

**HARRISBURG RECEIVER
FILES PROPOSED DEBT SOLUTION**

**STATEMENT FROM
HARRISBURG CITY COUNCIL**

Today, after years of fighting for a fair & justifiable solution for the citizens of Harrisburg, our City takes a big step forward with a detailed Recovery Plan being filed with the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. If approved, this plan crafted by Receiver William Lynch & his team, would take the necessary steps that pave the way to achieving fiscal stability for Harrisburg. It aims to reorganize debts, leverage assets, balance the budget, and most importantly, release the city from the crushing debt of the incinerator.

In many ways, the proposed plan accomplishes the many things we have fought so hard for, such as: shared pain and responsibility for the fiscal burdens of the incinerator; a robust process to identify and value our city's assets and liabilities; a debt solution that brings all major stakeholders to the table; and most importantly, a plan to realistically deal with Harrisburg's chronic structural deficit.

City Council has stood firm on various issues and fought for a fair solution for our city; one where the taxpayers would not be alone in shouldering the enormous costs of past mistakes. In that respect, today's plan goes further than any prior plan that has come before this body.

In the coming weeks, through the legislative process, City Council will be addressing many aspects of the complex plan, including: issues related to the incinerator; parking, water and sewer services; and union agreements, among others. Our ultimate goal is to fulfill the responsibilities entrusted to us by the voters of this city. We hope and expect the public to be actively involved, rightfully questioning whether the plan fairly and adequately addresses their needs. To help in the process, Council has asked to employ the services of a financial advisor to review and advise on the economic aspects of the Plan and the contracts that follow.

Council recognizes the hard truth that by its very nature, a Recovery Plan cannot be expected to satisfy everyone completely. We respectfully ask others to do the same. Every stakeholder can and will find things to like and dislike about the plan; it's the nature of the beast.

In the course of searching for solutions to the vexing issues facing our city, this Council has strived to keep an open mind and has been willing to work with those who also have wanted to find real resolutions to our problems. Now, as we work together with other stakeholders to move Harrisburg past this fiscal crisis, we will continue to work diligently for the betterment of the citizens of Harrisburg, as is our duty, entrusted upon us taking the oath of office during these challenging and troubling times.

Media inquiries to City Council about the Plan should be directed to our legal counsel, Neil A. Grover, at neilgroveresq@gmail.com or 717.439.4251