

## LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

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In the upcoming budget year, I have one mission in mind--being brilliant at the basics of city government by providing the people of Memphis the essential services they've come to expect and deserve.

This budget reflects priorities including public safety crime reduction, blight reduction and removal, clean streets, and repaved roads.

The City Of Memphis faces significant budgetary challenges in the next few years. That being said, I see this as an opportunity to show the people of Memphis that the city government can be excellent stewards of their tax dollars. My proposed FY2017 operating budget is \$667M. This is a balanced budget that will not require a tax increase or require us to dip into our reserves.

Our proposed capital spending budget for General Obligation Bonds will be \$85M. As you know, our annual target for CIP is \$70M; however, our safety priorities require that we invest in new technology and human capital to make our community as safe as possible. Our investments include paving additional roads and filling potholes, providing new radios for first responders, dash and body worn cameras for our police, improvements to public transportation, and transformative efforts in the South City project.

As I have learned about budget challenges, I have shared them with the City Council and the public, something I will continue to do in the future. In order for city leadership to make the best decisions moving forward, it is important that we all know and understand the facts about our finances.

The effort to be brilliant at the basics is driven by the true purpose of city government--to improve the quality of life for all Memphians, every day. That is why we are here. That is why we serve. With that thought in mind, we will succeed in our mission.

Jim Strickland

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jim Strickland'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor, City of Memphis

