

**Statement from Mayor Carty Finkbeiner  
Regarding proposed charter amendment  
July 25, 2007**

I am not opposed to this amendment to the Toledo City Charter appearing on the November ballot. However, the administration submits a budget to council on November 15 every year.

This year, we asked Council President Rob Ludeman to appoint a budget task force, which he did. That budget task force met 17 times over the course of four months. Members of the administration worked with members of council to develop the necessary cuts and revenue enhancements to bring the budget into balance.

Councilman Szollosi was appointed to that task force. Unfortunately, neither he nor councilmen McNamara, Ashford, or Grachek contributed to this process.

This amendment puts the entire responsibility of identifying potential cuts and enhancements on the administration without council input. Government and budgeting should be a team effort. I hope that spirit of teamwork continues into the next fiscal year.

###