



July 22, 2016

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Statement by Mayor Jose 'joey' Torres regarding the closing of City pools:

Unfortunately, the impact of budget cuts, demanded by the Municipal Council, will prove detrimental for the city. As the Fiduciary Officer of the city we have a responsibility to make difficult decisions.

On July 1st, during the Reorganization Meeting the City Council approved a temporary budget, for the first three months spending of our fiscal year, which included the Summer Camps scheduled to start on July 5th.

On July 6th and again on July 12th the Council voted down a Resolution #16:480 to install the 3rd and 4th quarter of the calendar year 2016 tax levy.

On July 19th my administration resubmitted a revised Resolution, with further reductions of \$7 Million, in order to be within the guidelines of the State Fiscal law, which states, "That the amount of the preliminary municipal tax levy shall not be less than 95% of the current fiscal year's municipal tax-levy." This resolution was again declined.

Since the city does not have approval from the City Council to set the preliminary municipal tax levy, we are therefore prohibited from establishing and mailing the estimated tax bills for August 1st and November 1st.

Our inability to mail the tax bills prevents us from collecting revenues thus creating a major cash flow problem hindering our ability to pay for vital city operational services, including our summer camps and pools, which fall within our first three month temporary budget.

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