

Resolution to the Escondido City Council

Approved by majority vote of Club members, January 10, 2009.

Whereas: the City of Escondido faces an unprecedented budget shortfall; and

Whereas: deep budget cuts are proposed that will drastically curtail many city services, such as leaving police positions unfilled and not equipping or staffing one of the new fire stations, reducing library hours and book purchases, and eliminating all but one of the youth sports programs, and

Whereas: the City has sequestered more than \$19 million for a hotel project that has failed to gain private funding and has no near-term prospects for moving forward, therefore

Be it resolved that the Escondido Democratic Club asks the Escondido City Council to use funds from the hotel money to:

- 1) mitigate the budget reductions proposed for the remainder of this fiscal year and restore funding to the library and recreational activities that are even more necessary in difficult times,
- 2) replenish the City's reserve fund, which has been gradually drained during recent years, and
- 3) prepare the City for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, which holds no prospect of improvement.

Further be it resolved that the Escondido Democratic Club asks members of the City Council to consider alternate approaches to placing a hotel in the center city area that do not require such large subsidies to developers. We ask that the City make an effort to gauge public opinion about the need for such a project relative to other city services.

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