

1. If you vote for these contracts, you will have run through a very large and well lit Stop Sign. It is the pie graph on page 15 of the proposed budget for the next fiscal year indicating that Fire and Police services will eat up 79% of city expenditures.
2. The budget summary five year projection states that fiscal year 2019-20, although expenditures are projected to increase by 15 M, the Police and Fire share goes to ~~82%~~ 78%.
3. As our Treasurer and Auditor have been telling Council for years, this is unsustainable if we are going to have any city services other than police and fire.
4. A survey of the 2014 budgets for four other east bay cities reveals that our police expenditures are roughly comparable to these cities. However our fire expenses are not. Our 2014 budgeted fire expenses were 26M, San Leandro was 21M for 87000 people living in 13 sq miles, Pleasanton 15M for 74000 24 sq miles, Richmond 27M for 108000 on 52 sq miles, Vallejo 25M for 220000 over 50 sq miles
5. These may not be fair comparisons, but the fact that we are on an unsustainable path and that other cities are getting fire service at a much lower cost leads me to one sure conclusion.
6. We need to establish a task force to determine why our fire costs are so high and to look for a path out of the unsustainable road we are currently on. Everything must be on the table: closing the Grand Station, joint fire service on the Pleasanton -Livermore model, or contracting out the fire service to the county like San Leandro, Union City, Newark and Dublin.
7. Our safety employees are offering substantial contributions to OPEB costs, but it does not cure our 79% problem and, in fact, will have no impact on it at all for many years.
8. I believe that running this stop sign would be a breach of your fiduciary duty to the residents of this city. We have 2 ½ years before the current contract expires. We need this time to study the problem and find a solution.

Submitted by Paul Foreman
Re: Item 3-A
4-29-15