

**AGENDA**  
**FORT SMITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**SPECIAL MEETING & STUDY SESSION**  
**JUNE 28, 2005 - 12:00 NOON**  
**FORT SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**COMMUNITY ROOM**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**ROLL CALL**

1. Resolution stating the City of Fort Smith's support to overturn a recommendation to realign the 188th Fighter Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Appointments: Airport Commission and Fort Smith Municipal Employees Benevolent Fund

**ADJOURN**

**STUDY SESSION**

1. Discuss Board of Directors' priorities for the 200

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION STATING THE CITY OF FORT SMITH'S SUPPORT  
TO OVERTURN A RECOMMENDATION TO REALIGN  
THE 188<sup>TH</sup> FIGHTER WING OF THE ARKANSAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

WHEREAS, the 188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard has been identified by the Department of Defense for realignment in the 2005 base realignment and closure plan; and

WHEREAS, said proposed realignment would eliminate the 188<sup>th</sup> mission of flying F-16 aircraft; and

WHEREAS, information relied on by the Department of Defense to make its recommendation regarding the 188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is incomplete and inaccurate; and

WHEREAS, the 188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing has substantial military value as evidenced by its operational readiness, the ability of the 188<sup>th</sup> base to accommodate more aircraft at low cost, the recruitment and retention rates for highly-qualified military personnel, the 188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's close proximity to an Army training range, plentiful airspace nearby, and the unit's economical cost of operation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the City of Fort Smith, Arkansas that:

The City of Fort Smith urges the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission to overturn the recommendation to realign the 188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing. Furthermore, the City of Fort Smith encourages the BRAC Commission to consider additional missions for the Fort Smith-based Air National Guard unit. The unit's capabilities now and in the future create exceptional military value that will significantly enhance the nation's defense.

This Resolution passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

*Approved to form  
AC  
No publication required*



# SS 1

## MEMORANDUM

June 23, 2005

**TO:** Bill Harding, City Administrator

**FROM:** Ray Gosack, Deputy City Administrator

**SUBJECT:** 2006 Budget

Preparation of Fort Smith's 2006 budget will begin next month. At the June 28<sup>th</sup> study session, we'd like to receive the board of directors' priorities for next year's spending plan. This helps the staff prepare a budget which meets the board's expectations. It's also helpful to receive feedback about the budget's oral and written presentations (e.g., What can we do to make the budget more useful for the board and the community?).

Attached are:

- ✓ a status report on the major goals in the 2005 budget
- ✓ the board's priorities from the January, 2005 strategic planning retreat
- ✓ the schedule for preparing the 2006 budget

A budget item that annually receives discussion is outside agency funding. Each year, the city allocates up to 1% of the General Fund budget (\$250,700 in 2005) to outside agencies. Also, 1.5% of the county-wide sales tax revenue (\$199,416 in 2005) and another \$300,000 in other General Fund revenue is earmarked for senior services provided by outside agencies.

If the board wants to make any changes to outside agency funding, those changes should be identified before 2006 application packets are sent to the agencies in later July. Possible changes could be:

- Provide funding only for capital improvements, not for ongoing operating expenses.
- Provide start-up funding for new agencies, and then gradually eliminate the funding (perhaps over 3 years) as the agency gains momentum.

Any changes to the existing program may need to be phased in over a 2-3 year period. This would give the agencies time to adjust.

The board's priorities for the 2006 budget will guide preparation of the city's spending and work plan for the coming year. We look forward to the board's discussion about what's most important in 2006.

*- Ray*

Attachments

# **2005 City-wide Budget Goals Status Report**

**1. Strengthen neighborhoods by remediating flooding in areas which had structure damage during the June and July 2004 storms.**

- Acquisition of lower-lying homes along Briarcliff which flooded will soon be completed (2 owners have decided to stay and not to sell). Removal of the acquired homes is in progress.
- Design engineering to reduce the occurrence of flooding is progressing. Construction of improvements is expected to begin in early 2006 in the Mill Creek area and later this year at other locations (Cornell @ Jenny Lind; 2100 block of South Q St.; Fenwick Court; and Cork Court).

**2. Encourage residential growth by annexing lands south of Fort Smith and by extending water and sewer services into those annexed areas.**

- Pre-annexation agreement approved for Williamson Place, a residential subdivision of 181 single-family and duplex housing units. The developer is attempting to have nearby properties join the annexation.
- The extension of Massard Rd. and water/sewer lines into Chaffee Crossing will result in the annexation of property west of Massard Rd. for residential and commercial development.
- Water service area dispute with South Sebastian Water has been settled. Fort Smith will supply service to approximately 20,000 acres south of Fort Smith beginning January, 2006.
- Board of directors is reviewing a plan for extending water and sewer trunk systems into a first-phase growth area. This will stimulate annexations.

**3. Meet the region's long-term water needs by substantially completing construction of the Lake Fort Smith water supply expansion project.**

- Construction should be substantially completed by the end of 2005 and fully completed by mid 2006.
- Staged filling of the enlarged lake will begin in December, 2005. Based on historical rainfall records, filling should be completed by February, 2007.
- Construction of the new Lake Fort Smith State Park should be completed by the end of 2006, and the park should open to the public in early 2007.

**4. Attract and retain quality jobs and retail businesses by promoting Fort Smith's and the region's assets and providing development incentives where appropriate.**

- The city has worked closely with the Chamber of Commerce's economic development initiative with the goal of ensuring our regulations and development goals facilitate the economic development goals of the community.
- Graphic Packaging opened its new state-of-the-art food container manufacturing plant. The new plant retained 150 existing jobs and added 130 new jobs in a modernized manufacturing plant at Chaffee Crossing.
- Leading a community team to fight the realignment of the 188<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard.
- City is working with Wal-Mart and Tapp Development for the construction of a Wal-Mart Supercenter and other retailers at the intersection of I-540 and Kelley Hwy.
- Target continues to look for a site in Fort Smith.
- Entered into a utility repayment agreement with Honda Power Sports to start development at I-540 and Century Dr.

5. **Secure voter approval to continue the 1-cent sales tax for streets, bridges and drainage.**

- On May 10<sup>th</sup>, voters approved continuation of the sales tax for another 10 years by a 2 to 1 margin.

6. **As a project to improve existing neighborhoods, ensure equitable administration of the International Property Maintenance Code and develop other assistance programs to meet the redevelopment goals of the comprehensive plan.**

- The International Property Maintenance Code is being enforced in the target area, and its success is being evaluated. A six-month report was provided to the IPMC task force on June 17<sup>th</sup>. The task force's consensus was the code is making a positive difference. By the end of 2005, a recommendation regarding the expansion of the code will be made to the board of directors.
- The International Code Council has given permission to rename the IPMC to the Fort Smith Property Maintenance Code and to place the code (with our local amendments) on the Internet.
- The *City of Good Neighbors* program has kicked off. The program seeks to provide assistance to low income property owners who are required to meet new property maintenance guidelines. This program is available on a city-wide basis.
- HNTB is continuing work on changes to the city's zoning and subdivision regulations. A series of public meetings will be held through the end of the year. Implementation is expected at the end of 2005.

## PRIORITIES FROM JANUARY, 2005 BOARD RETREAT

<i>RANK</i>	<i>PRIORITY</i>	<i>NUMBER OF VOTES</i>
1	Economic Development	9
2	Continuation of Street/Drainage Sales Tax	6
3	Fix infrastructure problems Sewer backups/overflows	5
3	Customer Service More cooperation Training for <u>line</u> employees Set aside personalities Communicate requirements & reasons Consistent, predictable, reliable No retaliation	5
5	Financial Solvency	4
6	Downtown & Riverfront Redevelopment	3
6	More Recreational & Cultural Opportunities	3
8	Master Plan	2
9	Historic Preservation Awareness of tax incentives	1
9	River Port	1
10	Regional Provider of Services	0



**City of Fort Smith, Arkansas  
Budget 2006 Calendar**

Note: Presentation dates with the Mayor and Board are presented in bold face type.

<b>June 28, 2005</b>	Receive Board of Directors input for city-wide goals for 2006 at study session.
June 29, 2005	Distribution of 2006 Budget package to all departments.
June 29, 2005 through August 4, 2005	Departments prepare budget worksheets/disks and summaries for 2006 requests and 2007 projections. Finance refines 2006 revenue estimates and prepares 2007 revenue projections.
July 20, 2005	Departments submit goals, objectives and outcome/performance measures for 2006 and submits status report on 2005 goals, objectives and outcome/performance measures to the Finance Department for use at the August 18, 2004 study session report to the Board. <span style="float: right;">9</span>
<del>August 9, 2005</del>	Review departmental priorities for 2005 and indicate correlation with city-wide goals for 2006. A status report to date on departmental accomplishments for 2005 will also be reviewed during the Board Study Session. <span style="float: right;">5</span>
July 22, 2005	Outside agency application notification.
August 5, 2005	The following departments submit completed budget packages to Finance: Administration; Economic Development; District Court; Finance; City Clerk; Human Resources; Engineering; Planning, CDBG and Code Enforcement; Information & Technology Systems; Convention Center; Health; Sanitation; Streets & Traffic Control; and Transit.
August 12, 2005	The following departments submit completed budget packages to Finance: Police; Fire; Parks; Water and Sewer; and CVB.
August 8, 2005 through September 8, 2005	Finance verifies accuracy of amounts submitted by the departments and prepares a preliminary budget supplement.

**City of Fort Smith, Arkansas**  
**Budget 2006 Calendar**  
(Continued)

September 12, 2005 through September 27, 2005	City Administrator, Deputy City Administrators and Director of Finance review budget requests and meet with department directors to discuss the 2006 requests.
September 9, 2005	Deadline for submittal of application packets by outside agencies.
September 27, 2005	Review outside agency requests, budget progress report, and present proposed five year streets and drainage CIP at Board Study Session.
September 28, 2005 through October 21, 2005	Preparation of rough draft budget by Finance.
October 11, 2005	Budget progress report at Board Study Session.
November 1, 2005	Present proposed budget to Mayor and Board of Directors.
November 14, November 16, and November 17, 2005	Review proposed budget with Mayor and Board of Directors; discussion with department directors.
December 6, 2005	Conduct 2006 Budget hearing and present 2006 Budget to the Board of Directors for adoption.