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**BLOOMINGTON CITY COUNCIL**

## **Council wants to hear how budget cuts would impact social services**

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February 22, 2011

Pending cuts to the federal budget and their potential impact on local social service programs have prompted the Bloomington City Council to call a special session Wednesday night.

Council members called the session — dubbed a community “listening session” — this week to hear from the public about the cuts.

“In an effort to better understand the scope of these funding losses, the council invites members of the community to come to the special session and speak to the ways in which agencies and individuals will be affected by these cuts,” a council statement says.

On Saturday, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to reduce the 2011 federal budget by \$60 billion, including billions of cuts to social services programs, according to the council.

“Decisions are being made in Washington, D.C., but the negative impacts of those decisions are very real and very immediate to our community,” council President Susan Sandberg said in the statement. “Pain does trickle down from the Hill, and Bloomington citizens are about to get hurt.”

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The meeting will begin right after the Bloomington City Council’s Committee of the Whole meeting, which is at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at City Hall, ends.

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