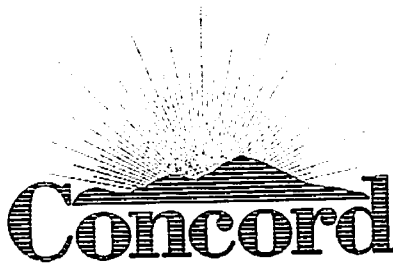


CITY OF CONCORD  
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*Guy*  
CITY COUNCIL  
William D. Shinn, Mayor  
Helen M. Allen, Vice Mayor  
Guy S. Bjerke  
Laura M. Hoffmeister  
Mark A. Peterson

Mary Rae Lehman, City Clerk  
Thomas J. Wentling, City Treasurer  
Edward R. James, Interim City Manager

July 18, 2008

Hon. Senator Tom Torlakson  
7<sup>th</sup> District  
State Capitol Room 5050  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: State Budget and Local Government Finance**

Dear Senator Torlakson:

As Mayor of the City of Concord, I request you **OPPOSE any effort to "borrow" local government revenues to temporarily fix the State budget deficit.** This approach is **fiscally irresponsible** and will hurt our economy. Without any realistic plan for repaying "loans" this approach exacerbates the State's structural deficit and **harms local services.**

In overwhelmingly enacting Propositions 1A and 42, **the voters made it clear they oppose taking local and transportation funds to address the State's short term budget problems.** Loans were approved if the governor declares a severe fiscal hardship. Using these loans at the first opportunity because the Legislature fails to enact real solutions to the State's budget structural deficit **breaks faith with voters.**

Cities also face difficult times due to high fuel costs, the mortgage crisis and a stagnant economy. We have already adopted our budgets, making tough choices to reduce our spending, develop new revenues and maintain acceptable levels of vital services. Any State "loans" now will require that we reduce local services.

We recognize that State leaders face difficult decisions. Solutions are at hand. They require compromise and acknowledgement that **the State should balance its budget with state funds – no more and no less.**

Very truly yours,

*William D. Shinn*

William D. Shinn  
Mayor

Hon. Senator Tom Torlakson  
July 18, 2008  
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cc: Hon. Assemblyman Mark DeSaulnier, State Capitol Room 4162, Sacramento,  
CA 95814  
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol, Legislative Affairs Unit  
Attn: John Moffatt, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata, State Capitol, Room 205, Sacramento,  
CA 95814  
Senate Republican Leader Dave Cogdill, State Capitol, Room 305, Sacramento,  
CA 95814  
Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, State Capitol, PO Box 942849, Sacramento, CA,  
94249-0047  
Assembly Republican Leader Michael Villines, State Capitol, Room 3104  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0029  
Members of the City Council  
Mary Rae Lehman, City Clerk  
Edward R. James, Interim City Manager  
Peter Dragovich, Director of City Management  
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Eric Figueroa, Regional Representative, East Bay Division – League of California  
Cities, P.O. Box 901, San Leandro, CA 94577