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**From:** ( )

**Sent:** February 2, 2010 5:35 PM

**To:** MayorandCouncil

**Cc:** Grant McRadu

**Subject:** 2010 Budget

To Mayor and Council,  
After listening to the budget deliberations of the past 2 Mondays, I have a couple of observations/recommendations, as a tax-paying citizen of beautiful West Vancouver.

As recommended by an earlier committee, Council should have given staff some guidelines last spring with respect to possible tax increase/decrease. I can't even imagine how many hours of staff time you would have saved if you had given staff a scenario of 0% and 1% increase 8 months ago, rather than wait to the 11th hour. Not only would you have saved countless thousands of dollars in staff time but you would have avoided the huge discouragement and frustration that is clearly evident. No value can be put to this staff debilitation.

Additionally, if you had done that then, your request would have been viewed by residents as one based on sound financial management rather than appearing to pander to a small vocal minority.

My perception is that your drive to a 0% tax change means that a number of expenditures are being deferred. This may be a good political strategy but certainly is not a sound financial strategy. These delays merely exacerbate an already critical situation of infrastructure decay.

Thank-you for your time and consideration of these comments.  
Respectfully,

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