



City of Lawrence

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

DAVID L. CORLISS
CITY MANAGER

City Offices
P.O. Box 708 66044-0708
www.lawrenceks.org

6 East 6th St
785-832-3000
FAX 785-832-3405

CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
ROBERT CHESTNUT

COMMISSIONERS
MIKE AMYX
ARON E. CROMWELL
LANCE M. JOHNSON
MICHAEL DEVER

April 20, 2009

Representative Paul Davis
300 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1504

Re: Lawrence City Budget

Dear Representative Davis,

As you return to Topeka for the legislative wrap-up session, we want to remind you of the precarious condition of our City budget. While we recognize that recent revenue forecasts make your task of finalizing the State's budget even more challenging, we ask that you not underestimate what the loss of the liquor excise taxes, the machinery and business equipment transfer (commonly referred to as the slider payment), and the special city-county highway fund payments will mean for our City. The loss of these revenues will have a tremendous negative impact on our community.

The City's top priority is continued receipt of the liquor excise taxes. These revenues support funding to outside agencies providing human services to Lawrence residents. City operations, including support for the School Resource Officer program in Lawrence Public Schools and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities are also funded by the liquor taxes. In 2009, the revenue anticipated from the distribution of the liquor taxes totals \$1,782,684 for Lawrence. We ask that you work to ensure this vital revenue stream for the City is maintained. We will also appreciate your efforts to preserve the transfer of the slider payments and the special city-county highway funds for cities.



Page 2
April 20, 2009

As we begin crafting our 2010 City budget, we must also cope with challenging revenue forecasts. The City is expected to see a decrease in assessed valuation between two and four percent in 2010, and sales tax revenue for the City is expected to grow no more than one percent over 2009. These facts make continued receipt of the liquor tax, the slider payment, and the special city-county highway fund payment essential to fund our municipal operations and the services we provide in 2010 and beyond. We wish you well in the final days of the 2009 Legislative Session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Chestnut". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a stylized "Chestnut".

Robert Chestnut
Mayor

cc: City Commission
David L. Corliss, City Manager