city of Columbia

FY27 Budget Work Session

All Funds

July 17th, 2026

Photo by Chrissy Daingerfield, Capture COMO 2027

Discussion Points

- Fund Accounting
- Special Revenue Funds
- Debt Service Funds
- Internal Service Funds
- Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

Fund Accounting

- Fund accounting is a specialized accounting system, used primarily by governments, that focuses on accountability over profitability. The primary goal is to track and control the use of financial resources, ensuring that money is used for its intended purposes.
- Resources are divided into "funds" each with its own purpose, restrictions, and legal requirements. Each fund has its own revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and fund balance.

Fund Accounting

- Transfers between funds are internal reallocations of resources, not external revenues or expenses.
- Key reasons for fund transfers under the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) include:
  - Support Operations
  - Fund Capital Projects
  - Debt Service
  - Compliance with Legal or Grant Requirements
  - Reimbursement for Services

Fund Accounting

The City of Columbia budget is made up of six different fund types and each type is unique.

- General Fund - Governmental
- Enterprise Funds
- Special Revenue Funds - Governmental
- Debt Service Funds - Governmental
- Internal Service Funds
- Capital Project Fund - Governmental

Special Revenue **Funds**

Photo by Yazin Ali Merayyan, Capture COMO 2027

What Are Special Revenue Funds

- These are funds that account for specific revenues that are legally restricted for particular purposes.
    - Example: Revenue from the voter approved Parks Sales Tax must go to Parks & Recreation operations and projects

What Are Special Revenue Funds

- Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB)
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME
- Parks & Recreation - Parks Sales Tax (PST)
- Transportation - Transportation Sales Tax (TST)
- Capital Improvement Sales Tax (CIST)
- Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District (MMSWMD)
- Contributions
- Public Improvement Fund (PIF)

Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB)

Total Revenue	$4,790,730
Total Expenditures	$4,294,472
Revenue Over/(Under) Exp.	***$496,258***

Note: A portion of revenues are restricted for the Airport Terminal Bond and a portion of Transfers come from that revenue.

CVB - Operating Cash

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	4,908,684	5,127,952	5,870,486	4,790,730
Total Expenditure	(3,300,614)	(3,554,330)	(3,953,600)	(4,294,472)
Rev. less Hotel Airport Tax	4,061,738	4,211,628	4,863,231	3,983,914
Exp. less Airport Transfer	(2,889,369)	(3,139,985)	(3,223,638)	(3,559,426)
Over/(Under)	1,172,369	1,071,643	1,639,593	424,488
Ending Available Cash	***1,698,900***	***1,918,115***	***3,280,415***	***3,704,903***
20% Cash Reserve Target	577,874	627,997	644,728	701,525
Cash above/below Target	***1,121,026***	***1,290,118***	***2,635,688***	***2,993,018***

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	1,012,209	4,205,143	1,200,014	1,111,646
Total Expenditure	(1,288,655)	(4,499,714)	(2,411,191)	(1,309,791)
Over/(Under)	**(276,446)**	**(294,571)**	**(1,211,177)**	**(198,145)**

Parks & Recreation

Total Revenue	$21,465,199
Total Operating Expenditures	$18,344,864
Total Transfer for Capital	$3,075,000
Revenue Over/(Under) Exp.	***$45,335***

Parks & Recreation Sales Tax is restricted to funding the operations, capital improvements, land acquisitions, major park renovations, trail expansions, and restrooms. (50% is restricted for Parks capital improvements and maintenance)

Parks & Recreation - Operating Cash

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Operating Revenue*	15,717,656	16,261,662	16,570,344	16,812,778
Total Operating Exp.	(15,402,657)	(16,934,422)	(17,194,554)	(17,972,351)
Over/(Under)	314,999	(672,760)	(624,210)	(1,159,573)
Ending Available Cash	***911,757***	***1,936,487***	***1,312,277***	***152,704***

*Includes $5 million in operating subsidy transfers from the General Fund

FY 27 Internal Budget Review Outcomes

- Continue to adjust personnel budgets for part-time staff to meet the current minimum wage requirements while maintaining existing levels of service.
- Delay fleet replacements and purchases for mowers, equipment and vehicles.
- Hold open 2.00 FTE vacant construction staff positions in FY27 as budget cost reduction.

FY 27 Budget Reduction Impacts

- Fleet continues to age due to budget reductions impacting replacement schedules. More than 50% of P&R fleet is over 15 years old and more than 25% is over 20 years old.
- Age and condition of equipment results in potential impacts related to maintenance costs and major repairs.
- Reduction in construction staffing will impact completion of capital improvement projects, as well as the potential increase in the use of contract labor to complete construction projects.

Transportation - Transportation Sales Tax

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	19,434,055	18,956,303	19,372,921	19,602,770
Total Expenditure	(15,200,444)	(20,937,088)	(28,928,971)	(20,087,907)
Over/(Under)	4,233,611	(1,980,785)	(9,556,050)	(485,137)
Ending Available Cash	***24,436,092***	***22,436,000***	***12,879,950***	***12,394,813***

Transportation sales tax funds are explicitly limited to the planning, development, acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation of public transit facilities, systems and roads other than highways.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	9,540,206	9,366,471	9,586,303	9,696,107
Total Expenditure	(6,804,319)	(9,348,381)	(16,069,678)	(10,763,556)
Over/(Under)	2,735,888	18,090	(6,483,375)	(1,067,449)
Ending Available Cash	***8,742,148***	***8,754,454***	***2,271,080***	***1,203,631***

Capital improvement sales tax funds are strictly limited to specific capital projects like infrastructure improvements, major maintenance, equipment purchases, sidewalk maintenance, and public safety.

Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District (Grant)

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	182,241	194,512	199,631	223,640
Total Expenditure	(198,629)	(200,138)	(224,264)	(220,944)
Over/(Under)	**(16,388)**	**(5,626)**	**(24,633)**	**2,696**

Contributions Fund

- The contribution fund accounts for donations that come into the City, and are then transferred to the appropriate departments and projects the donations were intended for.
- FY27 - $76,000 budgeted expense

Debt Service **Funds**

Photo by Kristina Wolf, Capture COMO 2027

What are Debt Service Funds

- The Debt Service Funds are used to account for the payment of principal and interest for all Government Debt.
  - Currently the City has one bonding in the Debt Service Fund. The 2016 Special Obligation Refunding Bond.
  - This Bond was used for the construction of new portion of City Hall.
  - In FY27 an additional Debt Service Fund was established for a designated (internal) loan related to Armory improvements.

Debt Service Funds

	FY24 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	1,838,669	1,819,077	1,836,969	2,067,397
Total Expenditure	(1,757,835)	(1,759,543)	(1,764,023)	(2,025,530)
Over/(Under)	80,834	59,534	72,946	41,867
Ending Available Cash	***1,423,625***	***1,482,040***	***1,554,985***	***1,596,852***

Internal Service Funds

Photo by Yazin Ali Merayyan, Capture COMO 2027

What Are Internal Service Funds

- Internal Service Funds are used to account for goods and services provided by one department to others, on a cost reimbursement basis.
- These costs are typically paid in the form of monthly fees or one time transfers from the departments receiving service to the department providing it.
    - Example: Fleet division provides maintenance to city-owned vehicles from all departments

Internal Service Fund Departments

- Employee Benefit Fund
- Self-Insurance
- Fleet Operations
- Information Technology
- Public Communications (re-established in FY27)
- Utility Customer Service (UCS)
- Vehicle & Equipment Replacement Fund (VERF)

Employee Benefit

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	18,447,853	20,039,240	20,007,194	22,070,892
Total Expenditure	(17,005,856)	(16,108,794)	(17,803,008)	(21,978,440)
Over/(Under)	1,441,997	3,930,446	2,204,186	92,452
Ending Available Cash	***18,328,972***	***22,406,312***	***24,610,498***	***24,702,950***
75% Cash Reserve Target	12,754,392	12,081,595	13,352,256	14,079,491
Cash above/below Target	***5,574,580***	***10,324,717***	***11,258,242***	***10,623,459***

Self-Insurance

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	7,429,298	7,101,165	4,810,592	5,790,167
Total Expenditure	(7,201,987)	(8,495,257)	(8,486,055)	(9,675,868)
Over/(Under)	227,311	(1,394,092)	(3,675,463)	(3,885,701)
Ending Available Cash	***20,760,953***	***20,793,440***	***17,117,977***	***13,232,276***
75% Cash Reserve Target	5,401,490	6,371,443	6,364,541	7,256,901
Cash above/below Target	***15,359,463***	***14,421,997***	***10,753,435***	***5,975,375***

Fleet Operations

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	10,114,655	10,459,660	9,651,440	8,172,645
Total Expenditure	(9,451,146)	(9,827,247)	(9,507,018)	(9,802,902)
Over/(Under)	**663,509**	**632,413**	**144,422**	**(1,630,257)**

In FY27 Fleet's hourly labor rate will increase from $100 to $110.

Information & Technology

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	10,280,132	13,238,164	11,572,353	11,589,449
Total Expenditure	(10,868,542)	(12,078,418)	(12,051,221)	(12,480,488)
Over/(Under)	(588,409)	1,159,745	(478,868)	(891,039)
Ending Available Cash	***1,965,277***	***3,318,033***	***2,839,166***	***1,948,127***

FY27 Internal Budget Review Outcomes

- Delay purchase requests for internal software until FY28.
    - Though not critical to security, these purchases will help streamline employee information and allow another layer of security for email communications.

Public Communications

	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	2,350,265
Total Expenditure	(3,040,174)
Over/(Under)	**(689,909)**

Note: Public Communications will be re-established as an internal service fund in FY 27.

Utility Customer Service (UCS)

	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	3,106,675	3,120,221
Total Expenditure	(3,106,675)	(3,652,606)
Over/(Under)	**-**	**(352,385)**

Note: Utility Customer Service returned to the Internal Service Fund model in FY26. This fund provides an internal service for Utility departments and, as a result, costs are recovered only from the Utilities.

Vehicle & Equipment Replacement Fund

	FY24 Actual	FY25 Actual	FY26 Projected	FY27 Proposed
Total Revenue	6,627,469	1,232,539	6,006,129	3,763,162
Total Expenditure	(3,652,237)	(4,820,865)	(5,435,852)	(2,582,740)
Over/(Under)	2,975,232	(3,588,326)	570,277	(1,180,422)
Ending Available Cash	***5,517,697***	***3,192,885***	***3,763,162***	***2,582,740***

Fiscal Year **2026** Budget

Photo by Yazin Ali Merayyan, Capture COMO 2027

FY27 Proposed Budget

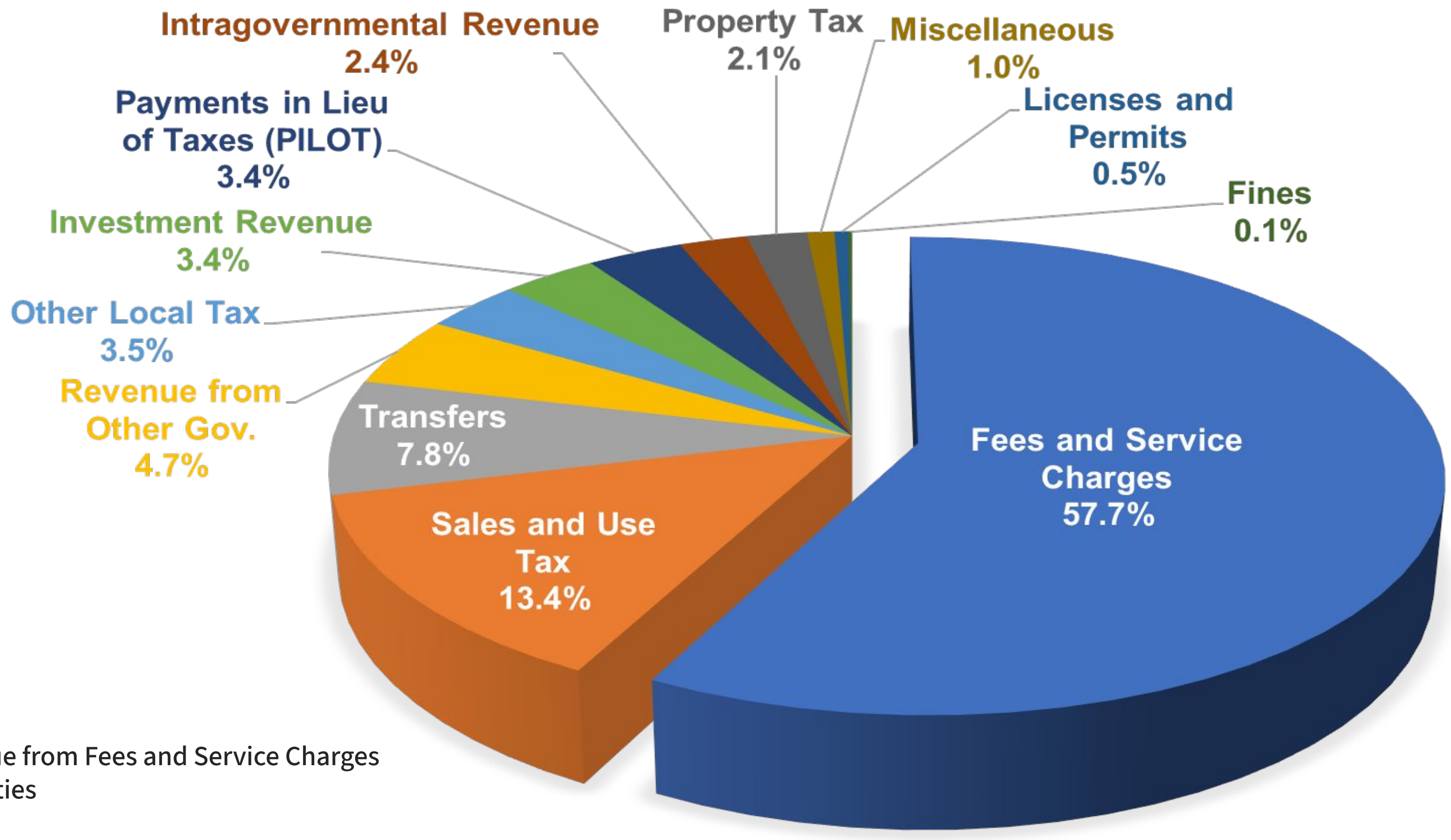
All Funds

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

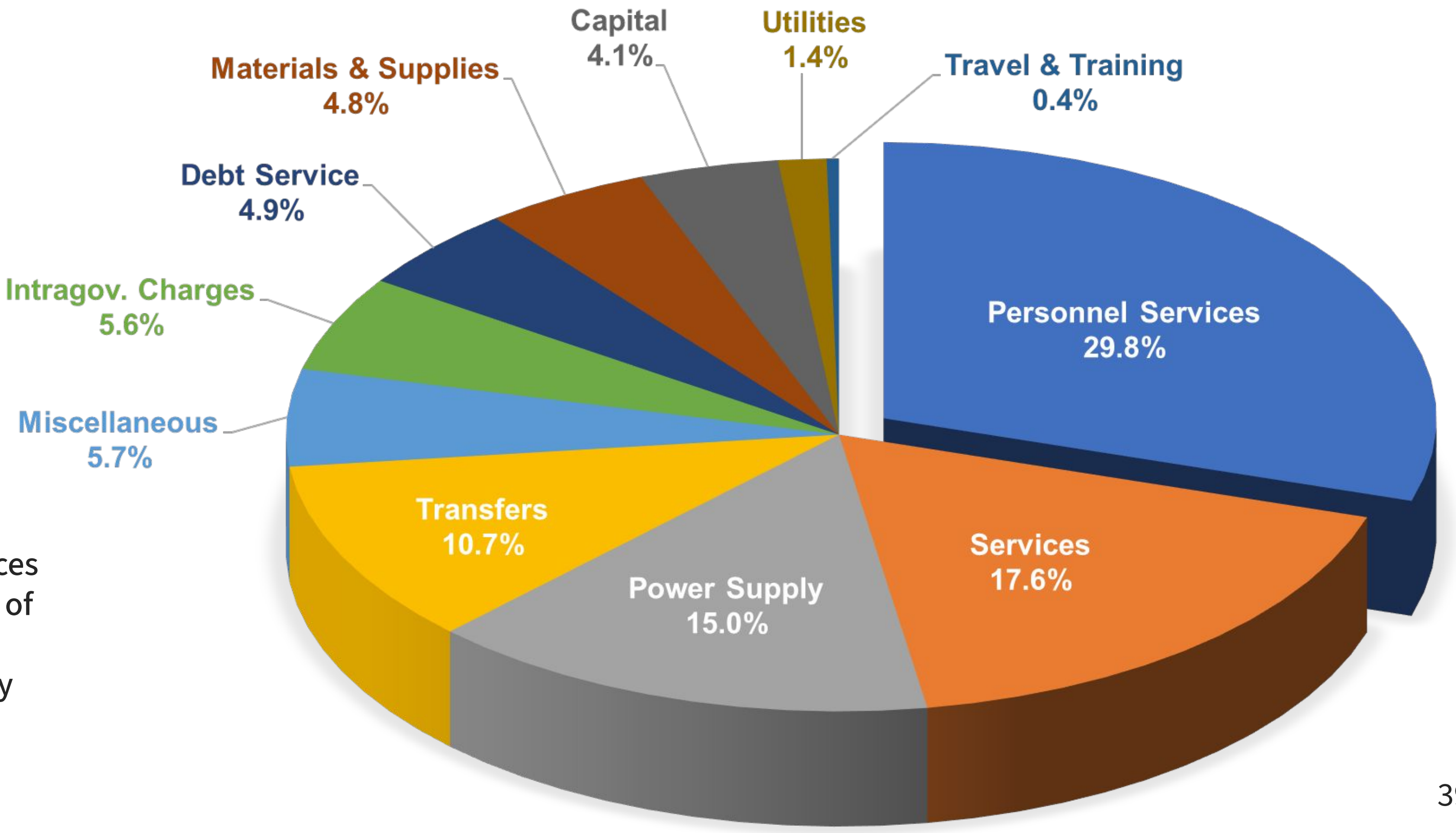


89% of all revenue from Fees and Service Charges comes from Utilities

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%	

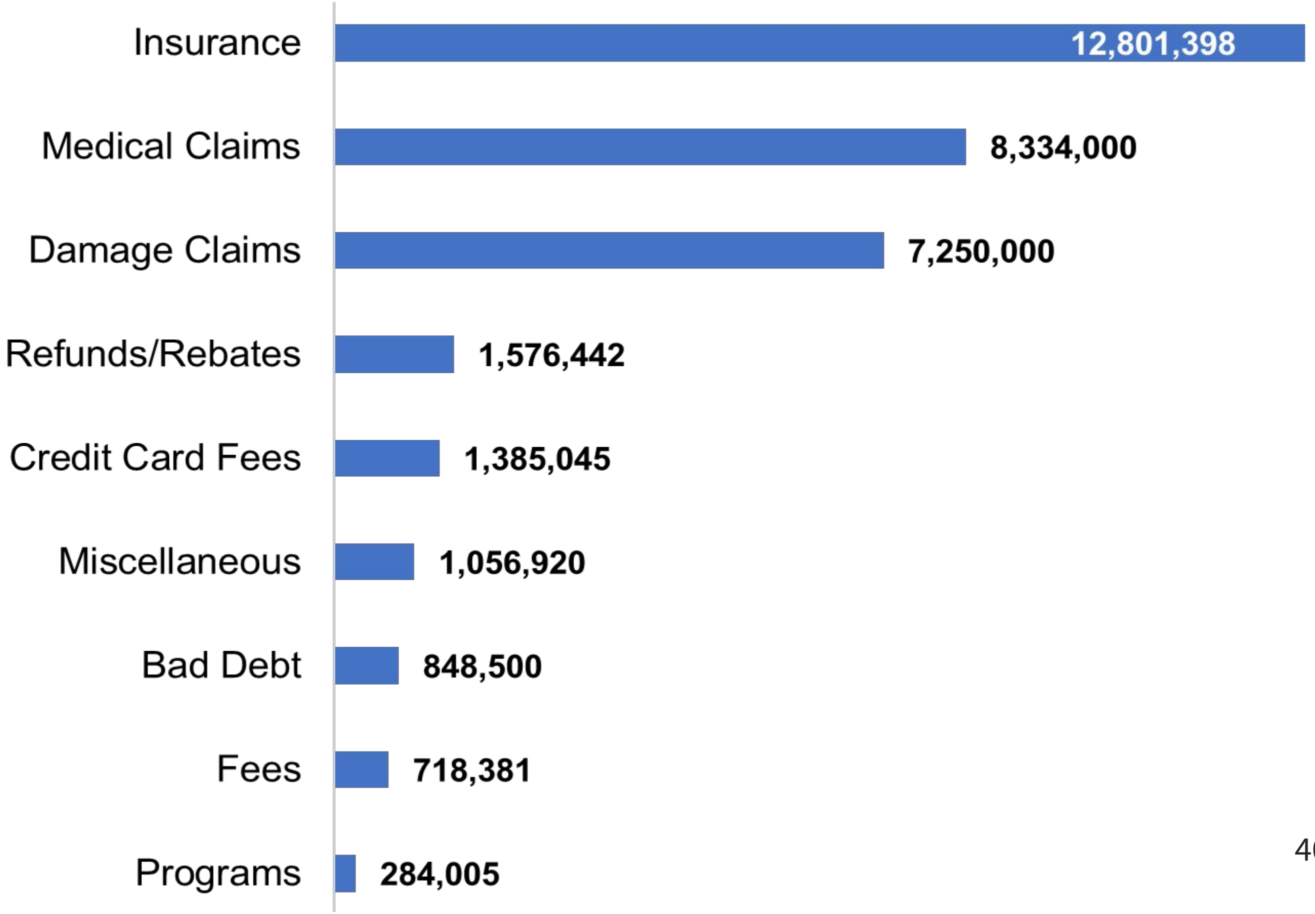
Where the Money Goes



Personnel and Services make up almost half of the expenditures by category, followed by Power Supply

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.

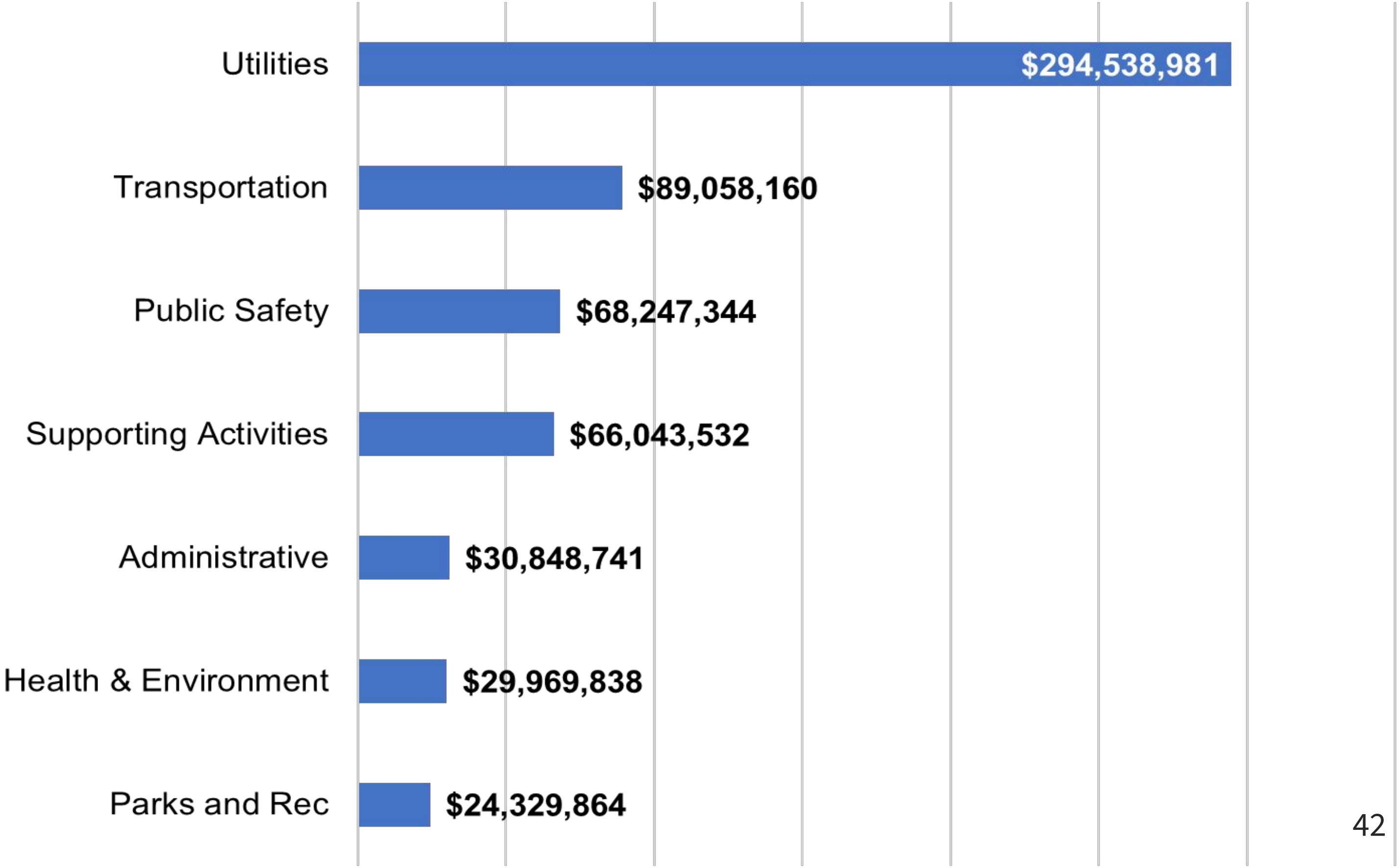


FY27 Proposed Expenditure Comparison

	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



FY27 Approved Position Requests

Fund	Department	Position	FTE
1100	Police	Civilian Investigator	1.00
1100	Police	Forensic Services Supervisor	1.00
1100	Fire	Assistant Fire Marshal	1.00
1100	Health	Public Health Nurse	1.00
1100	Health	Animal Control Officer II	2.00
1100	Housing & Neighborhood Services	Rental Compliance Specialist	1.00
2200	Parks & Recreation	Recreation Supervisor	1.00
5530	Transit	Transit Superintendent	1.00
5530	Transit	Custodian	1.00
5560	Parking	Maintenance Technician II	1.00

FY27 Approved Position Requests Cont.

Fund	Department	Position	FTE
6760	Utility Customer Service	Collections Specialist	1.00
5500	Water	Utility Maintenance Mechanic II	1.00
5500	Water	Utility Maintenance Mechanic III	1.00
5500	Water	Water Operator III	1.00
5500	Water	Utility Service Worker I	1.00
5510	Electric	Apprentice Lineworker	1.00
5510	Electric	Lineworker	1.00
6750	Public Communication	Graphic Artist	1.00
	Total		**19.00**

FY27 Not Approved Position Requests

Fund	Department	Position	FTE
1100	Finance	Compliance Officer*	1.00
1100	Police	Real-Time Information Center Analyst	2.00
1100	Fire	Administrative Technician I	1.00
1100	Housing & Neighborhood Services	Code Enforcement Specialist I*	1.00
1100	Public Works Administration	Public Works Education Coordinator*	1.00
1100	Public Works - Streets & Engineering	Crew Leader - 955*	1.00
1100	Public Works - Streets & Engineering	Equipment Operator - 955*	3.00
2200	Parks & Recreation	Parks Crew Supervisor*	1.00
2200	Parks & Recreation	Recreation Specialist*	1.00
	Total		**12.00**

Note: **Department withdrew during the internal budget review process*

FY27 Vacant Positions Held Open

Fund	Department	Position	FTE
1100	City Manager's Office	Internal Auditor	1.00
1100	Finance	Accounting Assistant I	1.00
1100	Law	Administrative Technician II*	1.00
1100	Municipal Court	Court Services Analyst	0.75
1100	Municipal Court	Deputy City Clerk	1.00
1100	Police	Records & Mgmt Systems Admin	1.00
1100	Police	Police Records Clerk*	1.00
1100	Health	Health Program Coordinator	1.00
1100	Health	Public Health Planning Supervisor	1.00
1100	Housing & Neighborhood Services	Administrative Supervisor II*	1.00
2200	Parks & Recreation	Crew Leader 955	1.00
2200	Parks & Recreation	Maintenance Technician II 955	1.00

**Position budgeted for part of FY 27*

FY27 Vacant Positions Held Open Cont.

Fund	Department	Position	FTE
1100	Public Works - Streets	Engineer	1.00
5570	Solid Waste	Material Handler 955	4.00
5570	Solid Waste	Warehouse Operator 955	1.00
5510	Electric	Lab Technician WL	1.00
5510	Electric	Substation Technician WL	1.00
5510	Electric	Crew Leader Line WL	1.00
5510	Utilities	Administrative Technician I	1.00
5510	Utilities	Administrative Technician II	1.00
5510	Utilities	Rate Analyst I	1.00
	Total		**23.75**

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

Discussion

city of
Columbia