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Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 12:47 PM
To: ZZ Council Members
Subject: Oppose the new director of operations

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Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the creation of the new “Director of Operations” position in the Mayor’s office. After reviewing the job description, it is clear that this role is unnecessary, duplicative, and will create a significant and ongoing financial burden for taxpayers.

Here are the main concerns:

1. Unnecessary Duplication of Duties

- The proposed responsibilities communications, budget analysis, grant writing, community engagement, and project oversight are already being handled by existing staff and departments such as the Finance Director, Communications Coordinator, and elected City Council members.
- Hiring another high level administrator to do parts of these jobs is government bloat and only adds confusion to reporting structures.

2. High Cost to Taxpayers

- The current Communications Coordinator role costs taxpayers about \$79,000 annually.
- The new Director of Operations role is proposed at \$143,000–\$188,000 annually.
- This is an additional \$64,000–\$109,000 per year, not including benefits, which over 5 years adds up to well over half a million dollars wasted on bureaucracy.

3. Reduced Accountability

- This position would act as a middle layer between the Mayor, City Council, department heads, and the public. That reduces the accountability of our elected leaders. Citizens elect a Mayor and Council to lead not to outsource their responsibilities to an unelected staffer.

4. Inefficient Approach to Grant Writing & Special Projects

- The job description highlights grant writing and project management. Both of these tasks can and should be handled by existing staff or contracted on a per-project basis for far less cost than a permanent \$150k+ position.

At a time when taxpayers are already struggling under rising costs, the last thing this city should be doing is creating an expensive, redundant position that adds more bureaucracy but provides no direct benefit to residents.

I urge you to reject this proposal and instead focus on accountability and efficiency within the staff and resources we already have. Please remember that every dollar spent on unnecessary government positions is a dollar taken from the taxpayers who expect responsible and transparent use of their money.

Respectfully,

Robert A Spencer

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