

"The Mayor's fiscal working group report offers a starting point. It should not be understood as providing solutions that ultimately address the structural and emerging fiscal challenges facing the city. That is the work ahead of the administration and the City Council.

Embracing ideas, such as tying fees, fines, and taxes to inflation, are smart, but on the whole, the suggested proposals fall far short of digging us out of a \$1.5 billion hole. In fact nearly half of the \$1.6 billion in identified revenue options are unlikely to even materialize in FY26. Therefore, much remains to be done to deliver a sound, sustainable budget for Chicago."

Joe Ferguson
Civic Federation President