



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

TRUE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

*(Note: these minutes are not official until reviewed and
approved by the commission at a future meeting)*

September 17, 2026

4:00 p.m.

Henry Cook Room

Attendance: Commissioners Day and Youngblood

Also: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research; Tommy Carter, Council Auditor's Office

Meeting Convened: 4:03 pm

Public Comment

John Nooney talked about FIND grants, KHA, and the Tree Fund, and he talked about the potential impact of Amendment 3. Mr. Smith spoke about the impact of Amendment 3 if it is approved in November.

Commissioner Comments

Mr. Day talked about the reduction in ad valorem revenue if Amendment 3 is approved by voters, and he mentioned various principles to guide analysis. He talked about City employee personnel costs overall, including benefits and retirement/pension costs. He talked about controllable costs, considering collective bargaining and maintaining funding for public safety. He proposed capping salary increases at 3% annually for non-union employees. Mr. Day also suggested a freeze on all spending for non-public safety departments, preserving pensions, and hiring freezes/not increasing employee caps across departments. There was discussion about the timing of budget cuts, this year or in the next fiscal year. Mr. Day asked if the Budget Office would run projections based on the Commission's recommended cuts.

The Commissioners talked about City employee salaries and the possibility of staff bonuses based on departmental efficiencies, whether such bonuses are legal, and if they are not legal how the law should be changed. Mr. Day talked about the City operating on a monthly financial timeframe rather than annually. There was discussion about the component of Amendment 3 related to new residents, wherein new Florida residents receive a smaller exemption until they've lived in the state for five years.

There was discussion about limiting the Mayor's budget transfer authority and current and past legislation regarding that. The Commissioners talked about the 2.5% lapse implemented last year for each department, with exception for contracted funding and public safety. They talked about City funds for nonprofits, and impact on the citizenry if that funding is removed. Mr. Youngblood reiterated his suggestion to sell the City's surplus park land and/or conservation areas.

Next Meeting

The next TRUE Commission meeting will be on October 8, 2026 at 4:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

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Posted 10.1.26 5:00 pm