



**City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS**

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Legislative File No: 2006-0126

TO: City Council Members
FROM: James Rosen, City Council President
DATE: February 3, 2006
SUBJECT: Budget Work Session

For this year's discussion of the City Council's Goals and Objectives I am proposing that in our initial meeting we discuss two separate but related issues. The first is Council's affirmation and redirection of the Goals and Objectives that have been evolving over several years. The second is a forthright discussion regarding sources of funding for the City's priority services. At Julie Jenuwine's request, this would include the City Council's discussion of the numerous alternatives of funding methods along with prioritization of services for 2007. These questions must be asked and answered as Ms. Jenuwine begins the task of preparing a balanced budget made of priority services along with the acceptable sources of funding for those services. I do not expect Council to provide an answer Wednesday but we will begin the discussion.

For the Goals and Objectives discussion I have asked Ed Anzek and Kurt Dawson to serve as facilitators as they have in the past. In my discussions with them I have been advised that the most progress is made when Council members can speak freely about issues without challenge. To that end I have only requested that Julie, Kurt and Ed attend. Other Directors may attend at their own choosing.

To jumpstart our Goals and Objectives discussion I have provided copies of the products from the last two years of Council's efforts. I have also provided a very general description of how Goals and Objectives are intended to function. Basically, these goals and objectives serve as the basis for decision-making and to ensure that as programs and projects are funded they are moving the City in the desired direction.

However, I would ask that our discussion take a different track and use Wednesday's meeting to begin the dialogue of taking a new and fresh look at how we, as a government agency, do business. What is our Business Plan? Are we in sync with the residents? Where are we missing the mark or are we on target? Are we over-providing or under-providing services? I would suggest that we take this opportunity and begin to identify where we need to redefine our mission in meeting the needs of our residents.

I do believe this will take more than one meeting but let's use Wednesday to at least identify and put the issues on the table for future discussion.

NEXT AGENDA ITEM

RETURN TO AGENDA