Attachment

RESOLUTION NO. 95-157

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA ESTABLISHING POLICIES FOR RESERVES FOR THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City desires to establish policies regarding reserves for the various City funds for the purpose of providing consistent designations for different categories of reserves, ensuring fiscal security for the funds, defining standards for minimum and maximum amounts to be maintained in reserves, and providing flexibility to recognize differences among funds; and

WHEREAS, such reserves policies will be most readily communicated and understood if they are consolidated and formally adopted in a single document; and

WHEREAS, staff has presented and Council has reviewed the proposed reserves policies in a Council Work session on October 17, 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Council has considered the proposed reserves policies at a regular Council meeting on November 14, 1995;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Santa Barbara that the following reserves policies are adopted:

1. In combination, the Reserves for Economic Contingency/Emergency and Reserves for Future Year Budgets/Fund Balance (by fund) will be funded to a goal level of 25% of the annual operating budget of the respective fund.

2. APPROPRIATED RESERVES

   An Appropriated Reserve will be included in each operating fund's adopted budget to provide for unanticipated expenditures or to meet unexpected small increases in service delivery costs within the fiscal year. This reserve will be budgeted up to one-half of one percent of the operating budget and any unused portion will be returned to fund balance at the end of the fiscal year.

3. RESERVE FOR CAPITAL

   Each operating fund will establish a Capital Reserve funded to at least 5% of the value of its capital assets. In the alternative, the amount may be established at an amount equal to the average of the adopted capital program budgets for the

previous three years. The goal for the General Fund Capital Reserve shall be set at least $1 million. Appropriations from these reserves will be to fund major capital costs.

4. RESERVE FOR ECONOMIC CONTINGENCY/EMERGENCIES

For each operating fund there will a reserve equal to 15% of its annual operating budget for the purpose of coping with emergencies. It may take more than one year to meet the 15% goal if these emergency reserves do not presently meet the 15% goal.

5. RESERVE FOR FUTURE YEAR BUDGETS/FUND BALANCE

Each operating fund will establish and maintain a reserve equal to 10% of its annual operating budget for the purpose of providing for unique one-time costs and for maintenance of City services and permit orderly budget adjustments during periods of reductions. Appropriation of these reserves to operating budgets should, when feasible, be accompanied by a plan for replenishment within a reasonable period of time.

6. FUNDING OF RESERVES

Funding will come generally from one-time revenues, excess fund balance and projected revenues in excess of projected expenditures. They will generally be reserved in the following priority order:

- Reserve for Economic Contingency/Emergencies
- Reserve for Capital
- Reserve for Future Years Budgets

However, flexibility will be retained to allocate available funds among the reserves based on the current circumstances and needs of the City's various operating funds.

7. Appropriation or use of funds from any of these reserves will require Council action.