

Anne Hsu

Subject: FW: Public Comment: SSB Tax Study Session Item 2.1

From:

Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 1:44 PM

To: citycouncil

Cc:

Subject: Public Comment: SSB Tax Study Session Item 2.1

Dear Albany City Council Members,

We would like to submit this video before tonight's SSB Tax Study Session to say thank you to the City of Albany for funding the Healthy Me Program for the past year. Program participants, children and adults, have really enjoyed the fun health lessons they received. We hope you enjoy some of these snapshots of their enthusiastic participation in our classes.

<https://youtu.be/gCmpWBgoeBg>

Thank you so much for supporting health education for the children of Albany! We would love to continue working with Albany children through the Healthy Me Program to help them develop healthy habits that will last a lifetime.

Warmly,

Natalia Bernal & Anna-Maria Violich-Olivier

Healthy Me Kids Program Co-director/Instructor

Band: Aguacate Music Kids

www.aguacatemusickids.com

From:

Sent: Monday, May 2, 2022 4:39 PM

To: citycouncil

Subject: Subject line: Special meeting study session May 2, 2022 item 2-1. Sugar-sweetened beverage tax

Dear Council Members

I'd like to strongly suggest that a portion of the sugar-sweetened beverage tax funds be used for a pilot Universal Basic Income project in Albany. Having extra money that can be used as needed and as chosen by the recipients affects both mental and physical health. From my experience working with people experiencing homelessness, housing insecurity, food insecurity and the societal stigma attached to these, as well as the intersection with systemic racism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, and other forms of oppression, I can speak to the power of these kinds of direct cash programs. Here's one link to give you an idea of what cities across the U.S., including in CA, are doing: <https://www.the-sun.com/money/4463282/universal-basic-income-payments-2022-each-state/>

In Albany we need to make it clear that we support all of our community members and providing this kind of program adds action to the statement from SEJC related to these funds, as well as to the claim by the City that it welcomes and supports diversity of all kinds.

Sincerely, Julie Ann Winkelstein, PhD