

City of Yakima
Budget Strategy Team

Mission and Responsibilities Outline

Mission

The **Budget Strategy Team** is one of several citizen “advisory” committees appointed by the Yakima City Council to review City programs and services and provide input to the Council. Specifically, the **Budget Strategy Team** advises and provides input to the City Council as the Council sets priorities for City tax-supported services in light of available resources and demand for services. “Team” members review the “contingency budget reduction plan” developed by City administrative staff. Prior to the start of each year’s budget public hearings process, selected “Team” members make a report to the City Council regarding results of the “Team’s” review of the City’s contingency budget reduction plan and offer opinions/suggestions to the City Council regarding the budget reduction plan. The primary function of the **Budget Strategy Team** is to provide the City Council with advice and input regarding the City’s tax-supported services from the greater Yakima area community’s perspective.

“Team” members play a critical role in ensuring broad participation in the development of appropriate funding levels for City tax-supported programs and services. However, like all “advisory” committees, the **Budget Strategy Team** has no direct legislative authority and the Council is not bound to act as recommended by the “Team.”

Responsibilities

- ① Attend regular “Team” meetings
- ① Notify “Team” chairperson when unable to attend meetings
- ① Review and evaluate information re: tax-supported City services and advise and provide input to the City Council as the Council sets priorities for such services
- ① Participate in “Team” discussions regarding tax-supported City services budget priorities
- ① Participate in presentations to City Council re: “Team” budget review results
- ① Assist City Council and City staff in providing information to and educating the community about tax revenue and tax-supported City service level realities (i.e. participate in presentations to community groups, participate in discussions with and interviews by news media, serve as “Team spokespeople,” etc.)