



# Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission

Wes Benwick, Chair  
Jason Fischer, Vice Chair  
Joe Andrews, Secretary

## RESOLUTION 2010-10

**REQUESTING THE CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER WHETHER THE APPROPRIATION PROPOSED IN PENDING ORDINANCE 2010-884 FOR A DESIGN COMPETITION FOR REDESIGN OF HEMMING PLAZA IS A NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE EXPENDITURE GIVEN THE CITY'S CURRENT FISCAL SITUATION AND TO CAREFULLY SCRUTINIZE THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED DESIGN COMPETITION.**

**WHEREAS**, the TRUE Commission is composed of a number of citizens representing community and business interests, all of whom bring a variety of skills and perspectives to the process of reviewing and commenting upon City financial and management issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has reviewed pending Ordinance 2010-884 which would waive the Ordinance Code regarding allowable uses of the Environmental Protection Fund and would appropriate \$40,000 from the Fund for a Low Impact Design Competition using Hemming Plaza as a test case; and

**WHEREAS**, because of the timing of its committee meetings and monthly commission meeting, the TRUE Commission has not had the opportunity to hear a presentation from and ask questions of representatives of the City's Environmental and Regulatory Department and/or the Environmental Protection Board with regard to this bill and the purpose of the Low Impact Design Competition, and therefore the commission is not in a position to take a definitive stance for or against the proposed ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the TRUE Commission feels that it is incumbent upon the City Council in these difficult economic times to question the necessity of all non-mandatory expenditures and to demand satisfactory justification of the expected benefits of this discretionary expenditure and the expected additional costs involved in actually constructing and maintaining the Hemming Plaza makeover project should a design contest be held and a new design selected; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the TRUE Commission hereby urges the City Council and its committees to closely examine the proposed design competition embodied in pending Ordinance 2010-884, to determine if the project is a necessary and appropriate expenditure given the City's current financial straits, and to demand satisfactory justification for the proposed costs contained in the design

competition process and the construction and maintenance of the Hemming Plaza project if and when a new design is chosen..

Adopted by a 7-2 vote of the Commission this 2nd day of December, 2010.

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Wes Benwick, Chairman