger. At one end of the bridge the economy is booming even amid a halting recovery and jobs crisis. At the other end, hard times, always present, are worse than ever.

Live in Washington long enough and you'll hear someone mention "east of the river." That's D.C.'s version of "the other side of the tracks," the place friends warn against visiting late at night or on your own. It's home to District Wards 7 and 8, neighborhoods with a long, rich history. Once known as Uniontown, Anacostia was one of the District's first suburbs; Frederick Douglass, nicknamed the "Sage of Anacostia," [5] once lived there, as did the poet Ezra Pound and singer Marvin Gaye. Today the area's unemployment rate is officially nearly 20% [6]. District-wide, it's 9.8% [7], a figure that drops as low as 3.6% in the whiter, more affluent northwestern suburbs.

D.C.'s divide is America's writ large. Nationwide, the unemployment rate for black workers at 16.2% [8] is almost double the 9.1% rate for the rest of the population. And it's twice the 8% [8] white jobless rate.

The size of those numbers can, in part, be chalked up to the current jobs crisis in which black workers are being decimated. According to Duke University public policy expert William Darity, that means blacks are "the last to be hired in a good economy, and when there's a downturn, they're the first to be released."

That may account for the soaring numbers of unemployed African Americans, but not the yawning chasm between the black and white employment rates, which is no artifact of the present moment. It's a problem that spans generations, goes remarkably unnoticed, and condemns millions of black Americans to a life of scraping by. That unerring, unchanging gap between white and black employment figures goes back at least 60 years. It should be a scandal, but whether on Capitol Hill or in the media it gets remarkably little attention. Ever.

The 60-Year Scandal

The unemployment lines run through history like a pair of train tracks. Since the 1940s, the jobless rate for blacks in America has held remarkably, if grimly, steady at twice the rate for whites. The question of why has vexed and divided economists, historians, and sociologists for nearly as long.

For years the sharpest minds in academia pointed to upheaval in the American economy as the culprit. In his 1996 book *When Work Disappears* [9], the sociologist William Julius Wilson depicted [10] the forces of globalization, a slumping manufacturing sector, and suburban flight at work in Chicago as the drivers of growing joblessness and poverty in America's inner cities and among its black residents.

He pictured the process this way: as corporations outsourced jobs to China and India, American manufacturing began its slow fade, shedding jobs often held by black workers. What jobs remained were moved to sprawling offices and factories in outlying suburbs reachable only by freeway. Those jobs proved inaccessible to the mass of black workers who remained in the inner cities and relied on public transportation to get to work.

Time and research have, however, eaten away at the significance of Wilson's work. The hollowing-out of America's cities and the decline of domestic manufacturing no doubt played a part in black unemployment, but then chronic black joblessness existed long before the upheaval Wilson described. Even when employment in the manufacturing sector was at its height, black workers were still twice as likely to be out of work as their white counterparts.

Another commonly cited culprit for the tenaciousness of African-American unemployment has been education. Whites, so the argument goes, are generally better educated than blacks, and so more likely to land a job at a time when a college degree is ever more significant when it comes to jobs and higher earnings. In 2009, President Obama told reporters [11] that education was the key to narrowing racial gaps in the US. "If we close the achievement gap, then a big chunk of economic inequality in this society is diminished," he said.

Educational levels have, in fact, steadily climbed over the past 60 years for African Americans. In 1940, less than 1% of black men and less 2% of black women earned college degrees; jump to 2000, and the figures are 10% for black men and 15% for black women. Moreover, increased education has helped to narrow wage inequality between employed whites and blacks.

What it hasn't done is close the unemployment gap.

Algernon Austin, an economist for the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., crunched data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and found that blacks with the same level of education as whites have consistently lower employment levels. It doesn't matter whether you compare high-school dropouts or workers with graduate degrees, whites are still more likely to have a job than blacks. Degrees be damned.

Academics have thrown plenty of other explanations at the

problem: declining wages, the embrace of crime as a way of life, increased competition with immigrants. None of them have stuck. How could they? In recent decades, the wage gap has narrowed, crime rates have plummeted, and there's scant evidence to suggest immigrants are stealing jobs that would otherwise be filled by African Americans.

Indeed, many top researchers in this field, including several I interviewed, are left scratching their heads when trying to explain why that staggering jobless gap between blacks and white won't budge. "I don't know if there's anybody out there who can tell you why that ratio stays at two to one," Darity says. "It's a statistical regularity that we don't have an explanation for."

Behind Bars, the Invisible Unemployed

So what keeps blacks from cutting into those employment figures? Among the theories, one that deserves special attention points to the high incarceration rate among blacks -- and especially black men.

In 2009, 7.2 million Americans -- or 3.1% of all adults -- were under the jurisdiction of the US corrections system, including 1.6 million Americans incarcerated in a state or federal prison. Of that population, nearly 40% percent [12] were black, even though blacks make up only 13% percent of the American population. Blacks were six times as likely to be in prison as whites, and three times as likely as Hispanics. For some perspective, consider what author of *The New Jim Crow* [13] Michelle Alexander wrote last year [14]: "There are more African Americans under correctional control today -- in prison or jail, on probation or parole -- than were enslaved in 1850, a decade before the Civil War began."

Incarceration amounts to a double whammy when it comes to African-American unemployment. Rarely mentioned in the usual drumbeat of media reports on jobs is the fact that the Labor Department doesn't include prison populations in its official unemployment statistics. This automatically shrinks the pool of blacks capable of working and in the process lowers the black jobless rate.

In the mid-1990s, academics Bruce Western and Becky Pettit discovered that the American prison population lowered the jobless rate for black men by five percentage points, and for young black men by eight percentage points. (Of course, this applies to whites, Asians, and Hispanics as well, but the figures are particularly striking given the overrepresentation of blacks in the prison population.)

Even that vast incarcerated population pales, however, in comparison to the number of ex-cons who have rejoined the world beyond the prison walls. In 2008, there were 12 million to 14 million ex-offenders in the US old enough to work, according to the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR). So many ex-cons represent a serious drag on our economy, according to CEPR, sucking from it \$57 billion to \$65 billion in output.

Of course, such research tells us how much, not why -- as in, why are ex-cons so much more likely to be out of work? For an answer, it's necessary to turn to an eye-opening and, in some circles, controversial field of study that may offer the best explanation for the 60-year scandal of black unemployment.

Twice as Hard, Half as Far

In 2001, a pair of black men and a pair of white men went hunting for work in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Each was 23 years old, a local college student, bright and articulate. They looked alike and dressed alike, had identical educational backgrounds and remarkably similar past work experience. From June to December, they combed the Sunday classified pages in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and searched a state-run job site called "Jobnet," applying for the same entry-level jobs as waiters, delivery-truck drivers, cooks, and cashiers.

There was one obvious difference in each pair: one man was a former criminal and the other was not.

If this sounds like an experiment, that's because it was.

Watching the explosive growth of the criminal justice system, fueled largely by ill-conceived "tough on crime" policies, sociologist Devah Pager took a novel approach to how prison affected ever growing numbers of Americans after they'd done their time -- a process all but ignored by politicians and the judicial system.

So Pager sent those two young black men and two young white men out into the world to apply for perfectly real jobs. Then she recorded who got callbacks and who didn't. She soon discovered that a criminal history caused a massive drop-off in employer responses -- not entirely surprising. But when Pager started separating out black applicants from white ones, she stumbled across the real news in her study, a discovery that shook our understanding of racial inequality and jobs to the core.

Pager's white applicant without a criminal record had a 34% callback rate. That promptly sunk to 17% for her white applicant with a criminal record. The figures for black applicants were 14% and 5%. And yes, you read that right: in Pager's experiment, white job applicants with a criminal history got more callbacks than black applicants without one. "I expected to find an effect with a criminal record and some with race," Pager says. "I certainly was not expecting that result, and it was quite a surprise."

Pager ran a larger version of this experiment in New York City in 2004, sending teams of young, educated, and identically credentialed men out into the Big Apple's sprawling market for entry-level jobs -- once again, with one applicant posing as an ex-con, the other with a clean record.

(As she did in Milwaukee, Pager had the teams alternate who posed as the ex-con.) The results? Again Pager's African-American applicants received fewer callbacks and job offers than the whites. The disparity was particularly striking for ex-criminals: a drop off of 9 percentage points for whites, but 15 percentage points for blacks. "Employers already reluctant to hire blacks," Pager wrote, "appear particularly wary of blacks with known criminal histories."

Other research has supported her findings. A 2001-2002 field experiment by academics from the University of Chicago and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for example, uncovered a sizeable gap in employer callbacks for job applicants with white-sounding names (Emily and Greg) versus black-sounding names (Lakisha and Jamal). They also found that the benefits of a better resume were 30% greater for whites than blacks.

These findings proved a powerful antidote to the growing notion, mostly in conservative circles, that discrimination was an illusion and racism long eradicated. In *The Content of Our Character* (1991), Shelby Steele argued [15] that racial discrimination no longer held black men or women back from the jobs they wanted; the problem was in their heads. Dinesh D'Souza, a first-generation immigrant of Indian descent, published [16] *The End of Racism* in 1995, similarly claiming racial discrimination had little to do with the plight of black America.

Not so, insist Pager, Darity, Harvard's Bruce Western, and other academics using real data with an unavoidable message:

racism is alive and well. It leads to endemic, deeply embedded patterns of discrimination whose harmful impact has barely changed in 60 years. And it cannot be ignored. As the old African-American adage puts it, "You've got to work twice as hard to get half as far as a black person in white America."

Is There a Solution for Black America?

Tracing black unemployment in America since World War II, there are two moments when, briefly, the gap between black and white joblessness narrowed ever so slightly -- in the 1940s and again in the late 1960s and early 1970s. For example in 1970, unemployment was at 5.8% for blacks and 3.3% for whites, a sizeable gap but significantly better than what followed in the Reagan era. Those are moments worth revisiting, if only to understand what began to go right.

According to University of Chicago professors William Sites and Virginia Parks, those periods were marked by a flurry of civil rights and anti-discrimination activity on the federal level. A series of actions ranging from the creation of the Fair Employment Practice Committee [17] in 1941 to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (which mandated the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission), the Voting Rights Act of 1965 [18], and the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 [19], write Sites and Parks, had "dramatic impacts on employment discrimination."

But those gains of the 1970s were soon wiped out. The thinning of union membership [20] and the dwindling power of [21] organized labor didn't help either, after decades of pressure [22] on employers to end discrimination against workers of color.

Today, in terrible times, with the possibility of social legislation off the table in Washington, the question remains: What, if anything, can be done to close the jobless gap between blacks and whites? When I asked Devah Pager, she called this the "million-dollar question." This form of discrimination, she pointed out, is especially difficult to deal with. As she noted in 2005, many employers who discriminate don't even realize they're doing so; they're just going with "gut feelings." "It's not that these employers have decided that they are not going to hire workers from a particular group," Pager told me.

What won't work is relying on discrimination watchdogs to crack down more often. The way federal anti-discrimination law works, it's up to the person who was discriminated against to raise an alarm. As Duke's William Darity points out, that's a near impossibility for a job applicant who must convincingly read the mind of a person he or she doesn't know. Worse than that, the applicant who wants to lodge charges of discrimination also has to prove that the discrimination was intentional, which, as Pager's experiments make clear, is no small feat. Under the circumstances, as Darity told me, perhaps no one should be surprised to discover that blacks "grossly underreport their exposure to discrimination and whites grossly overreport it."

Of course, fixing a problem first requires acknowledging it -- something the nation has yet to do, says the Economic Policy Institute's Algernon Austin. To put blacks back to work, lawmakers should invest federal money directly in job creation, especially for black workers. Other avenues for putting people back to work, like a payroll tax credit won't do the trick. "We've spent billions in trying to build jobs overseas" in war zones [23], Austin told me. "But if we invested that money here in our cities, we wouldn't have this racial gap."

But how likely is that at a moment when, in a Washington gripped by paralysis, any discussion of spending in Washington begins and ends at how much to cut? The painful reality of permanent crisis for black workers is here to stay. That's how it seems to blacks in D.C., especially those who live east of the river. In April, another group of protesters took to the 11th Street Bridge to demand more D.C. hires, and the following month, the group D.C. Jobs or Else took their complaints to City Hall. But progress is slow. "We're being pushed out economically," said [24] William Alston El, a 63-year-old unemployed resident who grew up in D.C. "They say it's not racism, but the name of the game is they have the money. You can't live [in] a place if you can't pay the rent."

Source URL: <http://www.thenation.com/article/161807/what-we-dont-talk-about-when-we-talk-about-jobs>

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[2] <https://app.e2ma.net/app/view:Join/signupId:43308/acctId:25612>

[3] http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/protesters-seek-jobs-on-11th-street-bridge-project/2011/03/22/ABu9F7EB_story.html

- [4] <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtEMcNO-R9k>
[5] <http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/wash/dc90.htm>
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[17] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fair_Employment_Practices_Commission
[18] http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/voting_rights_1965.asp
[19] http://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/history/35th/thelaw/eeo_1972.html
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Greenshields, Rachel

From: Derezinski, Tony
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:41 PM
Subject: Read: Final Updates to July 5 Packet

Your message

To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa

Subject: Final Updates to July 5 Packet
Sent: 7/5/2011 7:45 PM

was read on 7/5/2011 9:31 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Briere, Sabra
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:41 PM
Subject: Read: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Your message

To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa

Subject: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project
Sent: 7/5/2011 8:30 PM

was read on 7/5/2011 9:41 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Tom Whitaker [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:40 PM
To: Hohnke, Carsten
Cc: Briere, Sabra; Kunselman, Stephen; Anglin, Mike
Subject: Re: Tonight's agenda...

Carsten:

I need clarification on two things you said at tonight's council meeting:

1. You said that this sewer RELOCATION (not repair) project was a "no cost option." Did you mean that this is a way of keeping this \$1.2 million expenditure off of the Fuller Road Parking Structure budget, so therefore, it would be "no cost" to the project? At the very least, if not illegal, it would seem unethical to take millage and ratepayer money that is paid to maintain, and IF NECESSARY, build new sewers, and use that money to RELOCATE existing and well-functioning pipes solely to support the construction of a new parking structure. Surely, \$1.2 million, regardless of its source is not "no cost."
2. You stated something to the effect of the Fuller Road Parking Structure being a tremendous environmental benefit to the community. What assessment have you performed or commissioned for FRS that indicates how many commuters would have to use a train in order to offset the construction of this parking structure and all related infrastructure, PLUS 900 car commuters each day? Seems to me you'd have to have at LEAST 900 people using the train, both ways, each day, just to offset the environmental impact of those car commuters, How many more would be necessary to offset the carbon footprint of the construction? And 900 is just to start, the structure is designed to add even more capacity for cars later.

What does the Federal government, which recently awarded a \$2.8 million grant to the City to study the environmental impacts of this parking structure, think of the City going ahead with this site utility phase of the project prior to completion of that environmental study? Will this not jeopardize future Federal funding by proceeding to remove many trees, open cut a huge swath across the site and make changes to the storm water detention currently on site? In my experience, Federally-funded projects that have a potential impact on historic sites have been stopped dead in their tracks because of a failure to complete a Section 106 review--a study of impacts to historic structures and archaeological sites. Similar laws exist for environmental impacts of Federally-funded projects. As Mr. Slotten sweated under the spotlight to come up with any justifiable reasons that this work needed to happen absent a parking structure on the site, it was patently obvious that this project was only created and put into the CIP as a means of continuing the momentum for this ill-conceived monster project. Fire hydrants for car fires? Come on! How many hydrants are located along our freeways (where most car fires happen).

It is shocking to me that you, one who has advocated for the removal of Argo Dam for environmental reasons (health of the river), would turn around and support a 900-space parking structure on parkland along that same river and worse, support the site utility infrastructure phase of the project (which this sewer relocation really is) before any environmental assessment has been completed.

Confused and once again, disappointed in the leadership of this Mayor and Council,

Tom Whitaker

On Tue, Jul 5, 2011 at 2:28 PM, Tom Whitaker <[REDACTED]> wrote:
Carsten and Mike:

Some interesting topics on the agenda tonight. Allow me to weigh in...

Recycle Ann Arbor...

As you know, I objected to the adoption of single-stream recycling and the related rewards program, primarily due to what I considered to be unsubstantiated projections for the program's success and insufficient hard data. The projections were based on incomplete mathematical comparisons to other cities including astonishing figures from Westland, where their single-stream program was actually rolled out in conjunction with curbside collection for the first time--obviously they would see enormous increases in participation and collection. None of the data accurately represented how much collected material was actually recycled and how much ended up in a landfill after going through an elaborate and expensive sorting process.

Now, the astonishing news that the collection tonnages are actually 40% less than the rosy projections presented to Council by staff and consultants! And once again, Council is being asked to bail out Recycle Ann Arbor--the perennial recipients of a no-bid contract for collection. I hope that you will take the staff and consultants responsible for this misinformation severely to task and that you will ask for very detailed financial information before proceeding to throw any more money into the pit. Seems the data presented only ever represents about 50-60% of what is needed to perform a decent analysis.

Fuller Road Parking Structure Sewer Relocation

I am 100% against building an enormous parking structure for UM on prime Huron river valley parkland--part of the Huron River Greenway (which is often cited as the reason we don't need an Allen Creek Greenway). This sewer project only exists to relocate and upsize sewers to accommodate the parking structure, yet was disguised as just another necessary sewer project. I urge you to review the process used to issue and award this RFP, and to reject it as yet another backdoor expenditure for a parking structure we do not want or need. UM has just demolished several large buildings at Ann and Zina Pitcher. If they have urgent parking needs, then they can build themselves a structure--underground or otherwise at this prime, central location on the medical campus, on land they already own. Fuller Road should be a parkway because it is lined with parks, not because it is lined with parking lots.

Please reconsider and reject this improperly awarded contract and tell the Mayor that ALL costs for the parking structure must be on the table at once, not doled out in unrecognizable chunks.

Thank you.

Tom Whitaker

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:39 PM
To: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Subject: amendment DC#5

Can you send me your language?

Thanks!

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk

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734.794.6140 (O) · 734.994.8296 (F) |

jbeaudry@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org



Think Green! Please don't print this e-mail unless absolutely necessary.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Rapundalo, Stephen
To: Postema, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:22 PM
Subject: Read: Privileged and Confidential: FW: File: A05-01217 Litigation Updates

Your message

To: Postema, Stephen; *City Council Members (All)
Cc: Crawford, Tom; Elias, Abigail
Subject: RE: Privileged and Confidential: FW: File: A05-01217 Litigation Updates
Sent: 7/5/2011 11:10 AM

was read on 7/5/2011 9:22 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Kunselman, Stephen
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:14 PM
To: Fales, Mary Joan
Cc: Postema, Stephen; Elias, Abigail
Subject: RE: DDA Annual Report - City Filings

Thank you Mary. Since my original request was for the certificates of publication of the published TIF Annual Reports, am I to assume the DDA did not find those records along with the newly found reports since they were not attached? If they are available, please send them; if not, please indicate so.

Thanks, Steve

From: Fales, Mary Joan
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 5:39 PM
To: Kunselman, Stephen
Cc: Postema, Stephen; Elias, Abigail
Subject: RE: DDA Annual Report - City Filings

Stephen - I am forwarding for your records copies of Reports. -Mary Joan

Mary Joan Fales, Senior Assistant City Attorney
City of Ann Arbor / 301 E. Huron St., POB 8647/ Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647 / email: mfales@a2gov.org/ Office (734) 794-6170 ext. 41887/
Direct (734) 794-6187 / Fax (734) 994-4954

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From: Fales, Mary Joan
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 5:37 PM
To: *City Council Members (All)
Cc: Postema, Stephen; Elias, Abigail
Subject: RE: DDA Annual Report - City Filings
Importance: High

Earlier today, I sent Council the statement below indicating that the DDA had been asked to search further for three missing reports. I can now advise Council that the missing reports were located and forwarded to the City Clerk and the City Attorney this afternoon. The reports in question had been filed in a separate location in the DDA office and located after the other reports had been transmitted.

Mary Joan Fales, Senior Assistant City Attorney
City of Ann Arbor / 301 E. Huron St., POB 8647/ Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647 / email: mfales@a2gov.org/ Office (734) 794-6170 ext. 41887/
Direct (734) 794-6187 / Fax (734) 994-4954

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From: Fales, Mary Joan
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 1:50 PM
To: *City Council Members (All)

Cc: Posterna, Stephen; Elias, Abigail
Subject: DDA Annual Report - City Filings

The statement below is non-privileged and may be used for public comment should any Council member wish to do so:

The Downtown Development Authority Act requires the DDA to submit annually to the City and publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the City a report on the status of its tax increment financing account.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Kunselman concerning fiscal years 2002 to date it was determined that the DDA had for the majority of the fiscal years since 2002 published, but not filed with the City Clerk, the required annual reports. The DDA was able to provide, based on their retained records, copies of the published annual report for the majority of the fiscal years in question. The information received was forwarded to the City Clerk for retention. The DDA has been asked to search further for and reconstruct, if needed and to the extent possible, three missing reports and file that information with the City Clerk.

Mary Joan Fales, Senior Assistant City Attorney

**City of Ann Arbor / 301 E. Huron St., POB 8647/ Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647 / email: mfales@a2gov.org/ Office (734) 794-6170 ext. 41887/
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Greenshields, Rachel

From: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC) [scottrosencrans@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:03 PM
To: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC)
Subject: Skatepark Presents
Attachments: Skatepark Pledge Forms 2011.pdf; ATT28922643.htm

Hello Friends,

Just a quick note to let you know that the Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark will be providing a presentation at the Work Session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners **this Thursday, 7/7/11, at 6:30 PM**. We are first on the agenda, so you won't have to sit through the rest of the meeting in order to see us.

The meeting will be **broadcast live on Ann Arbor Cable Access Channel 16**. We recommend you grab a bowl of ice cream, a pen and paper, and enjoy the show. The presentation should be about 10 minutes plus Q&A.

Multiple topics will be covered including places to buy Ann Arbor Skate Park merchandise to help fund the cause, skate park safety, the reasons for siting the amenity at Veteran's Memorial Park, the popularity of skateboarding in Ann Arbor, and more. The collective message is that the future of community improvement projects depends on collaborations between multiple government entities in collaboration with private philanthropy. Please take 10 minutes out of your Thursday evening to let us make our case to you. As always, we would be delighted to hear from you with questions and comments which can be accessed through the link below.

Of course we would be remiss in our mission if we did not give you an opportunity to help us with a donation now. Attached please find a donation form (pdf format) that can be used for just that purpose. You can also donate on-line at our web site by clicking the "Crowdrise" button at <http://a2skatepark.org/> We would be grateful for assistance at any level.

Scott Rosencrans
Project Liaison
Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark



Gifts in any amount are welcomed and appreciated. All gifts will go to the Ann Arbor Skatepark Fund at the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. 10% of each gift will go to an endowed fund for the Skatepark's maintenance and improvement.

Make checks payable to AAACF noting on the memo line "A2 Skatepark Fund". Mail checks and pledge forms to: AAACF, 301 N. Main St., Suite 300, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax forms to: (734)998-0163, attn: Diana

A 501(C) (3) Nonprofit
 All contributions are tax-deductable to the extent of the law
 Nonprofit tax identification number: 27 - 3040089

Donor's Names(s):		Date:
Address:		Phone #1:
City, State, Zip:		Phone #2:
Email:		Fax:

I/we would like to pay this amount in full

\$

I/we would like to pay _____ now and _____ as follows:

2012: \$
 2013: \$

I/we would like to be acknowledged as follows:

I/we would like to be listed anonymously.

My/our check is enclosed. (Payable to AAACF/memo line "A2 Skatepark Fund/ address above)

Please charge my Visa MasterCard

Card Number:
Expiration Date:
Security Code Back of Card:

Signature Required

Date

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Richard Dyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:51 PM
To: Len Cooke
Cc: house [REDACTED]; Adrian Fortino; Anne Middlebrook; Bill Newcomb; Bob Johnson; Charlie Ashbrook; Chris hite; Chris Whitehead; Clayton Lawler; Dave Brawn; David Canter; Emerson, Steven (Don); Ewy, Wayne; Gerald Schielke; Howard Bockbrader; Howard, Curtis T; Jerry Paulisson; Jim Goodrich; jim wares; John Clark; John Harju; Larry Brucki; Martin Sulkanen; Mott, Michael; Nassen, Kent; Paul Bancel; Paul Lewis; Pete Mooney; Powers, Joe; Rcmars [REDACTED]; Ricardo; Ronald Shaw; Roy Schwarz; Shane Whitfield; Steve Horvath; Rapundalo, Stephen; Stuart Dombey; Tod Holler; Tom Burzynski; Whitfield, Lloyd
Subject: Re: Small Turnout

Since this will be my first time playing this year, I have to ask a stupid question. What's the tee-time?

Dr Dick

On Jul 5, 2011, at 3:56 PM, Len Cooke wrote:

Plenty of room for subs this week. Many folks on vacation. Anybody want to join us at Eagle Crest?
TFT

Goodrich
Bancel
Harju

Marshall
Shaw
JOPO

Mott
Cooke
Dyer
Dombey

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC) [scottrosencrans@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:48 PM
To: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC)
Subject: Skatepark Presents
Attachments: Skatepark Pledge Forms 2011.pdf; ATT28922283.htm

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City, State, Zip:	Phone #2:	
Email:	Fax:	

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Please charge my Visa MasterCard

Card Number:
Expiration Date:
Security Code Back of Card:

Signature Required

Date

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:47 PM
Subject: Read: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Your message

To: Beaudry, Jacqueline; Anglin, Mike; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa

Subject: RE: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Sent: 7/5/2011 8:35 PM

was read on 7/5/2011 8:47 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:35 PM
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline; Anglin, Mike; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa
Subject: RE: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

The packet link has been updated to include a copy of the reconsidered resolution and can be downloaded.

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk

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jbeaudry@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org



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From: Beaudry, Jacqueline

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:30 PM

To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa

Subject: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Attached are the resolution and attachment for reconsideration.

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk

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Greenshields, Rachel

From: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:33 PM
Subject: Read: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Your message

To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa
Subject: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project
Sent: 7/5/2011 8:30 PM

was read on 7/5/2011 8:33 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:30 PM
To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa
Subject: Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project
Attachments: DS-18 Fuller Road Sewer.pdf; DS-18ATT1Fuller Road Sewer.pdf

Attached are the resolution and attachment for reconsideration.

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk

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BID TABULATION SUMMARY
FOR
NORTHSIDE INTERCEPTOR SANITARY SEWER RELOCATION PROJECT

BID No.: ITB-4127A
BID DATE: 2:00 p.m., June 17, 2011
FILE No.: 2008-057

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>TOTAL BID</u>
*Hoffman Brothers	\$1,216,099.75
Dan's Excavating, Inc.	\$1,234,337.81
Stante Excavating Company, Inc.	\$1,491,101.45
Sole' Underground	\$1,496,845.00
Engineer's Estimate	\$2,025,107.00

*Lowest Responsible Bidder



City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Text File

File Number: 11-0767

Agenda # DS-18

Introduced: 6/20/2011

Version: 1

Current Status: Introduced from Staff

Matter Type: Resolution

Resolution to Award a Construction Contract to Hoffman Brothers, Inc. (\$1,216,099.75; Bid No. ITB-4127A) for the Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

This memorandum requests approval of a resolution to award a contract for sanitary sewer, storm water, and water main construction services to Hoffman Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$1,216,099.75 related the relocation of the Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer.

The Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project is located south of Fuller Road and east of the intersection with Maiden Lane and East Medical Center Drive. Work includes the realignment and replacement of approximately 825 feet of 60 inch sanitary sewer. This 30 year old sewer is part of trunk line that delivers sewage effluent directly to the waste water treatment plant. The current alignment has limited access that presents difficulties with examining and monitoring the structural integrity of the pipe. The new alignment will add an additional access manhole and improve these capabilities. Project work also includes construction of approximately 525 feet of 24 inch storm sewer. A portion of this work is required to replace an existing storm sewer that is above, and in conflict with, the proposed 60 inch sanitary sewer realignment. The remainder of the work will upgrade the existing storm pipe. Lastly, the project involves placing approximately 925 feet of new 12 inch water main and associated bends, fittings, valves and other related items in a phased effort to eliminate a dead end main that services Fuller Pool and bring it into compliance with city standards. The effort will create a looped system that provides for redundancy and increases the reliability of water delivery to the pool by allowing for distribution from an alternate direction should a problem occur requiring shutdown of the primary source main. The first phase of work will be completed later this fall as a part of this project. The next and final phase to complete the loop is planned for 2013 with the resurfacing of Fuller Road.

The above described sanitary and storm sewer work will impact an existing soccer field on the south side of Fuller Road. As part of this work, and as a benefit to the City's park system, this field will be completely refurbished providing for improved drainage and turf conditions.

Twenty-three sets of plans and specifications were distributed to contractors that expressed interest in the project. Four bids for the construction were received and opened on Friday, June 17, 2011. The lowest responsible bid was submitted by Hoffman Brothers, Inc. for a total of \$1,216,099.75, which is \$809,007.25 lower than the Engineer's Opinion of Cost Estimate \$2,025,107.00. Attached is a bid tabulation

summary for the project.

Hoffman Brothers, Inc. has received Human Rights approval on June 20, 2011. All employees of Hoffman Brothers, Inc., who will work on the project, will receive compensation in accordance with the Living Wage Ordinance.

It is, therefore, recommended that City Council approve the award of the construction contract with Hoffman Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$1,216,099.75.

The project will be funded from the approved Sewage Disposal System, Storm Water System, and Water Distribution System Capital Budgets as follows:

Sewage Disposal System Funds	\$1,063,164.68
Storm Water System Funds	\$28,965.24
Water Distribution System Funds	\$123,969.83
<u>Contingency</u>	<u>\$121,610.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,337,709.75

Construction is expected to begin in July of 2011 and last approximately five months, weather permitting. Restoration and maintenance of the soccer field will continue until September of 2012.

Prepared by: David A. Dykman, P.E., Project Manager, PMSU
Reviewed by: Sue F. McCormick, Public Services Administrator
Approved by: Tom Crawford, Interim City Administrator

Resolution to Award a Construction Contract to Hoffman Brothers, Inc. (\$1,216,099.75; Bid No. ITB-4127A) for the Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project

Whereas, Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project includes sanitary sewer, storm water, and water main construction;

Whereas, The contract construction services will be funded from the approved Sewage Disposal System, Storm Water System, and Water Distribution System Capital Budgets;

Whereas, Competitive bids were received by the City of Ann Arbor Procurement Unit on June 17, 2011, and four proposals were received with Hoffman Brothers, Inc. submitting the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$1,216,099.75;

Whereas, The contractual proposal sets forth the services to be performed by said company, and the payments to be made by the City therefore, all of which are agreeable to the City;

Whereas, It is now necessary to enter into a Contract with said company for this construction project; and

Whereas, Hoffman Brothers, Inc. received Human Rights approval on June 20, 2011, and all employees of Hoffman Brothers, Inc., who will work on the project, will receive compensation in accordance with the Living Wage Ordinance;

RESOLVED, That a contract in the amount of \$1,216,099.75 be awarded to Hoffman Brothers, Inc. for the construction of the Northside Interceptor Sanitary Sewer Relocation Project (Bid No. ITB-4127A);

RESOLVED, That a contingency amount of \$121,610.00 be established within the project budget to be funded proportionately from the Sewage Disposal System Fund, Storm Water System Fund, Water Distribution System Fund based on the percent share of each fund being utilized, and that the City Administrator be authorized to approve additional change orders to the construction contract with Hoffman Brothers, Inc., not to exceed \$121,610.00 in order to satisfactorily complete the project;

RESOLVED, That the City Administrator is authorized to take necessary administrative actions to implement construction of this project and issue, as required, temporary and permanent Traffic Control Orders including parking prohibition in excess of one (1) block and/or ninety (90) days, and night and Sunday work authorizations.

RESOLVED, That the funds be available for the life of the project without regard to fiscal year until the Contract ends on September 15, 2012;

RESOLVED, That the City make the following declaration for the purpose of complying with the reimbursement rules of Treasury Regulations 1.150-2 pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that the City reasonably expects to reimburse itself for expenditures for the costs of the Project with proceeds of Bonds;

RESOLVED, That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute each of the contracts for services after approval as to substance by the City Administrator and approval as to form by the City Attorney; and

RESOLVED, That the City Administrator is authorized to take necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC) [scottrosencrans@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:15 PM
To: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC)
Subject: Skatepark Presents
Attachments: Skatepark Pledge Forms 2011.pdf; ATT28921341.htm

Hello Friends,

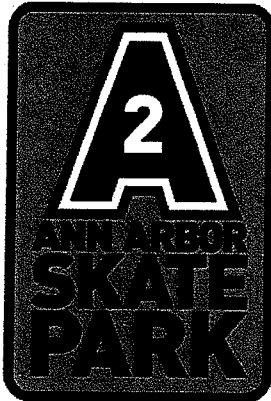
Just a quick note to let you know that the Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark will be providing a presentation at the Work Session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners **this Thursday, 7/7/11, at 6:30 PM**. We are first on the agenda, so you won't have to sit through the rest of the meeting in order to see us.

The meeting will be **broadcast live on Ann Arbor Cable Access Channel 16**. We recommend you grab a bowl of ice cream, a pen and paper, and enjoy the show. The presentation should be about 10 minutes plus Q&A.

Multiple topics will be covered including places to buy Ann Arbor Skate Park merchandise to help fund the cause, skate park safety, the reasons for siting the amenity at Veteran's Memorial Park, the popularity of skateboarding in Ann Arbor, and more. The collective message is that the future of community improvement projects depends on collaborations between multiple government entities in collaboration with private philanthropy. Please take 10 minutes out of your Thursday evening to let us make our case to you. As always, we would be delighted to hear from you with questions and comments which can be accessed through the link below.

Of course we would be remiss in our mission if we did not give you an opportunity to help us with a donation now. Attached please find a donation form (pdf format) that can be used for just that purpose. You can also donate on-line at our web site by clicking the "Crowdrise" button at <http://a2skatepark.org/> We would be grateful for assistance at any level.

Scott Rosencrans
Project Liaison
Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark



Gifts in any amount are welcomed and appreciated. All gifts will go to the Ann Arbor Skatepark Fund at the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. 10% of each gift will go to an endowed fund for the Skatepark's maintenance and improvement.

Make checks payable to AAACF noting on the memo line "A2 Skatepark Fund". Mail checks and pledge forms to: AAACF, 301 N. Main St., Suite 300, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax forms to: (734)998-0163, attn: Diana

A 501(C) (3) Nonprofit
 All contributions are tax-deductable to the extent of the law
 Nonprofit tax identification number: 27 - 3040089

Donor's Names(s):		Date:
Address:		Phone #1:
City, State, Zip:		Phone #2:
Email:		Fax:

I/we would like to pay this amount in full

\$

I/we would like to pay _____ now and _____ as follows:

2012: \$
 2013: \$

I/we would like to be acknowledged as follows:

I/we would like to be listed anonymously.

My/our check is enclosed. (Payable to AAACF/memo line "A2 Skatepark Fund/ address above)

Please charge my Visa MasterCard

Card Number:
Expiration Date:
Security Code Back of Card:

 Signature Required

 Date

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Briere, Sabra
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:12 PM
Subject: Read: Final Updates to July 5 Packet

Your message

To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa

Subject: Final Updates to July 5 Packet

Sent: 7/5/2011 7:45 PM

was read on 7/5/2011 8:12 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:11 PM
To: Rapundalo, Stephen
Subject: RE: Fuller Road Station Sewer

Thanks.

Sue

Sue F. McCormick
Public Service Administrator
100 N Fifth Av
Ann Arbor, MI 48107
Phone: (734) 994-2897
mailto: smccormick@a2gov.org



Think Green! Don't print this email unless you need to.

From: Stephen Rapundalo [<mailto:srapundalo@a2gov.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 5:39 PM
To: Crawford, Tom; McCormick, Sue
Subject: Fw: Fuller Road Station Sewer

Comments please for tonight.

Sincerely,

Stephen

Stephen Rapundalo
Councilmember - Ward 2
City of Ann Arbor
(734) 476-0648 - mobile
srapundalo@a2gov.org

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Karen Sidney <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, 5 Jul 2011 21:37:58 +0000
To: Sabra Briere<sbriere@a2gov.org>; Stephen Kunselman<skunselman@a2gov.org>; Marcia Higgins<mhiggins@a2gov.org>; Margie Teall<mteall@a2gov.org>; Tony Derezsinski<tderezsinski@a2gov.org>; Sandi Smith<ssmith@a2gov.org>; Mike Anglin<manglin@a2gov.org>; Carsten Hohnke<chohnke@a2gov.org>; Christopher Taylor<ctaylor@a2gov.org>; StephenRapundalo<srapundalo@a2gov.org>; John Hieftje<jhieftje@a2gov.org>
Subject: Fuller Road Station Sewer

Mayor and Council

I urge you to reconsider your vote approving over \$1.2 million to re-locate a sewer as part of the Fuller Road Station project. In addition to the lack of transparency surrounding this resolution, which were clearly stated by Rita Mitchell, there are bidding irregularities.

The award to Hoffman Bros was based on ITB-4127A. ITB-4127A is a reissued bid, replacing ITB-4127. The city intended to award the the work to Dan's Excavating, based on responses to the initial bid invitation. Instead of making the award, the bid was reissued and the work went to Hoffman instead of Dan's. There is no explanation in the revised invitation to bid of why it was necessary to reissue the bid.

According to information on the city's website, the agenda item awarding the bid to Hoffman was placed on the council agenda before the bids were opened. It's unclear how staff knew which company would get the bid before the actual bids were opened.

It's also unclear how staff could have adequate time to evaluate bids based on a bid document that was over 200 pages long between the bid opening on Friday afternoon and the council meeting the next Monday evening.

Finally, it's unclear why there was a need to rush this project through before Council has approved Fuller Road Station.

Please reverse your decision on this contract and ask staff to re-schedule the vote after Council has approved the project.

Karen Sidney

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Ara Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:58 PM
To: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Subject: Fwd: Re: Budget Reductions

Sorry, I should have copied this to you.

AGP

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Budget Reductions
Date: Tue, 05 Jul 2011 19:57:02 -0400
From: Ara Paul [REDACTED]
To: Hieftje, John <JHieftje@a2gov.org>

Just for your information, in case you haven't seen it, and with no comment, see today's NY Times, page 1 article entitled "A Cities Wrenching Budget Choices.

On 7/5/2011 9:39 AM, Hieftje, John wrote:
Hello:

I don't know that my priorities are so different than yours but I do believe there is a "right" number of police officers for our city and given the low crime in comparison to other cities it should be below the national average. In part because there is no data showing that having more police officers means less crime. We used to have more but we also had more crime. Let me also note that when figuring the number of officers per person in A2 the 54 sworn, weapon carrying officers of the UMDPS need to be included.

The city council also has to acknowledge the priorities of all residents. From my experience other residents would not make the trade off with the senior center. When closure of the Senior Center was proposed in 2010 there was a hue and cry from city residents and not just seniors. This was not the case with the reductions at the PD and FD.

My mention of the amount of crime in Lansing and Grand Rapids speaks to the question of the number of officers needed. Both cities have a lot more crime (4 and 3 ½ times more). Should A2 have the same number of police officers per person?

The same goes for the FD, should the number of serious fires in a city figure in? Should the cooperative relationships with other departments be figured in? Many fire departments run an ambulance service, ours is not qualified so the Huron Valley Ambulance Service needs to be figured in. None of this was accounted for in the article that appeared some time back in A2.com.

Or, how about Troy Michigan and many, many cities in the Western United States that have paid on call fire fighters? These cities seem to do very well without a large full time, sleep over in the station fire service. (Ann Arbor spends over \$100,000 per year on food for the fire fighters, enough to cover another full time person.) Or how about a fire service that works two twelve hour shifts or three eight hour shifts? Finding the answer to these questions and determining the "right" number of firefighters is the reason we have a complete study of the fire service underway with results due soon.

Thanks,

John Hieftje

From: Ara Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 04, 2011 9:26 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Budget Reductions

We obviously have different priorities. Yes, I would close the Burns Park Senior Center to retain one policeman or one fireman. If Ann Arbor has 0.72 firemen per 1000 and the national average is 1.72 per 1000, we aren't average. And I know how averages are made.

On 7/3/2011 1:29 PM, Hieftje, John wrote:
Dear Mr. Paul:

I hope you understand that no one takes any of this lightly. Myself and other Council Members share your concerns and we spent many months working on the budget to try and get the right balance. The final vote by city council was unanimous. Yes, there were cuts in the police and fire departments but also cuts elsewhere and there were difficult decisions that had to be made just as they are being made in other cities across the nation that are caught in the same long cycle of declining revenues and rising benefit costs.

In Grand Rapids the City has only opened 2 of their 6 public pools the last few summers in order to retain more police. A philanthropist has paid for a third pool to stay open. We could have closed the pools but decided to keep them open. Should council have voted to close the Senior Center in Burns Park in order to retain another police officer?

We should also remember that the police union could have prevented the 4 layoffs of police officers simply by agreeing to pay about 12% of their own health insurance costs as most other city employees do but they refused. Should the city have cut even more employees in other areas over the last several years, not just to retain officers but so that the police and fire departments can continue to enjoy more generous benefit packages? This disparity is already causing problems within the city work force. By comparison, a recent article in A2.com reported that UM employees pay over 20% of their benefit costs.

As I noted in an earlier email, Safety Services has grown from 41% to 51% of the budget over the last 10 years as priority has been given to police and fire.

A mayor or council member hopes to never have to lay off a police officer but those decisions have to be made. But I don't believe there will ever be a way to determine if "the safety of the citizens of Ann Arbor has been placed in jeopardy." No study I know of has ever proven a relationship between the number of police officers in a city and the rate of crime. In our own city we have seen crime drop at the same time as the number of officers in the department has gone down. Crime continues to go down. It dropped off sharply in the first half of this year.

It is very difficult to say how many police and fire personnel are needed in a city. Should Lansing have 4 times as many police officers as Ann Arbor because according to A2.com they have 4 times more crime? Should Grand Rapids have 3 ½ times more officers per resident because they have 3 ½ times more crime? Maybe so. (Another factor for A2 is that there are 2 police forces. The UM has 54 sworn officers.)

As I said earlier, on the fire side a complete study by an outside, professional organization is almost complete. It is led by a former fire chief with decades of experience and it will provide a solid basis for decisions. If the study says the city needs more fire fighters we will do our best to find a way to accomplish it. There are residents and council members who want the city to have a discussion on new revenues.

One reality that council has to work with is that many of the city's funds are restricted and cannot be switched from one "silo" to the next. This is true in all municipalities.

Again, I would be happy to talk to you about this and I am sure your neighbor Christopher Taylor would be as well.

Thanks for writing,

John Hieftje

From: Ara Paul [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2011 11:11 AM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Budget Reductions

Dear Mr. Hieftje,

I refer to the article in today's Ann Arbor.com entitled "Twenty positions eliminated in police and fire departments", page 1. I continue to believe that the safety of the citizens of Ann Arbor has been placed in jeopardy by your choice of budget reductions. I hope that I am proved wrong.

Ara G. Paul

On 6/14/2011 10:07 AM, Ara Paul wrote:
Thank you for your response, Mr Hieftje.

On 6/14/2011 9:48 AM, Hieftje, John wrote:
Dear Mr. Paul:

Thank you for writing back. City council shares your concerns about public safety. This is why the city has been prioritizing this area for the last 10 years. Ann Arbor remains a safe city.

Please let me note that I saw the A2.com coverage on FD staffing levels as well. The article did not say the AAFD's response times to structure fires were slower than the other departments mentioned. The cities chosen may have more fire fighters but the article never explained why having six firefighters sleeping in a station would mean the trucks would arrive faster than if there were four. There was no statement that response times had increased in recent years as there have been fewer fire fighters.

In any event, the comprehensive study of the provision of fire suppression services in the city will be complete later in the summer and there will be concrete information upon which to act.

As I noted in my reply to you originally, crime in Ann Arbor is very low in comparison to other cities of similar size and it has been going down steadily if not dramatically since 2002, down 18% as of December 1, 2010. One reason the decline has not been more dramatic is that the city started out with lower crime than other cities. So far this year however, crime is dramatically lower.

By the way, there is still a good chance that no police officers or fire fighters will be laid off. Discussions are ongoing over the unions agreeing to take on the same health care costs as other city employees and thus prevent the layoffs by saving hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Again, if you would ever like to discuss this further, please contact my office or perhaps I will run into you on Brooklyn as I walk with my wife and dog.

Thanks again,

John Hieftje

From: Ara Paul [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Saturday, June 11, 2011 10:45 AM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Budget Reductions

I apologize for my delay in acknowledging your response. I have been traveling extensively since I wrote to you. The information regarding crime and fire response time was published in Ann Arbor.com some weeks ago. Councilman Taylor apparently was aware of these reports. I understand that cuts in government are unavoidable and necessary. I just don't believe that safety should be compromised.

A. G. Paul

On 6/3/2011 12:53 PM, Hieftje, John wrote:

Dear Mr. Paul:

Thank you very much for writing on this important issue.

In the worst decade for local government finance since the Great Depression, cuts in government have been unavoidable.

Michigan cities have been especially hard hit. There are 2,500 fewer police officers and 2,200 fewer fire fighters working in Michigan than in 2001. Deep cuts are being made across the state. Lansing, a city of the same size as Ann Arbor, recently cut 102 jobs, many in police and fire and the City Council voted in May to close 3 fire stations after a millage increase was defeated at the polls. Grand Rapids has made deep cuts but they passed a tax increase to mitigate them somewhat. In Ann Arbor the city's portion of the total property tax millage (28%) is lower today than it was 10 years ago.

Only six of the reductions in the police department were police officer positions. Four of the reductions were layoffs but they may or may not happen depending on the response of the police officers union. By adopting the same payment schedule for health care as salaried staff and some other city unions, the layoffs can be avoided. Salaried staff at the city pay less for their excellent health insurance than most workers, even those at the UM but they still pay over \$3,000 more per year than workers in the Ann Arbor Police Officers Union.

I do not know where you received information from about crime in Ann Arbor but it is in fact down 18% since 2002-03 and the downward trend continues with a sharp drop off in the first six months of this year. Ann Arbor is a very safe city with lower crime than in 8 of the 10 other towns that also host Big Ten teams. Only the smaller, West Lafayette Ind. and State College Penn., have less crime. In Michigan, only Sterling Heights, a city without a major campus, has slightly lower crime than A2 among the larger cities. By comparison, according to an article in A2.com a few months ago, Lansing and Grand Rapids have 4 times the amount of crime per person than Ann Arbor.

Seven fire-fighter positions were cut, three of them were layoffs and again, the union can keep these layoffs from happening simply by agreeing to pay for a reasonable portion of their health care and with the expected retirement of another FF.

There is no data that I have seen to show that response times are increasing in the city. There was an article in AnnArbor.com that addressed this issue but according to the Chief and Assistant Chiefs at the Fire Department who have over 50 years of experience as fire fighters, the reporter misinterpreted how the times are calculated. Even still, he did not say response times have increased in our city.

There are far fewer fires in Ann Arbor than there were just a few decades ago. There are 70% fewer structure fires than in 1970 and the city now has enhanced relationships for fire service with Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township. The AAFD responds to their fires and they respond here. This model of shared service is being looked at across the nation and the city is working to bring more Townships into the relationship.

In any event, a comprehensive study of the Fire Service in A2 is underway and it will be completed later this summer. If the study recommends more fire fighters, we will have to try and find a way to make that happen. The study group is led by retired Fire Chiefs.

In both Police and Fire there will be actions to move people from behind desks back to police cars and fire trucks. The chief said that with this action the occasional "rolling closure" of some fire stations should be eliminated. The number of police officers available for patrol will go down from 29 to 28.

One thing that is understandably hard to understand about municipal accounting rules is that most of the city's funds are locked into tightly controlled "silo's". Spending funds for other than the purpose for which they were collected would mean legal and financial penalties for the city or lawsuits against what would essentially be fraud.

The city has been prioritizing Safety Services for 10 years. Safety Services has grown from 41% of the General Fund Budget in 2000 to 51% as other areas have been scaled back. (This calculation adjusts for all fund changes.) It would be extremely difficult to achieve a balanced budget if 51% of the budget was off limits to cuts.

There are three major drivers behind the need for reductions:

State revenue sharing with cities has been deeply cut and it was cut again this year.

Property tax revenues are no longer going up. The UM takeover of the Pfizer complex alone means the loss of another 4.6% of city property tax revenue. The UM does not pay taxes.

Benefit costs for city employees, especially for health care, continue to surpass the inflation rate with some double digit increases from year to year in the last decade. This is one reason for the need to achieve greater cost sharing with union groups. If the unions would agree to pay the same for health care as many other city employees a savings of \$850,000 per year would result.

Thank you again for writing and if you would ever like to discuss this please call my office for an appointment during my weekly open office hours. (794 6161)

John Hieftje

-----Original Message-----

From: Ara Paul [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2011 4:06 PM
To: Hieftje, John; SKunselman@a2.gov; Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Subject: Budget Reductions

As a resident of the Third Ward and someone who voted for all of you in the past election and some of you one or more times previously, I am writing to express my dismay over the budget reductions that will reduce our police department by 13 and our fire department by 7. I realize that the budget needs reduction for all of you to be fiscally responsible. But I cannot understand reductions in the police and fire departments. If what I have been reading in the news is correct, FBI reports that crime has been reduced nationally but Ann Arbor, like Detroit, has shown an increase! I also have read that the response times of our fire department are not considered to be appropriate. Public safety, in my opinion, should stand before many other items approved by City Council. I don't envy you your choices but I believe some wrong decisions have been made.

Ara G. Paul

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Ara Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:57 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Budget Reductions

Just for your information, in case you haven't seen it, and with no comment, see today's NY Times, page 1 article entitled "A Cities Wrenching Budget Choices.

On 7/5/2011 9:39 AM, Hieftje, John wrote:
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My mention of the amount of crime in Lansing and Grand Rapids speaks to the question of the number of officers needed. Both cities have a lot more crime (4 and 3 ½ times more). Should A2 have the same number of police officers per person?

The same goes for the FD, should the number of serious fires in a city figure in? Should the cooperative relationships with other departments be figured in? Many fire departments run an ambulance service, ours is not qualified so the Huron Valley Ambulance Service needs to be figured in. None of this was accounted for in the article that appeared some time back in A2.com.

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One reality that council has to work with is that many of the city's funds are restricted and cannot be switched from one "silo" to the next. This is true in all municipalities.

Again, I would be happy to talk to you about this and I am sure your neighbor Christopher Taylor would be as well.

Thanks for writing,

John Hieftje

From: Ara Paul [mailto:]
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2011 11:11 AM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Budget Reductions

Dear Mr. Hieftje,

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Thanks again,

John Hieftje

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To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Budget Reductions

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A. G. Paul

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Thank you very much for writing on this important issue.

In the worst decade for local government finance since the Great Depression, cuts in government have been unavoidable.

Michigan cities have been especially hard hit. There are 2,500 fewer police officers and 2,200 fewer fire fighters working in Michigan than in 2001. Deep cuts are being made across the state. Lansing, a city of the same size as Ann Arbor, recently cut 102 jobs, many in police and fire and the City Council voted in May to close 3 fire stations after a millage increase was defeated at the polls. Grand Rapids has made deep cuts but they passed a tax increase to mitigate them somewhat. In Ann Arbor the city's portion of the total property tax millage (28%) is lower today than it was 10 years ago.

Only six of the reductions in the police department were police officer positions. Four of the reductions were layoffs but they may or may not happen depending on the response of the police officers union. By adopting the same payment schedule for health care as salaried staff and some other city unions, the layoffs can be avoided. Salaried staff at the city pay less for their excellent health insurance than most workers, even those at the UM but they still pay over \$3,000 more per year than workers in the Ann Arbor Police Officers Union.

I do not know where you received information from about crime in Ann Arbor but it is in fact down 18% since 2002-03 and the downward trend continues with a sharp drop off in the first six months of this year. Ann Arbor is a very safe city with lower crime than in 8 of the 10 other towns that also host Big Ten teams. Only the smaller, West Lafayette Ind. and State College Penn., have less crime. In Michigan, only Sterling Heights, a city without a major campus, has slightly lower crime than A2 among the larger cities. By comparison, according to an article in A2.com a few months ago, Lansing and Grand Rapids have 4 times the amount of crime per person than Ann Arbor.

Seven fire-fighter positions were cut, three of them were layoffs and again, the union can keep these layoffs from happening simply by agreeing to pay for a reasonable portion of their health care and with the expected retirement of another FF.

There is no data that I have seen to show that response times are increasing in the city. There was an article in AnnArbor.com that addressed this issue but according to the Chief and Assistant Chiefs at the Fire Department who have over 50 years of experience as fire fighters, the reporter misinterpreted how the times are calculated. Even still, he did not say response times have increased in our city.

There are far fewer fires in Ann Arbor than there were just a few decades ago. There are 70% fewer structure fires than in 1970 and the city now has enhanced relationships for fire service with Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township. The AAFD responds to their fires and they respond here. This model of shared service is being looked at across the nation and the city is working to bring more Townships into the relationship.

In any event, a comprehensive study of the Fire Service in A2 is underway and it will be completed later this summer. If the study recommends more fire fighters, we will have to try and find a way to make that happen. The study group is led by retired Fire Chiefs.

In both Police and Fire there will be actions to move people from behind desks back to police cars and fire trucks. The chief said that with this action the occasional "rolling closure" of some fire stations should be eliminated. The number of police officers available for patrol will go down from 29 to 28.

One thing that is understandably hard to understand about municipal accounting rules is that most of the city's funds are locked into tightly controlled "silo's". Spending funds for other than the purpose for which they were collected would mean legal and financial penalties for the city or lawsuits against what would essentially be fraud.

The city has been prioritizing Safety Services for 10 years. Safety Services has grown from 41% of the General Fund Budget in 2000 to 51% as other areas have been scaled back. (This calculation adjusts for all fund changes.) It would be extremely difficult to achieve a balanced budget if 51% of the budget was off limits to cuts.

There are three major drivers behind the need for reductions:

State revenue sharing with cities has been deeply cut and it was cut again this year.

Property tax revenues are no longer going up. The UM takeover of the Pfizer complex alone means the loss of another 4.6% of city property tax revenue. The UM does not pay taxes.

Benefit costs for city employees, especially for health care, continue to surpass the inflation rate with some double digit increases from year to year in the last decade. This is one reason for the need to achieve greater cost sharing with union groups. If the unions would agree to pay the same for health care as many other city employees a savings of \$850,000 per year would result.

Thank you again for writing and if you would ever like to discuss this please call my office for an appointment during my weekly open office hours. (794 6161)

John Hieftje

-----Original Message-----

From: Ara Paul [mailto:]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2011 4:06 PM

To: Hieftje, John; SKunselman@a2.gov; Taylor, Christopher (Council)
Subject: Budget Reductions

As a resident of the Third Ward and someone who voted for all of you in the past election and some of you one or more times previously, I am writing to express my dismay over the budget reductions that will reduce our police department by 13 and our fire department by 7. I realize that the budget needs reduction for all of you to be fiscally responsible. But I cannot understand reductions in the police and fire departments. If what I have been reading in the news is correct, FBI reports that crime has been reduced nationally but Ann Arbor, like Detroit, has shown an increase! I also have read that the response times of our fire department are not considered to be appropriate. Public safety, in my opinion, should stand before many other items approved by City Council. I don't envy you your choices but I believe some wrong decisions have been made.

Ara G. Paul

██
██

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC) [scottrosencrans@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:52 PM
To: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC)
Subject: Skatepark Presents
Attachments: Skatepark Pledge Forms 2011.pdf; ATT28920864.htm

Hello Friends,

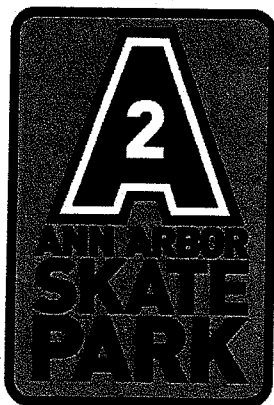
Just a quick note to let you know that the Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark will be providing a presentation at the Work Session of the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners **this Thursday, 7/7/11, at 6:30 PM**. We are first on the agenda, so you won't have to sit through the rest of the meeting in order to see us.

The meeting will be **broadcast live on Ann Arbor Cable Access Channel 16**. We recommend you grab a bowl of ice cream, a pen and paper, and enjoy the show. The presentation should be about 10 minutes plus Q&A.

Multiple topics will be covered including places to buy Ann Arbor Skate Park merchandise to help fund the cause, skate park safety, the reasons for siting the amenity at Veteran's Memorial Park, the popularity of skateboarding in Ann Arbor, and more. The collective message is that the future of community improvement projects depends on collaborations between multiple government entities in collaboration with private philanthropy. Please take 10 minutes out of your Thursday evening to let us make our case to you. As always, we would be delighted to hear from you with questions and comments which can be accessed through the link below.

Of course we would be remiss in our mission if we did not give you an opportunity to help us with a donation now. Attached please find a donation form (pdf format) that can be used for just that purpose. You can also donate on-line at our web site by clicking the "Crowdrise" button at <http://a2skatepark.org/> We would be grateful for assistance at any level.

Scott Rosencrans
Project Liaison
Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark



Gifts in any amount are welcomed and appreciated. All gifts will go to the Ann Arbor Skatepark Fund at the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. 10% of each gift will go to an endowed fund for the Skatepark's maintenance and improvement.

Make checks payable to AAACF noting on the memo line "A2 Skatepark Fund". Mail checks and pledge forms to: AAACF, 301 N. Main St., Suite 300, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax forms to: (734)998-0163, attn: Diana

A 501(C) (3) Nonprofit
 All contributions are tax-deductable to the extent of the law
 Nonprofit tax identification number: 27 - 3040089

Donor's Names(s):		Date:
Address:		Phone #1:
City, State, Zip:		Phone #2:
Email:		Fax:

I/we would like to pay this amount in full

\$

I/we would like to pay _____ now and _____ as follows:

2012: \$
 2013: \$

I/we would like to be acknowledged as follows:

I/we would like to be listed anonymously.

My/our check is enclosed. (Payable to AAACF/memo line "A2 Skatepark Fund/ address above)

Please charge my Visa MasterCard

Card Number:
Expiration Date:
Security Code Back of Card:

Signature Required

Date

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC) [scottrosencrans@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:52 PM
To: Rosencrans, Scott (PAC)
Subject: Skatepark Presents
Attachments: Skatepark Pledge Forms 2011.pdf; ATT28920861.htm

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Please charge my Visa MasterCard

Card Number:
Expiration Date:
Security Code Back of Card:

Signature Required

Date

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Taylor, Christopher (Council)
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:51 PM
Subject: Read: Final Updates to July 5 Packet

Your message

To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa

Subject: Final Updates to July 5 Packet
Sent: 7/5/2011 7:45 PM

was read on 7/5/2011 7:51 PM.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Beaudry, Jacqueline
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:45 PM
To: Anglin, Mike; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Bowden (King), Anissa; Briere, Sabra; Crawford, Tom; Dempkowski, Angela A; Derezhinski, Tony; Hieftje, John; Higgins, Marcia; Hohnke, Carsten; Kunselman, Stephen; Postema, Stephen; Rapundalo, Stephen; Satterlee, Joanna; Schopieray, Christine; Smith, Sandi; Taylor, Christopher (Council); Teall, Margie; Wondrash, Lisa
Subject: Final Updates to July 5 Packet

The packet has been updated to include DC-6 and DC-7. The link has been updated and can be downloaded now.

Jacqueline Beaudry, City Clerk

Please Note: The City Clerk's Office has relocated back to City Hall.

City Clerk's Office | Guy C. Larcom City Hall | 301 E. Huron, 2nd Floor · Ann Arbor · MI · 48104

734.794.6140 (O) · 734.994.8296 (F) |

jbeaudry@a2gov.org | www.a2gov.org



Think Green! Please don't print this e-mail unless absolutely necessary.

Greenshields, Rachel

From: Congress.org [congressorg@capwiz.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:38 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: NFL Players in Congress; What Obama Eats

Get informed, get involved
Congress.org
This Week in Congress

July 05, 2011

Roll Call

All the President's Menus



For President Barack Obama, even the location of a dinner date is a political decision.

And so far, he's shown the same tendency to split the difference in his dining choices that some critics say he has in his policies.

Among the more than a dozen places at which Obama has dined since becoming president are Washington, D.C.'s trendiest hot spots.

But a closer look at what he's eaten shows Obama's tastes are pretty traditional.

[Read more about Obama's dining choices.](#)

Get on Your Soapbox

Want to make your voice heard concerning issues important to you? Get on your soapbox and make it happen! Our Soapbox feature allows you to give exposure to your issue and lets other Congress.org users take action on the alerts you create. Registered users are now allowed four free soapbox alerts per month!

Track Your Lawmakers

Want to track votes cast by your Members of Congress? [Sign up](#) for our regular MegaVote newsletter.

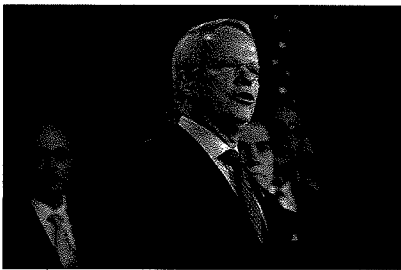
Signed, Sealed, Hand-

Write Congress Through Facebook!

You can now write members of Congress on whatever subject you'd like through our Facebook application.

Simply go to [our Facebook page](#) and click on the "Tell Congress" option — or go directly to the Compose Your Own Message page by [clicking on this link](#).

Be Careful What You Call Your Boss



Call it the Congressional name game.

On Capitol Hill, staffers often find that addressing one's boss is rarely a straightforward affair.

What you call the person whose name is on the door might depend on your own seniority and your audience. Mostly, though, it depends on the bosses' personal quirks.

Some prefer to be called their first names. Some go by Congressman or Senator. And some prefer titles that reflect their other jobs, such as doctor.

[Read more about Congressional names.](#)

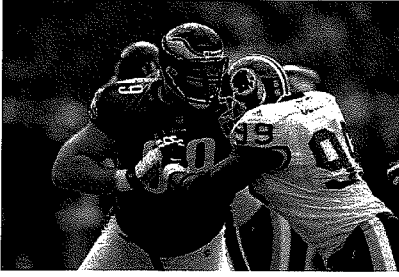
In NFL and on the Hill, Teamwork Rules

Delivered!

Did you know that you can have your message hand-delivered to the door of your Members of Congress? For a small fee, we can give your letter "Extra Impact" to help make your voice heard. Select that option when filling out your message on any topic.

Add Us

Don't forget to add congressorg@capwiz.com to your address book to ensure prompt delivery of this newsletter each week.



"Forget about it, it's over with. The play's changing in 40

seconds."

Stacy Palmer-Barton, Rep. Jon Runyan's chief of staff, had come into the New Jersey Republican's office upset about a mistake. She found her boss spouting sports terms she didn't understand.

It's hardly unusual for the two Members of Congress who previously served in the NFL to use sports metaphors.

But it can be a bit of an adjustment for their staffs.

[Read more about former NFL players in Congress.](#)



Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011

This bill would reduce the number of executive branch appointees requiring Senate approval. Its future in the House is unclear.

Passed: 79-20, 1 Not Voting

See how your representatives voted. [Sign up for our free weekly email.](#)

What's Happening in California — Or Your State?



It can be hard to keep track of California's lawmakers.

Sen. Barbara Boxer defending the federal budget. Rep. Darrell Issa launching investigations. Rep. Jane Harman retiring.

That's why we created a Facebook page where you can track all the news about the Golden State's delegation — [CongressCA](#).

In fact, we started 50 pages, one for each state in the union. Simply find your state in the list below, go to the Facebook page and click the thumb's up "Like" button at the top of the page.

[Alabama](#) | [Alaska](#) | [Arizona](#) | [Arkansas](#) | [California](#) | [Colorado](#) | [Connecticut](#) | [Delaware](#) | [Florida](#) | [Georgia](#) | [Hawaii](#) | [Idaho](#) | [Iowa](#) | [Illinois](#) | [Indiana](#) | [Kansas](#) | [Kentucky](#) | [Louisiana](#) | [Maine](#) | [Maryland](#) | [Massachusetts](#) | [Michigan](#) | [Minnesota](#) | [Mississippi](#) | [Missouri](#) | [Montana](#) | [Nebraska](#) | [Nevada](#) | [New Hampshire](#) | [New Jersey](#) | [New Mexico](#) | [New York](#) | [North Carolina](#) | [North Dakota](#) | [Ohio](#) | [Oklahoma](#) | [Oregon](#) | [Pennsylvania](#) | [Rhode Island](#) | [South Carolina](#) | [South Dakota](#) | [Tennessee](#) | [Texas](#) | [Utah](#) | [Virginia](#) | [Vermont](#) | [Washington](#) | [Wisconsin](#) | [West Virginia](#) | [Wyoming](#)

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This month, Congress.org added its 20,000th fan on Facebook.

Our community of users gets the latest news on Congress and national activism every time they log in to the world's most popular social networking site.

They can also write Members of Congress on the issue of the week through our new "[Tell Congress](#)" feature — in less than a minute.

So what are you waiting for? Go to facebook.com/congressorg and click the "Like" button" today!

If you know anyone who might be interested in this newsletter, please forward this email or [subscribe here](#).

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Greenshields, Rachel

From: Karin Barrell [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:34 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: RE:

Thank you so much for answering and explaining the situation in detail to me. I really appreciate it.

Karin Barrell

Subject: RE:
Date: Tue, 5 Jul 2011 11:36:58 -0400
From: JHieftje@a2gov.org
To: [REDACTED]
CC: MTeall@a2gov.org; MHiggins@a2gov.org

Dear Ms. Barrell:

Thank you very much for writing. I apologize for the lateness of my reply but I was away from the city when your message came and even though I have been back for awhile it has taken me some time to catch up. I have included information below that I sent to another resident who wrote with a similar concern.

Everyone on city council takes this issue very seriously and we always look elsewhere for cuts but as the effects of the recession wear on it gets harder every year. After exhaustive work over many months, the budget for the next fiscal year was approved on the last day of May by unanimous vote of City Council.

City Council has been prioritizing Safety Services for 10 years. Safety Services has grown from 41% of the General Fund Budget in 2000 to 51% as other areas have been scaled back. (This "apples to apples" calculation by the City's Chief Financial Officer adjusts for all fund changes over this period.)

In the worst decade for local government finance since the Great Depression, cuts have been unavoidable for cities across the nation.

Michigan cities have been especially hard hit. According to the Michigan Municipal League there are 2,500 fewer police officers and 2,200 fewer fire fighters working in Michigan than in 2001. Deep cuts are being made across the state. In Lansing, a city the same size as Ann Arbor, the City Council voted in May to cut 102 jobs, many in police and fire and to close 3 fire stations. Grand Rapids has also made deep cuts over the last few years. In Jackson they closed 2 of the 3 fire stations earlier this year. All Michigan cities have had to make cuts.

This spring in Ann Arbor, six police officer positions were eliminated but if the police officers union agreed to the same payment schedule for health care as salaried staff and some other city unions, the layoffs could be avoided. Salaried staff at the city pay less for their excellent health insurance than most workers but they still pay over \$3,000 more per year than members of the Ann Arbor Police Officers Union.

I have a standing meeting with the Chief of Police every week to discuss crime and safety in our city. The crime rate in Ann Arbor is low and it continues to go down. Crime is down 18% since 2002-03 and the downward trend accelerated this year with a sharp drop off in the first six months.

The last time I looked Ann Arbor had lower crime than in 8 of the 10 other cities that host Big Ten teams. Only the smaller, West Lafayette Ind. and State College Penn., have less crime. In Michigan, only Sterling Heights, a city without a major campus, a contributing factor, had slightly lower crime than A2 among the larger cities. By comparison, according to an article in A2.com a few months ago, Lansing (same size as A2) has four *times* the amount of crime per person than Ann Arbor. Grand Rapids has 3.5 *times* more crime than Ann Arbor.

Seven fire-fighter positions were cut in this spring's budget, three of them were layoffs and again, the union can keep these layoffs from happening simply by agreeing to pay for a reasonable portion of their health care and or with retirements. At this time it looks like no fire fighters will be laid off.

There is no data that I have seen to show that response times to fires are increasing in the city. There was an article in AnnArbor.com that addressed this issue but the new Fire Chief who has over 25 years of experience as an Ann Arbor Fire fighter has told me that he disagrees with the way the reporter figured the response times. But still, the reporter did not make a case that response times have increased in our city or that they were lower in the other cities mentioned.

There are 70% fewer structure fires in Ann Arbor than in 1970 and the city now has enhanced relationships for fire service with Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township. The AAFD responds to their fires and they respond here. This model of shared service is being turned to across the nation and the A2 is working to bring more Townships into the relationship.

In any event, a comprehensive study of the Fire Service in A2 is underway and it will be completed later this summer. If the study recommends more fire fighters, we will have to try and find a way to make that happen. The study group is led by a retired Fire Chief, an expert in fire services.

In both Police and Fire there will be actions to move people from behind desks back to police cars and fire trucks. The chief said that with this action and other adjustments the occasional "rolling closure" of some fire stations should be eliminated. According to the Police Chief, the number of police officers available for patrol will go down from 29 to 28.

There are three major drivers behind the need for budget cuts in Michigan cities:

State revenue sharing \$\$ allocated to cities have been deeply cut and were cut again this year.

Property tax revenues are headed down. The UM takeover of the Pfizer complex alone meant the loss of another 4.6% of city property tax revenue. The UM does not pay taxes and 40% of the land in A2 is non-taxable.

Benefit costs for city employees, especially for health care, continue to surpass the inflation rate with some double digit increases from year to year in the last decade. This is one reason for the need to achieve greater cost sharing with union groups. If the unions would agree to pay the same for health care as many other city employees a savings of \$850,000 per year would result.

One fact that is hard to understand about municipal accounting rules is that most of the city's funds are locked into tightly controlled "silo's". Spending funds for other than the purpose for which they were collected would mean legal and financial penalties for the city or lawsuits against what would essentially be fraud. Because of these silos there are sometimes funds available in other areas of the budget that are not available for General Fund functions like police and fire but cities are legally constrained from using them this way.

The available information points to our city being one with low crime that is going lower. With the research almost complete on the fire side of safety services we will soon have concrete information for the new fire chief to base his decisions on. Some residents have suggested the city raise taxes and some Michigan communities have taken this route. Despite the long recession, the A2 City Government's portion of the total property tax millage, 28%, has not changed and the city's millage rate is lower today than it was in 2000. In any event the City Council will be carefully considering all information including the possibility of new revenues and we will of course continue to prioritize Safety Services.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. If you would ever like to discuss this please call my office for an appointment during my weekly open office hours. (794 6161)

John Hieftje

From: Karin Barrell [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 7:27 AM
To: Hieftje, John; mteal@a2gov.org; Higgins, Marcia
Subject:

Hello,

Thank you, John, Marcia, and Margie, for all your support in the past and for your great work and for always listening to our concerns and supporting us.

At this moment however, I am concerned about another important issue, one far more important than any other faced before.

Please vote "no" on cuts to our police and fire departments and to the dispatch center. Take back the pink slips given to officers and dispatchers, keep our city dispatch center, and keep our big downtown engine that can reach over 3 stories. Make any necessary financial cuts elsewhere, like taking back the money given to the developers association for rent when we have space available for them in City hall. Thanks for continuing to make such a great difference and for keeping Ann Arbor safe.

Sincerely yours,

Karin Barrell, [REDACTED]
