

# City of Willits

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## **MEMORANDUM**

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Date: May 10, 2010  
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council  
From: Paul Cayler, City Manager  
Subject: Administrative Progress Report

The following developments may be of interest to you and the community-at-large. Please contact me at (707) 459-4601, if you have any questions.

### **RED CURBPAINING**

The Public Works Streets Crew was painting red curbs on the westside of town on Thursday. Some of the no parking curb painting are little faded. The Streets Crew did an excellent job cleaning and preparing the curbs, and then painting.

### **CITY BUDGET**

The City Council Finance Committee, Mayor Burton and Vice-Mayor Hanson, spent two full days last week going through the draft Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget on a line-by-line basis. The challenge before us is clear, especially in the General Fund. In summary, the fiscal forces acting against the City are decreasing sales tax revenue in combination with the State of California taking (I am being kind using the word “taking”.) \$373,000 from the Willits Redevelopment Agency. The League of California Cities described the redevelopment taking as “an elaborate court-sanctioned shell game with public funds.” As I am sitting here writing this report, I see that the court appeal trying to block the payment of the State’s redevelopment fund transfer has been denied by the Third Court of Appeals. So, on Monday May 10th, the City of Willits will deliver to the Mendocino County Auditor a check for the amount demanded by State Law. I am deeply disappointed by this action. This money is local property tax dollars that the State Government is ripping off because of a failure by the Legislature and Governor to grips with economic reality and placing the burden to solve the problem on local government.

### **SEWER PLANT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BIDDING**

City staff along with SHN Consulting Engineers have been super busy responding to bidder’s inquiries related to Sewer Plant Improvement Project. Two weeks ago the City held a bidder’s meeting to present the project and answer questions. The crowd of interested contractors was so big that the meeting had to be moved at the last minute from the City Council Chambers into the Community Center, because people were overflowing. I am hoping that the City will receive solid competitive bids within the \$15 million construction agreement cost estimate. The project bids are scheduled to be opened on Friday, May 21, 2010.