

There is a nice double-play going on here between the Mayor and the City Attorney. The object is to get you, the City Council, benched – permanently.

The City Attorney wrote a long tortuous legal opinion, essentially saying nothing, other than giving the Mayor what he wanted.

Accepting the gift, the Mayor said *“As recognized in the City Attorney’s opinion, there is no “bright line to draw” between the Mayor and the City Council regarding budget authority”*.

That may be the will of the Mayor and the City Attorney, but it is not the will of the people.

If the people wanted to give these powers to the Mayor, they would have done so, in the strong-mayor initiative that created Article XV of the City Charter. That Article does not change Article 11.1 one iota, which says:

The City Council *“shall not delegate legislative power or responsibility which they were elected to exercise in the adoption of any ordinance or resolution which raises or spends public monies, including but not limited to the City’s annual budget ordinance or any part thereof”*.

That Article draws a very clear bright line between the legislative branch and the executive branch of our City Government. Obey it. That is the will of the people.