

## Staff Report

October 21, 2024 Council Workshop

2025-2026 Mayor's Recommended Operating Budget Presentation Presenters: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director; Matthew Thorup, Assistant Finance Director; and Debra Brooks, Financial Analyst Time Estimate: 15 minutes

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**BACKGROUND:** This presentation is to review the proposed 2025-2026 Operating Budget expenditures. After the presentation, Council will have time for questions and discussion.

**SUMMARY:** Operating Budgets fund the day-to-day operations of the City. The largest of these budgets is the General Fund which funds the basic services of the City excluding the utilities. Other operating funds includes Streets, CWFD, Lodging Tax, Cemetery, Water/Sewer, Stormwater, and Solid Waste.

Discussion will center on what comprises the 2025-2026 proposed operating budget expenses, and what changes have been made from the 2023-2024 biennium.

**BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY:** This budget will highlight how the Mayor's recommended budget adapts to anticipated lower revenues in 2025-2026.

**POTENTIAL CHALLENGES:** The City is proposing additional revenue sources be adopted as part of this budget to support the on-going operating needs of the organization and repair a structural deficit in the City's General Fund.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** This agenda item presents the proposed operating budget expenses from the Mayor's Recommended 2025-2026 Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The next step in the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget Adoption process will be the revenue presentations for Property Tax and the 2025 Fee Schedule that will directly follow this presentation at the workshop. A utility tax presentation as well as the 2025-2026 Capital Budget presentation will occur at the City Council Workshop on November 4, 2024.