



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 1

Agenda Date: September 10, 2024

In Control: City Council Budget Work Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of Management & Budget

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Justina Tate

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

City Council Work Session on the FY 2025 Proposed Budget

SUMMARY:

Staff presentation on the FY 2025 Proposed Budget focusing on, but not limited to, the following City policies and initiatives:

- A. Parks & Recreation
- B. Office of Sustainability

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City Manager presented the FY 2025 Proposed Budget to the Mayor and City Council on August 15, 2024.

About the City Budget

The FY 2025 Proposed Budget is \$3.96 billion for all funds and \$1.67 billion for the City's General Fund. To mitigate rising costs the budget proposes \$36.6 million in spending reductions over the next two years. These reductions were accomplished by transferring expenses from the General

Fund to our Capital Budget and other funds, reducing development incentives, aligning workforce development spending, and adjusting department's budgets to actual spending and service demands. These reductions allow the city to remain resilient and continue investing in the top priorities of the community.

The need to be more resourceful and mindful of spending is due to expenses growing faster than revenue and revenue growth returning to pre-pandemic levels. There is no change to the City's property tax rate.

The Proposed Budget reflects both the priorities of the City Council and the community. Investments in key, core areas are proposed while continuing to support the services the community expects. These priorities include Streets and Sidewalks, Animal Care Services, Public Safety, services to assist the Homeless and Encampment Cleanups, and Affordable Housing.

Budget Work Sessions

Department Directors began presenting their budgets in detail to the City Council at a series of budget work sessions on August 21 and will culminate on September 18.

Community Input:

Eleven townhall meetings across the City took place between August 19 and August 31. At these meetings the public provided feedback on the proposed budget.

Additionally, 2 public hearings on the City's Property Tax Rate and Proposed Budget were scheduled. The first hearing took place on September 4 and the second hearing is scheduled on September 12 at City Council Chambers.

Budget Adoption:

The budget is scheduled to be adopted on September 19 for the City's fiscal year that begins on October 1. By City Charter the Budget must be approved before September 27.

ISSUE:

The FY 2025 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets for Parks & Recreation and REES to be presented on Tuesday, September 10 from 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 PM.

Parks & Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department develops and maintains over 250 City-owned parks including swimming pools, gymnasiums, historic cemeteries, sports facilities, and recreational centers. In addition to these parks and facilities, the department also maintains the Howard W. Peak Greenway Trail System which consists of over 100 miles of multi-use trails. The Parks and Recreation Department provides residents a range of cultural and recreational programs that include the arts, sports and fitness, nature and science, and youth specific programs.

The budget presentation will provide an overview of the FY 2025 Proposed Budget for the Parks and Recreation Department to include improvements and updates of parks facilities and amenities,

and updates on the Parks capital budget. Attachment 1 includes the FY 2025 Budget Pages for the Parks and Recreation and Attachment 2 includes FY 2025 Program Changes.

Office of Sustainability

The Office of Sustainability provides leadership and support to City departments, residents the business community and other public and private agencies on sustainability and climate initiatives. Additionally, the SA Climate Ready, Climate Action and Adaption Plan was adopted by City Council in October 2019 and outlines a pathway for San Antonio to address climate change by reducing the City's contribution to the causes of climate change and equipping the City with the tools to adapt to inevitable climate impacts.

The budget presentation will provide an overview of the FY 2025 Proposed Budget for the Office of Sustainability which will include an overview of initiatives funded through Resiliency, Energy Efficiency, and Sustainability fund, as well as projects funded by the Energy Efficiency Fund. Attachment 3 includes the FY 2025 Budget Pages for Office of Sustainability.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is a scheduled work session for the FY 2025 Proposed Budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is a work session for discussion of the FY 2025 Proposed Budget and is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is a work session for discussion of the FY 2025 Proposed Budget and is for briefing purposes only.