



**Carmel-
by-the-Sea**

Nova Romero <nromero@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Audio Overview of Flanders Mansion

Mike Buffo <curator@carmeloutlands.org>
To: Nova Romero <nromero@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Mon, May 19, 2025 at 11:42 AM

Hi Nova,

At the encouragement of Mayor Byrne, I'm reaching out to ask if you would kindly forward this to all City Council members and appropriate city staff. I'm not sure if everyone is subscribed to the Carmel Outlands mailing list, so I just wanted to make sure this reached everyone directly.

We've just released a 15-minute audio overview that summarizes the history, current status, and political landscape surrounding the Flanders Mansion restoration effort. It's concise, factual, and designed to inform the broader conversation about the future of the property.

[Listen here](#)

Thank you so much for your help, and please don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything else from me.

Warmest,
Mike Buffo,
Founder/Executive Director,





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by-the-Sea**

Nova Romero <nromero@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Fwd: Fiscal Year 2025-2026 City Administrator Recommended Budget

2 messages

Jeff Baron <jbaron@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Mon, May 19, 2025 at 1:32 PM

To: Chip Rerig <crerig@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Nova Romero <nromero@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Budget correspondence for the packet.

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Jeff Baron
Councilmember, Carmel-by-the-Sea
(831) 265-2147

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jim Beck <jbeck@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Date: Mon, May 19, 2025 at 10:23 AM

Subject: Fiscal Year 2025-2026 City Administrator Recommended Budget

To: <dbryne@ci.carmel.ca.us>, <bdelves@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Jeff Baron <jbaron@ci.carmel.ca.us>, <hbuder@ci.carmel.ca.us>, <adramov@ci.carmel.ca.us>

To the Council,

I thought to encourage consideration within the Council's review and discussion of our next fiscal year budget to items of urgent interest, city infrastructure and fiscal responsibility, both reflected in the Staff's summary statement that follows:

"Ending unallocated fund balance is projected at \$7M, plus an annual allowance of 10% of total revenues....."

First, I would encourage spending the un-allocated balance to what the Staff refers to as "aging" infrastructure. We continue to profess that we live in Beautiful Carmel, which requires we look at vistas, not the roads and pathways beneath our feet or the public green spaces like those on Ocean Avenue towards Del Mar parking. Our city is in deplorable shape. Let's fix the roads, beautify the public pathways, fix or replace the police facility, so that the entire city gets the type of attention that tax-paying citizens are giving to Scenic Pathway.

Second, you are considering cost cuts to operating expenses appropriately; however, now is also the time to consider revenue increases. Why does Carmel persist on being below market on TOT. We tax at 10% for Transient Occupancy Tax while other coastal communities, including Pacific Grove, Laguna Beach, etc. are at 12%. That additional +2% would address the concern about not meeting the 90/10 guideline over the next 5 years; but for some reason this is a "parking lot" item to be addressed at a future date?

Thank you for listening, happy to join in the effort if helpful,

Jim Beck
Sent from my iPad

Nova Romero <nromero@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Mon, May 19, 2025 at 1:57 PM

To: Jeff Baron <jbaron@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Hans Buder <hbuder@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Alissandra Dramov <renewcarmel@outlook.com>, Dale Byrne <dbryne@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Robert Delves <rdelves@ci.carmel.ca.us>
Cc: Chip Rerig <crerig@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Brandon Swanson <bswanson@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Brian Pierik <bpierik@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Jane Hogan <jhogan@ci.carmel.ca.us>, Jayme Fields <jfields@ci.carmel.ca.us>

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

Please see correspondence below from Jim Beck regarding the budget. This will be included in the 5/21 agenda packet under correspondence received.