

The Winburn Report

City of Cincinnati – The Office of Councilman Charlie Winburn

Winburn Wrap-Up

Resolution to halt any tax increases proposed

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As our local, state and national economies continue to try to pull out of a recession, the last thing Cincinnati needs is a heavier tax burden to weigh down any upward movement.

To that end, I have offered a Resolution to my Council colleagues and asked for their support. We should be on record with the Administration opposing any increase in property or income taxes, and supporting the property tax rollback.

For your reference, I have reprinted the text of my resolution herein. If you have an opinion about it, please contact our office – for that matter, ALL 9 of the Council offices – and let us know your thoughts.

Thanks a Million!

Charlie

TAX BITES

How much do taxes add to the cost of goods & services?

- ▶ Meals Out—44.8%
- ▶ Cable—46.3%
- ▶ Cell Phones—46.4%
- ▶ Hotel Stays—50%
- ▶ Gasoline—51.2%
- ▶ Domestic Airfare—55%
- ▶ Car Rentals—60.6%

RESOLUTION OPPOSING TAX INCREASES

EXPRESSING the commitment of Council to oppose any proposed income tax or property tax increase on Cincinnati taxpayers, residents or businesses, which would have the foreseeable consequence of discouraging business growth and stifling job creation and further **EXPRESSING** Council's commitment to continue to support the property tax rollback policy during the current Council term.

- **WHEREAS**, Cincinnati's unemployment rate currently stands at 10.6%; and
- **WHEREAS**, Ohio's unemployment rate currently stands at 11%; and
- **WHEREAS**, our nation's unemployment rate currently stands at 9.9%; and
- **WHEREAS**, our nation's deficit is projected to be \$1.56 trillion; and
- **WHEREAS**, our nation's debt currently stands at \$12.9 trillion; and
- **WHEREAS**, all of these statistics threaten to overwhelm our local, state, and national economies, as well as the families which make up the foundations of the economy at all levels of government; and
- **WHEREAS**, many Cincinnatians have lost their jobs due to the economic downturn and have lost their homes through foreclosures, and
- **WHEREAS**, many Cincinnatians are facing increased financial pressures from inflation; and
- **WHEREAS**, many Cincinnatians are experiencing increases in higher education costs for their children, increases that are significantly higher than average inflation levels; and
- **WHEREAS**, many Cincinnatians feel overtaxed already, with Americans paying more in taxes than they will spend on food, clothing and housing combined, according to the Tax Foundation; and
- **WHEREAS**, there are current discussions related to increasing the City income tax or property tax in order to keep the Cincinnati Retirement System ("CRS") solvent, based on the fact that CRS is faced with the requirement of a \$400 million infusion due to the current state of its pension and health care fund levels; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

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Trolley Folly

The University of Cincinnati Economics Center for Education and Research Assessment of the Cincinnati Streetcar Study says:

"The analysis uses a study period of 35 years...However, it is unrealistic to think long-term impacts can be known conclusively and precisely."



Tax Resolution cont'd

Section 1. That Cincinnati City Council shall go on record by acknowledging that any increases in property taxes or income taxes in the City of Cincinnati would have the foreseeable consequence of discouraging business growth and stifling job creation in Cincinnati, and that Council therefore expresses its commitment to oppose any increase in the level of taxes currently imposed on the taxpayers, residents and businesses of Cincinnati by either of the following means during the current Council term: a) City Council will not enact any ordinance to raise the level of property taxes or income tax; and b) City Council will not support any organization that would attempt through a ballot measure to raise property taxes or income tax in the City of Cincinnati.

Section 2. City Council will continue to support the property tax roll-back during the current Council term.

Section 3. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.



Cincinnati Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate standard housing by building simple, decent, affordable homes to sell to low-income families in need.

Cincinnati Habitat works in equal partnership with families, volunteers and donors building a sense of community as well as affordable housing. Partners include corporations, churches, foundations, organizations and individual donors who donate money, labor and materials to fund and build homes.

Since their founding in 1986 as an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, Cincinnati Habitat

has built 150 homes in neighborhoods that include Avondale, Clifton, Columbia Tusculum, Evanston, Harrison, Hyde Park, Lincoln Heights, Lockland, Madisonville, Mt. Auburn, Mt. Washington, North Fairmount, Northside, Oakley, Over-the-Rhine, Price Hill, South Cumminsville, South Fairmount, Walnut Hills, Westwood and Winton Place.



Your Home Improvement Discount Store is now open for business!

4910 Para Drive, Cincinnati, 45237
Phone (513) 721-4483

The Cincinnati Habitat ReStore is a building materials recycling center that provides a sustainable source of

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Don't Miss These Great Events

- ▶ **Butterfly Show** • May 24–June 20
Krohn Conservatory in Eden Park
10:00am-5:00pm daily, Free Admission
- ▶ **P&G Taste of Cincinnati USA**
Memorial Day Weekend, May 29–31
Downtown on 5th Street
- ▶ **Friends of the Public Library**
Used Book Sale • June 6-11
Downtown Branch, 800 Vine Street

income to Cincinnati Habitat for Humanity. The ReStore accepts material donations from a variety of sources and uses new materials whenever possible in the construction of Habitat homes. The balance is sold to the public at greatly reduced prices.

Cincinnati Habitat's ReStore is an extension of our housing ministry. Your donation will benefit our entire community by offering low cost building materials and items to our customers and it will keep recyclable materials out of our area landfills. It will also help eliminate substandard housing in our neighborhoods through our home building efforts.

"I'm Charlie Winburn and I work for you. Please feel free to contact me at my office through the information provided above. It is a honor to be your City Councilman and I look forward to serving you for the next two years."

