



August 15, 2017

Secretary Benjamin Barnes  
Office of Policy and Management  
450 Capitol Ave  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Secretary Barnes,

Attached is the information you requested in your letter dated August 7, 2017. In addition, below you will find supplemental information relative to how the continuing state budget impasse has impacted the Town of Windsor.

In FY 2017, the Windsor Town Council took a number of steps to prepare for the great uncertainty concerning state aid levels in FY 18 and beyond. Steps included deferring borrowing of \$2.1 M for planned capital projects in FY 17, reduced FY 18 planned 'pay-as-you-go' capital spending for pavement management, sidewalk repairs and fleet replacement, as well as approving changes to pension plans and future retiree health insurance benefits.

Planned town-wide FY 18 General Fund expenditures, including the Board of Education (up 1.2%), equaled a 0.95% increase over FY 17. This planned expenditure level also accounted for the significant 9.9% increase in the Metropolitan District Commission's annual ad valorem assessment. In preparing the proposed FY 18 budget, the Town Council assumed a 6.6% decrease in General Fund state aid for FY 18. Combined with a decrease in our overall taxable Grand List and implementing the mandated motor vehicle mill rate cap (with no corresponding state reimbursement grant), this resulted in a **4.22%** real estate mill rate increase. The proposed budget failed at the annual budget referendum. Also, please note the failed FY 18 budget proposal utilized \$900,000 or 4.3% of the estimated 6/30/17 General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance.

Given the continued state budget impasse and the failed budget referendum, the Windsor Board of Education cancelled the entire slate of summer school classes and has identified potential FY 18 staff reductions equaling 7.5 FTEs. The Town Council has put on hold \$1.4 M in funding for street repaving, sidewalk repairs and fleet replacement. At this point, a selective hiring freeze is in place and non-union merit pay increases are on hold.

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Lastly, the town is in the middle of planning for a \$30,000,000 Public Safety Complex renovation and expansion project. The Town Council has been working diligently on multi-year funding options which include the appropriate utilization of the town's General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to address this 50 year old facility and other needed reinvestments in our infrastructure, while preserving our high quality credit rating.

Sincerely,



Peter P. Souza  
Town Manager  
Windsor, CT

Enclosure  
Windsor Fund Balance information

c: Mayor Trinks and Town Councilmembers

General Fund total fund balance and unassigned fund balance information per August 7, 2017 request.

	<b>Total FY</b>	<b>Unassigned FB</b>
FY15 Actual	23,626,882	18,974,637
FY16 Actual	24,392,431	19,642,852
FY17 Estimated	24,499,852	21,066,010
FY18 Projected	23,516,010	20,116,010