



City of Westminster

8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, CA 92683 714.898.3311
www.westminster-ca.gov

June 23, 2016

TRI TA
Mayor

SERGIO CONTRERAS
Mayor Pro Tem

DIANA LEE CAREY
Council Member

TYLER DIEP
Council Member

MARGIE L. RICE
Council Member

EDDIE MANFRO
City Manager

Dear Neighbor,

As Westminster plans for the future of our City, we wanted to update you on the needs of our City.

As you may be aware, due to millions of dollars in State takeaways, Westminster has been grappling with significant budget shortfalls over the past five years. In order to offset these takeaways, the City has been forced to utilize our emergency reserves and deeply cut vital local services.

Even with significant budget cuts, the City has a \$3.7 million dollar budget deficit that is expected to double by Fiscal Year 2017-18. With our reserves nearly depleted, and in order to avoid bankruptcy, we will be forced to make further cuts to vital city services. Additional service reductions could include the elimination of specialized police units and potentially shutting down Westminster's local police department.

However, even after enacting over \$4.3 million in budget cuts, the City is still left with a \$12 million structural budget deficit. The City Council has placed a six-year, one cent Transaction and Use tax on the ballot for voter consideration. If enacted by voters, this measure would allow the City to maintain, and not significantly reduce services that residents have indicated are important.

Additionally, the City Council, at the advice of the Citizens Financial Task Force, has directed staff to engage the community regarding Westminster's fiscal situation. Please take a few moments to read our FAQ, and feel free to contact our office at feedback@westminster-ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Eddie Manfro
City Manager