city of Columbia

FY27 Budget Presentation

August 3, 2026

Photo by Yazin Ali Merayyan, Capture COMO 2026

Finance and Budget Engagements

- Budget Town Hall 1: Budget Overview 1/29/26
- Budget Town Hall 2: Priorities and Budget Simulation 2/26/26
- Osher Civic Academy 3/4/26
- Revenue/Forecasts Presentation – Pre-Council Work Session 4/20/26
- Budget Town Hall 3: Capital Improvement Projects 4/30/26
- Community Classroom: Understanding Municipal Bonds 6/4/26
- Youth Civic Academy 6/10/26
- Capital Improvement Plan – Pre-Council Work Session 6/15/26
- 7/15/26 FY27 Budget Work Session - Enterprise Funds
- 7/17/26 FY27 Budget Work Session - All Funds
- 7/20/26 FY27 Capital Improvement Plan Public Hearing
- 7/30/26 Budget Town Hall 4 - How We Got Here

city of Columbia

General Fund Narrative & Outlook

Photo by Kristina Wolf, Capture COMO 2026

FY27 General Fund Proposed Budget

Total Revenue	$133,845,266
Total Operating Expenditures	$133,831,347
Revenue Over/(Under) Exp.	***$13,919***

General Fund (GF)

- The General Fund is one of the City's largest and most versatile funds, it is made up of what you typically think of when you think of local government.
- General Fund revenue doesn't have the same restrictions that other funds have. It can be used for a variety of purposes.
- The largest expense in the General Fund is **personnel**.
- The largest functional group is **public safety**.

General Fund

- The proposed General Fund budget for fiscal year 2027 (FY27) does not include potential projected revenue increases or expense appropriations associated with the proposed Public Safety Sales tax.
- This budget represents revenue based on current forecast, which led to modifications in personnel, and services to establish a balanced budget.

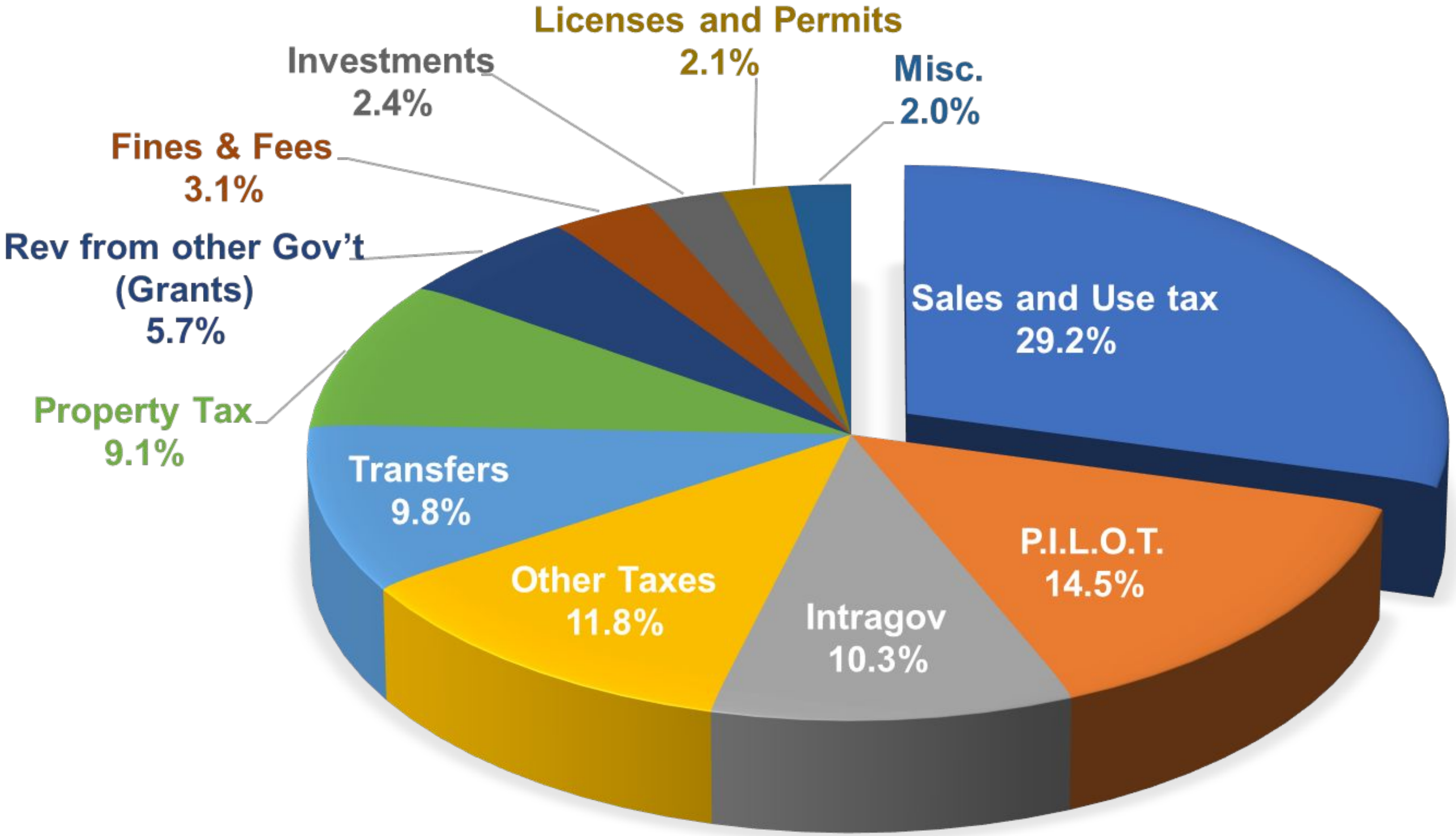
General Fund Departments/Divisions

- Administrative: City Council, City Clerk, City Manager, Finance, Human Resources, Law, and Public Works Admin
- Health & Environment: Public Health & Human Services, Community Development, Housing & Neighborhood Services (HNS), Economic Development, Office of Sustainability, and Office of Cultural Affairs
- Public Safety: Police, Fire, and Municipal Court
- Supporting Activities: Facilities Management
- Transportation: Public Works - Streets & Engineering, and Parking Enforcement

General Fund Outlook

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	123,819,779	144,469,599	131,125,836	**133,845,266**
Total Expenditures Excluding ARPA	(125,946,403)	(135,811,704)	(130,601,542)	**(133,831,347)**
Total ARPA Expenditure	(1,712,831)	(7,765,745)	(10,004,528)	**-**
Over/(Under) Excluding ARPA	(2,126,624)	8,657,895	524,294	**13,919**
Ending Available Cash	***39,836,106***	***45,489,712***	***46,014,006***	***46,027,925***
20% Cash Reserve Target	25,189,281	27,162,341	26,120,308	**26,766,270**
Cash above/below Target	***14,646,825***	***18,327,371***	***19,893,698***	***19,261,655***

Where the Money Comes From



GF Revenue Comparison

	FY26	FY27	% Change	% of FY27 Budget
Sales and Use tax	$38,228,500	$39,100,271	2%	29.2%
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	19,147,163	19,371,748	1%	14.5%
Intragovernmental revenue	16,536,815	13,737,148	-17%	10.3%
Other Taxes	14,493,193	15,840,484	9%	11.8%
Transfers	12,390,102	13,170,590	6%	9.8%
Property Tax	11,128,271	12,233,380	10%	9.1%
Revenue from other Gov't (grants)	8,613,820	7,568,776	-12%	5.7%
Fines & Fees	3,629,794	4,145,575	14%	3.1%
Investment revenue	3,000,000	3,250,000	8%	2.4%
Licenses and Permits	2,555,777	2,798,419	9%	2.1%
Miscellaneous	2,888,457	2,628,875	-9%	2.0%
Total Revenue	**$132,611,892**	**$133,845,266**	**1%**	

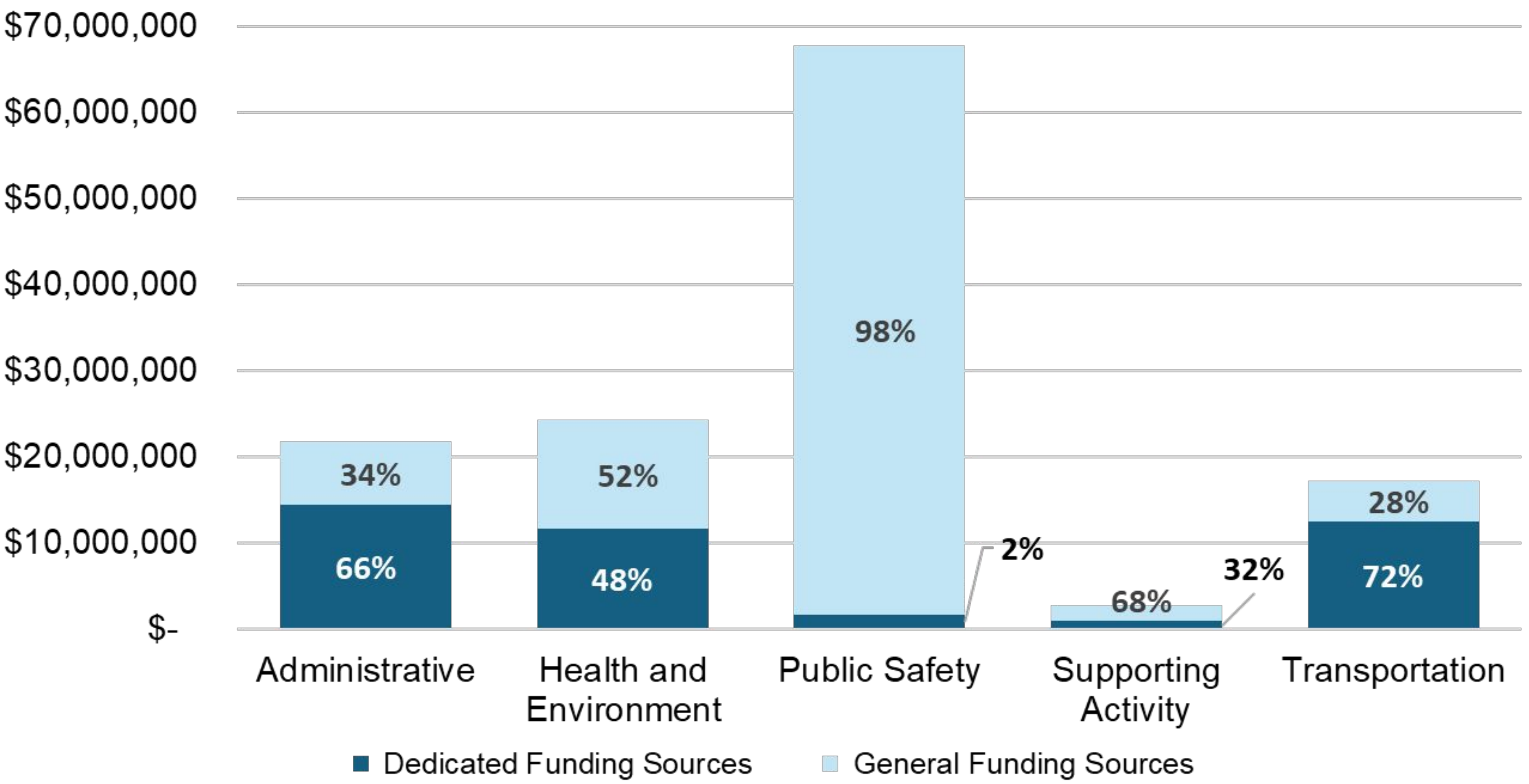
General Fund - Dedicated Funding

- A **dedicated funding** source is a revenue source that may be restricted or is collected specifically to offset the expenses of a certain activity, such as:
  - Dedicated Sales Tax funding (Transportation Sales Tax)
  - Revenue from other governmental units tied to a specific program (Health grants, County reimbursement)
  - Fees related to specific activities (Community Development Permits)
  - General & Administrative (G&A) fee revenue

General Fund - General Funding Sources

- A **general funding** source is a revenue source that is collected generally to support all activities, such as:
    - General Sales Tax
    - General Property Tax
    - Business License Fees
    - Other local Taxes

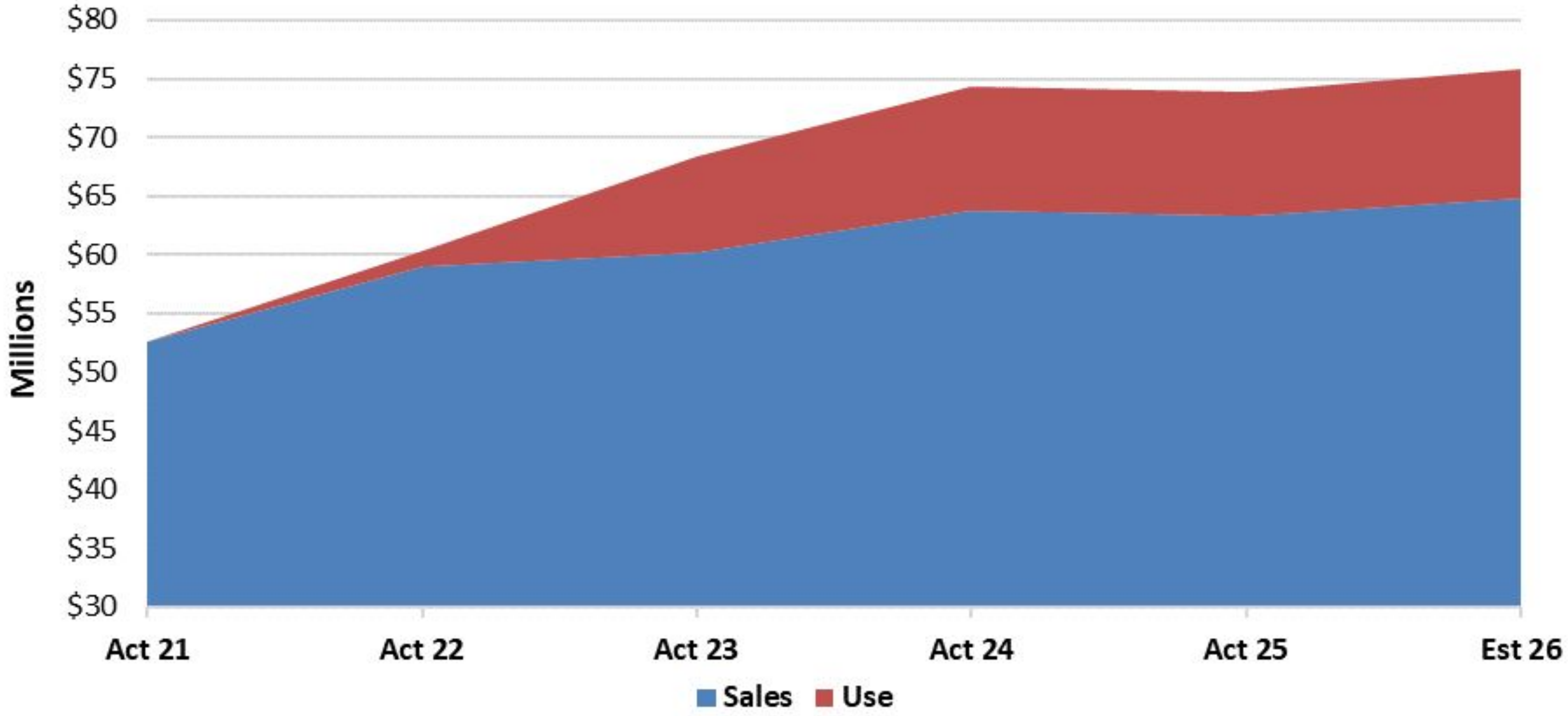
GF Dedicated vs. General Funding Sources



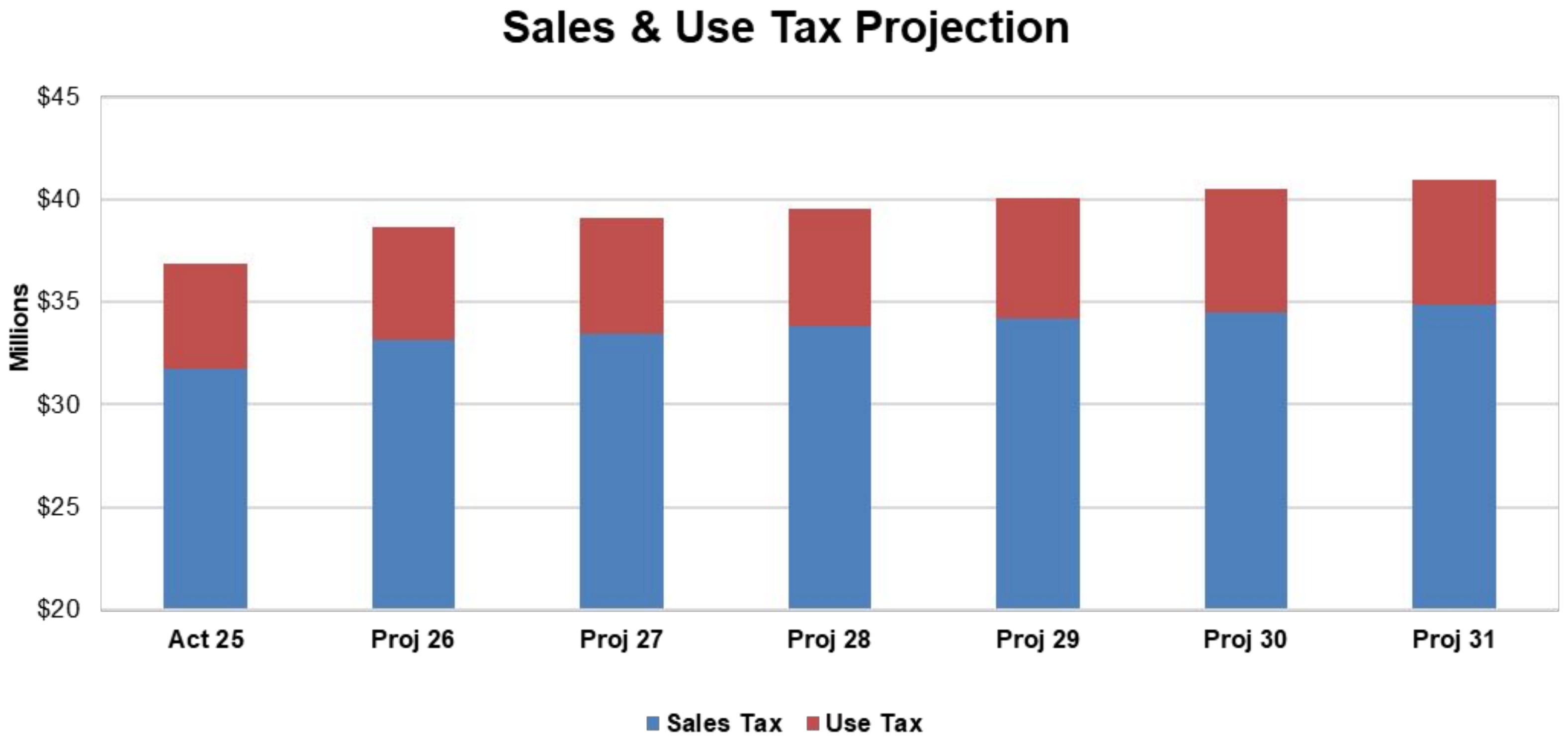
Other GF Activities Dedicated Sources

- Administration (G&A) - internal fees
- Facilities - internal fees
- Streets & Engineering - Transportation Sales Tax
- Health - Federal and State grants and County contributions
- Cultural Affairs - grants, sponsorships and ticket sales, donations
- Sustainability - utility subsidy
- Community Development (and others) - external fees for service

Sales and Use Tax Trend

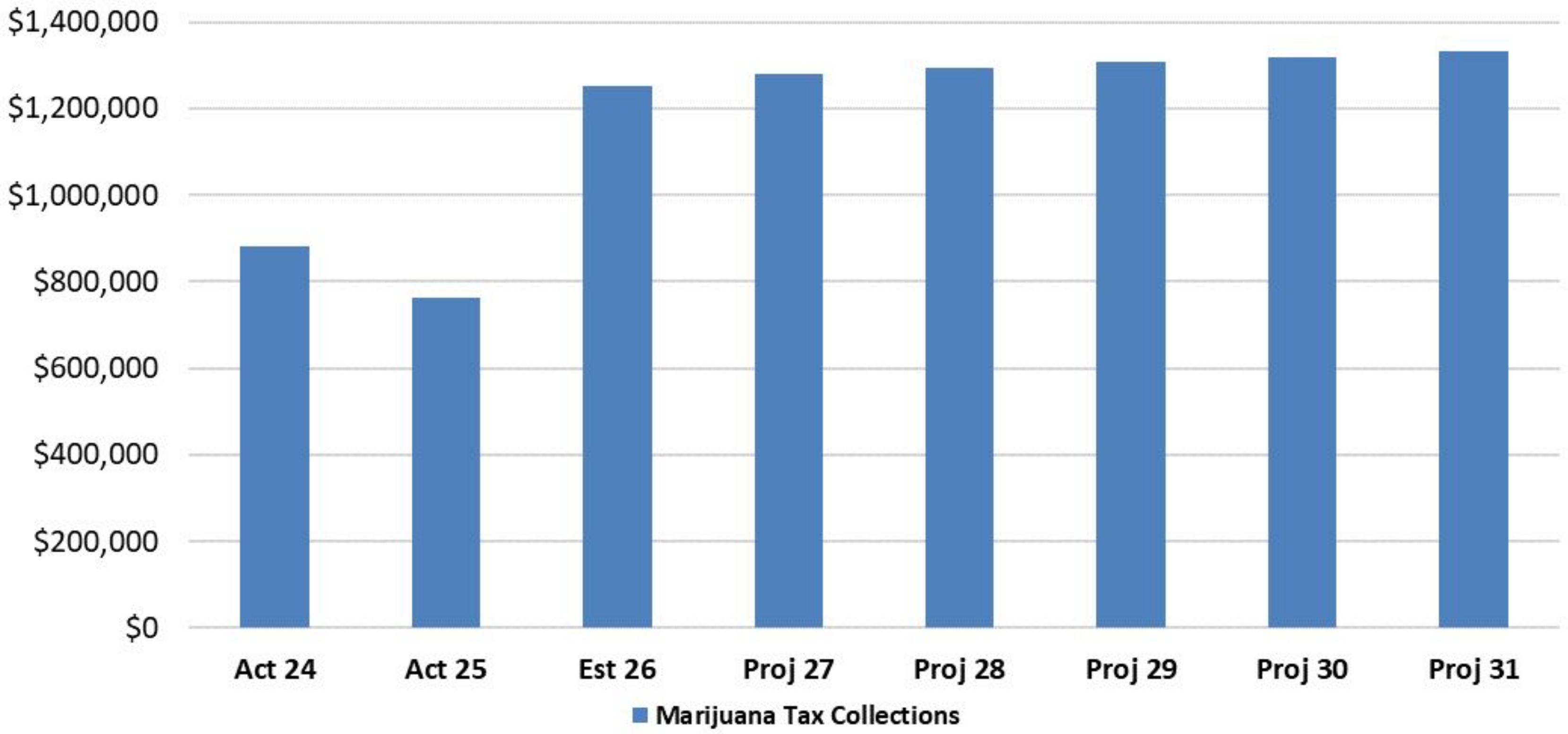


General Fund Sales & Use Tax Projection



FY 2027 Budgeted: Sales Tax - $33,472,242 & Use Tax - $5,628,029

Marijuana Tax Comparison



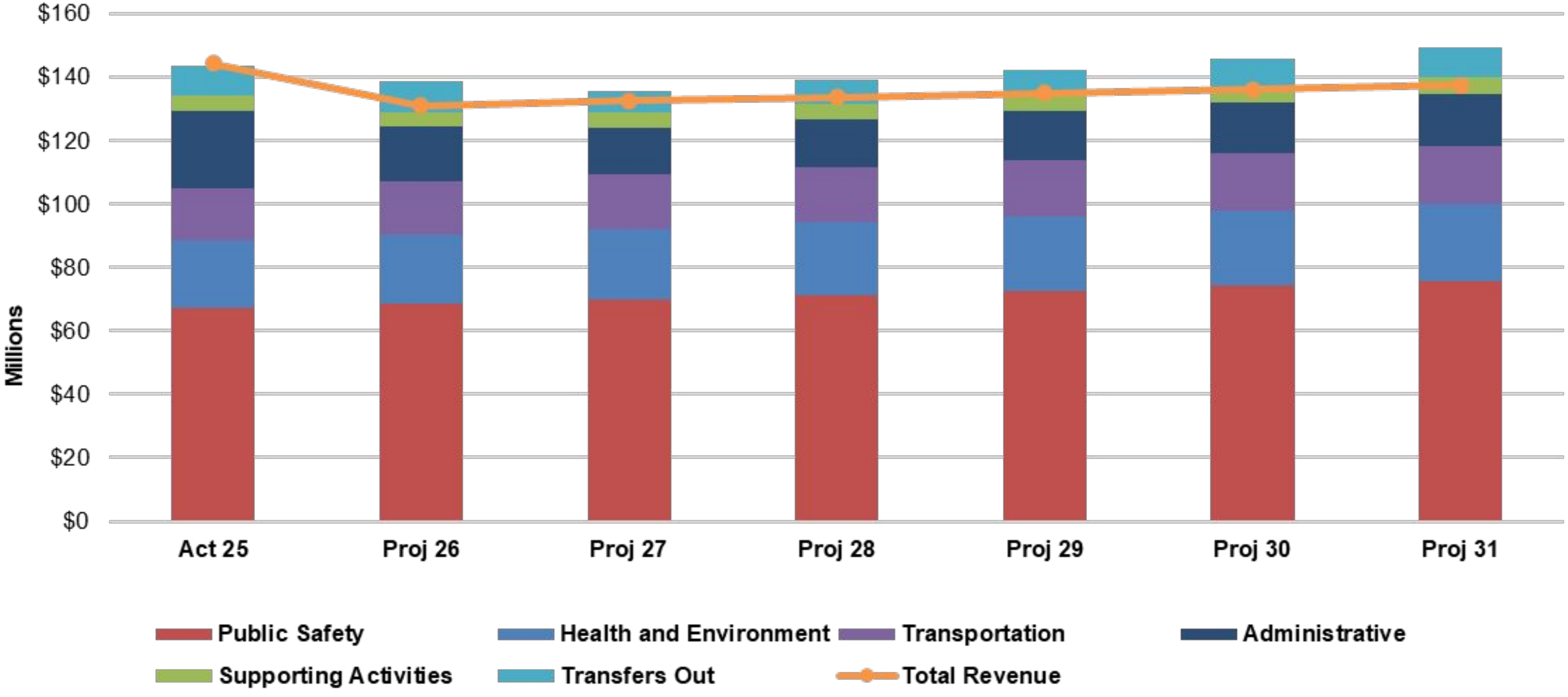
Property Tax Forecast

Other Local Taxes

GF Other Local Tax	Act FY24	Act FY25	Annual Changes	Est FY26	Proj FY27
Cigarette Tax	297,622	272,797	(24,825)	267,836	265,158
Gross Rec Telecommunications	1,685,571	4,121,903*	2,436,332	1,607,845	1,591,766
Gross Rec Union Electric	2,691,008	2,895,339	204,331	2,906,762	2,935,829
Gross Rec Boone Electric	1,606,048	1,712,469	106,420	1,517,011	1,532,181
Gross Rec CATV Franchise	430,997	302,862	(128,136)	175,454	173,700
Gasoline Tax	4,794,347	5,347,556	553,209	5,855,205	5,913,757
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax	1,394,493	1,417,628	23,135	1,499,289	1,514,282
Motor Vehicle License Fee	568,733	559,450	(9,283)	588,723	594,611
Marijuana Tax	883,311	764,079	(119,232)	1,268,267	1,280,950
Total	**14,352,131**	**17,394,082**	**3,041,951**	**15,686,393**	**15,802,234**

*Actual FY25 includes recovery of payments in protest

General Fund History Vs Forecast



*Projected FY 26 includes $10 million in ARPA expenditures

Cost of Service and Business License Study

- Looked at all General Fund Fees
- Identify cost of providing fee based city services (Food Inspection)
- Determine current cost recover
- Evaluate and set new cost recovery
- The Business License Fee Study is ongoing and will be complete in time for the next Business Licensing season

Expenditure Comparison

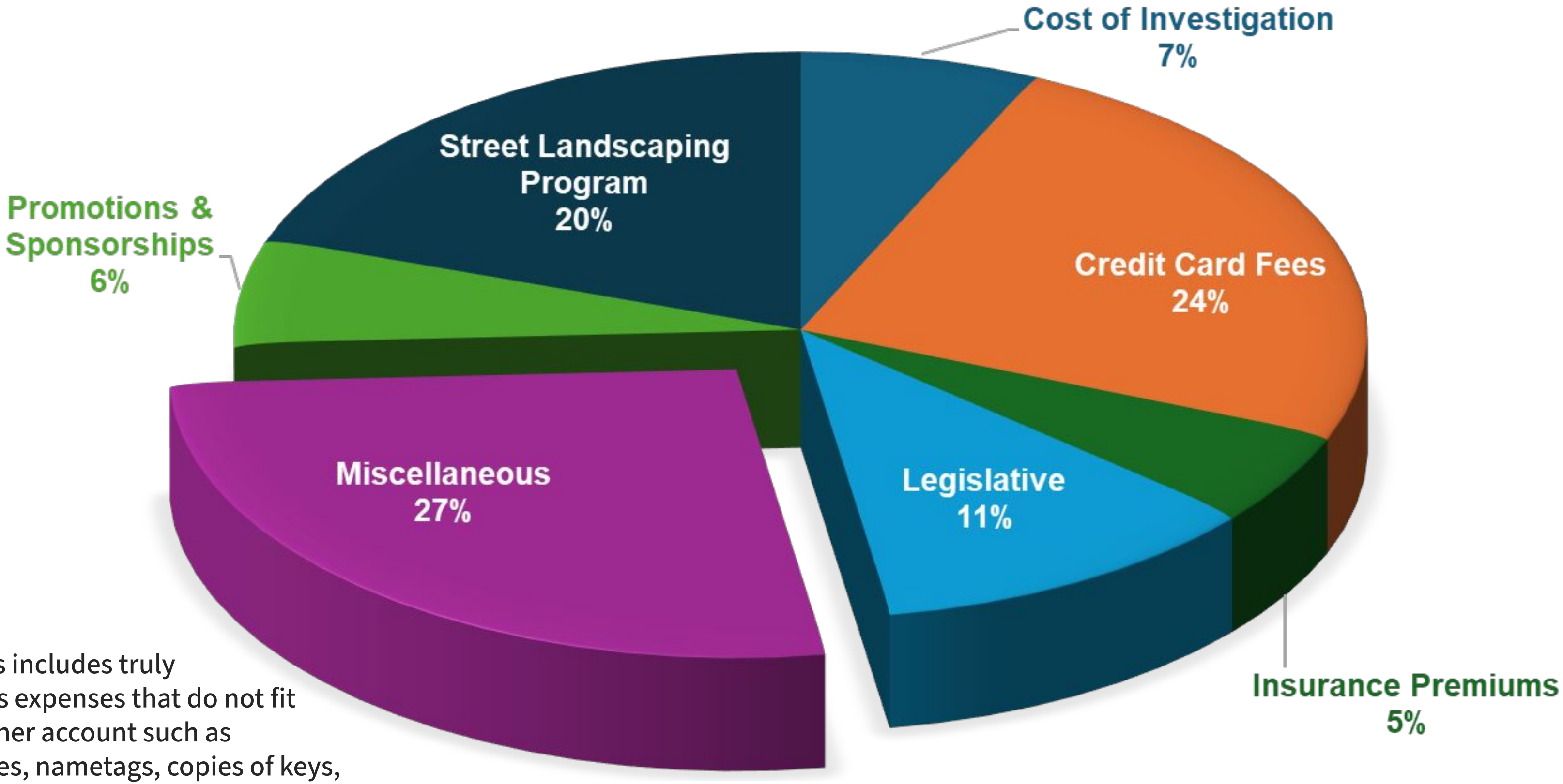
	FY26	FY27	% Change	% of Budget
Personnel Services	**$94,193,407**	**$92,499,571***	**-2%**	**69.0%**
Materials & Supplies	6,002,432	6,016,099	0%	4.5%
Travel & Training	1,055,726	1,053,210	0%	0.8%
Intragovernmental	7,870,534	8,457,351	7%	6.3%
Utilities	1,950,166	2,075,460	6%	1.6%
Services	**16,221,407**	**15,700,855**	**-3%**	**11.7%**
Miscellaneous	765,154	623,315	-19%	0.5%
Capital Outlay	1,702,609	1,975,486	16%	1.5%
Transfers	5,600,000	5,430,000	-3%	4.1%
Total Expenditures	**$135,361,435**	**$133,831,347**	**-1%**	

*Includes cost of living salary adjustment

Purchased Services

- Pavement Maintenance
- Social Service Funding
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health program
- Building maintenance (HVAC, fire suppression inspections, pest control)
- Office of Violence Prevention Strategic Planning efforts
- Litigation
- Vehicle Maintenance
- Advertising

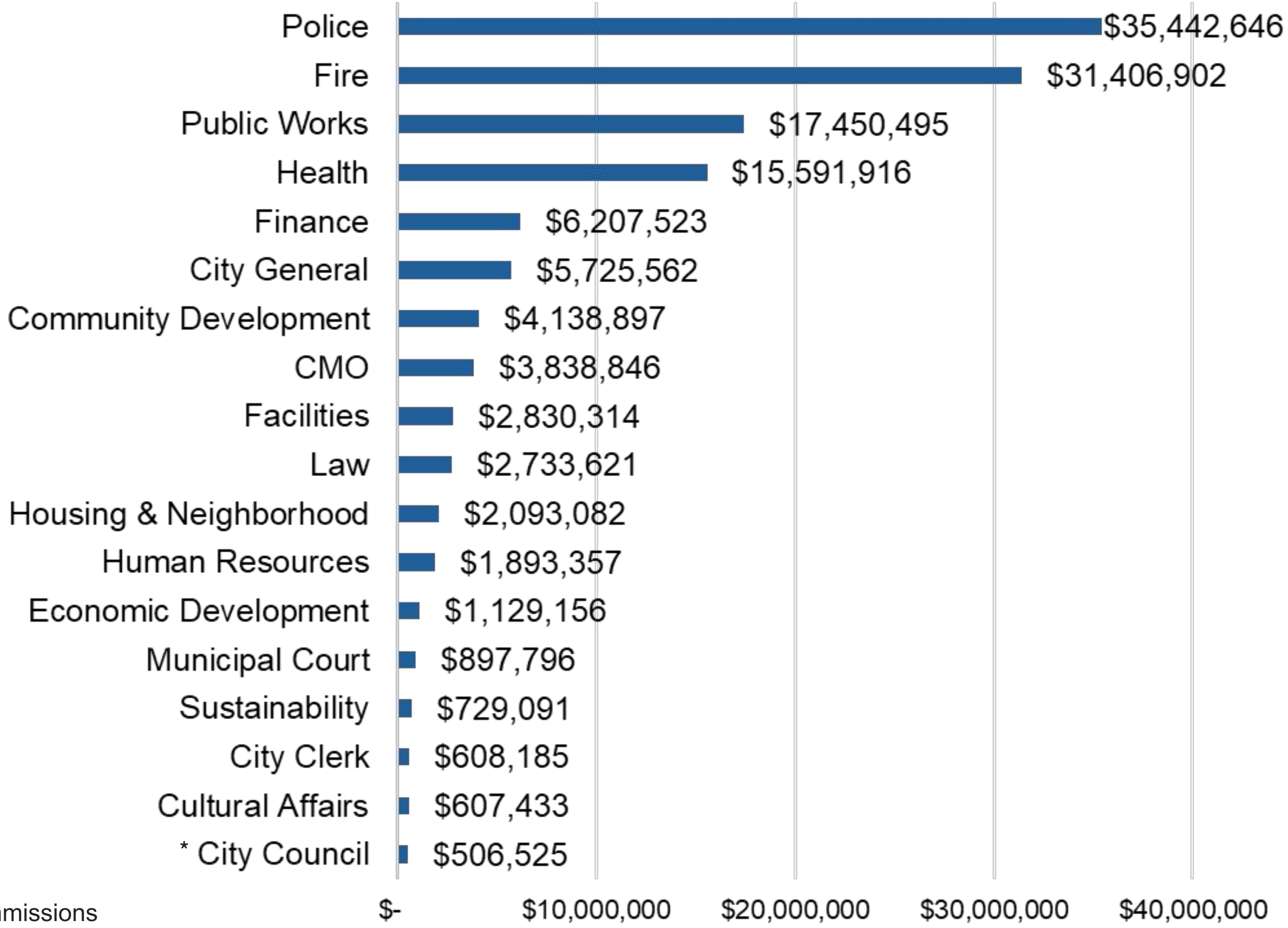
Miscellaneous Expense Category



Miscellaneous includes truly miscellaneous expenses that do not fit well in any other account such as retirement tiles, nametags, copies of keys, etc.

Where the Money Goes

From FY26 to FY27 Police increased 0.7%, Fire 2.5% and Public Works 2.3%, while the remainder of the combined General Fund decreased by -1.1%



*City Council includes Boards and Commissions

Personnel Reductions - Major Changes

Department Name	Amount
City Manager	$ (153,243)
Finance	$ (178,055)
Law	$ (78,749)
Municipal Court	$ (106,573)
Police	$ (919,226)
Fire	$ (63,049)
Health	$ (288,811)
Community Development	$ (48,628)
Streets	$ (112,744)
Total	**$ (1,949,078)**

Operating Reductions - Major Changes

Department Name	Difference	Department Name	Difference
City Council	$ (976)	Health	$ (836,300)
City Clerk	$ (933)	Community Development	$ (31,429)
City Manager	$ (76,853)	Economic Development	$ (30,473)
Sustainability	$ (4,296)	Cultural Affairs	$ (6,668)
Finance	$ (1,767)	HNS	$ (12,893)
Human Resources	$ (1,995)	Public Works Admin	$ (39)
Law	$ (1,902)	Streets	$ (30,051)
Municipal Court	$ (106)	Parking Enforcement	$ (88)
Police	$ (5,382)	Facilities	$ (3,263)
Fire	$ (4,568)	City General	$ (200,000)
		Total	**$ (1,249,982)**

*Includes a 0.5% across the board cut to services among others

Impact of FY26-FY27 GF Reductions

- Delay non-critical replacements, upgrades, and purchases
- Reduce Utility Assistance Funding from $600,000 to $400,000
- Reduce Social Service Funding (purchase of service contracts) by 10% or $187,836
- Hold open or eliminate positions
- Discontinue Family Planning Services (Health)
- Across the board 0.5% across the board reduction in service category

Changes in the FY27 Proposed GF Budget

- Net Reduction of 24.45 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) in the General Fund
  - 22 existing FTE moved to new Public Communications fund
  - 7.00 NEW FTE positions added for FY27
    - 1.00 FTE Assistant Fire Marshal (Fire)
    - 1.00 FTE Public Health Nurse (Health)
    - 2.00 FTE Animal Control Officer II (Health)
    - 1.00 FTE Rental Compliance Specialist (HNS)
    - 1.00 FTE Civilian Investigator (Police)
    - 1.00 FTE Forensic Services Supervisor (Police)
- 8.00 FTE vacant positions held open for FY27 (Salary budgeted at $0)
- Public Communications moved out of the General Fund

*FTE - Full Time Equivalent Employee

city of Columbia

FY27 **Proposed** Budget

Photo by Yazin Ali Merayyan, Capture COMO 2027

FY27 Proposed Budget

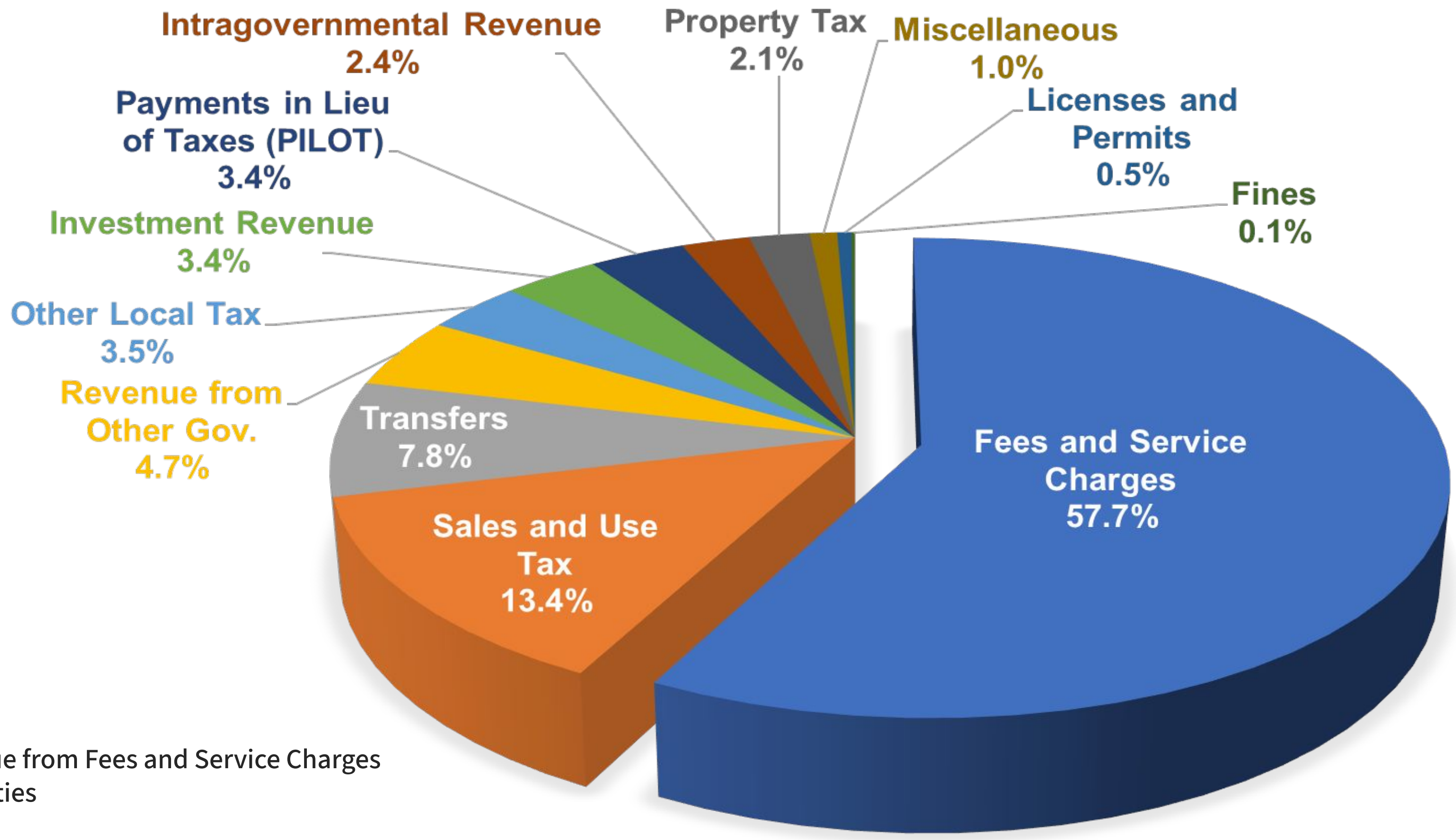
All Funds

Total Revenue	$574,281,731
Total Operating Expenditures	546,882,317
Total Capital Improv Projects	56,154,143
Total Expenditures *(Operating + Capital)*	$603,036,460

How Capital Improvements are Funded

- General Fund - Transportation Sales Tax, Capital Improvement Sales Tax, General Fund Reserves, Investment Revenue, Bond funding, Designated (internal) loan.
- Enterprise Funds - Operating Reserves, Transportation Sales Tax, Bond funding, Designated loan.
- Parks & Rec Fund - Parks Sales Tax, Investment Revenue, General Fund Reserves, Designated loan.

Where the Money Comes From

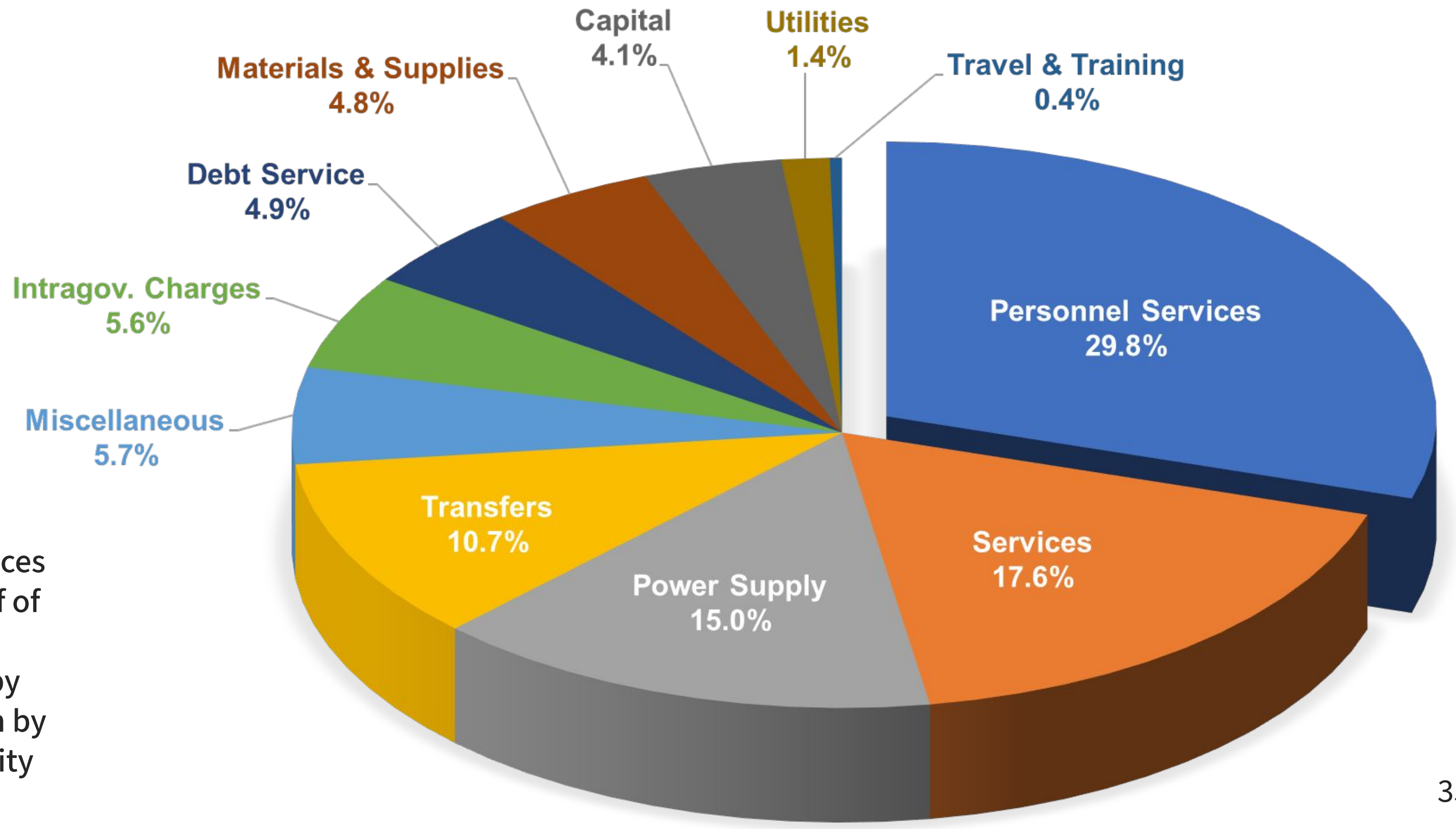


89% of all revenue from Fees and Service Charges comes from Utilities

FY27 Proposed Revenue Comparison

	FY26 Budgeted	FY27 Proposed	% Change	% of FY27 Budget
Property Tax	$11,128,271	$12,233,380	9.9%	2.1%
Sales and Use Tax	$75,699,500	$76,775,533	1.4%	13.4%
Other Local Tax	$18,566,305	$19,874,564	7.0%	3.5%
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	$19,147,163	$19,371,748	1.2%	3.4%
Licenses and Permits	$2,555,777	$2,798,419	9.5%	0.5%
Fines	$632,668	$794,305	25.5%	0.1%
Fees and Service Charges	$319,585,995	$331,198,969	3.6%	57.7%
Intragovernmental Revenue	$16,596,074	$13,799,723	(16.8%)	2.4%
Revenue from Other Gov.	$17,129,052	$27,221,259	58.9%	4.7%
Investment Revenue	$17,763,870	$19,667,516	10.7%	3.4%
Miscellaneous	$5,819,633	$5,507,816	(5.4%)	1.0%
Transfers	$54,619,886	$45,038,499	(17.5%)	7.8%
Total Revenue	$559,244,194	$574,281,731	2.7%	

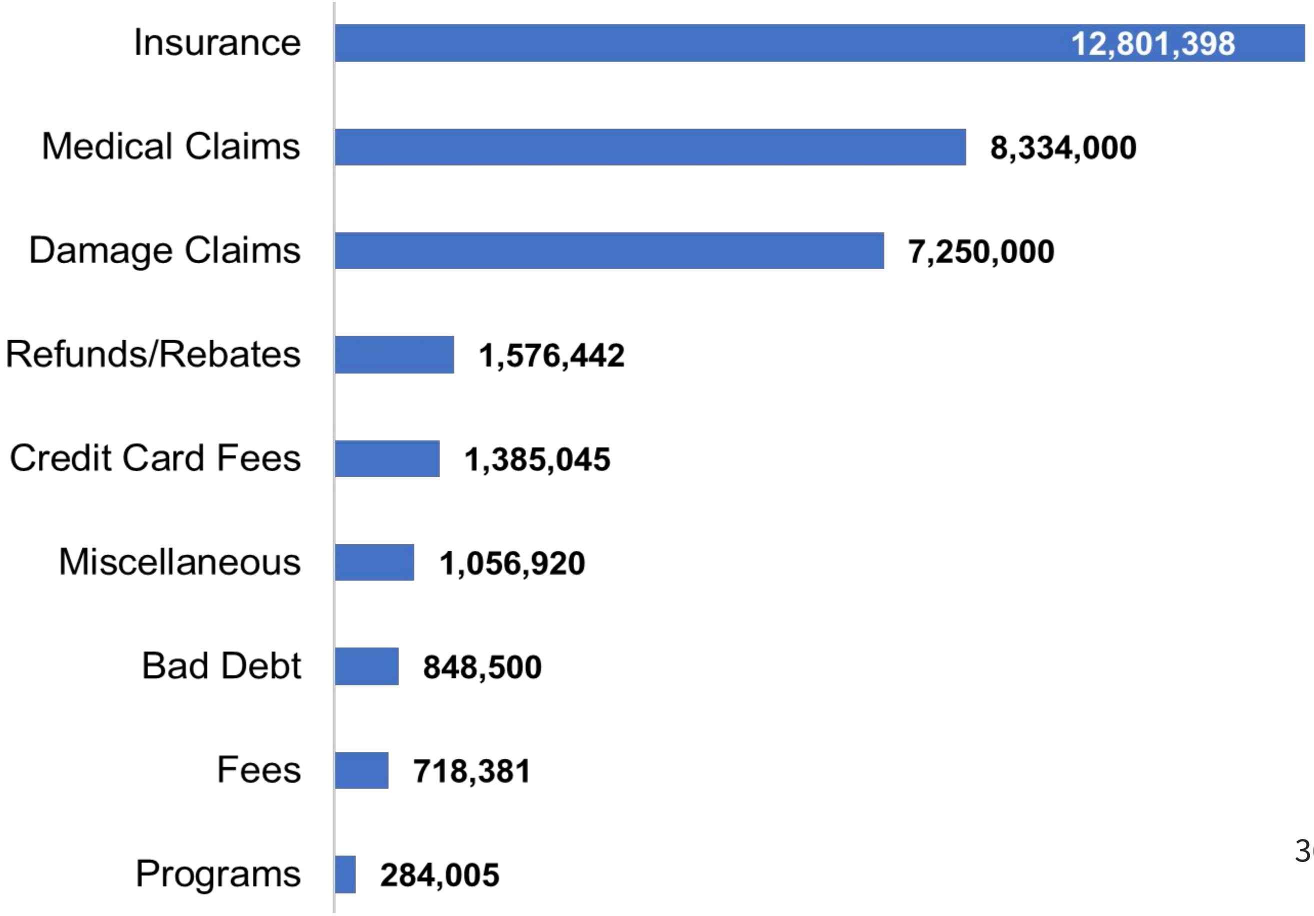
Where the Money Goes



Personnel and Services make up almost half of the expenditures by category, followed by Power Supply which by itself is a 3rd of all City wide expenditures

Miscellaneous Expenditures

Miscellaneous expenses are those that do not fit well in any other accounts/categories such as FMLA administration, legislative cost, retirement tiles, etc.

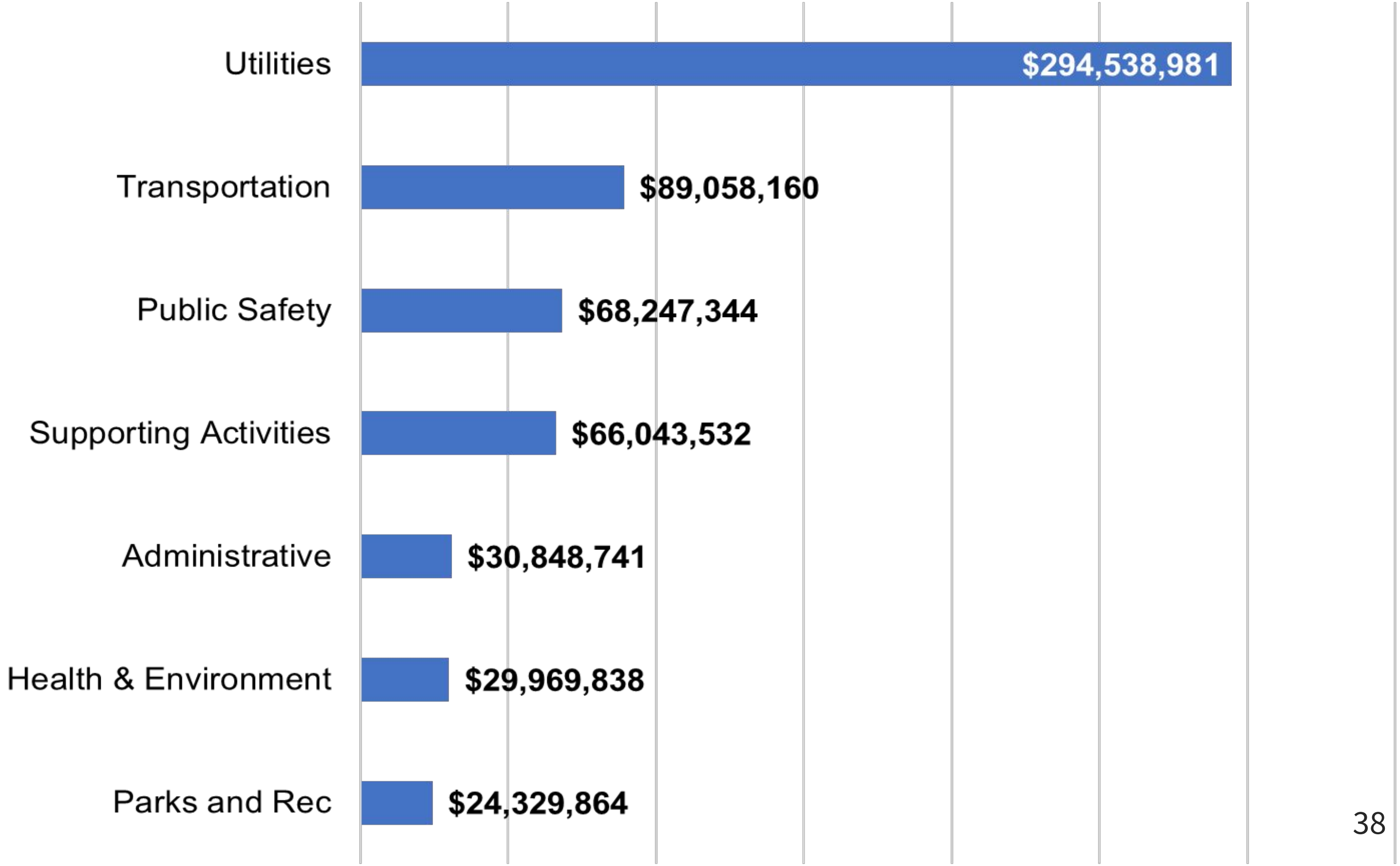


FY27 Proposed Expenditure Comparison

	FY26 Budgeted	FY27 Proposed	% Change	% of FY27 Budget
Personnel Services	$174,640,859	$179,868,256	3.0%	29.8%
Power Supply	$88,841,762	$90,189,551	1.5%	15.0%
Materials & Supplies	$27,355,389	$29,188,283	6.7%	4.8%
Travel & Training	$2,108,545	$2,145,655	1.8%	0.4%
Intragov. Charges	$33,477,279	$33,666,892	0.6%	5.6%
Utilities	$8,180,633	$8,504,382	4.0%	1.4%
Services & Misc.	$137,293,346	$140,503,012	2.3%	23.3%
Capital	$32,283,668	$24,551,893	(23.9%)	4.1%
Transfers	$74,367,049	$64,810,247	(12.9%)	10.7%
Debt Service	$29,544,781	$29,608,289	0.2%	4.9%
Total Expenditures	$608,093,311	$603,036,460	(0.8%)	

Expenditures by Function

Utilities make up nearly half of the total budgeted expenditures for the City, followed by Transportation, and Public Safety



Fund - Year over Year Comparison

	FY26	FY27	Difference
1100 - General Fund	$135,361,435	$133,831,347	($1,530,088)
2190 - Capital Imp. Sales Tax Fund	$16,069,678	$10,763,556	($5,306,122)
2200 - Parks Sales Tax Fund	$22,833,462	$21,419,864	($1,413,598)
2210 - Transportation Sales Tax Fund	$23,549,151	$20,087,907	($3,461,244)
2220 - Public Improvement Fund	$316,969	$190,000	($126,969)
2290 - Convention & Tourism Fund	$4,174,227	$4,294,472	$120,245
2310 - Contributions Fund	$78,893	$76,000	($2,893)
2320 - Mid-Mo Solid Waste Mgt Dist Fund	$218,562	$220,944	$2,382
2660 - CDBG	$1,298,209	$1,309,791	$11,582
3xxx - Debt Service Fund	$1,765,268	$2,025,530	$260,262
4400 - Capital Projects Fund	$30,016,437	$17,311,029	($12,705,408)

Fund - Year over Year Comparison Cont.

	FY26	FY27	Difference
503x - Railroad Fund	$719,420	$1,100,435	$381,015
504x - Transload Facility Fund	$313,465	$371,160	$57,695
550x - Water	$38,397,904	$41,159,903	$2,761,999
551x - Electric Funds	$172,899,873	$177,308,421	$4,408,548
553x - Transit Fund	$8,695,632	$8,559,778	($135,854)
554x - Airport Fund	$8,902,374	$18,914,906	$10,012,532
555x - Sanitary Sewer Utility Fund	$33,565,364	$35,135,580	$1,570,216
556x - Parking Utility Fund	$4,936,666	$5,028,486	$91,820
557x - Solid Waste Utility Fund	$36,302,673	$34,658,970	($1,643,703)
558x - Storm Water Utility Fund	$4,717,248	$6,055,163	$1,337,915

Fund - Year over Year Comparison Cont.

	FY26	FY27	Difference
6590 - Employee Benefit Fund	$24,155,461	$21,978,440	($2,177,021)
6690 - Self Insurance Reserve Fund	$9,010,332	$9,675,868	$665,536
6720 - Fleet Operations Fund	$7,737,143	$9,802,902	$2,065,759
6740 - Information Technology Fund	$13,186,648	$12,480,488	($706,160)
6750 - Public Communications Fund	$0	$3,040,174	$3,040,174
6760 - Utility Customer Services Fund	$3,374,839	$3,652,606	$277,767
6770 - Vehicle & Equipment Replacement Fund	$5,495,978	$2,582,740	($2,913,238)
	$608,093,311	**$603,036,460**	**($5,056,851)**

FY27 Fee Changes

- Community Development is proposing an increase in fees for all application types within the Planning Division by $50.
- Parks and Recreation is proposing to increase fees for hourly rental of the gym, aquatic facility, exercise room, and meeting rooms at the ARC. An increase in fees is also proposed for babysitting and facility “lock-ins” at the ARC. Staff is also proposing to set weekend rental rates of the Armory classroom and conference room, as well as creating pricing ranges for camps and adapted sports and recreation.

FY27 Fee Changes

- Public Health & Human Services is proposing an increase to annual pool fees, retail food inspections, and temporary food inspections. These increases range from $10-$25. Animal related fee increases include animal impoundment, animal boarding animal license with increases ranging from $5-$10. Dangerous and Aggressive Animal permit fee will increase by $75.
- Parking Utility is proposing adjusting the hourly parking rate in garages to match the meter rates approved in FY26 ($1/hour), as well as reducing the amount of "free time" in the garages from 1 hour to 30 minutes.- Rate adjustment

FY27 Fee Changes

- Electric is proposing a 6% increase on Tiers only; no change to base rates
- Sewer is proposing no revenue increase, but adjusting rates to align with the cost of service, as well as an increase to Sewer Connection Fees
- Solid Waste is proposing a 5% revenue increase; individual adjustments vary to align with the cost of service
- Water is proposing a 10% increase to base rates and tiers per the cost of service performed in 2025

Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

- 8/6/26 (Lunch) Budget Town Hall 5 - FY27 Budget Review
- 8/12/26 (Evening) Budget Town Hall 5 - FY27 Budget Review
- 8/17/26 FY27 Budget Public Hearing #1
- 9/8/26 FY27 Budget Public Hearing #2
- 9/21/26 Adoption of the FY27 Budget

FY27 Budget Deadlines

- Council Amendments Due August 13th for inclusion on the August 17th presentation
  - Proposed increases to expenses should be accompanied by a method for offsetting additional costs

city of
Columbia