Bobbie Walthall

From: Jonathan Douglass

Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 2:26 PM

To: Bobbie Walthall

Subject: FW: URGENT NEED FOR SPECIAL MEETING!

Subject: 2009 Budget Issues

Date: Tue, 27 Jan 2009 09:15:35 -0600 From: dstoddard@ci.lawrence.ks.us

To: amy-kelly@sbcglobal.net; dloewenstein@hotmail.com; donna.griffin@gouldevans.com; john.g.reeves@gmail.com; christiedobson@hotmail.com; director@downtownlawrence.com; kporsch@sunflower.com; matthewherren@att.net; mrapport@sunflower.com; scraig@ku.edu CC: cboecker@ci.lawrence.ks.us; ctoomay@ci.lawrence.ks.us; DCorliss@ci.lawrence.ks.us

Cultural Arts Commissioners, as most of you are aware, the Governor's recommended budget for the next state fiscal year that begins July 1, 2009 includes cutting various revenue sources to local government. One of these is the alcohol tax, which provides approximately \$1.7 million to the City to be used for various purposes based on a formula that restricts its expenditure. These funds are the sole source of revenue that provide funding for the Cultural Arts Commission's programs. I wanted to provide you some early information on this topic and will be forwarding new information as it is discussed by the City Commission.

LCAC Budget information: The Cultural Arts Commission budget is \$25,500 for the 2009 calendar year. Broken down into programs, this revenue provides funding for the following:

Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition: \$13,500

Arts Grants: \$7000Phoenix Awards: \$3000

Other: \$2000TOTAL: \$25,500

City staff is currently discussing the City's response to this revenue issue and the City Commission will soon be discussing this as well. The City will obviously be making its position known to our state legislative delegation about the implications for the revenue cuts. We want the LCAC to be aware that if these cuts go forward as proposed, which won't be known until near the end of the legislative session this spring, the likely result is that the LCAC budget will need to be reduced by 50% in 2009, which would mean some immediate choices would need to be made by the LCAC regarding this year's budget. Another likely result is that there would be no funding for 2010. The City Commission is anticipated to discuss this issue at its meeting one week from today. I will forward more information on those discussions as it becomes available and will be keeping you posted on this issue.

Please respond directly to me with any questions.

Thanks, Diane



Diane Stoddard, Assistant City Manager - dstoddard@ci.lawrence.ks.us City Manager's Office | City of Lawrence, KS

P.O Box 708, Lawrence, KS 66049 office (785) 832-3413 | fax (785) 832-3405

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