MEMORANDUM

TO: Donald Rencher, Director, Housing & Revitalization Department
FROM: President Pro Tempore Mary Sheffield, Chair, Neighborhoods and Community Services Committee
THRU: Brenda Jones, City Council President
DATE: March 14, 2019
RE: HRD Budget Hearing

- The page 2 budget summary shows 85 FTE positions for HRD in the FY2019 Adopted budget, but as of January 2019 there were 97 FTE positions in HRD. Why are there more positions than the adopted budget? Are these all FTE positions? What revenue is paying for non-general fund positions?

- What is the reason for the approximately $50 million increase in Operating Supplies Expenditures for FY2020? On pg. B36-5 the one-time $50 million operating supplies expense appears under the category Blight Investments. What is the specific purpose of the expense and funding source is paying for it?

- On pg. 36-8 Senior Home Repair has $2.5 million in the FY2019 Adopted Budget and zeroed out the following years. On pg. 36-13, is the $2.5 million for FY2020 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation now covering the home repair grant program? If so, are all the funds coming from CDBG? Are there any philanthropic or general fund dollars that could increase the total? What about Housing Trust fund dollars?

- How long are our Section 108 Loan repayment obligations? Can we use any of the surplus general fund dollars to quicken our repayment?

- How much CDBG is available planning studies? Are we required to use CDBG set aside for administrative purposes, or can any unobligated CDBG be used?
- Approximately how many project-based vouchers does the city have available? How does the department decide which projects to utilize them?

- Approximately how much money is currently in the affordable housing leverage fund? What about the Affordable Housing Preservation Fund? What other sources of revenue could be used to increase the Preservation Fund? Would HRD support using 50% of commercial land scales for the Preservation Fund?

- With tax abatements soon to be a trigger for the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, does HRD have the capacity to track and monitor compliance with jobs, affordable housing, etc.? How many FTEs would be needed to adequately monitor these projects? How are we currently monitoring compliance with the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance?

- Approximately how many affordable units are available right now? How many affordable units are expected to come online in the next 2 years? How many development are losing their affordable units in the next 2 years? What would it take to change the way we measure affordability? What would be the fiscal impact of changing the affordability requirements to 60% AMI or under for all projects?

- I have requested a Right to Counsel Ordinance to be drafted and I would like to request funding for the ordinance (estimated at $3.5 – $4 million) be provided through the Affordable Housing Leverage fund as a condition for the City’s $50 million investment into the fund.