



Councilmember At-Large Carol Wood Newsletter



WITH YOUR HELP LANSING WILL CHANGE!

EACH OF YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Over the last several months a number of truths were reaffirmed which was the basis for my involvement in public policy. The public needs and wants information and they want to not only be a part of the process but to have their voices heard as well.

I intend to work side by side with the numerous coalitions who have voiced their issues throughout this year. They are counting on me to continue asking the tough questions and to support an open and transparent city government, one that they are accessible to as residents and taxpayers.

I will continue to utilize the website carolwoodforlansing.com to keep the public informed and to hear and respond to your issues.

Budget Shortfall

The Problem: Unanticipated General Fund Revenue Shortfall

State Enacted Revenue Sharing Decrease Plus Other Budget Sources Decreasing Due to Economy:

Revenue Sharing	\$	1.8
Interest Earnings		0.2
Income Taxes		0.2
Property Tax Revenues		0.2
BWL Equity Payment		0.6
Unanticipated Revenue Loss in \$117.2 million budget = \$3.0 Million		

Unanticipated Revenue Loss	\$3.0M
Budget Expense Reductions (Vacancy Factor)	<u>1.0M</u>
Total Expense Reductions to be achieved before June 30, 2010	
	\$4.0 Million

Annualized Basis	3.4 %
½ year	6.8 %

The Mayor laid out steps with regards to reducing the \$3,000,000 deficit within the City of Lansing's Budget:

1. Controllable operating expenses & project capital expense will be reduced by 10%
 2. Current restrictions on employee hiring
 3. Restrictions on out of state travel will continue
 4. Restrictions on overtime will continue
- These cost saving measures will save nearly \$1.4 million. It is necessary to achieve an additional \$1.6 million by reducing personnel expenditures. City offices will be closed:
1. 3 days between Christmas & New Year's (Dec. 28-30)
 2. Friday before MLK holiday (Jan. 15)
 3. President's Day (February 15)
 4. Friday, March 12
 5. Thursday before Good Friday (April 1)
 6. Friday before Memorial Day (May 28)
 7. Friday, June 11

The Mayor will be working to implement rolling furlough days or other cost saving measures as alternatives to layoffs in order achieve to achieve proportionate expense reductions. I need your input on how to reduce expenses to increase revenues.

I need your input in dealing with the budget shortfall. As more information is available it will be posted on the website.

Please email or call me at the following: cwood@lansinami.gov or 517 483-4188

WATCH FOR MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE!

REMEMBER, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK!

Along with our website check out the blog at carolwood.posterous.com



Picture (Upper Left hand corner) Carol with Nikki Shangle

(Lower right hand corner) Children in front of the Lansing Center.

November 26th to December 13th Events

Nov. 26th & 27th – City Offices Closed

Nov. 30th @ 7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting, 10th floor City Hall 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Dec. 2nd @Noon – Development & Planning Committee, 10th floor City Hall 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Dec. 2rd @3:00 p.m. Public Safety Committee, 10th floor City Hall 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Dec. 2nd @ 6:00 p.m. – Eastside Neighborhood Organization Holiday Party, Foster Center, 200 N. Foster, Lansing

Dec. 3rd @1:30 p.m. – Committee of the Whole, 10th floor City Hall 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Dec. 3rd @ 6:30 p.m. – Genesee Neighborhood Association Holiday Party, Grace Lutheran Church, 528 N. MLKing, Jr. Blvd., Lansing

Dec. 5th & 6th @Noon to 5:00 p.m. Dickens Village In Old Town Carriage Rides, Arts & Crafts to Christmas Carols



Save Friday - January 29th, 2010

“Ruth Hallman Birthday Chili, Soup & more Fundraiser”

IBEW 665, 5205 S. Pennsylvania from 11:00 a.m to 6:30 p.m.

Suggested donation \$10.00

(All funds donated and only used for the “Ruth Hallman Problem Solving Overtime Fund for LPD”)

Dayle Benjamin is spearheading this event and I encourage you to call him at 372-1455, or email him at DayleBenjamin@aol.com for information, donations and volunteering to help.

CAROLWOODFORLANSING.COM



Carol Wood
1018 W. Lapeer
Lansing, MI 48915

