**Cowtown backers object to budget cut**

**BY BILL WILSON**

The Wichita Eagle

A nasty debate over the funding of Old Cowtown Museum became a major topic in Tuesday’s city budget hearing.

In his budget request, City Manager Robert Layton reported the department’s projected $303,000 deficit, which was cut from an earlier estimated $150,000, which would have been about 15 percent of the museum’s operating budget.

And Cowtown supporters said the city’s move to cut the money was a quick and drastic reduction, but not a complete shutdown for a variety of reasons:

- The museum’s board was meeting to make its own decisions on how to cope with the projected $303,000 loss.
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