



**MONROE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Finance & Human Resources Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday, July 16, 2019, 5:30 P.M.  
Monroe City Hall, Passport Table

**2019 Committee**  
Councilmembers  
Patsy Cudaback  
Jason Gamble  
Kirk Scarboro

# AGENDA

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Approval Minutes** (Meetings of Tuesday, May 14, 2019 and Tuesday, June 18, 2019) [\[Page 2\]](#)

**III. Unfinished Business**

- A. Reserve Policy – continued (Finance) [\[Page 6\]](#)
- B. Six Year Utilities Financial Forecasts – continued (Finance) [\[Page 27\]](#)

**IV. New Business**

**V. Other**

**VI. Next Committee Meeting** (August 20, 2019, 5:30 p.m.)

Agenda Items: Mid-Year Performance Review Update (HR); 2020 Budget Assumptions (Finance); Begin Travel/Expense Reimbursement Policy Review/Update (Finance); HB1406 (Finance)

**VII. Adjournment**



**MONROE CITY COUNCIL  
Finance & Human Resources Committee  
Meeting**  
Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 5:30 P.M.  
Monroe City Hall

**2019 Committee  
Councilmembers**  
Patsy Cudaback  
Jason Gamble  
Kirk Scarboro

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Monroe City Council Finance & Human Resource Committee was held on May 14, 2019, at Monroe City Hall. The Meeting was called to order by Councilmember Gamble at 5:30 p.m.

Committee Present: Councilmembers Patsy Cudaback; Jason Gamble; and Kirk Scarboro.

Staff Present: Becky Hasart, Finance Director

**II. Approval Minutes** (Meeting of Tuesday, March 12, 2019)

Councilmember Cudaback moved to approve the Finance & Human Resources Committee Meeting minutes of Tuesday, March 12, 2019; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Scarboro. Motion carried (3-0).

**III. Unfinished Business**

Discussion ensued regarding switching the regular meeting date of the Committee to the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

**IV. New Business**

A. 2018 Annual Report (Finance)

Ms. Hasart reviewed the 2018 Annual Report; and highlighted that the City was under budget for all funds and that the report was submitted thirty days prior to the statutory deadline.

B. Six-Year Utilities Financial Forecasts (Finance/Public Works)

Ms. Hasart reviewed the Six-Year Utilities Financial Forecasts and demonstrated how these forecasts can be used to determine utility rates in relation to debt service and capital needs.

General discussion ensued regarding the need to program in appropriate staffing increases to assess the impact to rates. Ms. Hasart indicated that she will work to combine the forecasts into one model to include staffing and bring this item back to a future committee meeting.

**V. Other - NONE**

**VI. Next Committee Meeting** (June 11, 2019, 5:30 p.m.)

The Committee reviewed items for the June Meeting; including: Reserve Policy (Finance); and Development Fees Direct Billing (Finance/Community Development).

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Councilmember Scarboro moved to adjourn the Tuesday, May 14, 2019, Monroe City Council Finance & Human Resource Committee meeting; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Cudaback. Motion carried (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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**MONROE CITY COUNCIL  
Finance & Human Resources Committee  
Meeting**  
Tuesday, June 18, 2019, 5:30 P.M.  
Monroe City Hall

**2019 Committee  
Councilmembers**  
Patsy Cudaback  
Jason Gamble  
Kirk Scarboro

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Monroe City Council Finance & Human Resource Committee was held on June 18, 2019, at Monroe City Hall. The Meeting was called to order by Councilmember Gamble at 5:35 p.m.

Committee Present: Councilmembers Patsy Cudaback; Jason Gamble; and Kirk Scarboro.  
Staff Present: Becky Hasart, Finance Director  
Public Present: Russel Joe, Republic Services; and Clue Westmoreland, Cedar Grove

**II. Approval Minutes (Meeting of Tuesday, May 14, 2019)**

Item pulled from the agenda at the time of the meeting; to be added to next meeting's agenda.

**III. Unfinished Business - NONE**

**IV. New Business**

**A. YMCA Contact Briefing (Finance)**

Ms. Hasart provided an update on the YMCA contract; including the following topics: voucher marketing; reimbursements; and annual maintenance shut-down.

**B. Recycling/Organics Rate Presentation (Republic Services)**

Mr. Joe and Mr. Westmoreland presented information on the City's solid waste and organics recycling; including: partnership between Republic Services and Cedar Grove; surcharge requests; trends strain on existing model; shift in commodity markets and values; recommended recycling model and costs; informing the public; reassessment of acceptable materials; and next steps.

General discussion ensued regarding proposed surcharges; recycling process and alternatives; current contract with Republic Services; plastic bag usage; public education/community outreach; pricing for residential versus commercial; and call center statistics.

**C. Reserve Policy – continued (Finance)**

Ms. Hasart noted this item would be moved to the July Committee Meeting.

**V. Other - NONE**

**VI. Next Committee Meeting** (July 16, 2019, 5:30 p.m.)

The Committee reviewed items for the July Meeting; including: Reserve Policy - continued (Finance); and Six-Year Utility Funds Projections/Modeling - continued (Finance).

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Councilmember Gamble moved to adjourn the Tuesday, June 18, 2019, Monroe City Council Finance & Human Resource Committee meeting; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Scarboro. Motion carried (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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**MONROE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Finance & Human Resources Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 16, 2019, 5:30 P.M.**

**2019 Committee**  
 Councilmembers  
 Patsy Cudaback  
 Jason Gamble  
 Kirk Scarboro

**Agenda Bill**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Reserve Policy – Continued</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	<b>DEPT:</b>	<b>CONTACT:</b>	<b>PRESENTER:</b>	<b>ITEM:</b>
07/16/2019	Finance	Becky Hasart	Becky Hasart	<b>Unfinished Business A.</b>

- Discussion:** 02/12/2019; 06/18/2019; 07/16/2019
- Attachments:**
1. Resolution No. 008/2015 Current City Reserve Fund Policy
  2. 2019 Current Reserve Levels (Budgeted)
  3. GFOA Best Practice Guidelines for General Fund
  4. GFOA Best Practice – Working Capital
  5. RCW 35A.33.145
  6. City of Elgin, Illinois article (cite: GFOA website)

**REQUESTED ACTION:** None - information only. Further discussion and review of staff recommendations will occur at a subsequent committee meeting.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

As we work toward reviewing and potentially updating the City’s reserve policy, the following are the policy questions under consideration:

- Which funds should be included in the reserve policy?
- What is an appropriate level of reserves for each fund? Appropriate measurement?
- What is an appropriate level of reserves for the City as a whole?
- How does each individual fund level relate to the level for the City as a whole?
- How and when can reserves be used?
- If fund levels fall below target, how will the reserves be replenished?

It is a goal of this administration to work with the Council toward adoption of an appropriate updated reserve policy no later than May 2019.

**DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND**

{The terms fund balance and reserves will be used interchangeably throughout this agenda bill.}

The City Council is responsible for all fiscal policies. The City’s current fund balance policy was last updated in 2015. While it is a best practice that is viewed favorably by both the State Auditors and debt ratings services to have an adopted policy, it is also a best practice to periodically review the policy and update if needed.

A strong reserve fund balance policy will address the following areas:

- Why we should maintain a fund balance;
- What is the appropriate level of fund balance;
- How a fund balance may be used; and
- How to replenish a fund balance if it goes below the policy level.

As we review our current policy, it is recommended that we address all four areas (if not already in the policy) in our update. The first and third bullet points are pretty straight forward. The bulk of our discussion will occur in the second and fourth bullet points.

### **What is the appropriate level of fund balance?**

When establishing an appropriate level of fund balance, there are many guidelines which can help inform our analysis. The General Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is a national organization which publishes many guidelines and best practices that meet generally accepted accounting principles for use by all types of governments. Attachment 3, GFOA Best Practice Guidelines for General Fund, is a good starting point as we discuss appropriate reserves for our General Fund and general revenue fund types, such as Fund 105 Streets Operations and Maintenance (O&M).

In the Guidelines for General Fund, the GFOA recommends consideration of the following items when determining an appropriate reserve balance (page 2 of Attachment 3):

- The predictability of revenues and volatility of expenditures;
- The perceived exposure to significant one-time outlays;
- The potential drain on the general fund by other funds;
- The potential impacts to our bond ratings; and
- Our various contractual commitments and assignments.

GFOA does recommend that at a minimum, regardless of the government's size, that an unrestricted fund balance be at least two months of our general fund expenditures, which is our current policy (two months equals seventeen percent).

For our utility funds, fund balance is defined by the GFOA as working capital. Attachment 4, GFOA Best Practice – Working Capital, is a good starting point for discussion regarding an appropriate fund balance level for water, sewer, and storm O&M.

As with the general type funds, GFOA recommends specific items to consider when determining an appropriate fund balance (page 2-3 of Attachment 4). For our purposes, the following are the items most related to our operations:

- Support from the General Fund;
- Transfers out;
- Cash cycles;
- Customer concentration;
- Demand for services;
- Control over rates and revenues;
- Separate targets for operating and capital needs; and
- Debt position.

GFOA does recommend that at a minimum a target of forty-five days of working capital would be the minimum we should target in our policy (forty-five days equals twelve percent). Our current policy does target twelve percent for the three utility O&M funds.

### **Other required reserves.**

In addition to the targeted reserves for the General Fund and utility O&M funds, the City's current reserve fund policy also requires funding a Contingency Fund. RCW 35A.33.145 allows for the ability to have a contingency fund, but does cap the amount at thirty seven and one half cents per each one thousand of assessed value for the entire city (\$0.375 per \$1,000 AV). Per our policy, this is in addition to the seventeen percent held in the General Fund.

Other policy required reserves include Risk Management (Fund 622), Employee Sick Leave (Fund 621), Information Technology Services (Fund 510), Equipment & Fleet Management (Fund 520, Facilities Management (Fund 530), General City Capital (Fund 307), and utility capital funds.

### **How to replenish a fund balance if it goes below the policy level.**

As part of the adopted policy, GFOA recommends that the policy address how reserves would be replenished should the balance fall below target. Various potential sources of replenishment could

include prior year excess reserve over target, banked property tax capacity, rate increases, transfers from non-restricted funds, one-time revenue sources such as construction related sales taxes, etc. When determining the appropriate sources of reserve replenishment (and priority of the sources), we should use the same considerations that are recommended for determining an appropriate reserve level (listed above).

**CITY OF MONROE  
RESOLUTION NO. 008/2015**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
MONROE, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE CITY'S  
ADOPTED RESERVE FUND POLICY BY CLARIFYING  
PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE CITY'S CONTINGENCY  
FUND

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WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Monroe finds that the establishment of reserve requirements are an important element of a fiscally sound financial policy; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Monroe adopted a Reserve Fund Policy through Resolution No. 2012/018; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Monroe intends for the policy to remain aligned with common practice concerning the amount of the City's Contingency Fund while maintaining the intent of the policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONROE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment of Reserve Fund Policy. The Reserve Fund Policy originally adopted pursuant to Resolution No. 2012/018 is hereby amended to provide as set forth in the attached Exhibit A. The Contingency Fund's (002) minimum amounts are hereby designated as goals as indicated by said amendment.

Section 2. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Monroe, at its regular meeting thereof, and APPROVED by the Mayor this 21 day of April, 2015.

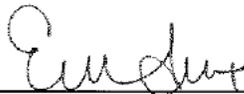
EFFECTIVE: April 21, 2015

CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth M. Smoot, CMC, City Clerk

## EXHIBIT A



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Monroe, WA 98272-2198  
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### **Finance**

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## **Reserve Fund Policy**

### **PURPOSE:**

Establish recommended minimum reserve levels. Reserve should be adequate to moderate the impact of temporary fluctuations in the economy, manage risk and enhance external agencies' evaluation of the City's financial strength.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Fund Balance:** difference between funds' current assets and liabilities.

- Fund Balance Reserved: legally set aside for a specific purpose. Some examples include:
  - Petty Cash (General)
  - Paths & Trails (Street) RCW 47.30.030/050
  - Contributions
- Fund Balance Unreserved Designated: self-imposed limitation by the City.
  - Replacement (Internal Service)
  - Risk Management
  - Personnel Liabilities
  - Contingency Fund RCW 35A.33.145/146
  - Real Estate Excise Tax Funds RCW 82.46.010/035
  - Police Drug and Seized Asset Fund
  - Continuing Appropriation, Project, Grants – established as needed.
- Fund Balance Unreserved Available: may be appropriated as necessary.

**Beginning Fund Balance:** accumulated funding from prior years available for use in the current year.

**Ending Fund Balance:** the excess of beginning fund balance plus current revenues minus current expenditures.

### **POLICY:**

1. Allowable uses of designated, reserved or restricted fund reserves are limited to:
  - a. One-time
    - i. Non-budgeted required expenditures,
    - ii. Non-budgeted expenditures that present a unique opportunity,
    - iii. Revenue shortfalls of a non-recurring nature, such as an economic recession lasting not more than two years,

## EXHIBIT A

- b. Temporary response
    - i. Termination of revenue sources from other governmental bodies,
    - ii. Emergency financing,
    - iii. Adverse changes in the economy,
    - iv. Utility rate stabilization,
  - c. Planned
    - i. Maintenance or replacement of facilities and equipment,
    - ii. Additions to assets of the City,
    - iii. Expenditures for insurance and other significant items,
    - iv. Security provisions of debt agreements,
    - v. Appropriation of revenues to next budget year beginning fund balance.
2. Reserves shall not be used as a continuing supplement to the operating budget.
  3. City Council shall approve all expenditures of designated, reserved or restricted reserves by ordinance or resolution.
  4. During a declared emergency the Mayor may approve expenditures of available reserves. Per the City of Monroe's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, the Proclamation of Emergency shall at the earliest practicable time be presented to the City Council for ratification and confirmation, modification, or rejection, and if rejected, shall be void.
  5. Reserves shall be replenished at a rate that does not impair established programs or create undue hardship.
  6. The Finance Director shall administer the policy:
    - a. Develop and implement procedures for administering this policy,
    - b. Ensure compliance with policy and state law.

### TARGETED RESERVE BALANCES:

#### 001 - General Fund

This fund is used for all basic governmental services and operations.

- **Fund Type** – General Fund only
- **Monroe Policy** – 17% of budgeted operating expenditures. This target reserve balance shall be met before any reserve is set aside in the Contingency Fund.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – This is the equivalent of two months of operating expenditures. While the rule of thumb for personal finances is to have three month's salary in savings, since property tax revenue is virtually guaranteed through RCW, less than three month's is needed for governmental operations.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** Yes, provided the used is approved by the city council.

#### 002 - Contingency Fund

This fund is used for one-time only (non-operational) fiscal opportunities for the city, at the City Council's discretion.

- **Fund Type** – General Fund only

## EXHIBIT A

- **Monroe [POLICY]Goal** – minimum of 8% of operating expenditures of the General Fund. This reserve shall not be funded until the ending fund balance requirement of the General Fund is met.
- **Why the [POLICY]goal is set to this amount** - per RCW 35A.33.145, shall not exceed 37.5 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of property within the city. Maintained to meet unusual or catastrophic uninsured loss, or to take advantage of unforeseen opportunities.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** Yes. RCW 35A.33.145 requires (i) an ordinance or resolution passed by a majority of the whole Council, (ii) containing a statement explaining the reason for the release/transfer, and (iii) where applicable, specifying identity of the recipient fund.

### 622 - Risk Management Fund

This fund is used to cover claims against the city that are not covered by the city's liability insurance policy.

- **Fund Type** – General Fund only
- **Monroe Policy** – minimum amount equal to 1% of the current year's General Fund expenditure budget.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – most cases are covered by insurance, very few would fall in this category. There is a \$1,000 deductible for each claim, and if the city had a large amount of claims, those deductible can come from this reserve.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.

### 621 - Employee Sick Leave Reserve

This fund is used to cover payouts of accrued sick leave amounts to employees leaving employment with the city.

- **Fund Type** – Both General Fund and Utilities based on employees
- **Monroe Policy** – amount equal to 1% of the current year's General Fund revenue budget.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – the level of this reserve is based on a review of the past ten years' worth of payouts.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.

### 510 - Info Technology Services Fund

This fund is used for all operations, equipment replacements, upgrades and acquisitions for anything related to information technology. It includes all computers, servers, printers, photocopiers, and phone systems among other items.

- **Fund Type** – Both General Fund and Utilities based on equipment usage ratio
- **Monroe Policy** – amount equal to the greater of next year's 'Info & Tech Replacement Plan' and the average of the next 3 years. This reserve shall not be funded until the General Fund reserve balance is met.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – One of the concerns of this account was that purchases would keep getting deferred into "next year" and eventually the

## EXHIBIT A

city would be left with an unrealistic amount when it all came due. By taking the greater of the next year amount and the average of the next three years, funds should always be put aside ahead of time and not wait until the last minute.

- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.

### 520 - Equipment & Fleet Management Fund

This fund is used for all operations, replacements and acquisitions of all city vehicles and major equipment.

- **Fund Type** – Both General Fund and Utilities based on equipment and fleet usage ratio
- **Monroe Policy** – amount equal to the greater of next year's 'Equipment & Fleet Replacement Plan' and the average of the next 6 years. This reserve shall not be funded until the General Fund reserve balance is met.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** - One of the concerns of this account was that purchases would keep getting deferred into "next year" and eventually the city would be left with an unrealistic amount when it all came due. By taking the greater of the next year amount and the average of the next six years, funds should always be put aside ahead of time and not wait until the last minute.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.

### 530 - Facilities Management Fund

This fund is used for operations, repairs and improvements to all city owned buildings.

- **Fund Type** – Both General Fund and Utilities based on square footage
- **Monroe Policy** – amount equal to the greater of next year's 'Facilities Replacement Plan' and the average of the next 6 years. This reserve shall not be funded until the General Fund reserve balance is met.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** - One of the concerns of this account was that purchases would keep getting deferred into "next year" and eventually the city would be left with an unrealistic amount when it all came due. By taking the greater of the next year amount and the average of the next six years, funds should always be put aside ahead of time and not wait until the last minute.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.

### 307 - Capital Improvement Projects Fund

This fund is used for tracking capital construction projects for municipal facilities or infrastructures that are not parks or street related.

- **Fund Type** – Portion of fuel tax revenue from Street Fund
- **Monroe Policy** – 0.42% fuel tax collected from previous year is added each year to the reserve.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – per RCW 47.30.030/050, amount credited to the reserve each year shall be at least 0.42 percent of the total amount of funds received from the motor vehicle fuel tax. These funds must be used for capital expenses for paths or trails. Must be expended within ten years of receipt. Use determined by the Parks Director in accordance with the City's budget.

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- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes? No.**

### 411 - Water Fund

This fund is used for all operations of the water utility.

- **Fund Type - Utilities**
- **Monroe Policy** – 45 days operating expense, 12% of budgeted operating expense.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – this represents 45 days of operating expenses. Most emergencies would be covered by insurance or FEMA. Rates can be adjusted at any time per city council action to meet the needs of operations and comply with debt requirements. This reserve would most likely be used as interim funding until insurance or permanent funding was in place.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes? No.**

### 412 – Water CIP Fund

This fund is used to track capital construction projects for the water utility.

- **Fund Type - Utilities**
- **Monroe Policy** – minimum of 1% of net fixed assets.
- **Why the policy is set for this amount** – this amount is for unforeseen contingencies on capital construction projects. Most costs are known for construction projects before they are started. All construction project budgets carry a small percentage for contingencies. This reserve would cover any needs in excess of the budgeted contingency, and is not anticipated to be used.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes? No.**
- **Restricted for debt** – as determined by lending agreements, frequently 1.25 coverage ratio on revenue bonds.

### 421 - Sewer Fund

This fund is used for all operations of the sewer utility, both collection and treatment.

- **Fund Type – Utilities**
- **Monroe Policy** – 45 days operating expense, 12% of budgeted operating expense.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – this represents 45 days of operating expenses. Most emergencies would be covered by insurance or FEMA. Rates can be adjusted at any time per city council action to meet the needs of operations and comply with debt requirements. This reserve would most likely be used as interim funding until insurance or permanent funding was in place.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes? No.**

### 422 – Sewer CIP Fund

This fund is used to track capital construction projects for the sewer utility.

- **Fund Type - Utilities**
- **Monroe Policy** – minimum of 1% of net fixed assets.

## EXHIBIT A

- **Why the policy is set for this amount** – this amount is for unforeseen contingencies on capital construction projects. Most costs are known for construction projects before they are started. All construction project budgets carry a small percentage for contingencies. This reserve would cover any needs in excess of the budgeted contingency, and is not anticipated to be used.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.
- **Restricted for debt** – as determined by lending agreements, frequently 1.25 coverage ratio on revenue bonds.

### 431 - Stormwater Fund

This fund is used for all operation of the stormwater utility.

- **Fund Type** – Utilities
- **Monroe Policy** – 45 days operating expense, 12% of budgeted operating expense.
- **Why the policy is set to this amount** – this represents 45 days of operating expenses. Most emergencies would be covered by insurance or FEMA. Rates can be adjusted at any time per city council action to meet the needs of operations and comply with debt requirements. This reserve would most likely be used as interim funding until insurance or permanent funding was in place.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.

### 432 – Stormwater CIP Fund

This fund is used to track capital construction projects for the stormwater utility.

- **Fund Type** - Utilities
- **Monroe Policy** – minimum of 1% of net fixed assets
- **Why the policy is set for this amount** – this amount is for unforeseen contingencies on capital construction projects. Most costs are known for construction projects before they are started. All construction project budgets carry a small percentage for contingencies. This reserve would cover any needs in excess of the budgeted contingency, and is not anticipated to be used.
- **Can funds from here be used for other purposes?** No.
- **Restricted for debt** – as determined by lending agreements, frequently 1.25 coverage ratio on revenue bonds.

### Consistency with State Law and Budget

- This policy is intended to be construed in a manner consistent with applicable provisions of State law and the City's adopted budget. In the event of any irreconcilable conflict between any provision of this policy and either State law or the City's budget, the provision of State law or the City's budget shall control.

2019 Current Reserve Levels (Budgeted)					
Fund No.	Fund Name	Budgeted Amount	Target	Policy Required	Notes
F001	General Fund	2,875,083	2,479,945	Y	Budgeted amount includes \$63,374 in restricted reserves. Unrestricted frequently exceeds targeted amount (For FY 2019, \$331,764)
F002	Contingency	975,760	975,760	Y	Changes each year based on assessed value. Is trued up with first amendment.
F105	Street O&M	292,801	NA	N	
F307	Capital Improvement Projects	0	0	Y	Target amount is the statutorily required hold for trails from gas taxes. Trails money in F317 (Parks CIP)
F317	Parks CIP	33,740	33,740	N	While not required by our policy, is required by statute (0.42% of fuel tax collected) and fluctuates depending on use
F411	Water O&M	638,359	638,359	Y	Each year, excess over reserve is transferred to the corresponding capital fund.
F412	Water CIP	4,158,329	TBD	Y	
F421	Sewer O&M	847,945	847,945	Y	Each year, excess over reserve is transferred to the corresponding capital fund.
F422	Sewer CIP	6,990,247	TBD	Y	
F431	Stormwater O&M	235,178	235,178	Y	Each year, excess over reserve is transferred to the corresponding capital fund.
F432	Stormwater CIP	175,484	TBD	Y	
F510	Info Technology Services	152,069	NA	Y	Amount is 19% of budgeted expenses
F520	Equip & Fleet Management	4,548,489	4,260,270	Y	Amount is \$288,219 over target
F530	Facilities Management	75,911	NA	Y	Amount is 5% of budgeted expenses
	Subtotal	21,999,395	9,471,197		
F621	Employee Sick Leave	425,000	425,000	Y	Fund is not budgeted (trust fund). Amount exceeds policy but is only about 1/3 of our potential liability.
F622	Risk Management	148,898	148,898	Y	Fund is not budgeted (trust fund)
	Subtotal	573,898	573,898		
	Total all reserve	22,573,293	10,045,095		
	Total without capital funds	6,700,744	5,784,825		



Government Finance Officers Association

## BEST PRACTICE

# Fund Balance Guidelines for the General Fund

### BACKGROUND:

In the context of financial reporting, the term *fund balance* is used to describe the net position of governmental funds calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Budget professionals commonly use this same term to describe the net position of governmental funds calculated on a government's budgetary basis.<sup>1</sup> While in both cases *fund balance* is intended to serve as a measure of the financial resources available in a governmental fund; it is essential that differences between GAAP *fund balance* and budgetary *fund balance* be fully appreciated.

1. GAAP financial statements report up to five separate categories of fund balance based on the type and source of constraints placed on how resources can be spent (presented in descending order from most constraining to least constraining): *nonspendable fund balance*, *restricted fund balance*, *committed fund balance*, *assigned fund balance*, and *unassigned fund balance*.<sup>2</sup> The total of the amounts in these last three categories (where the only constraint on spending, if any, is imposed by the government itself) is termed *unrestricted fund balance*. In contrast, budgetary fund balance, while it is subject to the same constraints on spending as GAAP fund balance, typically represents simply the total amount accumulated from prior years at a point in time.
2. The calculation of GAAP fund balance and budgetary fund balance sometimes is complicated by the use of sub-funds within the general fund. In such cases, GAAP fund balance includes amounts from all of the subfunds, whereas budgetary fund balance typically does not.
3. Often the timing of the recognition of revenues and expenditures is different for purposes of GAAP financial reporting and budgeting. For example, encumbrances arising from purchase orders often are recognized as expenditures for budgetary purposes, but never for the preparation of GAAP financial statements.

The effect of these and other differences on the amounts reported as *GAAP fund balance* and *budgetary fund balance* in the general fund should be clarified, understood, and documented.

It is essential that governments maintain adequate levels of fund balance to mitigate current and future risks (e.g., revenue shortfalls and unanticipated expenditures) and to ensure stable tax rates.

In most cases, discussions of fund balance will properly focus on a government's general fund. Nonetheless, financial resources available in other funds should also be considered in assessing the adequacy of unrestricted fund balance in the general fund.

### RECOMMENDATION:

GFOA recommends that governments establish a formal policy on the level of unrestricted fund balance that should be maintained in the general fund for GAAP and budgetary purposes.<sup>3</sup> Such a guideline should be set by the appropriate policy body and articulate a framework and process for how the government would increase or decrease the level of unrestricted fund balance over a specific time period.<sup>4</sup> In particular, governments should provide broad guidance in the policy for how resources will be directed to replenish fund balance should the balance fall below the level prescribed.

*Appropriate Level.* The adequacy of unrestricted fund balance in the general fund should take into account each government's own unique circumstances. For example, governments that may be vulnerable to natural disasters, more dependent on a volatile revenue source, or potentially subject to cuts in state aid and/or federal grants may need to maintain a higher level in the unrestricted fund balance. Articulating these risks in a fund balance policy makes it easier to explain to stakeholders the rationale for a seemingly higher than normal level of fund balance that protects taxpayers and employees from unexpected changes in financial condition. Nevertheless, GFOA recommends, at a minimum, that general-purpose governments, regardless of size, maintain unrestricted budgetary fund balance in their general fund of no less than two months of regular general fund operating revenues or regular general fund operating expenditures.<sup>5</sup> The choice of revenues or expenditures as a basis of comparison may be dictated by what is more predictable in a government's particular circumstances.<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, a government's particular situation often may require a level of unrestricted fund balance in the general fund significantly in excess of this recommended minimum level. In any case, such measures should be applied within the context of long-term forecasting, thereby avoiding the risk of placing too much emphasis upon the level of unrestricted fund balance in the general fund at any one time. In establishing a policy governing the level of unrestricted fund balance in the general fund, a government should consider a variety of factors, including:

2 mo = 17%

1. The predictability of its revenues and the volatility of its expenditures (i.e., higher levels of unrestricted fund balance may be needed if significant revenue sources are subject to unpredictable fluctuations or if operating expenditures are highly volatile);
2. Its perceived exposure to significant one-time outlays (e.g., disasters, immediate capital needs, state budget cuts);
3. The potential drain upon general fund resources from other funds, as well as, the availability of resources in other funds;
4. The potential impact on the entity's bond ratings and the corresponding increased cost of borrowed funds;
5. Commitments and assignments (i.e., governments may wish to maintain higher levels of unrestricted fund balance to compensate for any portion of unrestricted fund balance already committed or assigned by the government for a specific purpose). Governments may deem it appropriate to exclude from consideration resources that have been committed or assigned to some other purpose and focus on unassigned fund balance, rather than on unrestricted fund balance.

#### *Use and Replenishment.*

The fund balance policy should define conditions warranting its use, and if a fund balance falls below the government's policy level, a solid plan to replenish it. In that context, the fund balance policy should:

1. Define the time period within which and contingencies for which fund balances will be used;
2. Describe how the government's expenditure and/or revenue levels will be adjusted to match any new economic realities that are behind the use of fund balance as a financing bridge;

3. Describe the time period over which the components of fund balance will be replenished and the means by which they will be replenished.

Generally, governments should seek to replenish their fund balances within one to three years of use. Specifically, factors influencing the replenishment time horizon include:

1. The budgetary reasons behind the fund balance targets;
2. Recovering from an extreme event;
3. Political continuity;
4. Financial planning time horizons;
5. Long-term forecasts and economic conditions;
6. External financing expectations.

Revenue sources that would typically be looked to for replenishment of a fund balance include nonrecurring revenues, budget surpluses, and excess resources in other funds (if legally permissible and there is a defensible rationale). Year-end surpluses are an appropriate source for replenishing fund balance.

*Unrestricted Fund Balance Above Formal Policy Requirement.* In some cases, governments can find themselves in a position with an amount of unrestricted fund balance in the general fund over their formal policy reserve requirement even after taking into account potential financial risks in the foreseeable future. Amounts over the formal policy may reflect a structural trend, in which case governments should consider a policy as to how this would be addressed. Additionally, an education or communication strategy, or at a minimum, explanation of large changes in fund balance is encouraged. In all cases, use of those funds should be prohibited as a funding source for ongoing recurring expenditures.

**Notes:**

1. For the sake of clarity, this recommended practice uses the terms GAAP fund balance and budgetary fund balance to distinguish these two different uses of the same term.
2. These categories are set forth in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*.
3. Sometimes restricted fund balance includes resources available to finance items that typically would require the use of unrestricted fund balance (e.g., a contingency reserve). In that case, such amounts should be included as part of unrestricted fund balance for purposes of analysis.
4. See Recommended Practice 4.1 of the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting governments on the need to "maintain a prudent level of financial resources to protect against reducing service levels or raising taxes and fees because of temporary revenue shortfalls or unpredicted one-time expenditures" (Recommended Practice 4.1).
5. In practice, a level of unrestricted fund balance significantly lower than the recommended minimum may be appropriate for states and America's largest governments (e.g., cities, counties, and school districts) because they often are in a better position to predict contingencies (for the same reason that an insurance company can more readily predict the number of accidents for a pool of 500,000 drivers than for a pool of fifty), and because their revenues and expenditures often are more diversified and thus potentially less subject to volatility.
6. In either case, unusual items that would distort trends (e.g., one-time revenues and expenditures) should be excluded, whereas recurring transfers should be included. Once the

decision has been made to compare unrestricted fund balance to either revenues and/or expenditures, that decision should be followed consistently from period to period.

*This best practice was previously titled **Appropriate Level of Unrestricted Fund Balance in the General Fund.***

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3.



Government Finance Officers Association

## BEST PRACTICE

# Working Capital Targets for Enterprise Funds (Utilities)

**BACKGROUND:** *working capital = reserves*

Enterprise funds distinguish between current and non-current assets and liabilities. It is possible to take advantage of this distinction to calculate working capital (i.e., current assets less current liabilities). The measure of working capital indicates the relatively liquid portion of total enterprise fund capital, which constitutes a margin or buffer for meeting obligations.

It is essential that a government maintain adequate levels of working capital in its enterprise funds to mitigate current and future risks (e.g., revenue shortfalls and unanticipated expenses) and to ensure stable services and fees.

Working capital is a crucial consideration, too, in long-term financial planning. Credit rating agencies consider the availability of working capital in their evaluations of continued creditworthiness. Likewise, laws and regulations may speak to appropriate levels of working capital for some enterprise funds.

### RECOMMENDATION:

GFOA recommends that local governments adopt a target amount of working capital to maintain in each of their enterprise funds. Ideally, targets would be formally described in a financial policy and/or financial plan.

GFOA recommends that governments use working capital as the measure of available margin or buffer in enterprise funds. Although as previously stated, working capital is defined as current assets minus current liabilities, government finance officers should be aware of certain characteristics of working capital that affect its use as a measure. Specifically, the "current assets" portion of working capital includes assets or resources that are reasonably expected to be realized in cash (e.g., accounts receivable) or consumed (e.g., inventories and prepaids) within a year, which leads to two considerations for an accurate calculation of working capital:

- **Strength of collection practices.** An appropriate allowance for uncollectibles should be established and the amount of the receivable that is expected to be collected in cash within one year should be determined in a manner that is consistent with the collection practices of the government. If the accounts receivable collection practices of the enterprise fund are inconsistent or weak, then less of the accounts receivable amount should be reported as current assets.

- **Historical consumption of inventories and prepaids.** The amount of inventories and prepaids included in current assets should be a realistic estimate of the amount that will be consumed in one year based on a historical usage pattern and current operating levels (inventories) or based on the time periods to which the items relate (prepaids).

Because the purposes, customers, and other characteristics of enterprise funds can vary widely, GFOA recommends that governments develop a target amount of working capital that best fits local conditions for each fund. However, GFOA recommends that under no circumstances should the target for working capital be less than forty-five (45) days worth of annual operating expenses<sup>1</sup> and other working capital needs of the enterprise fund.\* A target of 45-days would only be appropriate for those enterprise funds with the least amount of need for cushion or buffer.

45 days = 12%

In order to arrive at a customized target amount of working capital, governments should start with a baseline of ninety (90) days worth of working capital and then adjust the target based on the particular characteristics of the enterprise fund in question (using 45 days as the minimum acceptable level). The primary characteristics to think about when customizing a working capital target are presented below. The appendix to this Best Practices provides more detailed considerations for these characteristics as they pertain to common types of government enterprise funds.

- **Support from general government.** Some enterprise funds may be supported by general taxes or transfers from a general government. These enterprise funds may require lower levels of working capital if they are supported by these contributors. For a heavily subsidized enterprise fund the 45-day minimum working capital recommendation contained in this Best Practice might be met through support from the general government, if a financial buffer or cushion for the enterprise fund is to be provided by the general government (or other outside contributor).
- **Transfers out.** If the enterprise fund is expected to make a transfer to the general government or to some other fund, then this sort of claim on the enterprise fund's assets may call for higher levels of working capital to maintain flexibility. Transfers could include an enterprise fund's contributions to overhead/support functions, subsidies granted to other operations, or any other transfer of resources. Regardless of the rationale of the transfer, governments should take into account the claim on working capital when setting a target amount.
- **Cash cycles.** Does the enterprise fund experience large peaks and valleys in its cash position during the year? For example, a water enterprise fund may experience significantly higher levels of cash on hand during the summer months compared to the winter. Volatile cash cycles call for higher levels of working capital. Another consideration is the length of the billing cycle. A longer billing cycle would call for higher levels of working capital because the enterprise fund will have longer durations between major infusions of cash.
- **Customer concentration.** Is the enterprise fund dependent on a few customers for a large portion of its revenues or is the customer base diversified? For example, a port enterprise fund may be dependent on a few major shippers or commerce in a niche product. Lower customer concentration may mean that the enterprise fund can safely operate with lower levels of working capital.
- **Demand for services.** Does the enterprise fund face a steady demand for service or is demand potentially volatile, thereby leading to volatility in of income? For example, the demand for utility services is steady compared to demand for air travel. Also consider the impact of competitive position on demand. Direct competitors or the availability of reasonable

substitutes could lead to greater volatility in demand for the enterprise fund's services. More volatility implies greater need for working capital margins.

- **Control over rates and revenues.** Does the enterprise fund have the ability to change rates, implement new charges, or otherwise raise revenues from its customers in a simple fashion? For example, transit enterprise funds are often constrained from raising rates by political pressure. Other enterprise funds may be subject to a rate control board. Those that face competitors in their market may have less effective control over their rates and revenues. More revenue constrained enterprise funds may need higher levels of working capital.
- **Asset age and condition.** What is the age and condition of the enterprise fund's infrastructure? Older infrastructure has greater exposure to extraordinary repair needs. Enterprise funds with newer and/or well maintained capital assets may be able to operate with less working capital than other enterprise funds.
- **Volatility of expenses.** Are the expenses of the enterprise fund volatile or does the enterprise fund have a high degree of control over its expenses? For example, the expenses of a solid waste enterprise fund tend to be fairly stable throughout the year. In another example, water or sewer enterprise funds may be more vulnerable to large expense spikes from extreme weather. Enterprise funds with more stable expenses can safely operate with less working capital than other enterprise funds.
- **Control over expenses.** Consider the enterprise fund's level of fixed and variable costs and the ability to reduce variable costs in response to lower revenues. For instance, if a convention center does not book an event, it does not need to hire temporary help and incur other expenditures in support of the event. An enterprise fund with a high percentage of operational costs which vary depending upon revenues or operating levels may operate with lower levels of working capital.
- **Management plans for working capital.** Working capital includes assets, which can include both truly unrestricted resources and resources that have internal limitations placed upon them (e.g., board-designated) and/or that may be committed for future capital spending. These amounts may appear as unrestricted on the balance sheet but, in actuality, may be unavailable in the future to serve as a buffer or tool to help manage financial risk. If these types of limitations exist, the working capital target should be adjusted to arrive at an amount that represents a true amount available as a tool to manage financial risk.
- **Separate targets for operating and capital needs.** Depending on the nature of the enterprise fund, governments might also consider designating separate targets for operating and capital needs, especially when the enterprise fund is very capital intensive. For example, there might be a separate amount identified for equipment replacement or debt service. In such a case, targets should be separately evaluated based on the particular features of the isolated amounts.
- **Debt position.** Enterprise funds often carry significant amounts of debt, which is used to acquire capital assets. The amount and type of debt an enterprise fund carries can have important ramifications for working capital targets. For example, an enterprise fund with a large amount of variable rate debt may need additional buffer to manage the risk associated with interest rate volatility. In addition, uneven and increasing or lump-sum debt principal payments to be made in future years may raise the amount of working capital that the enterprise fund should maintain. Viewing the amount of working capital in this broader context will help ensure that resources are available to make debt payments as they come due.

#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The recommendation is to use annual operating expenses which include depreciation expense. If, however, annual depreciation expense is significantly more or less than the anticipated capital outlays of the next period to be paid from working capital consideration should be given to adjusting

the benchmark. An appropriate adjusted benchmark may be annual operating expenses - annual depreciation expense + capital outlays of the next period to be paid from working capital.

\* Subject to the exception for heavily subsidized enterprises, described later in this Best Practice.

*This best practice was previously titled Determining the Appropriate Levels of Working Capital in Enterprise Funds.*

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## **RCW 35A.33.145**

### **Contingency fund—Creation.**

Every code city may create and maintain a contingency fund to provide moneys with which to meet any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of adopting the annual budget, or from which to provide moneys for those emergencies described in RCW **35A.33.080** and **35A.33.090**. Such fund may be supported by a budget appropriation from any tax or other revenue source not restricted in use by law, or also may be supported by a transfer from other unexpended or decreased funds made available by ordinance as set forth in RCW **35A.33.120**: PROVIDED, That the total amount accumulated in such fund at any time shall not exceed the equivalent of thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of property within the city at such time. Any moneys in the contingency fund at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse except upon reappropriation by the council to another fund in the adoption of a subsequent budget.

[ 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 28; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.145.]

### **NOTES:**

**Severability—Effective dates and termination dates**  
**—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW **84.52.043**.

## General Fund Reserves Help Boost Bond Ratings

Thursday, January 14, 2016

Since the recession of 2008, economic conditions have fluctuated between adequate and poor for the City of Elgin, Illinois, but it has been able to stabilize its bond rating through strong financial policies – most notably, those governing its general fund reserve levels. In fiscal 2009, on the heels of the largest economic downturn in recent history, Elgin’s revenue picture looked uncertain. The city had demonstrated sound financial stewardship but couldn’t escape the impact of broader, nation-wide, economic conditions. And despite cutting spending by approximately 10%, as well as adopting a new service delivery model, Elgin was worried about its bond rating – the city simply wasn’t in a position to absorb increased borrowing costs.

The Finance Department therefore identified several financial objectives for the coming years and drafted them into formally adopted financial policies. One objective was to maintain or upgrade Elgin’s bond rating by Standard and Poor’s (AA+), Fitch Ratings Services (AA+) and/or Moody’s Investors Service (Aa2). Making such an explicit statement provided focus, giving the city a clear and easily quantifiable target.

Determining how to achieve this goal was the next step. The city met the challenge by creating additional policies requiring the city to keep cash reserves at 16% to 19% of annual expenditures. The commitment did not go unnoticed by the rating agencies, ultimately resulting in the city gaining AAA status on its general obligation bonds from Fitch Ratings in 2015. Among the positive factors the agency noted were “very strong liquidity in unrestricted government cash and short-term investments” and “very strong budgetary flexibility [due to] available reserves.” The rating agency’s Financial Management Assessment methodology also found the city’s management conditions to be very strong because of its financial policies and practices.

For more information on Elgin’s financial policies and bond rating, please visit the city’s website.

From GFOA website



**MONROE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Finance & Human Resources Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 16, 2019, 5:30 P.M.**

**2019 Committee**  
 Councilmembers  
 Jason Gamble  
 Kirk Scarboro  
 Patsy Cudaback

**Agenda Bill**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Six Year Utilities Financial Forecasts - continued</b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	<b>DEPT:</b>	<b>CONTACT:</b>	<b>PRESENTER:</b>	<b>ITEM:</b>
07/16/2019	Finance	Becky Hasart	Becky Hasart	<b>Unfinished Business B.</b>

- Discussion:** Council meetings 01/28/2019 and 04/30/2019; 05/14/2019; 07/16/2019
- Attachments:**
1. Six Year Stormwater Financial Projection
  2. Six Year Water Financial Projection
  3. Six Year Sewer Financial Projection – Updated
  4. Monroe Six Year Capital Improvement Plan – Updated draft
  5. Utility Rates and Charges page 153 of Municipal Research Services Center’s (MRSC) Revenue Guide for Washington Cities and Towns

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Develop a 2020 rate structure for water, sewer, and stormwater to recommend to the full council for adoption as part of the 2020 City Budget process.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

*The Council is responsible for adopting the City’s budget, which sets the policy for staffing and program levels of service (RCW 35A.33.080), to include capital projects and appropriate user fees.*

*Any city that has an established utility must set an appropriate rate to recover costs (RCW 35.92 and 35A.80). The City operates three utilities: water, sewer, and stormwater. A best practice to determine appropriate rates is to project a rolling six year forecast to include capital and staffing needs that best supports regulatory requirements and the City’s accepted levels of service.*

**DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND**

At the January 28, 2019, Council Workshop, Mayor Thomas and city staff outlined alternative funding sources for the Street and Stormwater Funds. This is part of the Six-Year Strategic Plan to develop a holistic approach for funding street operations and maintenance. The holistic approach includes stormwater funding consideration, given the close relationship and frequent overlap between street operations and maintenance and stormwater activities.

The City Council reviewed the resources available for street operations and maintenance versus the expenditures since 2014. Staff is continuing to develop recommendations for the Street Fund as part of the Mayor’s 2020 Recommended Budget.

The City Council also reviewed resources available for the Stormwater Utility. As discussed on January 28, 2019, the Stormwater Capital identified in the City’s Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) requires significant resources for the Blueberry Lane infiltration (\$2.8 million), Blueberry/Kelsey infiltration (\$1.2 million), and the Lake Tye Bio-swale (\$132,000).

As discussed in January, city staff performed a forward looking assessment for both Stormwater (Attachment 1) and Water (Attachment 2). Staff also reassessed the Sewer Fund (Attachment 3).

Stormwater Operations and Maintenance

Stormwater O&M are accounted for separately than Stormwater Capital in the City’s budget (Funds 431 and 432 respectively). Unlike the streets O&M, stormwater O&M and its related capital are supported by rates, not taxes. The last rate study the City conducted (in 2015) identified a

regular four percent (4%) yearly increase through 2021. These rates are meant to fund both O&M and capital. 2019's single family stormwater rate is \$12.28 per month. Other stormwater revenues include interest earnings, development review fees, grants when available, etc. The current rate structure has been sufficient to cover operations and maintenance needs, but continues to fall short regarding capital needs.

### Stormwater Capital

Stormwater capital is primarily funded by a sweep from the stormwater O&M fund. After O&M expenses, any revenue above the twelve percent (12%) target reserve per the City's reserve policy and utility management best practices is transferred to the capital fund. This "sweep" is then held in the capital fund until such time as the balance can cover the costs of the identified capital projects. A secondary revenue stream for stormwater capital would be grants, when available. The City's last significant grant for stormwater was in 2015 for Lewis Street.

The following two tables illustrates the resources available for stormwater capital after funding O&M needs:

*Table 2: Fund 432 Stormwater Capital revenue over/under expenses*

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 B	2019 B
2	Beginning Fund Balance	1,216,297.12	1,505,819.13	1,287,745.98	1,008,491.03	698,887.00	707,084.00
3	Transfer In from O&M	515,000.00	165,000.00	0.00	0.00	321,108.00	83,500.00
4	Remaining revenues	1,308,383.96	895,804.66	7,213.58	8,347.71	7,083.00	272,214.00
5	Total Resources	3,039,681.08	2,566,623.79	1,294,959.56	1,016,838.74	1,027,078.00	1,062,798.00
6	Total Expenses	1,533,861.95	1,278,877.81	286,468.53	317,951.32	928,293.00	887,314.00
7	Ending Fund Balance	<b>1,505,819.13</b>	<b>1,287,745.98</b>	<b>1,008,491.03</b>	<b>698,887.42</b>	<b>98,785.00</b>	<b>175,484.00</b>

*Table 3: Stormwater 6 Year Capital Improvement Plan versus estimated available resources.*

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
5	Total Resources	1,062,798.00	175,484.00	(3,658,620.00)	(5,353,999.00)	(5,545,031.00)	(6,156,663.00)
6	Total Projected Capital	887,314.00	3,834,104.00	1,695,379.00	191,032.00	611,632.00	103,600.00
7	Difference	<b>175,484.00</b>	<b>(3,658,620.00)</b>	<b>(5,353,999.00)</b>	<b>(5,545,031.00)</b>	<b>(6,156,663.00)</b>	<b>(6,260,263.00)</b>

As illustrated in Table 2, the revenue sweep from the stormwater O&M fund is volatile and does not occur each year (line 3). Other items of note regarding the stormwater capital funding include:

- The 2019 capital expenditures budget is for design only for Blueberry Lane infiltration, Blueberry/Kelsey infiltration, and the Lake Tye Bio-swale. Capital construction for these three projects are scheduled for 2020 and 2021, pending availability of funds.
- Table 3 represents the cost estimates identified for stormwater capital in the City's 6 Year Capital Improvement Plan for years 2019 through 2024. These costs are netted against the anticipated fund balance carry overs year to year. The fund balances do not yet include any future revenue sweeps from stormwater O&M, any potential grant funding, or any potential revenue bond proceeds.

### Alternatives

The attached Utility Fund assessments review rate sufficiency versus operations and maintenance as well as current and future capital needs. For the Stormwater Fund, the options listed below, and reviewed at the meeting on January 28, 2019, were evaluated, including the assessment of the utility tax to help support street operations and maintenance:

- Evaluate a stormwater utility rate to cover the cost of proposed capital improvements (Table 4). Raising the utility rate while maintaining existing levels of O&M service should increase the available resources which can be transferred into the capital fund. The evaluation would include prioritizing a six year Stormwater Capital Improvement Plan.

- Decrease the O&M levels of service to allow additional resources to be swept into the capital fund without adjusting existing rates. This option would be difficult. Many of the activities associated with the stormwater utility are mandated by state and federal regulations. Those items that could be absorbed back into street O&M would increase the challenges faced by that fund.
- Adopt a general facility charge (GFC) for stormwater similar to what is assessed for the water and sewer utilities. In the past, it was determined that the stormwater utility did not have the economy of scale to support the need for a general facility charge. As we continue to grow, this may no longer apply. However, a GFC would take time to grow to a level significant enough to help support capital needs.
- Continue to aggressively pursue grant opportunities and delay capital construction until grants are available and awarded. Pursuing grants are an ongoing effort by the Public Works department.
- Issue revenue bonds to cover capital needs. During 2018, the City adopted a formal debt policy, which includes guidance on when and how to issue revenue bonds. If issuing bonds, rate revenue must be sufficient to accommodate the increase to the utilities debt payment obligations.

At the April 30, 2019 Council Retreat, Council assigned the utilities rate forecasting to the Finance Committee. For tonight, the Finance Committee will work with the forecasting models developed by staff to determine an appropriate recommendation to make to the Mayor and Council for consideration with the 2020 City Budget.

**Six Year Stormwater Financial Projection**

	2019 Projected	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>OPERATIONS</b>						
Beginning Fund Balance	\$325,680	\$265,602	\$239,986	\$250,304	\$272,052	\$283,743
Service Charges	\$1,879,415	\$1,978,272	\$2,082,329	\$2,191,860	\$2,307,152	\$2,428,508
Grants	\$27,846	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Charges for Services	\$31,337	\$31,337	\$31,337	\$31,337	\$31,337	\$31,337
Misc. Revenues	\$8,240	\$6,312	\$5,799	\$6,006	\$6,441	\$6,674
Other/Transfer In	\$12,646					
<b>subtotal revenues</b>	<b>\$2,285,164</b>	<b>\$2,281,523</b>	<b>\$2,359,452</b>	<b>\$2,479,507</b>	<b>\$2,616,982</b>	<b>\$2,750,262</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Salaries (10)	\$586,993	\$616,343	\$647,160	\$679,518	\$713,494	\$749,168
Benefits (20)	\$294,753	\$324,228	\$356,651	\$392,316	\$431,548	\$474,703
Supplies (30)	\$33,899	\$34,916	\$35,963	\$37,042	\$38,154	\$39,298
Professional Svcs (40)	\$639,184	\$658,360	\$678,110	\$698,454	\$719,407	\$740,989
Intergovernmental (50)	\$147,068	\$148,921	\$150,797	\$152,698	\$154,621	\$156,570
Utility Tax						
Other Transfers (90)	\$91,106	\$7,606	\$7,606	\$7,606	\$7,606	\$7,606
Capital (60)	\$27,846	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>subtotal expenses</b>	<b>\$1,820,849</b>	<b>\$1,790,373</b>	<b>\$1,876,288</b>	<b>\$1,967,633</b>	<b>\$2,064,830</b>	<b>\$2,168,334</b>
<b>rev over/under exp</b>	<b>\$464,315</b>	<b>\$491,149</b>	<b>\$483,164</b>	<b>\$511,873</b>	<b>\$552,152</b>	<b>\$581,927</b>
Debt Service (70-80)	\$198,713	\$217,119	\$217,181	\$307,075	\$307,301	\$298,708
Subtotal Fund Balance	\$265,602	\$274,031	\$265,983	\$204,798	\$244,851	\$283,219
reserve target	\$231,415	\$239,986	\$250,304	\$272,052	\$283,743	\$295,132
Amount to transfer to CIP	\$34,187	\$34,044	\$15,679	(\$67,254)	(\$38,892)	(\$11,913)
<b>CAPITAL</b>						
Beginning Fund Balance	\$724,473	\$493,310	(\$944,117)	(\$3,101,663)	(\$3,811,621)	(\$4,952,293)
Bond Proceeds/loans			\$900,000			
Blueberry Grant			\$2,600,000			
Transfer In from Operations	\$341,573	\$34,044	\$15,679	(\$67,254)	(\$38,892)	(\$11,913)
Interest Earnings & Other	\$10,061	\$9,866	(\$18,882)	(\$62,033)	(\$76,232)	(\$99,045)
Capital Fees	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>subtotal revenues</b>	<b>\$1,076,107</b>	<b>\$537,220</b>	<b>\$2,552,680</b>	<b>(\$3,230,950)</b>	<b>(\$3,926,745)</b>	<b>(\$5,063,251)</b>
Salaries	\$196,368	\$206,186	\$216,496	\$227,321	\$238,687	\$250,621
Benefits	\$86,329	\$94,962	\$104,458	\$114,904	\$126,394	\$139,034
Charges for Services	\$43,390	\$44,692	\$46,033	\$47,414	\$48,836	\$50,301
Capital	\$256,710	\$1,135,497	\$5,287,356	\$191,032	\$611,632	\$103,600
Utility Tax						
<b>subtotal expenses</b>	<b>\$582,797</b>	<b>\$1,481,337</b>	<b>\$5,654,343</b>	<b>\$580,670</b>	<b>\$1,025,549</b>	<b>\$543,556</b>
<b>rev over/under exp (EFB)</b>	<b>\$493,310</b>	<b>(\$944,117)</b>	<b>(\$3,101,663)</b>	<b>(\$3,811,621)</b>	<b>(\$4,952,293)</b>	<b>(\$5,606,807)</b>
<i>total available for debt coverage</i>	\$474,376	\$501,015	\$464,282	\$449,840	\$475,920	\$482,882
<i>debt service</i>	\$198,713	\$217,119	\$217,181	\$307,075	\$307,301	\$298,708
debt service ratio (>1.25)	2.39	2.31	2.14	1.46	1.55	1.62
<b>Total Utility Tax to General Fund</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Monthly rate per ERU	\$12.28	\$12.77	\$13.28	\$13.81	\$14.37	\$14.94

**Six Year Water Financial Projection**

	2019 Projected	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>OPERATIONS</b>						
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 1,242,171	\$ 933,820	\$ 670,114	\$ 697,741	\$ 713,569	\$ 728,395
Service Charges	\$ 5,606,905 <small>8.76%</small>	\$ 6,098,070 <small>8.76%</small>	\$ 6,632,261 <small>8.76%</small>	\$ 7,213,247 <small>8.76%</small>	\$ 7,845,127 <small>8.76%</small>	\$ 8,532,360 <small>8.76%</small>
DOC Revenue	\$ 694,822 <small>0.00%</small>					
Charges for Services	\$ 214,508 <small>1.26%</small>	\$ 217,211 <small>1.26%</small>	\$ 219,948 <small>1.26%</small>	\$ 222,719 <small>1.26%</small>	\$ 225,525 <small>1.26%</small>	\$ 228,367 <small>1.26%</small>
Misc. Revenues	\$ 58,124 <small>2.00%</small>	\$ 20,376 <small>2.00%</small>	\$ 15,102 <small>2.00%</small>	\$ 15,654 <small>2.00%</small>	\$ 15,971 <small>2.00%</small>	\$ 16,267 <small>2.00%</small>
Other/Transfer In	\$ 34,937					
subtotal revenues	\$ 7,851,467	\$ 7,964,299	\$ 8,232,246	\$ 8,844,183	\$ 9,495,014	\$ 10,200,211
Expenditures						
Salaries (10)	\$ 611,976	\$ 642,575	\$ 674,704	\$ 708,439	\$ 743,861	\$ 781,054
Benefits (20)	\$ 298,571	\$ 328,428	\$ 361,271	\$ 397,398	\$ 437,138	\$ 480,852
Supplies (30)	\$ 1,803,765	\$ 1,857,878	\$ 1,913,614	\$ 1,971,023	\$ 2,030,153	\$ 2,091,058
Professional Svcs (40)	\$ 942,355	\$ 970,626	\$ 999,744	\$ 1,029,737	\$ 1,060,629	\$ 1,092,448
Intergovernmental (50)	\$ 301,395	\$ 327,797	\$ 356,512	\$ 387,743	\$ 421,709	\$ 458,651
Utility Tax	\$ 657,434	\$ 703,047	\$ 756,212	\$ 814,643	\$ 878,144	\$ 947,181
Other Transfers (90)	\$ 1,607,211	\$ 9,625	\$ 9,625	\$ 9,625	\$ 9,625	\$ 9,625
Capital (60)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
subtotal expenses	\$ 6,222,707	\$ 4,839,976	\$ 5,071,682	\$ 5,318,607	\$ 5,581,259	\$ 5,860,868
rev over/under exp	\$ 1,628,760	\$ 3,124,323	\$ 3,160,564	\$ 3,525,576	\$ 3,913,756	\$ 4,339,343
Debt Service (70-80)	\$ 694,940	\$ 753,931	\$ 752,449	\$ 637,424	\$ 498,322	\$ 465,705
Subtotal Fund Balance	\$ 933,820	\$ 2,370,391	\$ 2,408,115	\$ 2,888,152	\$ 3,415,434	\$ 3,873,638
reserve target	\$ 637,252	\$ 670,114	\$ 697,741	\$ 713,569	\$ 728,395	\$ 758,034
Amount to transfer to CIP	\$ 296,568	\$ 1,700,278	\$ 1,710,374	\$ 2,174,583	\$ 2,687,039	\$ 3,115,605
<b>CAPITAL</b>						
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 7,179,696	\$ 4,119,107	\$ 2,138,804	\$ 1,538,048	\$ 2,747,426	\$ 1,625,178
Bond Proceeds			\$ -			
Transfer In from Operations	\$ 1,597,586	\$ 1,700,278	\$ 1,710,374	\$ 2,174,583	\$ 2,687,039	\$ 3,115,605
Interest Earnings & Other	\$ 76,200	\$ 83,382	\$ 43,776	\$ 31,760	\$ 55,948	\$ 33,503
Capital Fees	\$ 633,094	\$ 894,720	\$ 745,600	\$ 596,480	\$ 596,480	\$ 596,480
subtotal revenues	\$ 9,486,576	\$ 6,797,486	\$ 4,638,555	\$ 4,340,871	\$ 6,086,893	\$ 5,370,765
Salaries	\$ 202,020	\$ 212,121	\$ 222,727	\$ 233,863	\$ 245,556	\$ 257,834
Benefits	\$ 88,759	\$ 97,635	\$ 107,398	\$ 118,138	\$ 129,952	\$ 142,947
Charges for Services	\$ 75,352 <small>3.00%</small>	\$ 77,613 <small>3.00%</small>	\$ 79,941 <small>3.00%</small>	\$ 82,339 <small>3.00%</small>	\$ 84,809 <small>3.00%</small>	\$ 87,353 <small>3.00%</small>
Capital	\$ 4,930,408	\$ 4,173,502	\$ 2,611,503	\$ 1,096,281	\$ 3,936,155	\$ 1,743,614
Utility Tax	\$ 70,930	\$ 97,811	\$ 78,938	\$ 62,824	\$ 65,243	\$ 62,999
subtotal expenses	\$ 5,367,469	\$ 4,658,682	\$ 3,100,507	\$ 1,593,445	\$ 4,461,715	\$ 2,294,747
rev over/under exp (EFB)	\$ 4,119,107	\$ 2,138,804	\$ 1,538,048	\$ 2,747,426	\$ 1,625,178	\$ 3,076,018
total available for debt coverage	\$ 2,338,054	\$ 4,102,425	\$ 3,949,940	\$ 4,153,816	\$ 4,566,184	\$ 4,969,326
debt service	\$ 694,940	\$ 753,931	\$ 752,449	\$ 637,424	\$ 498,322	\$ 465,705
debt service ratio (>1.25)	3.36	5.44	5.25	6.52	9.16	10.67
Total Utility Tax to General Fund	\$ 728,364	\$ 800,858	\$ 835,150	\$ 877,467	\$ 943,387	\$ 1,010,180
Monthly base rate	\$ 24.23	\$ 26.05	\$ 28.00	\$ 30.10	\$ 32.36	\$ 34.79

**Six Year Sewer Financial Projection**

	2019 Projected	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>OPERATIONS</b>						
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 1,101,589	\$ 829,280	\$ 843,073	\$ 861,358	\$ 878,303	\$ 851,037
Service Charges	\$ 6,570,000	1.26% \$ 6,652,782	1.26% \$ 6,736,607	1.26% \$ 6,821,488	1.26% \$ 6,907,439	1.26% \$ 6,994,473
DOC Revenue	\$ 1,300,000	0.00% \$ 1,300,000	0.00% \$ 1,300,000	0.00% \$ 1,300,000	0.00% \$ 1,300,000	0.00% \$ 1,300,000
Charges for Services	\$ 38,460	0.00% \$ 38,460	0.00% \$ 38,460	0.00% \$ 38,460	0.00% \$ 38,460	0.00% \$ 38,460
Misc. Revenues	\$ 27,264	2.00% \$ 19,285	2.00% \$ 19,561	2.00% \$ 19,927	2.00% \$ 20,266	2.00% \$ 19,720
Other/Transfer In	\$ 94,930					
<b>subtotal revenues</b>	<b>\$ 9,132,243</b>	<b>\$ 8,839,807</b>	<b>\$ 8,937,701</b>	<b>\$ 9,041,234</b>	<b>\$ 9,144,468</b>	<b>\$ 9,203,690</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Salaries (10)	\$ 1,026,678	\$ 1,078,012	\$ 1,131,912	\$ 1,188,508	\$ 1,247,934	\$ 1,310,330
Benefits (20)	\$ 485,913	\$ 534,504	\$ 587,955	\$ 646,750	\$ 711,425	\$ 782,568
Supplies (30)	\$ 412,385	\$ 424,757	\$ 437,499	\$ 450,624	\$ 464,143	\$ 478,067
Professional Svcs (40)	\$ 1,904,829	\$ 1,961,974	\$ 2,020,833	\$ 2,081,458	\$ 2,143,902	\$ 2,208,219
Intergovernmental (50)	\$ 285,526	\$ 297,689	\$ 310,371	\$ 323,593	\$ 337,378	\$ 351,750
Utility Tax	\$ 793,572	\$ 801,052	\$ 809,462	\$ 817,987	\$ 826,615	\$ 835,264
Other Transfers (90)	\$ 874,273	\$ 15,500	\$ 15,500	\$ 15,500	\$ 15,500	\$ 15,500
Transfer Out - F530 (90)	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital (60)	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>subtotal expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,843,176</b>	<b>\$ 5,163,488</b>	<b>\$ 5,313,533</b>	<b>\$ 5,524,420</b>	<b>\$ 5,746,896</b>	<b>\$ 5,981,698</b>
rev over/under exp	\$ 3,289,067	\$ 3,676,319	\$ 3,624,168	\$ 3,516,813	\$ 3,397,572	\$ 3,221,991
Debt Service (70-80)	\$ 1,941,763	\$ 1,877,617	\$ 1,879,953	\$ 1,810,272	\$ 1,360,577	\$ 1,397,790
Subtotal Fund Balance	\$ 1,347,304	\$ 1,798,702	\$ 1,744,215	\$ 1,706,541	\$ 2,036,995	\$ 1,824,201
reserve target	\$ 829,280	\$ 843,073	\$ 861,358	\$ 878,303	\$ 851,037	\$ 883,679
Amount to transfer to CIP	\$ 518,024	\$ 955,629	\$ 882,857	\$ 828,238	\$ 1,185,958	\$ 940,523
<b>CAPITAL</b>						
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 7,621,515	\$ 7,251,810	\$ 5,980,307	\$ 6,542,272	\$ 4,889,552	\$ 3,773,281
Bond Proceeds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer In from Operations	\$ 858,796	\$ 955,629	\$ 882,857	\$ 828,238	\$ 1,185,958	\$ 940,523
Interest Earnings & Other	\$ 113,510	\$ 145,056	\$ 119,626	\$ 130,865	\$ 97,811	\$ 75,485
Capital Fees	\$ 1,043,840	\$ 894,720	\$ 745,600	\$ 596,480	\$ 596,480	\$ 596,480
<b>subtotal revenues</b>	<b>\$ 9,637,661</b>	<b>\$ 9,247,215</b>	<b>\$ 12,728,390</b>	<b>\$ 8,097,855</b>	<b>\$ 6,769,801</b>	<b>\$ 5,385,769</b>
Salaries	\$ 204,200	\$ 214,410	\$ 225,131	\$ 236,387	\$ 248,206	\$ 260,617
Benefits	\$ 90,000	\$ 99,000	\$ 108,900	\$ 119,790	\$ 131,769	\$ 144,946
Charges for Services	\$ 107,690	3.00% \$ 110,921	3.00% \$ 114,249	3.00% \$ 117,676	3.00% \$ 121,206	3.00% \$ 124,842
Capital	\$ 1,868,226	\$ 2,738,599	\$ 5,651,316	\$ 2,661,715	\$ 2,425,908	\$ 858,683
Utility Tax	\$ 115,735	\$ 103,978	\$ 86,523	\$ 72,735	\$ 69,430	\$ 67,197
<b>subtotal expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,385,851</b>	<b>\$ 3,266,908</b>	<b>\$ 6,186,119</b>	<b>\$ 3,208,303</b>	<b>\$ 2,996,519</b>	<b>\$ 1,456,285</b>
rev over/under exp (EFB)	\$ 7,251,810	\$ 5,980,307	\$ 6,542,272	\$ 4,889,552	\$ 3,773,281	\$ 3,929,484
<i>total available for debt coverage</i>	\$ 4,446,417	\$ 4,716,095	\$ 4,489,394	\$ 4,244,158	\$ 4,091,863	\$ 3,893,956
<i>debt service</i>	\$ 1,941,763	\$ 1,877,617	\$ 1,879,953	\$ 1,810,272	\$ 1,360,577	\$ 1,397,790
<i>debt service ratio (&gt;1.25)</i>	2.29	2.51	2.39	2.34	3.01	2.79
<b>Total Utility Tax to General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 909,307</b>	<b>\$ 905,030</b>	<b>\$ 895,985</b>	<b>\$ 890,722</b>	<b>\$ 896,045</b>	<b>\$ 902,461</b>
Monthly rate	\$ 92.15	\$ 92.15	\$ 92.15	\$ 92.15	\$ 92.15	\$ 92.15

## Six Year Capital Improvement Plan

Project	Fund #	Budget		Estimate					Project Total
		2019 (S&B)	2019 (Capital)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
General Government									
Public Art/Banners	001	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 70,000
Park Plan Update	001			50,000	50,000				100,000
Police - LCR Drug Testing	114		10,000						10,000
Public Works Shop	307		513,500						513,500
Gateway Features/Wayfinding (EDAB)	307				125,000	450,000	150,000	150,000	875,000
Al Borlin/Lewis St. Parks Master Plan	317				80,000	600,000	3,000,000		3,680,000
Cadman Phase 1 & 2	317		80,000	1,000,000	6,000,000	600,000	3,000,000	200,000	10,880,000
Centennial Trailhead	317					3,000,000	300,000	1,300,000	4,600,000
Lake Tye All Weather Fields design	317		300,000	3,200,000					3,500,000
Lake Tye Phase II	317							800,000	800,000
North Hill Park Acquisition	TBD			TBD					TBD
North Hill Park Development	317					300,000	1,000,000		1,300,000
Park Playground Equipment	317		200,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	1,450,000
Public Plaza/Festival Lot (EDAB)	317				500,000	250,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,750,000
Trails Planning and Repair	317		38,000						38,000
Trail System connectivity (EDAB)	317				500,000	50,000	250,000	1,000,000	1,800,000
Wiggly Field Dog Park Improvements	317		15,000						15,000
177th Ave. Maintenance/Repair	318	4,000	8,000						12,000
179th/147th Signal	318			117,610	85,775	409,122			612,507
191st to Chain Lake (E/W Connector)	318	15,000	250,000	2,317,369					2,582,369
ADA Transition Plan	318	9,000	99,225						108,225
Annual Road Maintenance	318	39,900	1,562,500	1,241,415	1,303,486	1,368,660	1,437,094	1,508,948	8,462,003
Annual Sidewalk Development (EDAB)	318				200,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,100,000
Annual Sidewalk Improvements	318	20,000	22,050	440,063	462,066	485,170	509,429	534,899	2,473,677
Chain Lake Road Phase IIA multi-purpose	318	34,020	737,000	3,142,952					3,913,972
Chain Lake Road Phase IIB	318					420,462	2,690,550	4,976,645	8,087,657
Kelsey/Blueberry Intersection Improvements	318	30,000	286,538						316,538
North Madison	318			54,967	598,355				653,322
Pavement Rating Study	318	6,000	35,000						41,000
Railroad Crossing/Tracks	318			100,000		500,000	350,000	5,000,000	5,950,000
Tjerne Phase III	318				561,655	1,954,810	3,877,811		6,394,276
Train Noise Reduction Area	318	5,513	108,636						114,149
Underground overhead utilities (EDAB)	318				20,000	100,000	300,000	300,000	720,000
US Hwy 2 Non-Motorized Shared Path	318			190,781	357,247				548,028
<b>Total General Government Capital</b>		<b>\$ 163,433</b>	<b>\$ 4,285,449</b>	<b>\$ 12,115,157</b>	<b>\$ 11,103,584</b>	<b>\$ 11,048,224</b>	<b>\$ 18,424,884</b>	<b>\$ 17,330,492</b>	<b>\$ 74,471,223</b>

## Six Year Capital Improvement Plan

Project	Budget		Estimate					Project Total
	2019 (S&B)	2019 (Capital)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Water Utility	Fund #							
132nd Street Watermain Replacement	412	\$ 51,210	\$ 1,591,090					\$ 1,642,300
134th SE/133nd St/208th SE/209th SE (Graden) Watermain Replacement	412	65,000	800,763					865,763
177th PS/Replace Equip & PLC/SCADA	412				1,220,517			1,220,517
182nd-154th to 150th (Under SR522)	412	61,960	814,825					876,785
4" Servicing fire hydrant replacement	412					80,406	84,426	164,832
Asbestos Cement Pipe Replacement	412				22,335	136,020	142,821	301,176
Adams Lane Utility Replacement	412	16,390	10,000	203,644				230,034
Cascade View Drive Water Main	412	47,460	1,090,000					1,137,460
Circle Drive 2" galvanized main replace	412				19,144			19,144
Circle Drive to Sumac main replacement	412					26,802	135,082	161,884
Dickinson Utility Replacement Project	412				448,671			448,671
DOC Storage	412	30,000	455,333	3,810,705				4,296,038
Flow Meters install	412				19,144			19,144
Flushing Devices at dead ends	412			11,576				11,576
Lewis/Blakely/Fremont/McDougal parallel alley WMR	412					108,117	213,089	321,206
Lord Hill PS-Pump Replacement	412	8,000	44,100					52,100
Lord Hill-Generator	412	1,500	20,000					21,500
Madison/Sams/McDougal/Pike alley WMR	412					61,132	210,361	271,493
Main/Ferry/N Blakely/N Madison parallel alley WMR	412					77,289	481,177	558,466
North Madison Utility Replacement	412			54,967	826,300			881,267
Orr to Kelsey-abandon line under houses	412					29,733	143,612	173,345
Replace Asbestos Cement Watermain (171st/173rd 161st north of West Main Street)	412					66,853		66,853
Replace 4" Asbestos Cement Watermain (Main St behind Monroe Shopping Center)	412					33,502		33,502
SCADA PLC Replacement (North Hill PS, Trombley PS, Ingraham)	412			92,610				92,610
Short Columbia Watermain Replacement	412				33,597	211,659		245,256
South Taft Lane Watermain Replacement	412					38,528	186,089	224,617
Spring Hill PS-Pump Replacement	412	8,000	44,100					52,100
Strawberry Lane Watermain Replacement	412				82,418	421,970		504,388
Sump Pumps install (Foothills Pressure reducing valve & Trombley Reservoir)	412						5,628	5,628
Trombley Hill Reservoir to Airport/179th SE WMR	412					402,029	3,236,331	3,638,360
Trombley Reservoir 12" Watermain Fire Flow Upside	412	20,000	60,197					80,197
Wilson Lane Watermain Replacement	412					41,442	141,329	182,771

### Six Year Capital Improvement Plan

Project	Budget		Estimate					Project Total
	2019 (S&B)	2019 (Capital)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Total Water Utility Capital	\$ 309,520	\$ 4,930,408	\$ 4,173,502	\$ 2,611,503	\$ 1,096,281	\$ 3,936,155	\$ 1,743,614	\$ 18,800,983

Sewer Utility	Fund #	Budget		Estimate					Project Total
		2019 (S&B)	2019 (Capital)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Computer upgrades	421		\$ 10,000						\$ 10,000
Adams Lane Utility Replacement	422	16,390	10,000	186,545					212,935
Cates PS Upgrades	422					191,422	804,057		995,479
Dickinson Utility Replacement	422				334,812				334,812
North Madison Utility Replacement	422		250,000	1,250,000					1,500,000
Pipe Replacement Projects	422		250,000	578,813	607,753	638,141	670,048	703,550	3,448,305
Sayer Street Porous Concrete Driveway Access	422				5,470				5,470
South Taft Lane 6'/8' Concrete Main Replacement	422			16,800	64,999				81,799
Valley View PS (179tj)& Force Main Upgrades	422			578,813	4,254,272				4,833,085
West Main Pump Station Upgrades	422					191,442	804,057		995,499
WWTP Engineering Reports	422	35,000	348,226						383,226
WWTP Ph control	422				250,000	1,500,000			1,750,000
WWTP capital maintenance	422			127,628	134,010	140,710	147,746	155,133	705,227
WWTP energy efficiency upgrades	422	10,000	1,000,000						1,010,000
Total Sewer Utility Capital		\$ 61,390	\$ 1,868,226	\$ 2,738,599	\$ 5,651,316	\$ 2,661,715	\$ 2,425,908	\$ 858,683	\$ 16,265,837

Project	Fund #	Budget		Estimate					Project Total
		2019 (S&B)	2019 (Capital)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Stormwater Utility	Fund #								
Blueberry/Kelsey Infiltration	432		\$ 136,710		\$ 1,049,083				\$ 1,185,793
Blueberry Lane Infiltration	432	37,380		293,370	2,542,894				2,873,644
Dickinson Utility Replacement	432				672,434				672,434
Lake Tye Bio-Swale Design	432	12,000	120,000	600,000					732,000
Monroe Street & Kelsey Street	432			138,527	919,345				1,057,872
Monroe Street & Park Street	432					38,716	256,166		294,882
Park Street & Roberts Street	432					48,716	251,866		300,582
Yearly Pipe Replacement	432			103,600	103,600	103,600	103,600	103,600	518,000
Total Stormwater Utility Capital		\$ 49,380	\$ 256,710	\$ 1,135,497	\$ 5,287,356	\$ 191,032	\$ 611,632	\$ 103,600	\$ 7,635,207

## Six Year Capital Improvement Plan

Project	Budget		Estimate					Project Total
	2019 (S&B)	2019 (Capital)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	

Internal Service Funds	Fund #								
IT Strategic Plan	510	<i>\$ 50,000</i>							\$ 50,000
IT Strategic Plan Implementation	510		\$ 75,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 310,000
Gen. Gov. Vehicles & Equip Replace	520	41,971	48,490		6,135	19,514	102,194		218,304
Police Vehicles & Equip Replace	520	399,676	306,436	85,797		94,041	112,248		998,198
Public Works Vehicles & Equip Replace	520	467,623	98,230	174,628	1,212,997	28,578	116,845		2,098,901
City Hall/Court Room/Police Station	530		520,931	5,773,655					6,294,586
Facilities Report	530	<i>73,500</i>							73,500
Police Station Roof replacement	530	103,500							103,500
<b>Total Internal Service Capital</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,136,270</b>	<b>\$ 1,049,087</b>	<b>\$ 6,209,080</b>	<b>\$ 1,239,132</b>	<b>\$ 162,133</b>	<b>\$ 351,287</b>	<b>\$ 10,146,989</b>

	Budget		Estimate					Project Total
	2019 (S&B)	2019 (Capital)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
<b>Total Capital All Funds</b>	<b>\$ 583,723</b>	<b>\$ 12,477,063</b>	<b>\$ 21,211,842</b>	<b>\$ 30,862,839</b>	<b>\$ 16,236,384</b>	<b>\$ 25,560,712</b>	<b>\$ 20,387,676</b>	<b>\$ 127,320,239</b>

*Green Italics = Planning dollars*

AC = Asbestos Cement  
 CIP = Capital Improvement Projects  
 DOC = Department of Corrections  
 EDAB = Economic Development Advisory Board  
 FH = Fire Hydrant  
 LCR = Inductance Capacitance Resistance  
 O&M = Operations & Maintenance  
 PLC = Programmable Logic Controller  
 PS = Pump Station  
 S&B = Salaries & Benefits  
 SCADA = Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition  
 TBD = To Be Determined  
 WMR = Watermain Replacement  
 WWTP = Waste Water Treatment Plant

Fund #	Fund Name
001	General Fund
114	Narcotics Fund
307	General CIP Fund
317	Parks CIP Fund
318	Streets CIP Fund
412	Water CIP Fund
421	Sewer O&M Fund
422	Sewer CIP Fund
432	Stormwater CIP Fund
510	Information Technology Fund
520	Fleet & Equipment Fund
530	Facilities Fund

## Utility Rates and Charges

### Quick Summary

- Any city that has established a utility must set an appropriate rate to recover cost.
- Revenues must be used for specified utility purpose.

**RCW: 35.92 RCW, 35A.80 RCW**

Cities and towns frequently own and manage their own water and sewer utility systems, and some also have stormwater, electric, or garbage utilities. Each of these utilities is considered a “proprietary” activity, which is to say that it functions as a business activity separate from the general governmental activities. (See [chapter 35.92 RCW](#) and [chapter 35A.80 RCW](#) regarding municipal utilities.)

This guide is not intended to address the complexities of proper rate-setting but only to speak to the overarching concepts of utility rates and charges.

### Utility Rate Setting

Ideally, all utility rates, system charges, and service fees should be set to recover the cost of operating the systems, in addition to charging for replacing equipment and adding or expanding facilities to meet regulations, future service demands, and setting aside for unforeseen events such as natural disasters.<sup>68</sup> Revenues for fees and charges must meet the expenses of the system, in addition to setting aside reserves.

Careful and accurate rate and service fee setting will assure that the utility operates in a fiscally responsible manner. Consideration should be given to the following areas when setting rates:

- Operating costs (wages, benefits, engineering fees, office supplies, chemicals, lighting, heat, repairs, and other daily operations);
- Insurance;
- State and local taxes;
- Debt service (principal and interest);
- Planning and engineering;
- Reserves for improvements, expansions, and upgrades; and
- Reserves for unforeseen events such as natural disasters.

Utility rates should also incorporate the utility’s portion of indirect or “overhead” costs incurred by the city, such as payroll administration, human resources, information technology, and shared facilities and equipment. See MRSC’s webpage on [Cost Allocation](#) for more guidance on overhead costs.

### Use of Revenues

Utility rates and charges are restricted to the use by the utility for its operations, including all of those costs listed above.

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<sup>68</sup> See *Uhler v. Olympia*, 87 Wash. 1 (1915); *Carstens v. Public Utility District No. 1*, 8 Wn.2d 136 (1941)