

From: [Peter Hendricks](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Res 22-1079 / Opposition to Ballot Question to Levy for Child Early Care and Education
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2022 8:08:13 AM

Dear Councilmembers:

I urge you to vote against Resolution 22-1079 to add a ballot question in November on whether the City should levy for child early care and education.

I am in support of quality early childcare, but not a specific levy on property for the next ten years.

I specifically oppose the proposed ballot question for the following reasons:

1. It is unclear why the levy amount will increase from 0.0087194% in year 1 to 0.087194% in year 10. This is tenfold increase over 10 years in the levy percentage that does not consider potential increases in property market value during the same period.
2. "Early care and education" is not defined. Would all licensed daycare programs qualify, including in home day care? Should property taxpayers subsidize in home day care?
3. The ballot question indicates that early care and education will be "no cost to low-income families and available on a sliding scale to other families." What is low-income? I know the press and SPARK has reported low-income as at or below 185% of the federal poverty guidelines, but that is not in the ballot question. Also, what if a family has no earned income but significant assets, would they qualify for a subsidy? I hope not.
4. There are too many unanswered questions. Putting this levy question on the ballot could create problems-like the rent control ordinance-if it passes because of these and other unanswered questions.

I hope you will work for state and federal funding of quality early childhood education and oppose Resolution 22-1079.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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