

Councilmember Budget Priorities for 2026

Notes from 4/9/25 deliberation session and CM worksheets
submitted via email between 4/10 and 4/14/25

Several CMs mentioned funding the goals already in our city plans

City Plans related to Budgetary Goals

- Comprehensive Plan (2018)
- Sustainability Action Plan (2018)
- Transportation Plan (2019)
- Climate Action Plan (2021)
- Safe Streets for All Action Plan (2024)

Public Safety

Rollo

- Bond to fund SW fire station (overall goal to reduce response times, esp. SW quadrant)
- Additional incentives to recruit and retain police officers

Piedmont-Smith

Invest in a non-policing community response team (create program or collaborate with Stride)

Transportation & Mobility

Rosenbarger

- Invest \$6-10M in SS4A priorities
- More staff to implement SS4A goals, especially engineers
- Staff restructuring, making Transportation its own division w/planners and engineers
- Funding for College/Walnut redesign
- Funding for high-priority corridor studies

Rollo

Double budget for repaving and repair of roads (good for bicycles and cars)

Flaherty

\$8 million split between sidewalks, multi-use paths, protected bike lanes, intersection improvements

Stosberg

- Continue/expand investments related to transportation safety and efficiency (getting from point A to B safely and easily), for example, bumpouts, street redesign, bussing efficiencies, leading pedestrian intervals, etc.
- Crosswalk plan

Zulich

Downtown circulator bus

Asare

Downtown circulator bus

(Affordable) Housing

Flaherty

\$200-\$400,000 to overhaul UDO in line with city policy and form based code

Rollo

Support for single family home owner occupancy (limiting airbnb's, bonding for land bank/land trust)

Piedmont-Smith

- Housing summit (bring together builders and funders of affordable housing)
- Continue successful HAND support programs

RE: repair, downpayment assistance, etc. that might be cut by HUD)

Zulich

\$300,000 for UDO overhaul

Rosenbarger

- Eventually form-based UDO overhaul, but meanwhile take steps in that direction for zero cost

Rosenbarger

Provide incentives to small developers who want to build smaller multi-unit buildings

Homelessness

Daily

\$200,000 for centralized homelessness data system

Asare

- Form based UDO overhaul
- Permitting process changes-piloting a concierge process or similar to increase efficiencies in permitting.

Economic Health & Jobs

Daily

\$150,000 for small
business Resource
Center

Environmental Health & Sustainability

Rollo

Invasive species removal
(invest in additional staff
member to manage
programs)

Daily

\$100,000 for community
composting program

Rosenbarger

- Remove general fund subsidy for sanitation services and use savings to support composting
- Explore “pay as you throw” trash programs

Culture & Recreation

Neighborhood Livability & Social Health

Rollo

Double Jack Hopkins (\$1 million)

Asare

Increase food security

Stosberg

- Continue/expand direct grants and assistance that support residents (electric bike grants, rent assistance, energy assistance, etc.)

Health & Human Services

Piedmont-Smith

- Partner w/County government on strategic use of opioid settlement funds
- Continue/expand partnership with Centerstone and explore other partnership options to employ people in recovery

Daily

\$200,000 for Mental health Co-Location (partnerships with local organizations to provide mental health support for homeless individuals and low income residents)

High Performing Government

Flaherty

\$200,000 Council office investment (increase staff salary, council salary, contract legal support, and other needs related to legislative and fiscal purview)

Piedmont-Smith

- Increase salaries of Council staff
- Increase budget for external consultants (legal, fiscal, organizational, public engagement)

Ruff

- Bring back leaf pick up
- Competitive staff pay

Zulich

Communication between government and residents RE: programs and services

Stosberg

Maintain government infrastructure and facilities (maintenance of streets, buildings, property, sewer/water infrastructure, etc)

Rosenbarger

- Increase salaries of Council staff
- Additional Council staff required to meet demands of CMs

Equity

Flaherty

\$200-\$400,000 for
integrating and
operationalizing equity in
city government

Should this incorporate as a
value throughout all operations?
How?

Government Transparency

Should this incorporate as a value throughout all operations?
How?

Outcome Areas (not ranked)

The number of CMs who indicated specific budget goals in that area is in parentheses.

Public Safety (2)

Transportation & Mobility (6)

Affordable Housing (6)

Homelessness (1)

Economic Health & Jobs (1)

Environmental Health & Sustainability (3)

Culture & Recreation (0)

Neighborhood livability & social health (3)

Health & Human Services (2)

High Performing Government (6)

Equity (1)

Government Transparency (0)