STATEMENT of J.H. McQUISTON on
BREAKDOWN of RESPONSIBLE BUDGETING-PLAN

Honorable Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Once again the Mayor fumbled the City’s Budget and jeopardized the City’s future and Financial Standing. The Mayor has a Budget Director and staff for budgetary-work. The Mayor has a CAO Department with lots of specialists which should assure a workable and safe budget.

I am concerned, because not long ago the City ably-delivered budgets which were realizable and safe. Subsequent personnel seem incapable of reasonable budgeting.

But the authority for the Budget and its workability is solely the Mayor’s. It is not the duty of the City Council to cover the Mayor’s budget mistakes.

When Mayor Riordan caused the Charter to be revised to give Budget power to the Mayor, it was for the purpose of making the Mayor the party solely-accountable for its success or failure. Now, the Mayor must take the full blame and get the budget revised into “reality”.

The City Council is not tasked nor equipped for developing a workable and sound City budget. The Mayor is solely-responsible for that.

The Council should hold the Mayor to the fire and insist on better performance now, not later.

There is a substantial solution known to the Mayor and ignored presently. It must be put into action without further delay.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

J. H. McQuiston

c: Interested parties