

**CITY OF STAFFORD, TEXAS**

**AUGUST 22, 2023**

**BUDGET MESSAGE – FISCAL YEAR 2023 – 2024**

**BY MAYOR KEN MATHEW**

My fellow Staffordians, I am very much humbled by your selection of me as your Mayor. As we all know, this is an historical event.

This is a Balanced Budget. With the help of our dedicated and hardworking Department Heads and their employees we reached the end goal of Balanced Budget. It was not an easy task. I am thanking all our Department Heads and all the employees for their hard work diligence. They are the real asset of the City. They are the ones making the city better. I have to thank our Chief Financial Officer, Ms Alka Shah, for bringing up wasteful spending, spending long hours with Department Heads and me. Since me, Mayor Mathew and our CFO, Ms Alka Shah have almost the same Educational and Professional background, the task was a little easier. Our credit rating has been raised to A2 from A3. Let me also thank our City Secretary, Ms Roxanne Benitez and Assistant City Secretary, Ms Shandra Phillips and Ms Richelle Worthington for their help in putting together many tasks.

Stafford is ethnically diverse and proportionally balanced where we can live, work and coexist peacefully.

Our City of Stafford is well known around as a city with No Property Tax. We pride ourselves for being in that position. Since our city is Land Locked and Land Saturated, going forward might not be as easy as it has been. We have to explore other avenues to generate more revenues without reducing the services rendered to the citizens. We will continue to evaluate the situation very closely.

The total Budget for the General Fund is \$30.1 million as compared to \$31.7 million for the just preceding year. The total personnel cost is \$20.5 million as compared to \$19.4 million for the previous year which is 68% of the Budget. We currently have 173 full-time and 71 part-time employees.

Our school, SMSD, is our pride. I want to thank the entire School Board, the Administrators, Teachers, Students and their parents for being part of the system, especially the Magnet School. As we all know the school is a component of the city. The City and the School are working together for the safety of the students and the staff. The City is providing 5 SROs and the School will for pay 2 SROs.

## CONCLUSION

Thank you Staffordians. I have been in this position only for 2 months. Going forward, as you all know, I will have the duration of the whole year.

Now, I submit this Budget to the City Council for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Ken Mathew

Mayor, City of Stafford

Submitted by the Mayor to the City Secretary on August 22, 2023  
at 11:35 AM / PM

Roxanne Benitez, City Secretary

By: 