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The recent sobering projections from the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office provide a clearer picture of the State's budget condition and require us to revisit the Assembly's process for the 2020-21 budget. While we had anticipated passing a baseline budget until we had a better sense of how the disaster would impact the State, and how and when the economy would reopen, we cannot afford to delay action and will need to make difficult decisions in the coming month. We expect that on June 15, the Assembly will have to make difficult decisions to ensure California's budget is balanced.

While the State was in solid fiscal condition prior to COVID-19, nothing could have prepared us for the expected \$54.3 billion impact that the public health disaster has wrought on California in such a short period. The Assembly anticipates needing to adopt a budget that will include sizable reductions to services, including in areas that have traditionally been priorities for investment over the last decade. We will also be considering all other options, including increased revenue.

The Assembly will have one week of Subcommittee hearings regarding the May Revision budget during the week of May 18. These hearings will be structured to maximize the time for public comment on the Governor's May Revision proposal. However, the Committee will encourage the public to email the Subcommittees directly with feedback, given the physical limitations of the hearings rooms and challenges around utilizing the phone system for public comment.

The complete Subcommittee schedule is as follows:

**Monday, May 18, 2020**

- Sub 1 (Human Services): 1 PM (or Upon Adjournment of Revenue and Taxation Committee) to 7 PM, Capitol, Room 4202
- Sub 2 (K-12 and ECE): 3 PM (or Upon Adjournment of Aging Committee) to 7PM, Capitol, Room 437

**Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

- Sub 1 (Health): 9:00 AM to 2 PM, Capitol, Room 437
- Sub 2 (Higher Education): 2:30 PM to 5:30 PM, Capitol, Room 437

**Thursday, May 21, 2020**

- Sub 3 (All Issues): 10 AM to 1 PM, Capitol, Room 4202
- Sub 4 (All Issues): 10 AM to 12:30PM, Capitol, Room 437
- Sub 5 (All Issues): 1:30 PM to 5 PM, Capitol, Room 437

**Friday, May 22, 2020**

- Sub 6: 10 AM to Noon, Capitol, Room 4202

After Subcommittees have concluded, the Assembly plans to convene a conversation with its Members regarding the priorities and options for closing the budget gap. This could include a Committee of the Whole discussion after Memorial Day or another mechanism to broaden the conversation to include all Members. The Committee will release an Assembly Budget Plan document by May 29<sup>th</sup> to articulate its priorities. This plan will provide a framework for negotiating a final budget agreement with the Senate and the Administration, leading to the adoption of a balanced, on-time budget by June 15, 2020.