



CMEA

June 5, 2020

Dear Mayor Schaaf,

We are reaching out to you on behalf of the nearly 4,000 city employees represented by CMEA, IBEW 1245, IFPTE Local 21, Oakland Firefighters IAFF Local 55, and SEIU 1021. One month ago, we expressed our commitment to rolling up our sleeves and finding creative solutions to the challenges we face. After a careful review of your proposed budget, we have identified a number of additional measures that the City Administration could take to reduce the projected shortfall and protect public services. We believe that the budget staff has moved too quickly towards demanding service cuts and labor concessions. There are significant savings still to be found prior to considering devastating cuts to city workers and residents.

To realize these savings, we request a series of working meetings with City Administrator Reiskin, Finance Director Benson, and you or your designee to do a line-by-line review of the budget. From the perspective of front-line city employees, there are still many stones that remain unturned. Our union leaders have decades of experience with the City and they deserve the chance to help identify savings in a line-by-line analysis of the budget.

It is our hope that you will instruct the City Administrator and Finance Director to meet with us in good faith in an effort to protect city employees and the public services we work hard to provide each day. Please let us know when the City is available to meet next week.

Sincerely,

Felipe Cuevas, SEIU 1021, City of Oakland Chapter President

Michael Patterson, IBEW Local 1245, Shop Steward

Jaime Pritchett, CMEA, Chief Spokesperson

Jamie Smith, CMEA, Chief Spokesperson

Anthony Reese, IFPTE Local 21, Oakland Vice President

Zac Unger, IAFF Local 55, President

Liz Ortega, Alameda Central Labor Council, Executive Secretary Treasurer

Cc:

Oakland City Councilmembers

Edward Reiskin, City Administrator

Adam Benson, Finance Director