

**ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING DRAFT MINUTES**

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Held Electronically; View on Channel 9 or Channels 180 and 181 (Charter Communications) or live stream via rvtv.sou.edu select RVTV Prime.

Written and oral testimony will be accepted for public input. For written testimony, email public-testimony@ashland.or.us using the subject line: **June 1 Business Meeting Testimony**. For oral testimony, fill out a Speaker Request Form at ashland.or.us/speakerrequest and return it to the City Recorder. The deadline for submitting written testimony or speaker request forms will be on **Tuesday, June 1 at 10 a.m. and must comply with Council Rules to be accepted.**

Note: Items on the Agenda not considered due to time constraints are automatically continued to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting [AMC 2.04.030.E.]

5:00 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council will hold an Executive Session to conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to carry on labor negotiations, pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d). Executive Sessions are closed to the public.

Mayor Akins called the Executive Session to order at 5:00 PM.

Councilors' Hyatt, DuQuenne, Graham, Moran, Seffinger and Jensen were present. Also present were Staff members' Police Chief O'Meara, Human Resources Director Tina Gray, Interim City Manager Adam Hanks and City Recorder Melissa Huhtala.

The Executive Session adjourned at 5:52 PM.

6:00 PM REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Akins called the Business Meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Hyatt led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Councilors' Hyatt, Graham, DuQuenne, Moran, Seffinger and Jensen were present.

IV. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Akins spoke in acknowledgment in aboriginal people.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Business Meeting of May 4, 2021
2. Special Meeting of May 13, 2021
3. Study Session of May 17, 2021
4. Business Meeting of May 18, 2021

Minutes were not complete and will be added to a future Agenda.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

1. Band Board Annual Report

Director of the Band Board Don Bieghler presented Council with the yearly update of the Band Board. Jensen thanked Bieghler for all that he and the band does for the town and is deeply grateful.

2. Evacuation Study Presentation

Hanks gave a brief Staff report and introduced Police Chief Tighe O'Meara and Interim Chief Ralph Sartain.

Chief O'Meara gave an update on the study. He spoke that since David Shepherds retirement he has been working on this but the Fire Department and Public works have been a big help and it has been a team effort.

He spoke that to get evacuation resource information you can go to – “ashland.or.us/evacuate”

Below is the link:

<https://www.ashland.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=13512>

Items discussed were:

- Interactive mapping tool produced the GIS Team.
- Postcards will go out to all Ashland residents with educational information.
- Leaderboards will be going out on Ashland Street and North Mountain.
- CERT will conduct door to door engagement.
- KLD created a video of information regarding the evacuation study.
- Evaluating appropriate signage.
- Working on evacuation zone map books.
- Hosler Dam Exercise.
- Road Diet.

Hanks discussed evacuation and the time study.

Public Works Director Scott Fleury gave an overview of local and regional infrastructure since the Alameda Fire. He spoke regarding plans moving forward. He spoke that ODOT will be hosting Snowbird Meetings which go over winter closures on I5 which will focus on evacuations and emergency related events. He spoke that signage for evacuation routes are being worked on. He spoke that the TSP Update is being worked on.

Mayor Akins questioned what happens to people that do not have vehicles and need to be evacuated. Hanks spoke that is a challenge. He spoke that there are buses that are involved as a resource during an emergency. He spoke that this is something that is still being looked at. Chief O'Meara spoke that he has been working with RVTD and SOU exploring an agreement where City employees or SOU can use the connector buses during an emergency. He spoke there is no easy answer to this question.

DuQuenne spoke to the importance in working together. She suggested finding a place where people can find fire retardant blankets.

Council discussed concerns of citizens getting blocked in an emergency and ways to encourage people to help each other. Chief O'Meara spoke that each emergency is situational and the

importance of looking into ways to look out for not only our selves but neighbors. He spoke to the importance of educating people.

Hanks spoke that Nixle users have doubled and the City has many ways for citizens to view information on the City website and the Chamber.

Graham spoke that she will be interested in reviewing the After Action Report.

VII. MINUTES OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Airport	Budget	Conservation
Historic	Housing and Human Svcs.	Parks & Recreation
Forest Lands	Climate Policy	Cost Review
Planning	Public Arts	Transportation
Tree	Wildfire Mitigation	

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM

Business from the audience not included on the agenda. The Mayor will set time limits to enable all people wishing to speak to complete their testimony. [15 minutes maximum] *See note above for how to submit testimony for Public Forum.*

Susan Hall – Thanked the Staff for the Evacuation Presentation. She spoke regarding the May 13th City Manager Recruitment Special Meeting she suggest that Council and Staff review the complaints regarding the recruitment. She spoke that action should be started now to start recruitment to resume now (*see attached*).

Ted Hall – Spoke regarding Resolution 2021-14 regarding reimbursement. He spoke that the budget is in distress and should be working on cost savings. He suggested to reduce hired staff and use consultants for projects. He suggested that Resolution 2021-14 should be returned to Council with amendments.

IX. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Hanks went over the City Manager Report (*see attached*).

X. CONSENT AGENDA

Hanks pulled Items 1, 2 & 3. He explained that council rules have guidelines that items that exceed \$100,000 not be placed on the Consent Agenda. He explained that the reason the 3 listed were placed on Consent is because they are procurement. He discussed each item.

1. Approval of a Sole Source Procurement for Dry Creek Landfill

DuQuenne pulled this item. DuQuenne questioned the dates of the procurement. She spoke that she would like to direct Staff to bring CIP to Council. Hanks clarified that this isn't a CIP project it is a services contract. DuQuenne spoke that the timing is too short and would like more time to be able to read it and go through it and not have something brought to Council that needs to be done in such a short time.

Graham/Jensen moved to approve the public contract award to Dry Creek Landfill for the disposal of biosolids. Discussion: Graham spoke that this is a necessary procurement. She spoke that she appreciates DuQuenne’s comments but she does not see how Staff could have avoided the time crunch; and we need to keep our Waste Water Treatment facility operating. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Jensen, DuQuenne, Moran and Seffinger: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Approval of Professional Services Contract with Pathway Enterprises for Janitorial Services

Moran pulled this item. He questioned the procedure and if any other groups interested on bidding on this. Hanks spoke that this is a facility that is signed up with the State and explained the process.

Jensen/Hyatt approve the award of the public contract for janitorial services to Pathway Enterprises, Inc. Discussion: None. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Seffinger and Jensen: YES. Moran and DuQuenne: NO. Motion passed 4-2.**

3. Approval of a Special Procurement for Wastewater Treatment Plant Liquid Polymer
DuQuenne pulled this item.

Jensen/Seffinger moved to approve the public contract award to SNF Polydyne for Polydyne Clarifloc C-6286 (Liquid Polymer). Discussion: None. **Roll Call Vote: DuQuenne, Jensen, Moran, Seffinger, Graham and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Appointments to the Social Equity and Racial Justice Commission

Seffinger/Hyatt moved to approve appointments to the Social Equity and Racial Justice Commission. Discussion: Seffinger spoke that she is happy that this is occurring and there are excellent candidates for this commission and thanked all who applied. Hyatt agreed with what Seffinger stated and looks forward to the work the Commission provides. **Roll Call Vote: Jensen, DuQuenne, Hyatt, Graham, Seffinger and Moran: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

XI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Persons wishing to speak are to submit a “speaker request form” prior to the commencement of the public hearing. Public hearings conclude at 8:00 p.m. and are continued to a future date to be set by the Council, unless the Council, by a two-thirds vote of those present, extends the hearing(s) until up to 9:30 p.m. at which time the Council shall set a date for continuance and shall proceed with the balance of the agenda.

1. Public Hearing and First Reading of Duplex and Accessory Residential Unit Land Use Code Amendments

Hanks introduced Planning Manger Maria Harris.

Harris went over a PowerPoint Presentation (*see attached*). Items discussed were:

- Duplex Code Changes

- Accessory Residential Unit Code Changes
- Building Type vs. Type of Dwelling
- Definitions of types of dwellings
- Legislative Timeline
- What is Middle Housing
- State Middle Housing Requirements
- Siting and design standards
- Next steps

Mayor Akins opened the Public Hearing at 8:07 PM

Public Input:
None

Mayor Akins Closed the Public Hearing at 8:07PM

Seffinger/Hyatt moved to approve first reading of Ordinance 3199, which is titled, “An ordinance amending chapters 18.1.4, 18.2.2, 18.2.3, 18.2.5, 18.3.4, 18.3.5, 18.3.9, 18.3.10, 18.3.12, 18.4.2, 18.4.3, 18.5.2, 18.5.7 and 18.6.1 of the Ashland Land Use Ordinance to amend the allowances and development standards for duplexes and accessory residential units as required by House Bill 2001 from the 80th Oregon Legislative Assembly, 2019 Regular Legislative Session,” and to move the ordinance to second reading at the June 15, 2021 meeting. Discussion: Seffinger spoke to the importance of affordable housing for younger and older generations. She spoke that this is necessary. Hyatt spoke that this is great timing and thanked the Planning Commission. **Roll Call Vote: Graham, DuQuenne, Jensen, Moran, Hyatt and Seffinger: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Public Hearing for the Adoption of FY2021-2023 Biennial Budget:
 - i. Resolution No. 2021-05 to adopt the 2021-2023 Biennial Budget
 - ii. Resolution No. 2021-06 to appropriate such amounts as necessary to implement the BN2021-2023 Budget
 - iii. Resolution No. 2021-07 to Levy Taxes for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022
 - iv. Resolution No. 2021-08 revising rates for electric service pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 14.16030 and repealing Resolution No. 2019-07 – Graham /Stef.
 - v. Resolution No. 2021-09 adopting a storm drainage utility fee schedule pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 4.27.050 and repealing Resolution No. 2019-08 Jensen/Stef
 - vi. Resolution No. 2021-10 adopting a transportation utility fee schedule pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 4.26 and repealing Resolution No. 2019-09 – Hyatt -Jensen

- vii. Resolution No. 2021-11 certifying City provides sufficient Municipal Services to qualify for State Subventions- Graham - Hyatt
- viii. A Resolution No. 2021-12 declaring the City's election to receive State Revenues

Hanks gave a Staff report. He thanked all Department Heads for their hard work on this Budget. Hanks introduced Finance Director Melanie Purcell.

Purcell gave a Staff report and presented a PowerPoint Presentation (*see attached*).

Items discussed were:

- Accomplishments
- Challenges & Opportunities
- Going Forward – Balancing Priorities
- Phase 1, 2 & 3
- Balancing approach
- Federal Stimulus ARPA
- Changes in Operations
- Policy Decisions
- Budget Committee Actions
- Recommended Actions
- Next Steps

Mayor Akins opened the Public Hearing at 8:48 PM.

Public Input: None.

Mayor Akins closed the Public Hearing at 8:48 PM.

Council Discussion:

Moran questioned Pg. 32 regarding Committee actions and what should be outsourced. He spoke that there was an Ad-Hoc Committee that already gave recommendations and if it is necessary to have extra meetings to discuss further. Purcell spoke that she reviewed all of the recommendations from the Ad-Hoc Committee. She spoke that a number of items have been brought forward from different departments including the Finance Department of outsourcing and eliminating staff in the process. She spoke that this is an ongoing process in terms of specific items which has set these meetings separately so Council can say which action needs to be taken and take a vote. She explained the proposed meetings need to be in place before the Biennium is over.

Hanks spoke that it is important to have conversations about the implications of outsourcing and the actual costs. He explained that outsourcing isn't often cheaper.

Graham clarified that Staff is required to bring any motions from the Budget Committee to the Council and the fact that the Budget Committee also saw fit to point Council towards possible cost reductions through outsourcing reinforces the good work of the Ad-Hoc Committee.

Graham/Jensen moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-05 to Adopt the 2021-2023 Biennial Budget. Discussion: Graham spoke that she has not seen anyone say that we are not facing a structural issue with our budget. She spoke that this budget allows the City and Council to take

early steps and the time needed to make bigger decisions about what the Community expects from the City Government, what the City Government can provide and how to provide those services in the long-term. She spoke in appreciation of the work Staff has done and the Budget Committee. She spoke that it is appropriate to pass this at this time.

Moran spoke in appreciation on previous comments made and gave kudos to Purcell for her position. He spoke that he sees a lot of problems with the budget and spoke to his reasons why.

He spoke that senior staff and various department heads put the budget together with little or no input from the Council and Mayor. He spoke that the budget should represent the goals and values of stakeholders in our Community but presenting a 250-page budget to the Budget Committee and not asking for feedback from Council does not make sense.

He spoke that despite attempts suggesting that this budget has been cut to the bone Ashlanders know that this is not true. He spoke that it is clear that the total requirements and resources outlined for this \$348 million budget is the largest budget Ashland has seen. He spoke that there has not been serious attention given to cutting.

He spoke that the Budget Committee was presented with an estimated 400 pages of documents over five meetings. He spoke that the Budget Committee was not given adequate time during the 5th Meeting to consider changes. He spoke that in his opinion the 5th meeting was the most important. He spoke that there were more than a dozen proposals to address. He explained that there was a hard stop at that 5th meeting due to the City's television service not able to be extended. He also explained that the Budget Committee was told no additional meetings were scheduled due to moving forward with meeting with the Council's schedule. He spoke it was his recollection that this budget came before Council and was approved ear

We were also told that no additional meetings were scheduled because it was necessary to move forward to meet the council's schedule. Yet, in my recollection, this budget came before us and was approved at the earliest time in recent history.

He spoke that the Budget Committee recommended cutting general fund expenses or adding revenues of \$1 million as a first step in dealing with the structural deficit. He spoke that this was suggested to be looked at over the next 2 years. He spoke that he feels this reinforces the "let's kick the can down the road and hope for the best" approach. He spoke that the City is facing a \$15 million to \$20 million deficit by 2026 and that there seems to be no sense of urgency for dealing with these budgetary issues.

He spoke that this budget has an illusion of good budgeting. He spoke that it is legal as expenditures match with revenues and thankfully so for the \$4.4 million from the Federal Government in the federal government in the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), without which to paraphrase what Finance Director Melanie Purcell suggested, "the wheels would have fallen off".

He spoke that in this budget it states that the City is not hiring but in almost every department in the General Fund staff is being increased compared to the 2019-2020 budget.

He spoke that in this budget it states that the City is not hiring; but in almost every department in the General Fund Staff is increasing since the 2019-2020 budget.

He spoke that the City is giving ratepayers relief; but outside of the first year of a water bill, all utility rates are increasing over the next two years as outlined in various master plans. He spoke that the reason wastewater rate is not increasing is because \$1.3 million has already been taken out of the wastewater fund.

He spoke that the City is listening the recommendations of the cost-cut committee; but expenses are set to increase sharply. He spoke that the City is moving forward with an exaggerated CIP plan. He spoke that includes first steps to fund a \$40 million water treatment plant that the City does not need or can afford.

He spoke that there is even \$70,000 budgeted to provide senior staff with a travel allowance to get to work. He spoke that he would think that Ashlanders would agree that people have the option to live wherever they want but taxpayers shouldn't have to pay for it.

He spoke that while he was campaigning for the November 2020 election he heard the message of the Ashland voters. He spoke that Citizens didn't elect Council to take the easy road of increasing costs while not doing the work of prioritizing how the City spends money. He spoke that as elected officials say that we understand that it is increasingly hard for people to live in Ashland and sympathize with those who struggle financially with ever increasing living cost; yet vote to make affordability and livability a challenge. He spoke that he will not support this budget and will be voting no.

DuQuenne spoke in agreement with Moran. She spoke that she cannot support this budget and it is not good fiscal stewardship. She spoke that she feels this is not responsible and that the burden is on the shoulders of the residents of Ashland. She spoke that Council's job is to listen to the constituents and find solutions. She spoke that it is not ok to continue say things are ok especially when we live in unprecedented times. She spoke that that the City has options and opportunities to look into that have not been looked at yet. She spoke that Staff was given over 12 solutions of suggestions but they were not able to discuss the possibilities because it was the 11th hour. She spoke that she has not been through this process before and was not what she expected. She spoke that in our next biennium the format will change so the Budget Committee will have the time to have more discussion. She spoke that the time that will be taken on every other Monday that the meetings are conducted in a way where there is conversation and participation. She spoke that she cannot support the motion.

Hyatt spoke that she sees both sides to the discussion from Moran and DuQuenne and the budget in front of us. She spoke that coming into the Council Seat the one big thing she felt was important was listening to the Budget Committee and taking their recommendations. She clarified it was not a unanimous vote but it was the recommendation of the Budget Committee. She noted that some of the statistics and pieces of information put forward are comparing actuals verses projected and it is important to be careful when doing that because actuals are going to be less than projected with regard to our budget due to the fact the City has not filled certain employee slots; they were either kept open, chose not to hire or frozen. She spoke to the

importance that Council and Staff are comparing the actuals to actuals and projected to projected. She spoke to the importance of the Monday Study Sessions and explained that this is where serious conversations and decisions will take place. She spoke that this will not be easy but will be the material Council will work with in the future. She thanked Council, Staff and Budget Committee for their work. She spoke that this is overdue yet necessary and looking forward to getting this hard time done.

Seffinger spoke that Council has been working on what citizens want for a very long time. She spoke that there have been many changes in our world. She spoke that the citizens wanted to create a Climate Action Plan; the City put the money into affordable housing and the Budget Committee decided that the Marijuana Tax would go to Affordable Housing.

Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Jensen, Seffinger and Graham: YES. Moran and DuQuenne: NO. Motion passed 4-2.

Jensen/Hyatt moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-06 to appropriate such amounts as necessary to implement the BN2021-2023 Budget. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Graham, Hyatt, Seffinger and Jensen: YES. DuQuenne and Moran: NO. Motion passed 4-2.

Hyatt/Seffinger moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-07 to Levy Taxes for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: DuQuenne, Moran, Hyatt, Graham, Seffinger and Jensen: YES. Motion passed unanimously.

Graham/Seffinger moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-08 revising rates for electric service pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 14.16030 and repealing Resolution No. 2019-07. Discussion: Graham spoke it gives her no pleasure to put this motion forward and that realizes that many recognize the difficulty many people have with their utility bills. She spoke that what we also know is that the City needs to make sure that system maintains a healthy infrastructure and to not defer maintenance on it. Hyatt spoke in agreement with Graham. She spoke to the importance of infrastructure and neglecting it will have difficult consequences that will not be easy to recover from. She spoke that she will be in support of the motion. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Jensen and Seffinger: YES. DuQuenne and Moran: NO. Motion passed 4-2.**

Jensen/Seffinger moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-09 adopting a storm drainage utility fee schedule pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 4.27.050 and repealing Resolution No. 2019-08. Discussion: Jensen spoke to the importance of infrastructure and feels it is imperative that this is approved. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Jensen and Seffinger: YES. DuQuenne and Moran: NO. Motion passed 4-2.**

Hyatt/Jensen moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-10 adopting a transportation utility fee schedule pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 4.26 and repealing Resolution No. 2019-09. Discussion: Hyatt spoke that she has listened to the conversations of the Transportation Commission and the effort and diligence that they make sure the entire City transportation system runs well. She spoke to the importance of maintaining City roads overall. She spoke to ensure tourists being able to travel through the City of Ashland safely and make use of the entertainment the City provides. She spoke that most important is to ensure our residents

can travel safely. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Jensen and Seffinger: YES. DuQuenne and Moran: NO. Motion passed 4-2.**

Graham/Hyatt moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-11 certifying City provides sufficient Municipal Services to qualify for State Subventions. Discussion: Hyatt spoke that it is imperative to maintain options with State Subventions. **Roll Call Vote: Moran, Jensen, Hyatt, Graham and Seffinger: YES. DuQuenne: NO. Motion passed 5-1.**

Hyatt/Jensen moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-12 declaring the City's election to receive State Revenues. Discussion: None. **Hyatt, Graham, Graham, Seffinger, DuQuenne, Jensen: Yes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Jensen/Graham moved to approve a schedule of and topics for Council study sessions to develop a long-term fiscal strategy. Discussion: Jensen spoke that this essential for our work to come. He spoke that Council should move forward on this. Graham spoke that these topics are important and is why she is comfortable voting for this budget because she knows Council will do the hard work to figure out what other adjustments need to be made to deal with a structure shortfall over the long-term. Hyatt spoke that this series of meetings allows Council to get down the specifics and to look at service levels to make decisions. Seffinger spoke that this is important to make decisions to know what the costs are to make decisions and what the City might have to give up. She spoke that it is important that citizens are being heard. **Roll Call Vote: Jensen, DuQuenne, Seffinger, Hyatt, Moran and Graham: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XIII. NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

1. Acceptance of the Emergency Solutions Grant Award

Hanks gave a brief Staff report.

Graham/DuQuenne moved to accept the Emergency Solutions Grant for \$300,000 to be used to establish and operate a temporary non-congregate urban campground, and I direct staff to execute a contract between the City of Ashland and Oregon Housing and Community Services for the funding. Discussion: Graham spoke that this is something important to move forward for our Community. DuQuenne spoke in appreciation of the work of the Housing Commission and looking forward to move forward. **Roll Call Vote: Moran, Hyatt, Graham, Seffinger, DuQuenne and Jensen: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Community Center and Pioneer Hall Ad-Hoc Committee Scope, Charge and Appointments

Due to time constraints this item was moved to the next Council Meeting.

3. Discussion of Formal Process for Vetting of Commission Applicants

Due to time constraints this item was moved to the next Council Meeting.

XIV. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND CONTRACTS

1. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 3198 amending chapter 15.04 of the Ashland Municipal Code to acknowledge current versions of State of Oregon building codes,

and local adoption of construction standards for wildfire hazard mitigation set forth in section R327.4 of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC)

Jensen/Hyatt moved to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 3198 titled, “An ordinance amending chapter 15.04, Buildings and Construction, of the Ashland Municipal Code to acknowledge current versions of State building codes, and to locally adopt by ordinance construction standards for wildfire hazard mitigation set forth in section 327.4 of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC). Discussion: Jensen spoke that this has been adequately discussed and justified and time to move forward. Hyatt spoke that in light of the evacuation discussion this is important and spoke in support of the motion. Akins questioned if this effects current housing. Interim Fire Chief Sartain spoke that this is strictly for new construction. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Jensen, DuQuenne, Graham, Moran and Seffinger: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

XV. OTHER BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS/REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS

Council discussed a timeline for the Social Equity and Racial Justice Commission focus.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

City Recorder Melissa Huhtala

Attest:

Mayor Akins

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at (541) 488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

To the Ashland City Councilors & Mayor Akins

City Manager recruitment is suspended... Now, will the City do the real work?

I just finished reviewing the Special Ashland City Council meeting (5/13/21) discussion of the City Manager Recruitment. Of Note: Councilors Hyatt and Jensen (who requested the meeting) strongly emphasized the significance of rejection by two firms to work with the City on the CM recruitment. Councilors Hyatt and Jensen both focused on the "risk" to Ashland's reputation and the potential difficulty in hiring another reputable recruitment firm, thus creating a barrier to obtaining a list of high quality CM applicants. Their presentation was carefully coordinated to convince.

Councilor Hyatt summarized emails sent from both firms to the City giving their reasons for withdrawing. However, the quoted emails do not appear in a packet attached to the meeting's Agenda. Why not? I believe the City Council, Mayor and public should have been given the courtesy of seeing the emails as the emails appear to be the primary rationale for Councilor Hyatt's motion to suspend the CM recruitment until after August 1, 2021. Councilor Moran was adamant that Councilors should not delay in serving Ashland residents who voted for hiring an experienced, well qualified City Manager that has a track record of reducing costs. But, in my opinion, this motion to delay is not first critical factor that hampers the City's ability to hire a qualified applicant before Adam Hank's contract expires on Sept 1, 2021.

No CM recruitment can succeed until the Ashland City Council & Staff first conduct a constructive review of the specific & disturbing reasons two firms quit consulting the City. A review of the actual emails and other relevant correspondence is required. The partial jumbled generic list of reasons shown below was orally provided on 5/13/21.

First Firm:

On 5/13/21, Councilor Hyatt summarized the withdrawal reasons as:

Peckham and McKinney per Councilor Hyatt: (1) the new Mayor & Council are going thru "growing pains" and need to learn to work together, (2) the failed Fire Chief recruitment, (3) High turnover in a variety of roles, (4) The City has an experienced candidate (Adam Hanks) currently serving the City, (5) There are differing viewpoints on qualifications, (6) the financial situation in the City is significant and needs to be addressed.

Second Firm:

Wendi Brown (WBCP) in May 7th email per Councilor Hyatt: (1) treated rudely (2) ethics were impinged (3) they were being asked to do things against the cumulative will of Council.

The Big Question: Will the new City Council & Mayor direct Staff to candidly & objectively examine & present to the City Council the critical elements that have resulted in the internal dysfunction referenced by the two firms? Or, is this "Audit" a job for an outside source NOT wedded to the status quo?

Concurrent action needed:

Simultaneously, the City must now develop a detailed WORKPLAN to begin CM recruitment in order to not lose valuable weeks this summer.

A WORKPLAN should identify activities needed by certain dates. (Step-by-step).

A WORKPLAN should identify key OBJECTIVES.

A WORKPLAN should identify the knowledgeable people who will define the OBJECTIVES' details.

If experienced WORKPLAN development individuals need to be hired from outside, then hire them.

At Present:

The City Council needs to pass a motion NOW directing the HR Director to: (1) consult with the League of Oregon Cities (LOC), (2) place ads in City Managers' professional magazines (3) gather names & verify resumes for the City Council to begin to review.

Thank You.

Susan Hall RN

Ashland

Jackson County will return to the High Risk category for COVID-19 on May 7. Visit the [Governor's website](#) for information on what is allowed during this time. [Get general updates, vaccine information, and resources related to the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic here.](#)



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June 1, 2021 City Manager's Report

Posted: Wednesday, June 02, 2021



City Manager's Report

Adam Hanks, City Manager Pro Tem

June 1, 2021

The City Manager's Report showcases current events facing the City externally and internally since the last Council meeting, while highlighting City accomplishments.

Update on Recology Rate Review

On March 2, 2021, Recology Ashland General Manager Gary Blake asked Council for the Recology rate adjustment to start on July 1 instead of April 1. This is due to Jackson County Commissioners considering a rate increase for the Dry Creek Landfill where Recology takes collected trash. Recology planned to bring back the rate adjustment review to the City Council in May or June to incorporate the potential increase.

The Jackson County Commissioners approved a 17.99% rate increase for Dry Creek Landfill effective July 1. However, Recology is deferring the rate adjustment review again to see if the cost cutting measures taken as a result of the pandemic can help offset the rate increase at least in the short term. Blake plans to see how the pandemic recovery and the new disposal increase affects Recology and will determine if a rate adjustment is needed later on.

[Read the full letter from Blake here.](#)

Looking Ahead

This is a draft of the next Council meetings agenda and is subject to change.

June 14 - Study Session

- Ambulance Service Financial Audit Report Presentation

June 15 - Business Meeting

- Proclamation for Bee City USA
- A Resolution Establishing the Energy Retrofit Loan Program
- Request for a Water Service Connection Use Outside of City Limits, 1033 Clay Street
- Social Equity and Racial Justice Resolution Council Discussion and Action Identification
- Approval of a Professional Services Contract for the Ashland Street Rehabilitation Project
- Acceptance of Pallet Shelter and Urban Campground Grant Award
- Quarterly FY2021 Financial Update and Budget Amendment
- Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Review
- Citizens' Budget Committee Annual Appointments
- Management Resolution
- First Reading of Municipal Audit Commission Ordinance
- First Reading of TOT Ordinance
- Second Reading of Land Use Code Amendment: Duplexes on Single Family Lots

For the full look ahead and descriptions of each item, go to ashland.or.us/lookahead.

Duplex Code Changes



- Allowed in all residential zones
- Defined as two units on one lot in any configuration, including either in attached or detached structures
- Two on-site parking spaces required
- Approval process is building permit

Accessory Residential Unit Code Changes



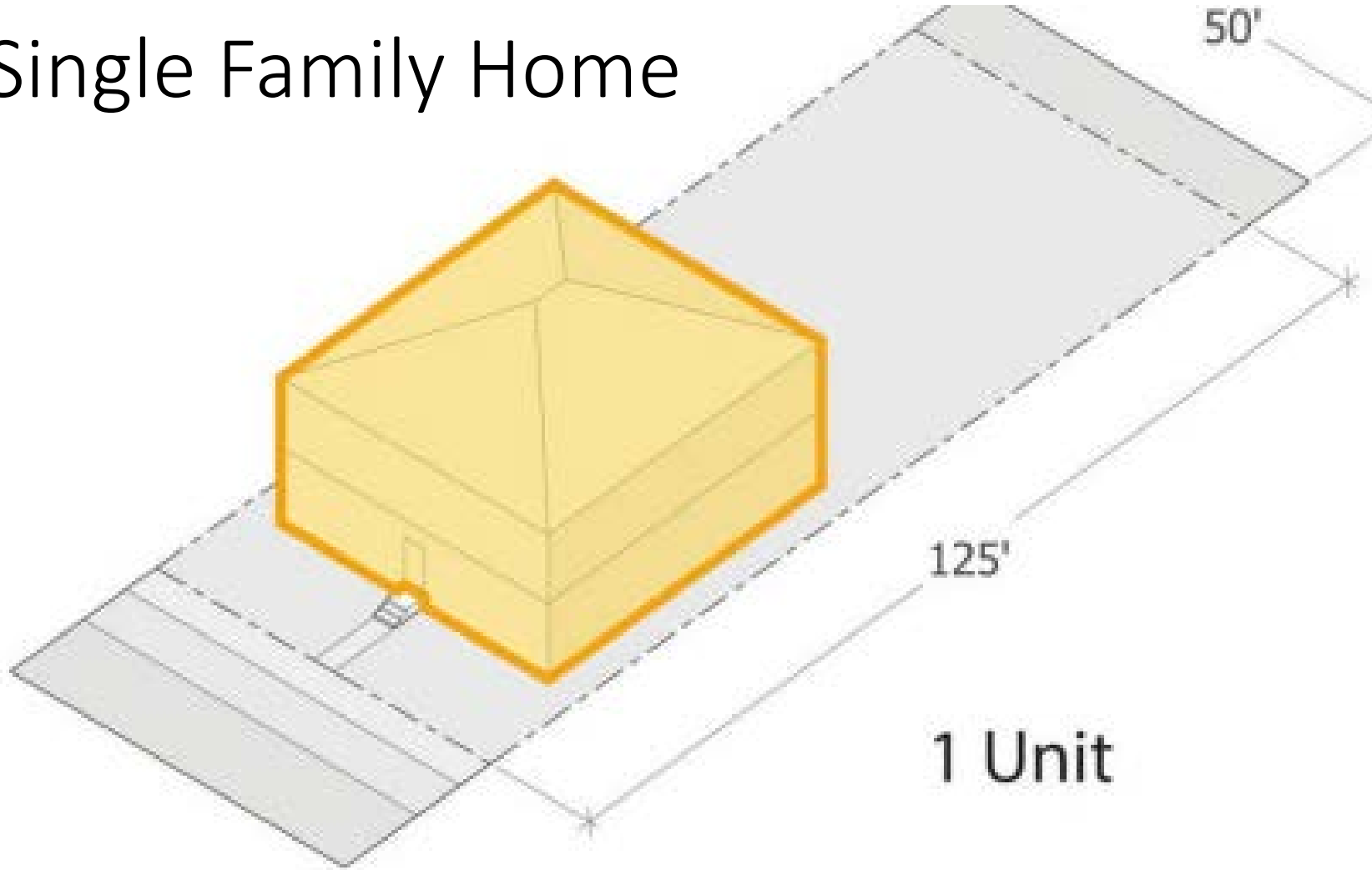
- Must meet existing size requirements
- No on-site parking spaces required
- Approval process is building permit

Building Type vs. Type of Dwelling

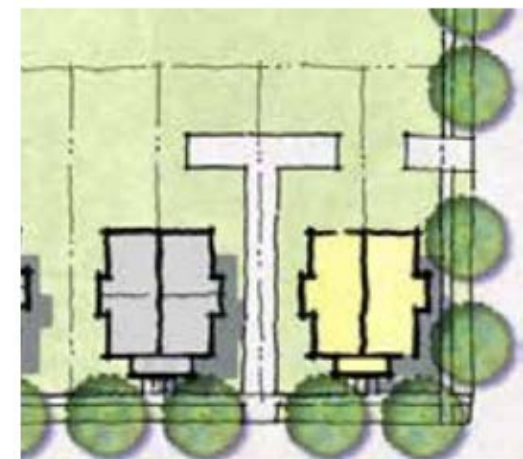
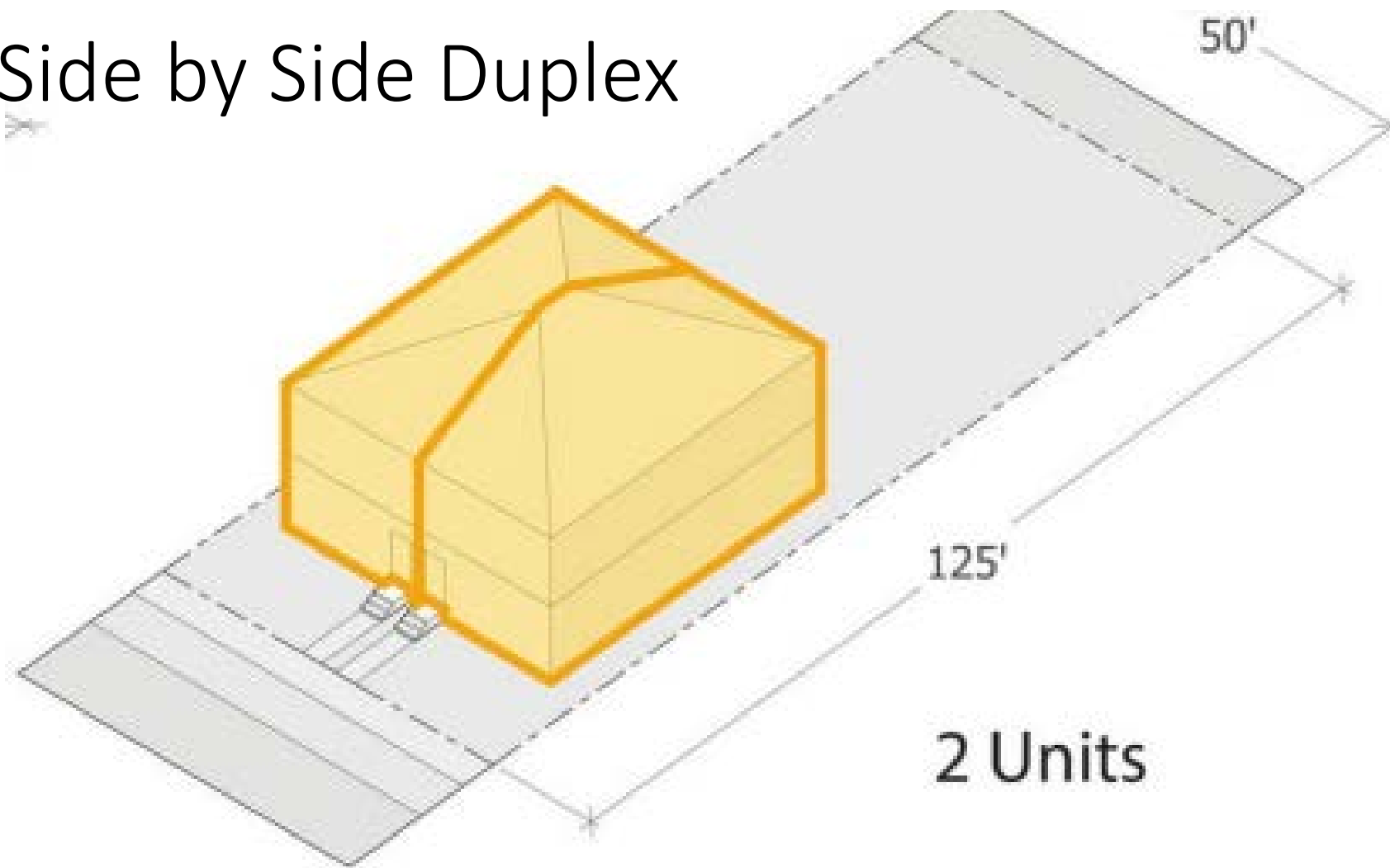


- Attached or detached units
- Number of units on one lot

Single Family Home



Side by Side Duplex



Side by Side Duplex



*Side-by-side duplex, Tacoma, WA
Torti Gallas + Partners*



A duplex in Olympia

Duplex Examples



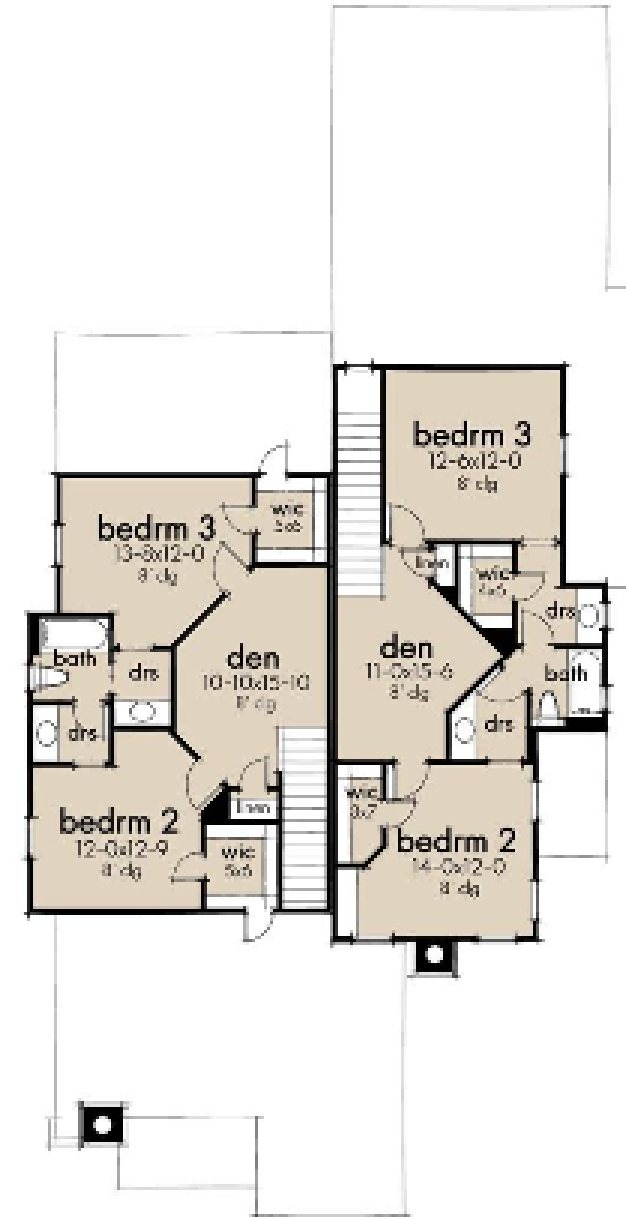
Duplex Conversion – Downtown Eugene



Historic Duplex—Eugene

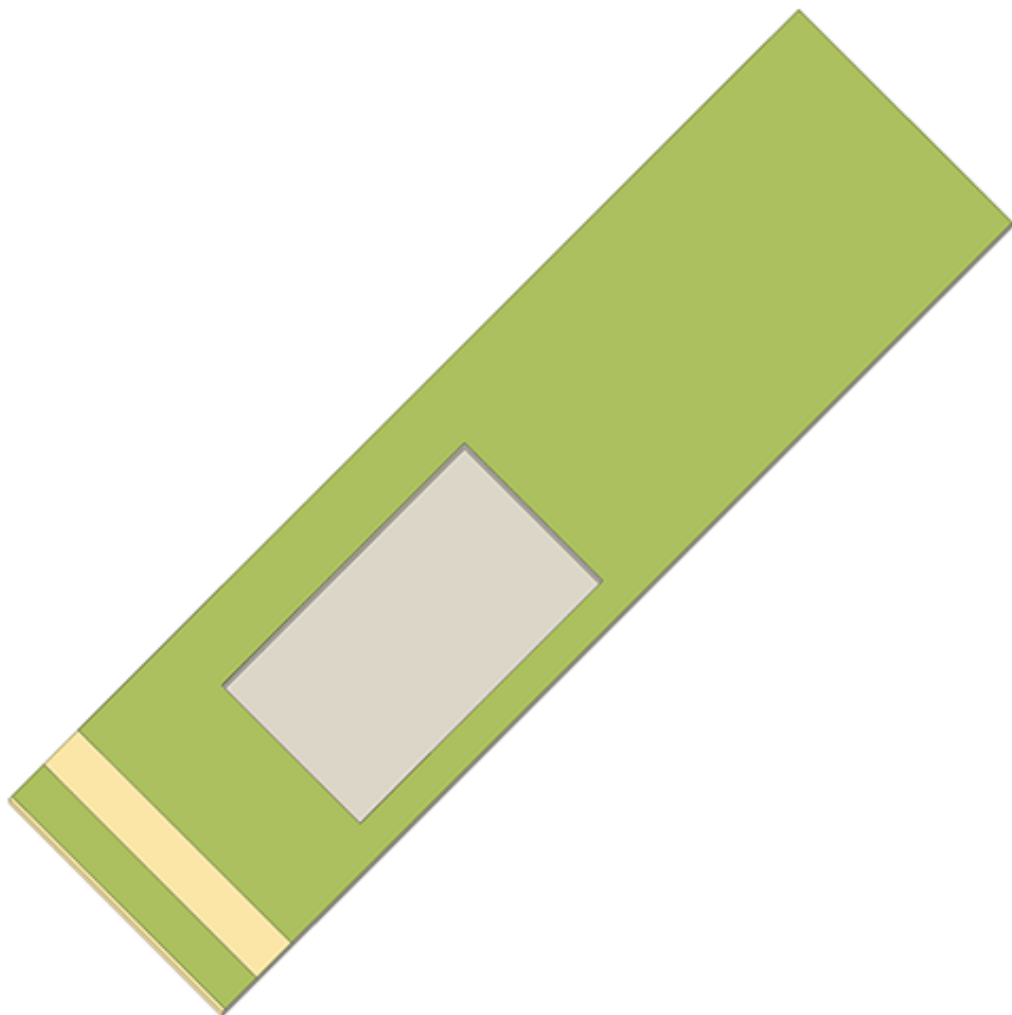


First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan

Stacked Duplex



Stacked Duplex



84 and 88 Dewey St.

Dewey St.

Alley

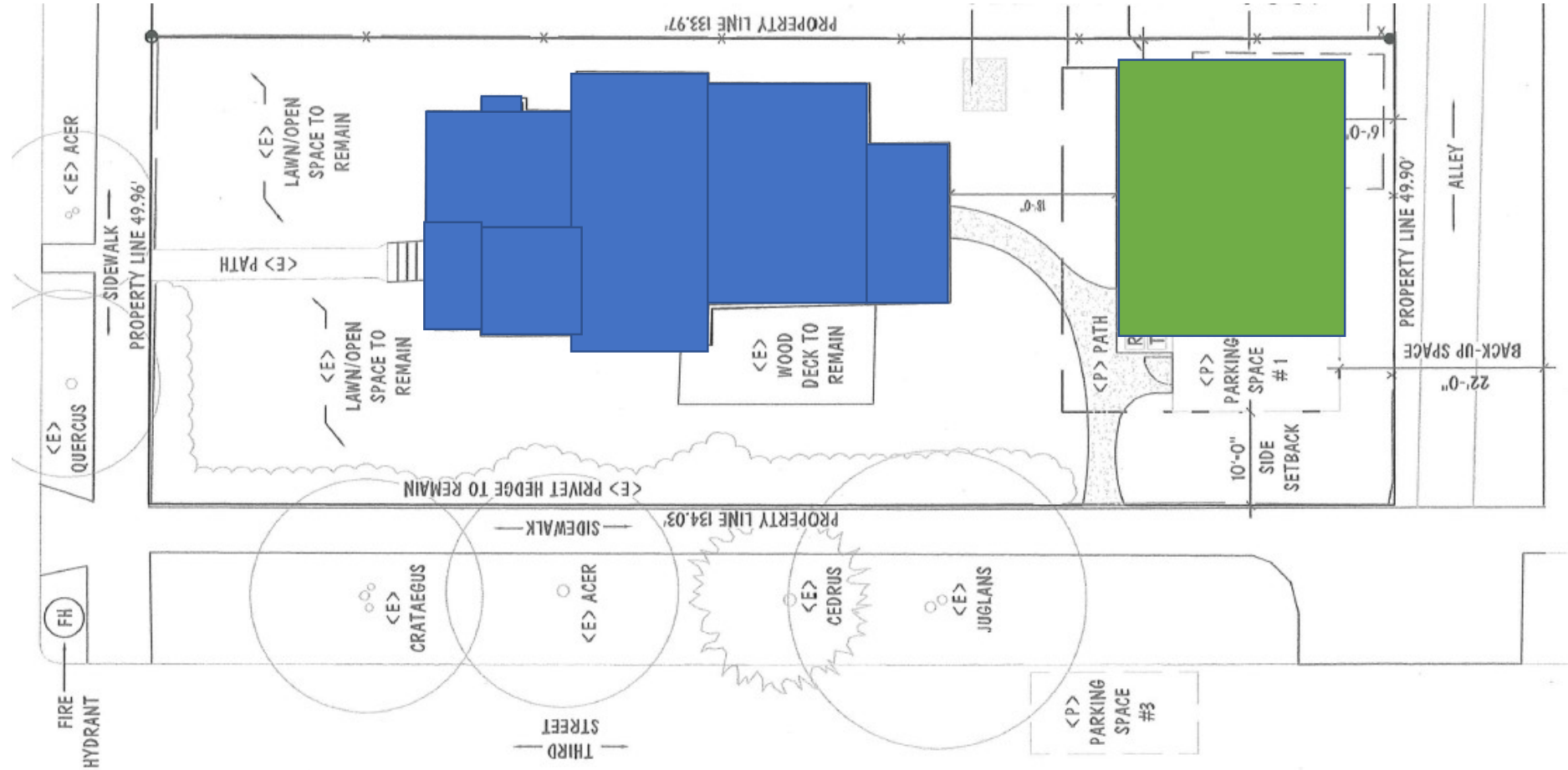


84 and 88 Dewey St.



426 B St. and 170 Third St.

B St.



Alley

Third St.

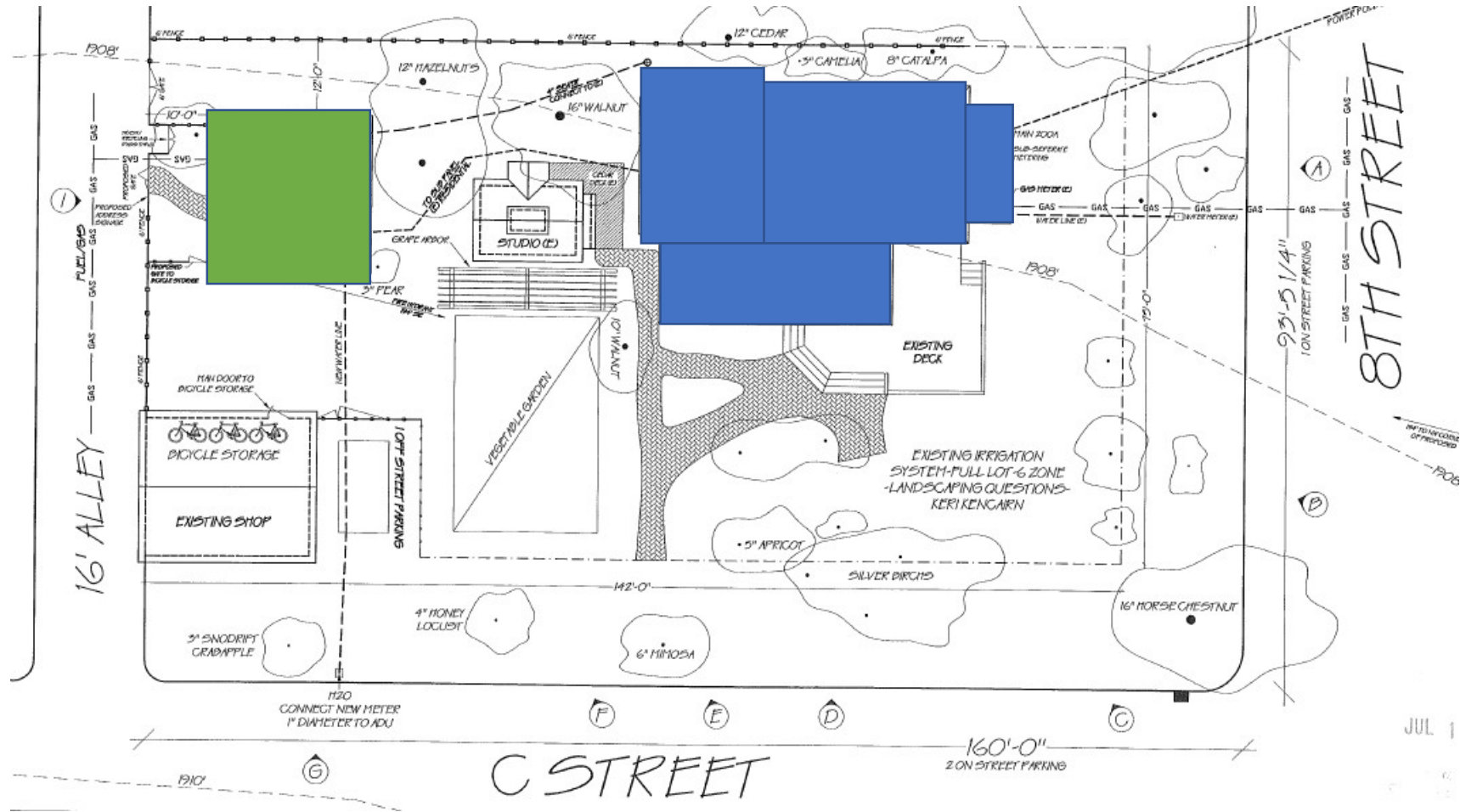
426 B St. and 170 Third St.



117 8th St. and 859 C St.

Alley

8th St.



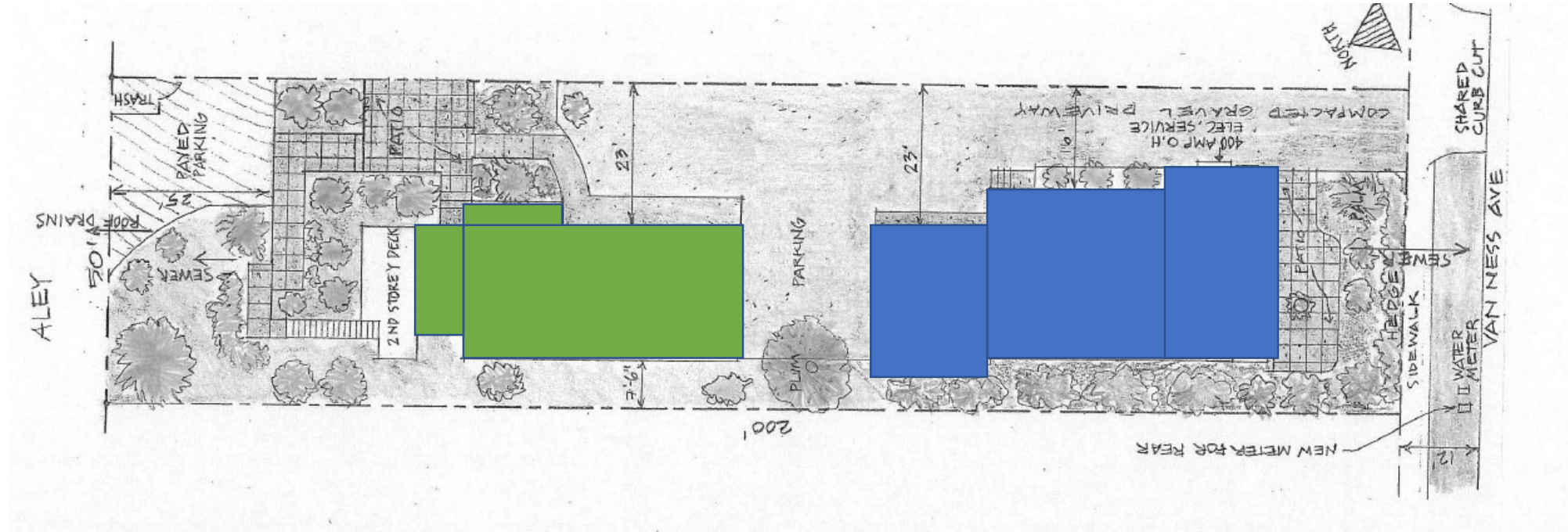
C St.

117 8th St. and 859 C St.



240 and 244 VanNess

Alley



VanNess

240 and 244 VanNess

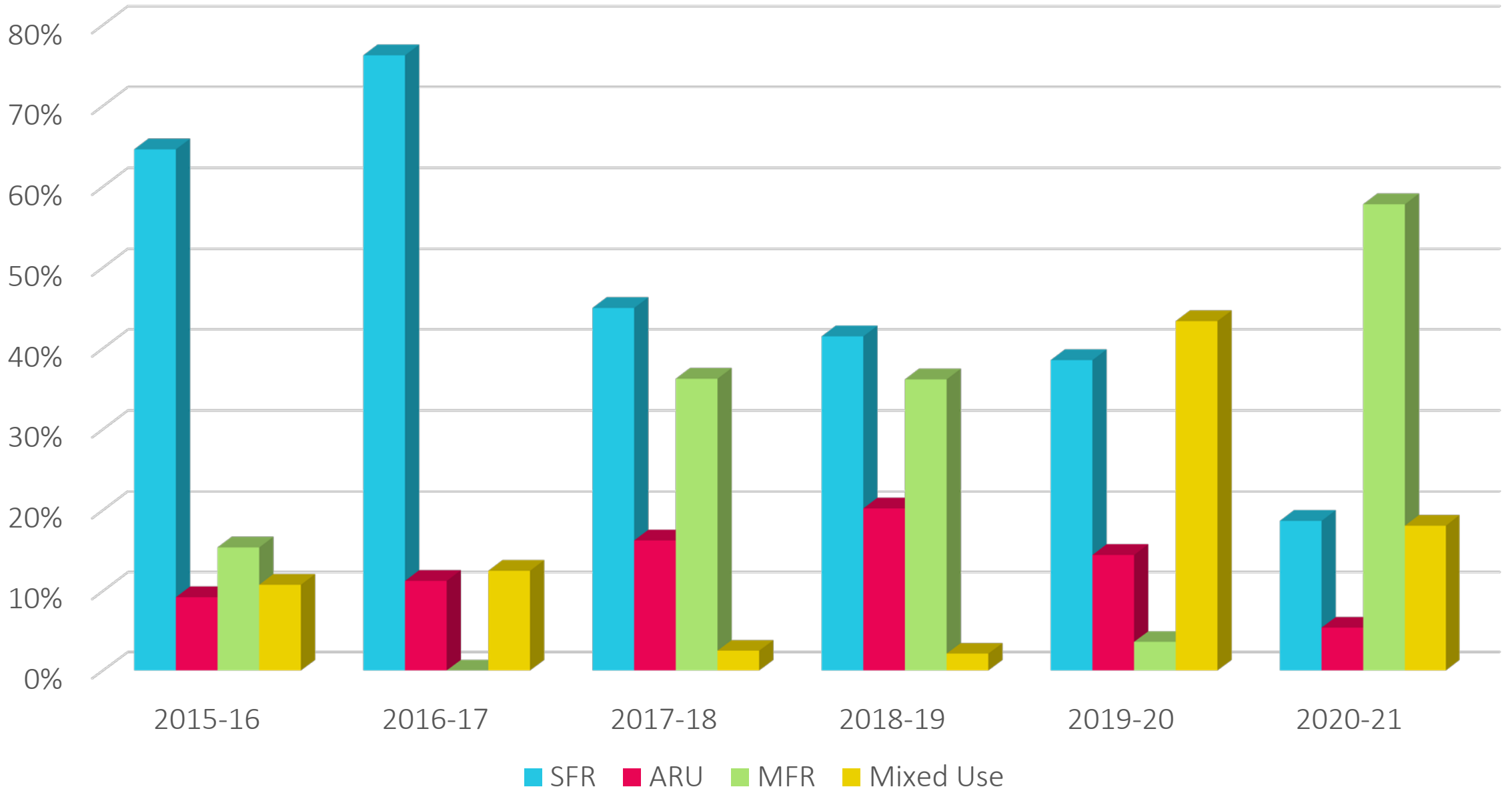


Definitions of Types of Dwellings



- Number of units determines type of dwelling
 - ✓ Single-family dwelling – 1 dwelling on 1 lot
 - ✓ **ARU – 2 dwellings on 1 lot w/2nd dwelling meeting size requirements**
 - ✓ **Duplex – 2 dwellings on 1 lot**
 - ✓ Multifamily dwelling – 3 or more dwellings on 1 lot

Building Permits Issued by Dwelling Type and Fiscal Year



Legislative Timeline



- House Bill 2001 Middle Housing
 - effective August 8, 2019
- OAR Chapter 660 Division 46
 - effective August 7, 2020
- Ashland required to amend local code
 - by June 30, 2021 or the model code is used

What is Middle Housing?



Opticos Design, Daniel Parolek

- Middle because these housing types sit in the middle of the spectrum between detached single-family homes and mid-rise and high-rise apartment buildings.



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Opticos Design, Inc.

State Middle Housing Requirements



1. Have to allow duplexes on residentially zoned lots that allow development of detached single-family dwellings
2. Approval process and standards used for duplexes must not be more restrictive than those applied to detached single-family dwellings
3. Jurisdictions cannot require off-street parking and owner-occupancy requirements for accessory dwelling units (ADUs)

Siting and Design Standards



Cannot apply standards that are more restrictive than those for a detached single-family home including:

- Density
- Minimum lot size
- Height, setbacks and lot coverage
- No more than two off-street parking spaces
- Must allow new construction or conversions

Siting and Design Standards



Can apply regulations related to natural resources and natural hazards

- Wetlands
- Riparian areas and flood zones
- Hillsides
- Wildfire

Next Steps



June 1, 2021 City Council Public Hearing

June 15, 2021 City Council 2nd Reading
Adopt Decision Document

Project Information




www.ashland.or.us/duplexcode

City of Ashland

BN 2021-2023 Budget

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 1, 2021



**The budget is not just a collection
of numbers, but an expression of
our values and aspirations.**

Jack Lew

Accomplishments – Looking Back

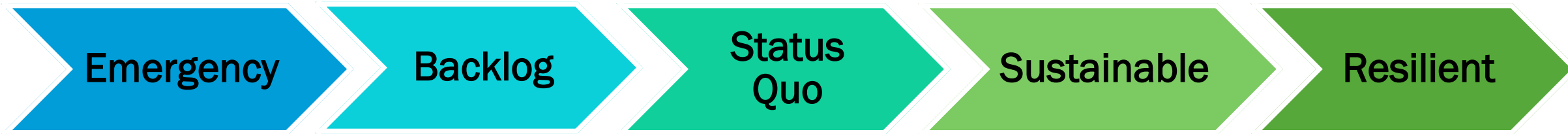
- Ambulance Service Financial Analysis
- Evacuation Analysis – Local Street Network
- Acquisition of Mace and Lorde Properties (APRC)
- City Hall Ballot Initiative
- Additional 60-unit Affordable Housing Project Approval
- Transit Triangle Land Use Code Adoption
- Zoning Updates for “Middle Housing” (state legislation)
- Leadership transition in three Key Departments – Finance, PW, & Fire

Challenges and Opportunities -

Looking Forward

- Long term, stable funding package for APRC
- Future Plans for Ambulance Service
- Funding and maintaining needed infrastructure replacement planning
- Funding Wildfire Prevention and Emergency Management
- Re-investment in Ashland Fiber Network
- Long term regionalization of public safety operations

Going Forward – Balancing Priorities



- Move from catch-up to sustainable to resilient
 - Avoid band-aids
 - Scrutinize/ maximize short-term solutions
- Revenue Analysis and opportunities
- Operations Analysis and Capital Planning
- Transparency and Communication

Phase 1

- Full allocation of Food & Beverage Tax to APRC (98%)
- Reduction in Franchise Fee Rate for Water, Wastewater and Electric Utilities
- Allocation of Franchise Fee Revenues for Street Fund Capital Projects
- All three above to be approved by Council via Ordinance to ensure stability and structure for tax payers and rate payers

Phases 2 and 3

- Phase II

- Build on success of phase I (improved fund balance, alignment of revenue streams)
- Eliminate structural financial imbalance in the General Fund
- Leverage Ambulance, AFN and Electric Utility assets for financial and value service goals

- Phase III

- Develop strategy and implement funding model for Reserve Fund
- Actively participate in regional/unified fire service model exploration and implementation

Balancing Approach

- Focus on mandated and regulated activities
- Maintain COVID related expenditure reductions as feasible
- Address/Incorporate Ad-Hoc Cost Review Committee Recommendations
- Maximize utilization of one-time revenue streams (surplus property)
- Identify program/activity areas where funding levels have been capped or reduced for post Budget Council discussion and direction

Federal Stimulus Package - ARPA

- Revenue Replacement of approximately \$4.3 million
- Does not carry same restrictions as funds being replaced
- Does contain its own restrictions on allowable uses
- Infrastructure stimulus opportunities not yet determined – Focus areas appear to be water, wastewater and broadband
- Increased reporting and audit requirements result from ARPA and other successful grant opportunities across the organization

Changes in Operations

- Full allocation of internal (central) service charges across non-governmental funds
- Deferral on select vehicle replacements across all Departments
- Less Administrative/Support staff within Departments and within internal (central) service operations
- Employees paying higher share of Insurance costs

Changes in Service – Current and Future

\$2.9 million in reductions

- Delay replacement of lesser used vehicles and reassigning vehicles for more optimal usage (\$405,819);
- Redistribute position funding to more accurately reflect organizational needs, i.e. Deputy City Manager role is designed to consolidate management for Information Technology and Ashland Fiber Network, and provide support to the Electric Fund as all three departments develop long-term strategic plans over the next biennium (\$24,629);
- Smooth the impact of healthcare costs over several years with lower than anticipated increases (\$317,532); and
- Reduce PERS contribution costs (\$560,066); and
- Unfund the previously approved Communications Specialist (\$303,178);
- Restructure the Information Technology Department (\$423,000);
- Evaluate Police staffing (\$606,000); and
- Unfund Fire administration positions or additional grant funds (\$150,000); and
- Unfund social service grants through Community Development (\$134,000).

Changes in Service – Current and Future

Current

- Staffing levels may result in reduced hours for open public access (phones, counters) – Payment kiosk and other technologies/efficiencies in place to offset
- Economic, Cultural and Sustainability small grant categories eliminated

Future

- Dependent on Recommended changes to key GF revenue streams for Parks, Utility Rate Relief and Street Infrastructure projects
- Potential further reductions in Public Safety (discretionary elements first)
- Potential further reductions to APRC, likely with a focus on Recreation (City Charter related)

Rate and Funding Stabilization

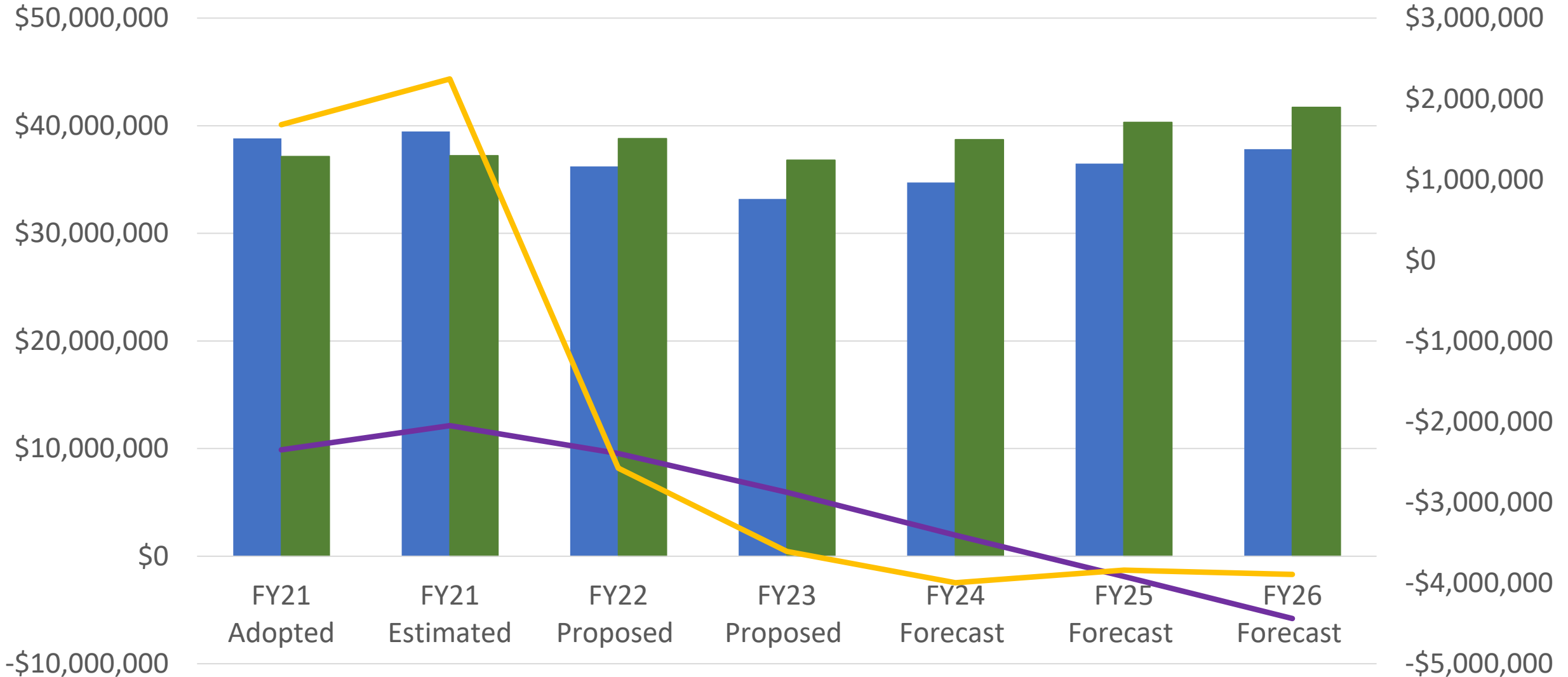
- Better policy and financial alignment of franchise fee revenue stream
- Increased stability and structure for General Fund, APRC and Streets Capital funding
- Three elements only work when implemented concurrently
 - Food & Beverage Tax Revenues to APRC
 - Reduction of Franchise Rates to Water, Wastewater and Electric Utilities
 - Allocation of a portion (eventually up to 50%) of franchise fee revenues to Street Fund for capital only

General Fund Forecast

- The City has had a recurring budget gap for several years that is forecasted to grow without definitive actions to change course.
- Assumptions include:
 - Property tax revenues grow at 3.5% per State law.
 - Food & Beverage and Transient Occupancy Tax revenues grow at 10-15% annually with economic recovery.
 - Salary costs are estimated to grow at under 2% until labor contracts are settled.
 - Benefit costs are estimated to grow approximately 6% annually based on historical patterns. Unfunded Actuarial Liability is expected to grow at less than 5% depending on market behavior, current year dropped about 2%.
 - Other costs are anticipated to grow at or below 3% depending on contract and market behaviors, i.e. asphalt moves with oil prices, software contracts are fixed with average increases of 3-5%.
 - Debt service will drop then potentially increase depending on projects, market behavior, and availability of federal and state grants and loans.

General Fund Forecast

Revenue: Expenditure*: Ending Fund Balance: Revenue less Expenditure:



*less contingency

Policy Decisions

- Update of the TOT ordinance to meet State regulations and approval of an intergovernmental agreement with the State of Oregon for administration of Ashland's lodging tax (IGA approved);
- Update of the F&B ordinance to distribute 98% of the proceeds to the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission and 2% to be retained by the General Fund to offset administration. Can place on the ballot;
- Adopt an ordinance directing the specific allocation of property tax millage to be transferred to the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission on a stepwise decreasing schedule;
- Adopt a Franchise Fee ordinance to establish universally applied franchise fees to all purveyors of utilities within Ashland City limits and direct a stepwise increasing amount to the Streets Fund for capital investment; and
- Schedule exploratory discussions for Council of strategic financial plan elements including Capital Improvements Plan, debt management, labor negotiations strategy, and service array options such as a regional fire district or partnership.

Sources and Uses

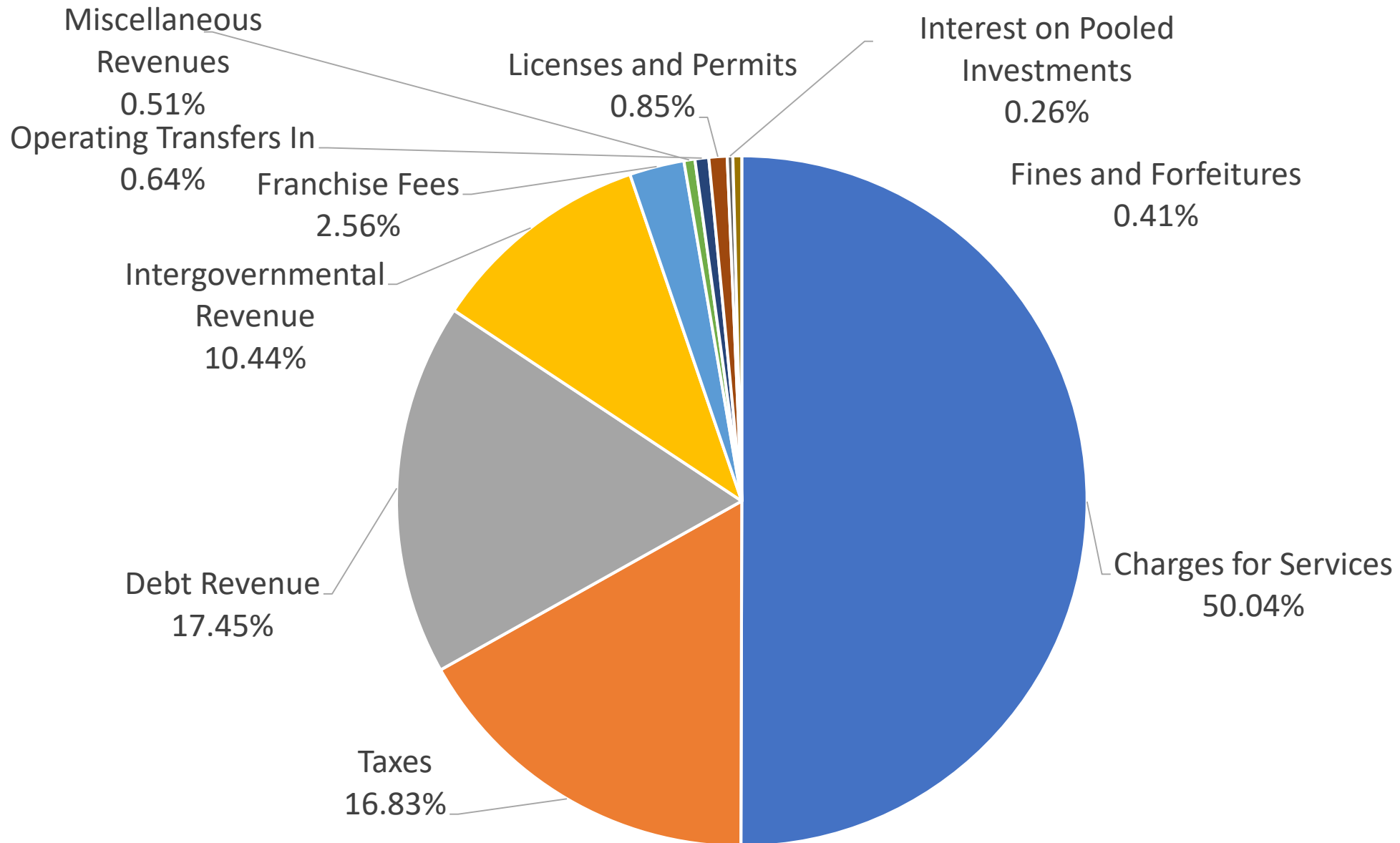
Sources include:

- Charges for Services
- Taxes- Property, Food & Beverage, Utility User, Transient Occupancy Tax
- Intergovernmental Revenues
- Debt Proceeds
- Franchise Fees
- Transfers In
- Licenses and Permits
- Interest and Other Revenues

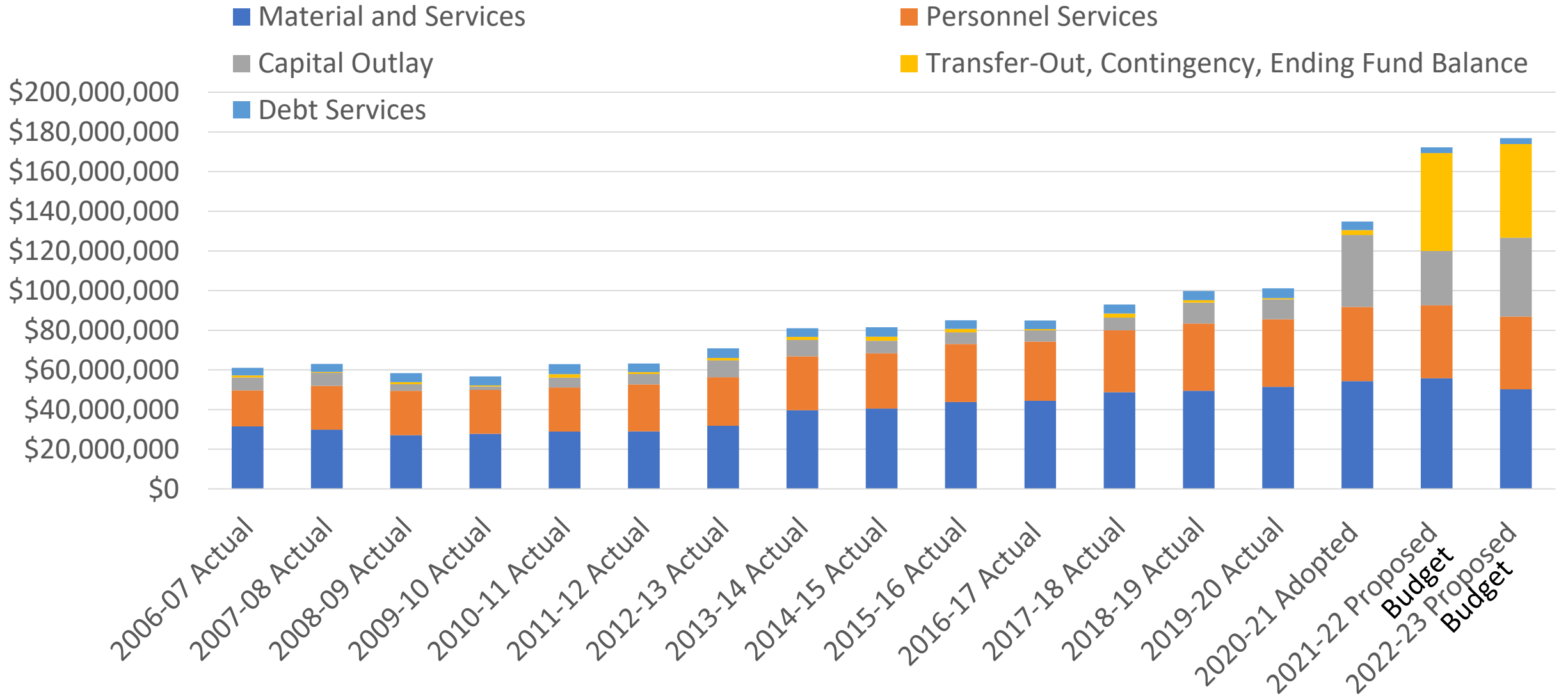
Uses include:

- Personnel Services
- Materials and Supplies
- Capital
- Debt Service
- Transfers Out
- Other Uses

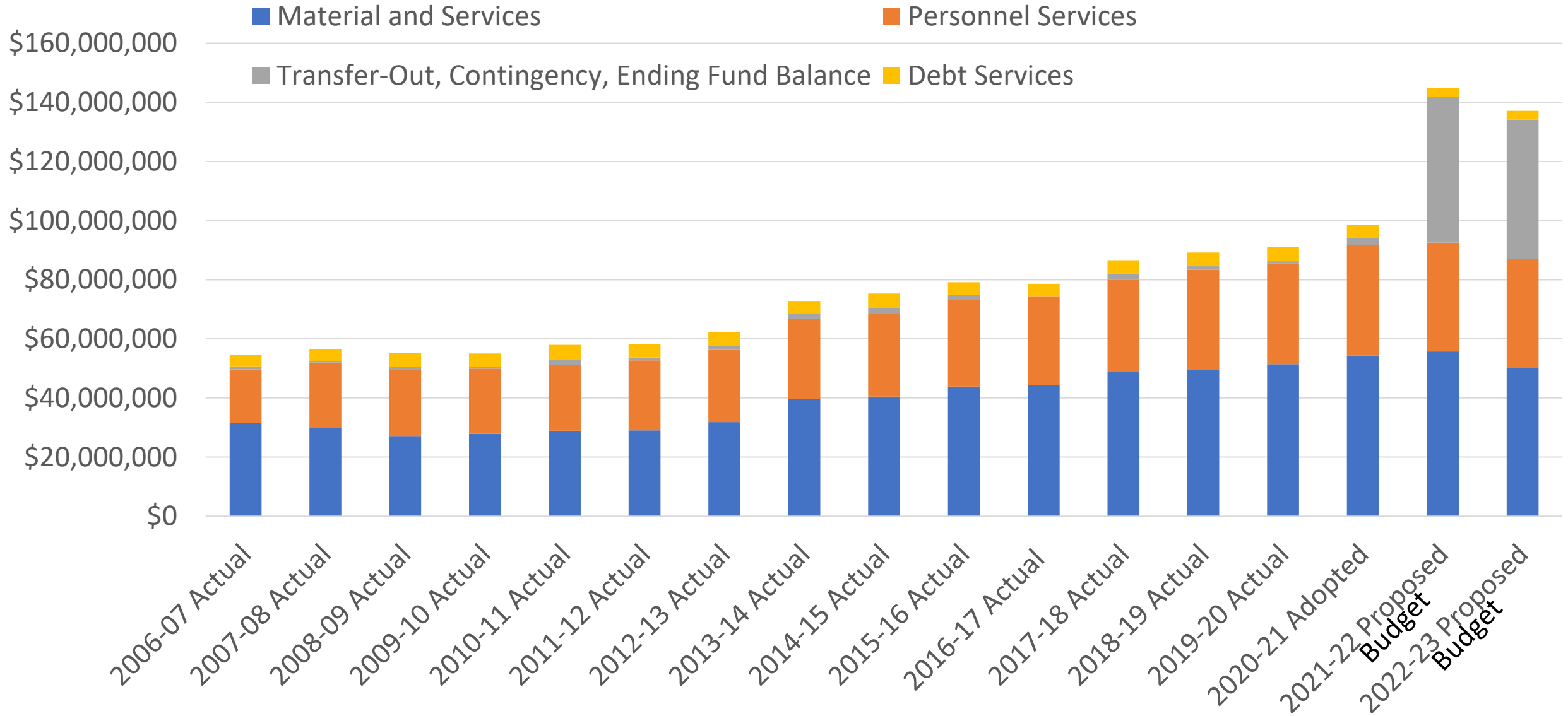
Sources by Type



Expenditures History with capital



Expenditures History without capital

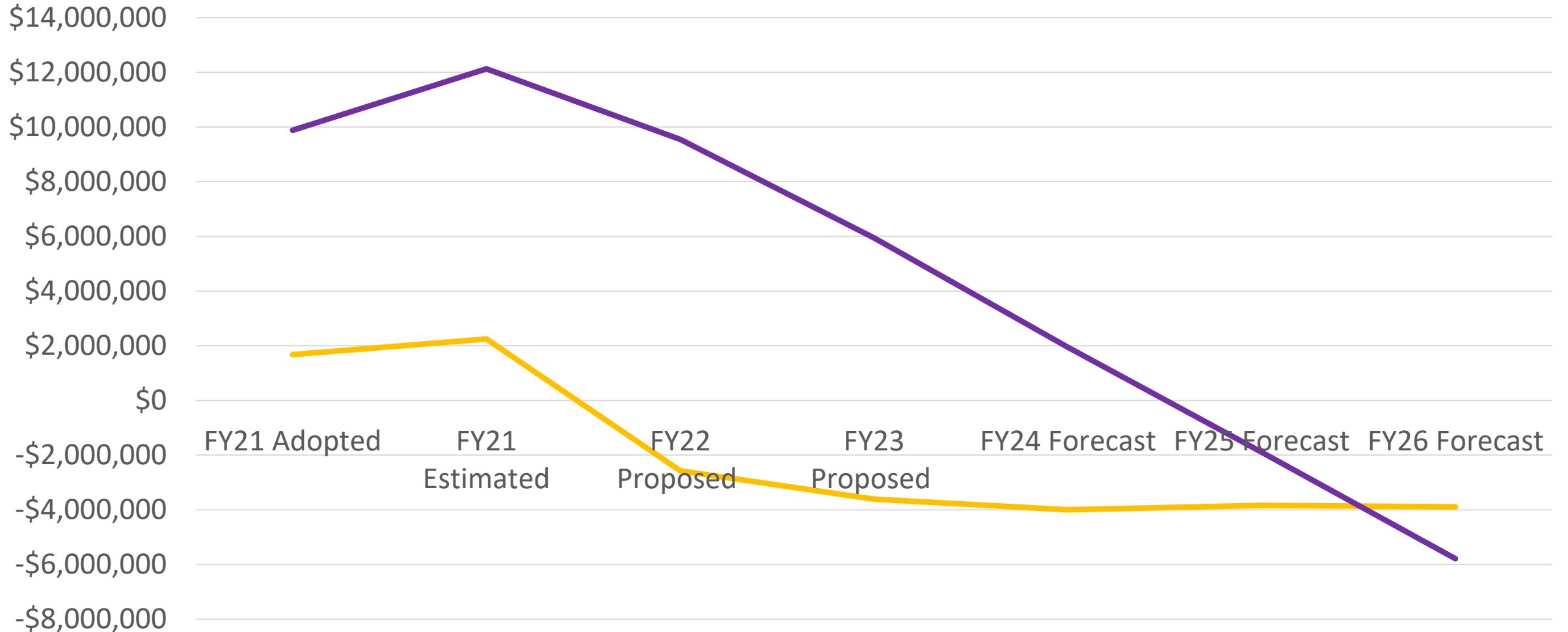


Use of Fund Balance/ Reserves

- The fund balance is the cumulative amount of revenues over expenditures each year and represents the City's "savings accounts" and operating cash.
- Funds over the minimum policy amounts can be used by the City Council to pay for one-time projects most often capital. In cases of emergencies or as a single component part of a longer-term strategy, a portion can be used for operations.
- The BN2021-2023 Recommended Budget includes the use of some of the amount above the policy limits to balance both years as the City takes actions necessary to implement structural policies to regain long-term balance between operating revenues and expenditures. If actions are not taken to stabilize the operations within the first year of the biennium, the remaining fund balance will be inadequate to maintain current operations within a few years.

Use of Fund Balance/ Reserves- General Fund Forecast

— Revenue less Expenditure: — Ending Fund Balance:



Use of Fund Balance/ Reserves

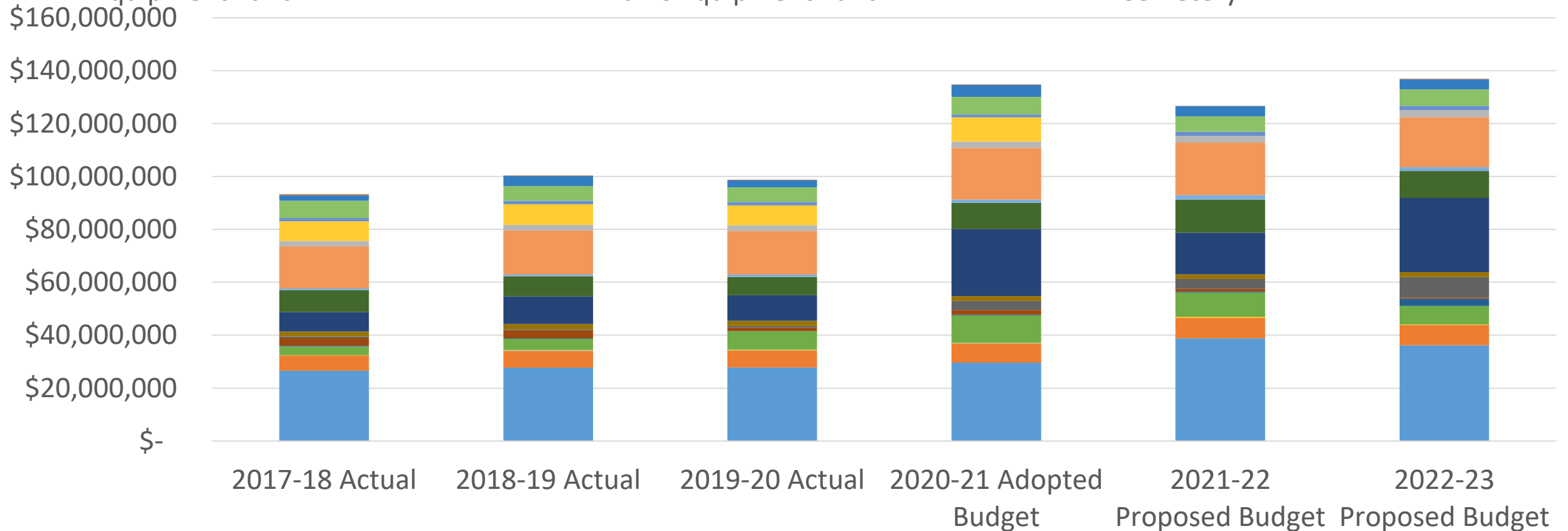
Proposed Fund Balances	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22	2022-23	2022-23	2022-23
	Proposed Beginning Fund Balance	2021-22 Proposed Revenues	2021-22 Proposed Expenditures	Proposed Ending Fund Balance	Proposed Revenues	Proposed Expenditures	Proposed Ending Fund Balance
Water Fund	11,934,033	15,322,700	15,738,331	11,518,402	26,744,600	28,077,458	10,185,545
Wastewater Fund	7,599,786	10,839,450	12,506,815	5,932,421	9,135,350	10,198,139	4,869,632
Electric Fund	3,383,408	21,404,673	19,825,045	4,963,036	19,213,531	18,936,803	5,239,763
Telecommunications Fund	1,891,624	2,742,997	2,604,273	2,030,348	2,865,266	2,614,219	2,281,395
Stormwater Fund	1,757,414	785,300	1,686,608	856,106	814,600	1,426,261	244,445
General Fund	11,202,912	36,215,651	38,802,480	8,616,083	34,896,476	36,139,641	7,472,918
Parks General Fund	1,483,226	6,972,662	7,701,282	754,606	7,066,920	7,714,033	107,493
Equipment Fund	3,615,145	4,418,957	3,821,759	4,212,343	4,469,085	3,847,624	4,833,802
Health Benefits Fund	1,438,668	5,700,044	5,849,983	1,288,729	5,367,293	6,185,753	470,270
Insurance Service Fund	673,544	1,943,772	1,521,629	595,687	1,943,772	1,656,714	882,745
Parks Equipment Fund	399,467	114,000	50,060	463,407	114,000	100,060	477,347
Debt Service Fund	1,347,873	1,670,110	1,765,520	1,252,463	1,665,184	1,766,451	1,151,196

Use of Fund Balance/ Reserves

	2021-22 Proposed Beginning Fund Balance	2021-22 Proposed Revenues	2021-22 Proposed Expenditures	2021-22 Proposed Ending Fund Balance	2022-23 Proposed Revenues	2022-23 Proposed Expenditures	2022-23 Proposed Ending Fund Balance
Cemetery	909,427	27,700	65,000	872,127	28,200	65,000	835,327
Street Fund	1,302,970	8,666,675	9,202,511	767,134	6,629,724	7,007,974	388,885
Airport Fund	186,753	428,000	417,375	197,378	2,765,000	2,772,525	189,853
Reserve Fund	39,656	400	-	40,056	400	-	40,456
Parks Capital Improvement Fund	1,701,106	2,511,300	3,675,172	537,234	7,559,700	7,810,596	286,338
Capital Improvement Fund	901,849	248,700	1,005,000	145,549	248,700	394,249	-
Housing Fund	176,750	101,000	49,079	228,671	101,000	1,000	328,671
Community Development Block Grant Fund	36,620	344,489	381,109	-	188,801	188,801	-
Total	\$51,982,231	\$120,458,580	\$126,669,031	\$45,271,780	\$131,817,602	\$136,903,301	\$40,286,081

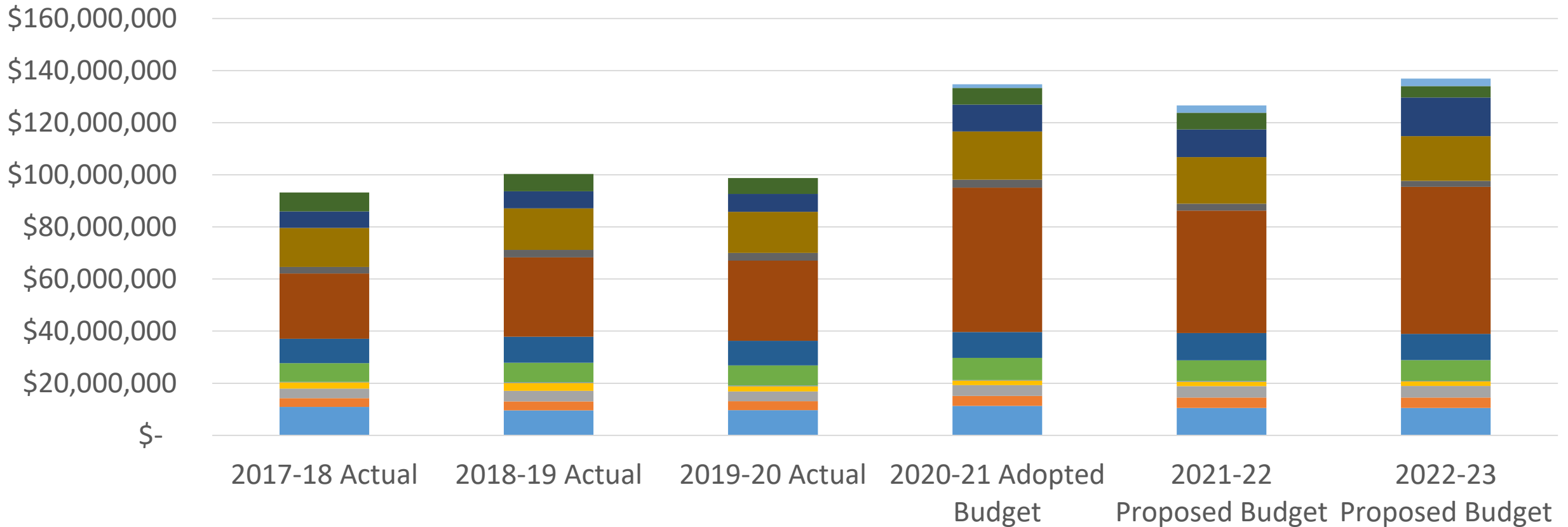
Uses by Fund

- General Fund
- Community Block Fund
- Airport Fund
- Debt Service
- Stormwater Fund
- Central Service
- Equipment Fund
- Parks General Fund
- Reserve Fund
- Capital Improvement Fund
- Water Fund
- Electric Fund
- Insurance Service Fund
- Parks Equipment Fund
- Housing Fund
- Street Fund
- Parks Capital Improvement Fund
- Wastewater Fund
- Telecommunications Fund
- Health Benefits Fund
- Cemetery

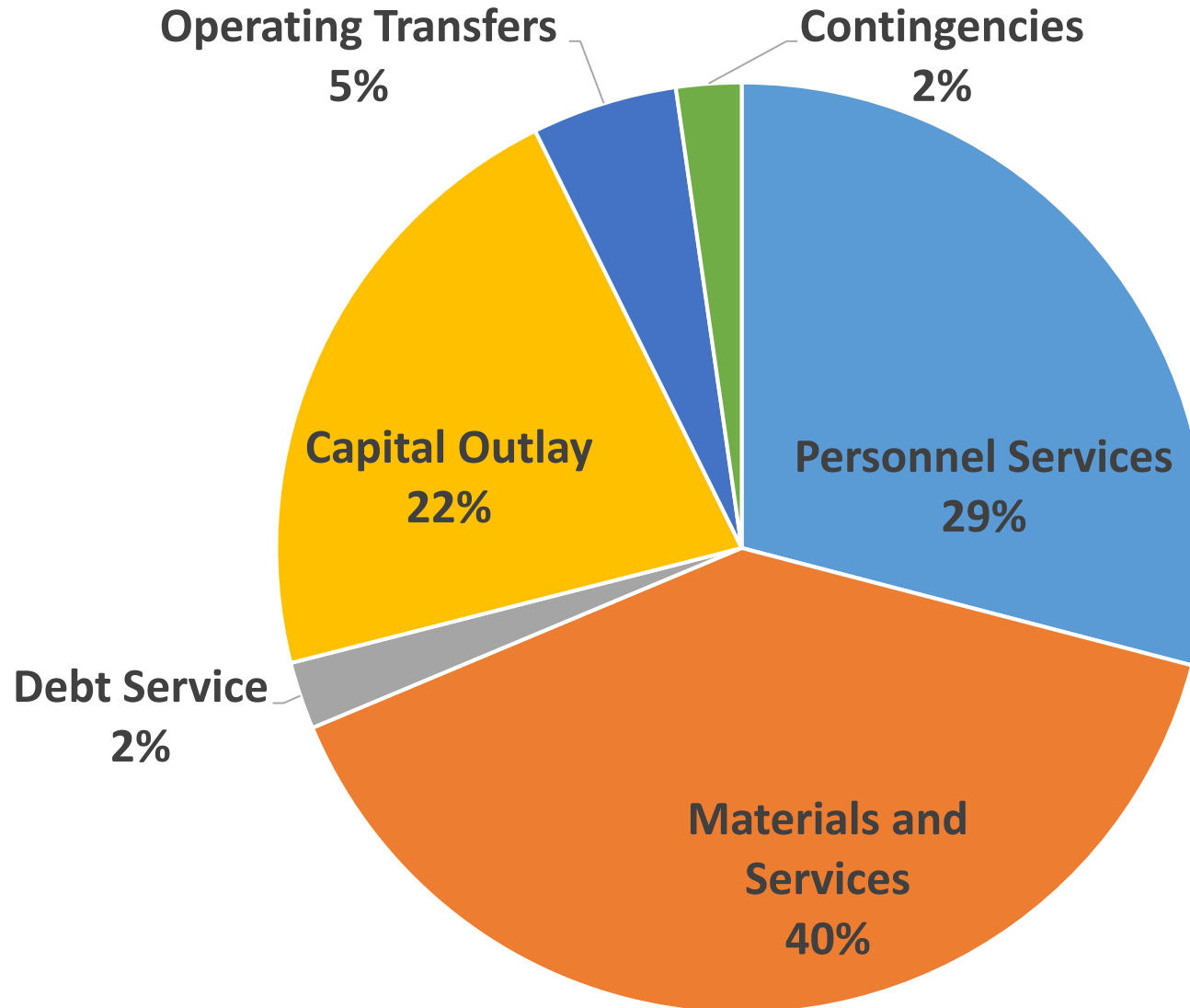


Uses by Department

- Administration Department
- Information Technology Dept
- Finance Department
- Non Operating
- City Recorder Department
- Police Department
- Fire and Rescue Department
- Public Works
- Community Development
- Electric
- Parks
- Operating Transfers
- Contingencies



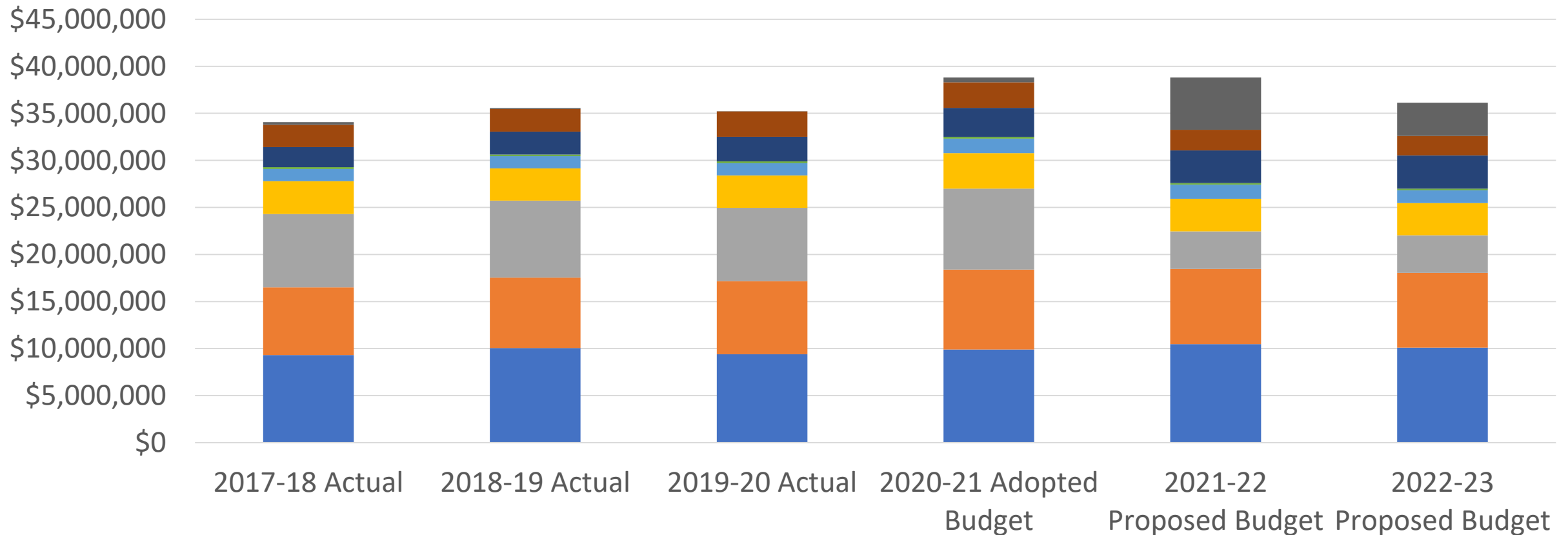
Uses by Type



General Funds- Expenditures

General Fund Expenditures by Department

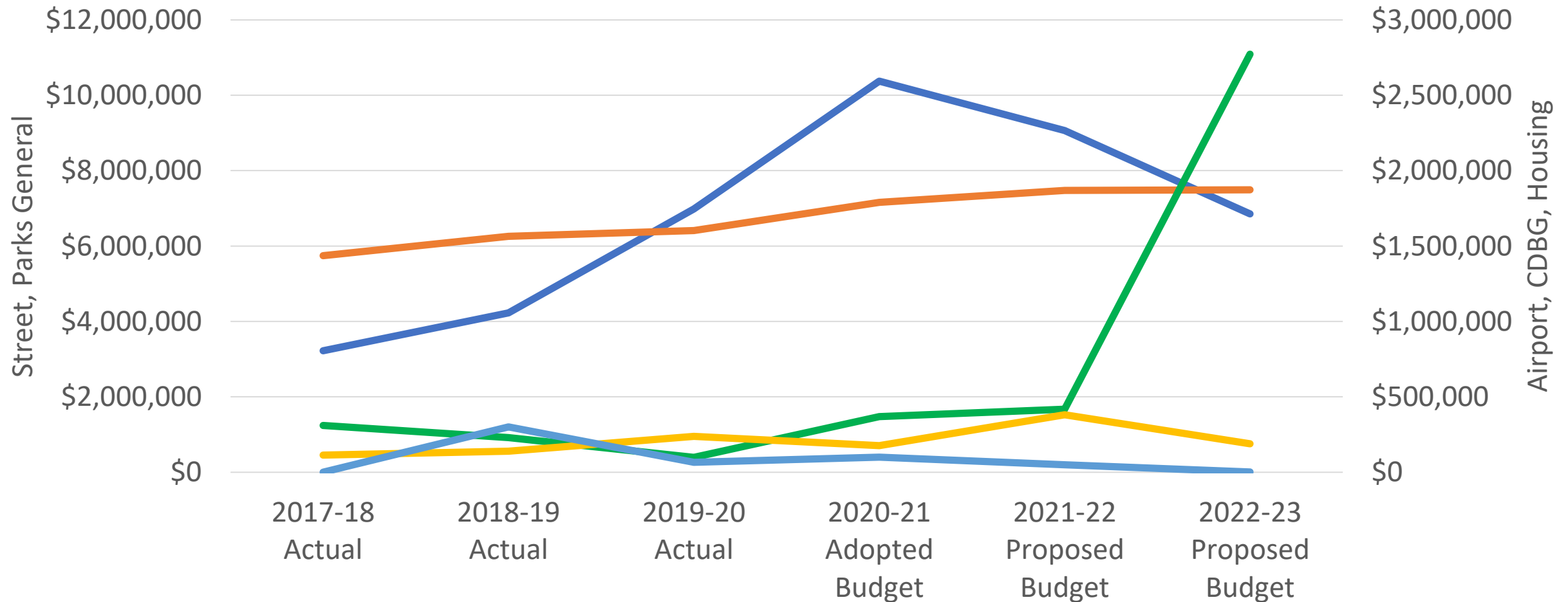
- Fire and Rescue Department
- Police Department
- Finance Department
- Administration Department
- Information Technology Dept
- City Recorder Department
- Public Works
- Community Development
- Non Departmental



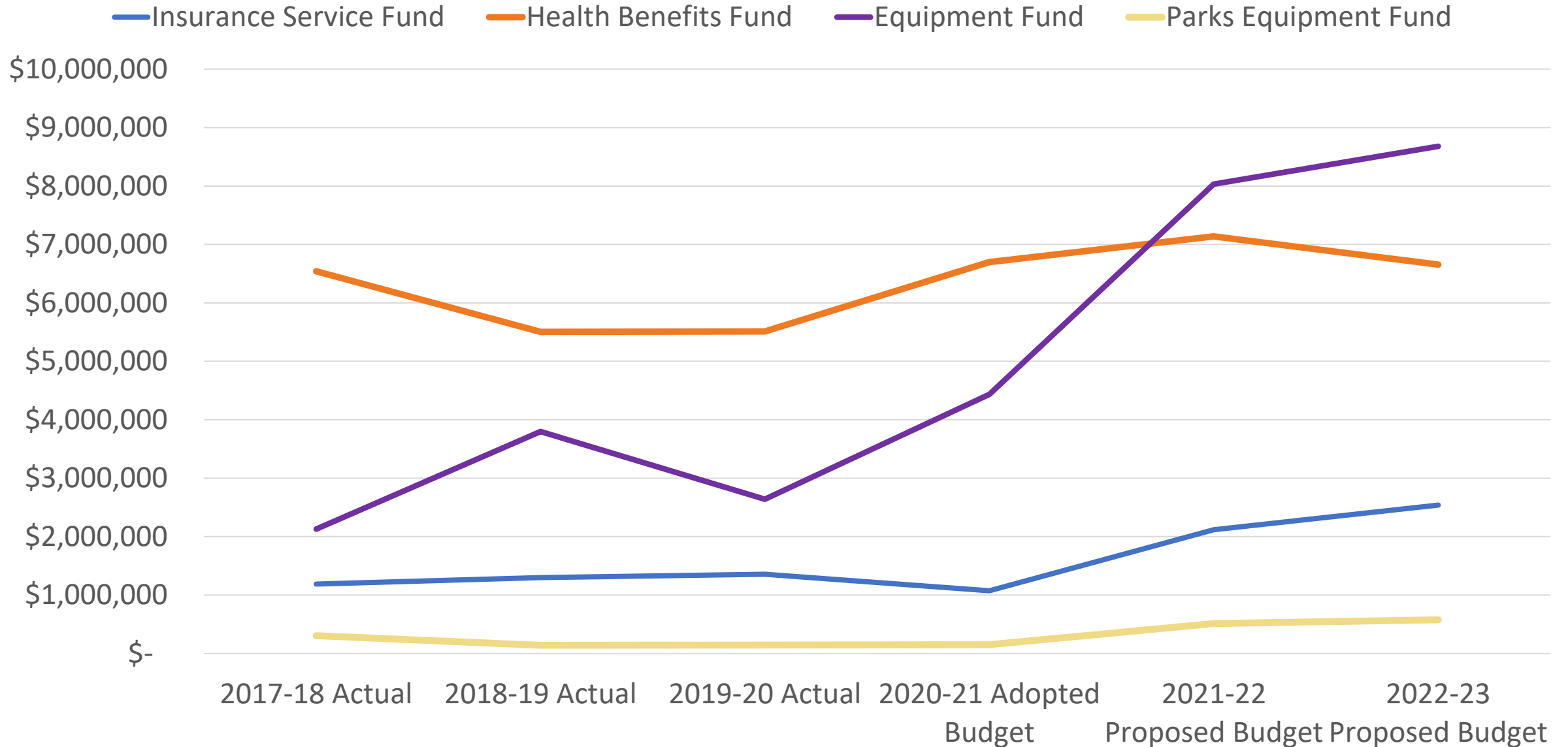
Special Revenue Funds- Expenditures

Special Revenue Funds Expenditures

(0260) Street Fund (0211) Parks General Fund (0280) Airport Fund
 (0250) Community Block Fund (0240) Housing Fund

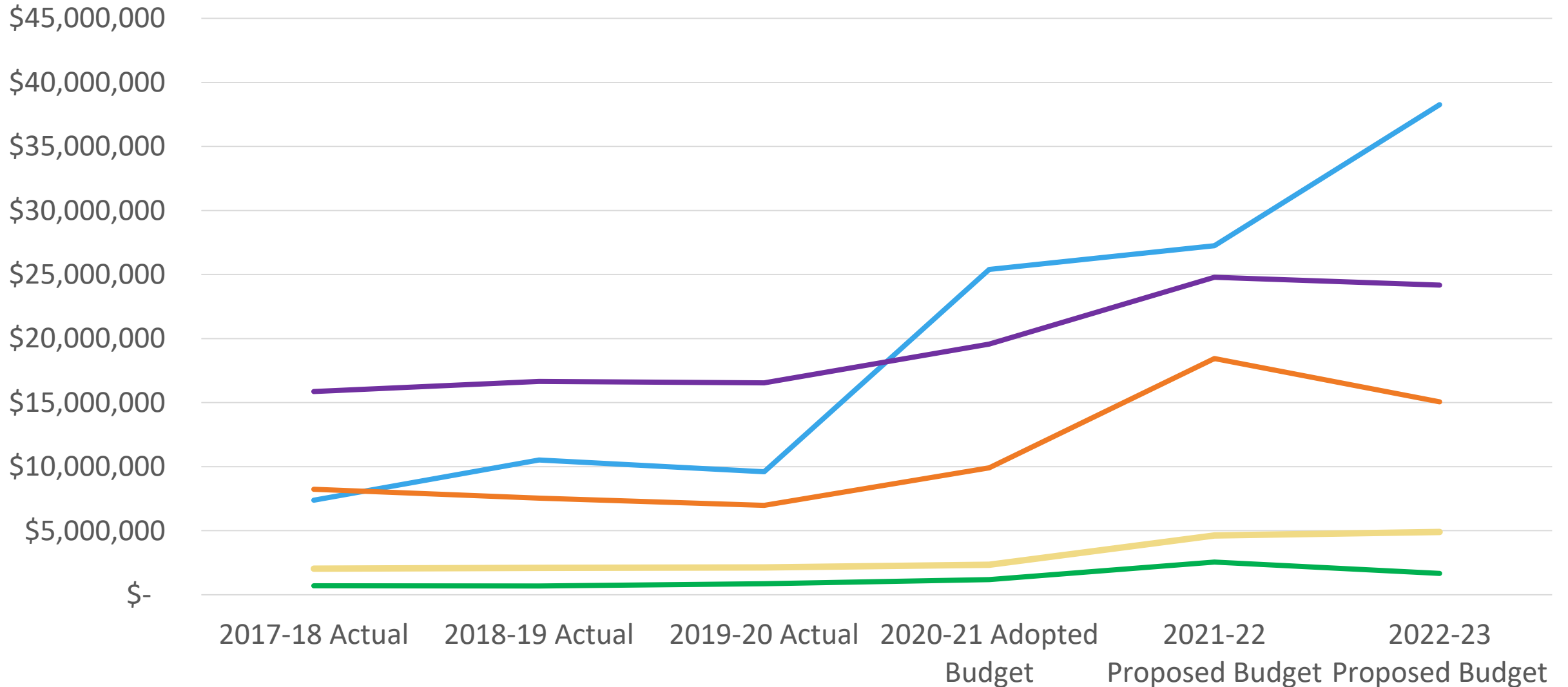


Internal Service Funds- Expenditures



Enterprise Funds- Expenditures

Water Fund Wastewater Fund Electric Fund Telecommunications Fund Stormwater Fund



Budget Committee Actions

- *MOTION TO reduce the General Fund revenues by the \$100,000 from marijuana taxes and \$100,000 in expenditures and to increase the Housing Fund revenues by \$100,000 from marijuana taxes per annum; and*
- *BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Citizen Budget Committee recommends the Ashland City Council analyze what is viable to outsourcing in the General Fund and to bring it back for discussion; and*
- *BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Citizen Budget Committee recommends the Ashland City Council to find reductions and/or revenues to cover \$1 million in the General Fund over the next two years.*

Recommended Actions

- Approve BN2021-2023 Budget
- Approve Resolution to Appropriate funds for BN2021-2023
- Approve Tax Levy
- Approve Rate Change Resolutions- Electric, Stormwater, Transportation
- Approve Resolution to Qualify for State Revenues
- Approve Resolution to Elect to Receive State Revenues
- Approve Schedule of Study Sessions

Recommended Actions

- Approve BN2021-2023 Budget
 - Adopt revenues by type and expenditures by department within the General Fund and by fund for all other operations.
 - The City-wide budget including all funds totals \$263,949,218 and includes transfers between funds.
- Approve Resolution to Appropriate funds for BN2021-2023
 - Appropriate expenditures by department where applicable and by expenditure type in smaller funds
 - The appropriations resolution is a requirement of state law and authorizes the expenditure of funds as identified through the budget resolution.

Recommended Actions

- Approve Tax Levy
 - The rate recommended by the Budget Committee is the maximum operating rate per state law and the rate necessary to cover existing debt obligations, lower than the previous year as the bond payments for Fire Station #1 have been completed.
 - “I move to approve the property tax levy in the amount of \$4.2865 per \$1,000 of assessed value for fiscal year 2021-2022 and fiscal year 2022-2023 respectively, approve property taxes for the payment of general obligation principal and interest bonded debt in the total of \$220,037 for fiscal year 2021-2022, and \$215,339 for fiscal year 2022-2023. – **Budget Committee**

Recommended Actions

- Approve Rate Change Resolutions- Electric, Stormwater, Transportation
 - Electric Rate Changes- Support retained earnings, maintenance, and debt issue:

Residential	Seasonal Residential	Commercial Single/ Telecom	Outdoor Lighting	Commercial Three Phase	Govt/Muni Single Phase	Govt/Muni Three Phase	Govt Large Service
5.1%	5.1%	3.8%	3.5%	3.7%	5.0%	3.4%	3.4%

- Impact on typical Residence (750 kWh) \$3.18 per month

- Stormwater Rate Change- support capital maintenance: 9% across all customers
 - multi-unit residential units would see a 15 cents per month increase while single family homes would see 45 cents per month
- Transportation Rate Change- support capital maintenance: 2.07% across all customers
 - 19 cents per month for single-family residences

Recommended Actions

- Approve Resolution to Qualify for State Revenues
 - Per ORS 221.760, the City must adopt a resolution indicating that the City provides the minimum municipal services.
- Approve Resolution to Elect to Receive State Revenues
 - In order to receive an apportionment of the Oregon Department of Administrative Services General Fund revenues derived from tax imposed on the sale of liquor as part of State Revenue Sharing, the City must elect by resolution to receive these funds.
 - In addition, the City must attest that it allows for recreational marijuana businesses and has levied a property tax in the preceding year.
 - The City also further confirms that it has held a public hearing regarding the receipt and use of state-shared revenues; this is considered as part of the budget hearing(s).

Recommended Actions

- Approve Schedule of Study Sessions

Date (5:30-7:30 p.m.)	Topic
June	Ambulance Study
8/9/2021	Food & Beverage/ Franchise Fees
8/23/2021	General Fund Mandated vs. Discretionary Services
9/13/2021	General Fund Mandated vs. Discretionary Services
9/27/2021	General Fund Priorities
10/11/2021	General Fund Revenues
10/25/2021	Municipal Service Structures- Governmental Operations
11/8/2021	Water/ Wastewater Capital
11/22/2021	Stormwater/Transportation Capital
12/13/2021	Electric/ Other Capital
1/10/2022	Utility Rates
1/24/2022	Ashland Fiber Network
2/14/2022	Debt
2/28/2022	Municipal Service Structures- Enterprise Operations
3/14/2022	TBD
3/28/2022	TBD

Looking Forward

- Update of the TOT ordinance to meet State regulations and approval of an intergovernmental agreement with the State of Oregon for administration of Ashland's lodging tax;
- Enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Talent to provide police patrol, supervision, and investigative services;
- Approve the transfer and/or sale of surplus property to benefit the Housing Trust Fund;
- Update of the F&B ordinance to distribute 98% of the proceeds to the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission and 2% to be retained by the General Fund to offset administration. Council can refer to voters in November 2020 or May 2021;
- Adopt an ordinance directing the specific allocation of property tax millage to be transferred to the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission on a stepwise decreasing schedule;
- Adopt a Franchise Fee ordinance to establish universally applied franchise fees to all purveyors of utilities within Ashland City limits and direct a stepwise increasing amount to the Streets Fund for capital investment; and
- Schedule study sessions for Council to explore strategic financial plan elements including Capital Improvements Plan, debt management, labor negotiations strategy, and service array options such as a regional fire district or partnership.

Next Steps

- Miscellaneous Fees & Charges – minimal changes to support General operations including Parks, Courts, and Public Works (June 15, 2021)
- Update Transient Occupancy (Lodging) Tax ordinance to comply with State requirements for contracted services through Intergovernmental Agreement approved April 20, 2021 (June 15, 2021, and July 6, 2021)
- Ambulance Study review (June 2021)
- Council Financial Strategy Study Sessions (August 2021 – March 2022)