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Pension and health care issues could sink services

By Scott Mobley, Record Searchlight

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Redding could lose vital services to spiraling pension and health care costs, a business group-funded analysis concludes.

But residents would be hard-put to know that from perusing City Hall's budget documents, the study notes.

"It would be better if citizens have a clear understanding of where the bucks are going," Steven Frates, a Southern California analyst hired by Redding's three main business groups to scrutinize city finances, said as he released his report Tuesday. "It would improve the level of public policy discussion in this town."

The Greater Redding Chamber of Commerce, the Shasta Builders' Exchange and the Shasta Association of Realtors in July hired Frates to look at the city's books. The three groups split Frates' \$15,000 commission.

Editor's note: Check tomorrow's Record Searchlight or come back to redding.com for complete coverage.

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