



STAFF REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING DATE: MAY 4, 2026
FROM: TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER
SUBJECT: PROJECT PRIORITIES AND USE OF FUNDS

RECOMMENDATION

Review the attached list of projects and suggested priorities and provide feedback to staff to feed into the FY26-27 budget process. Also provide feedback on the proposed uses of the Transactions and Use Tax (local sales tax / TUT) funds.

BACKGROUND

Each year we attempt to accomplish a variety of capital projects and investments in equipment as our budget allows. With the addition of local sales tax revenue from our TUT tax, we have an additional source of funds.

The TUT was passed with the understanding that the funds would be used for essential city services including:

- Repairing potholes and maintaining city roads
- Maintaining rapid emergency response times
- Repairing storm drains at the same time as roads for efficiency
- Attracting and retaining qualified police officers for police patrols
- Managing flammable brush and vegetation to prevent wildfires
- Helping Sutter Creek qualify for state and federal matching funds that will otherwise go to other cities and regions
- Supporting local businesses

The resolution and ballot language is attached to this report.

DISCUSSION

The draft budget brought to council is mostly focused on the ongoing business of the city, primarily staff and department costs to get the day-to-day business of the city completed. Each year we also include new projects, investing in equipment that needs to be replaced, and other improvements. Below we have prioritized the top projects by category for discussion and review. We do not expect to be able to fund all of these projects. Even if we could fund them all, we likely couldn't complete this many projects. At this point, we are looking for feedback on the priorities. Projects will be funded in priority order based on available funds and as we develop a more detailed project staffing plan.

In FY26, we are projecting to receive \$588,432 in TUT funds. In FY27, with a modest growth rate of 3%, we are expecting to receive \$606,085.

Street and Sidewalks

\$50,000 was allocated from the TUT fund in FY25-26 to be used for repaving and improvements to Broadway to take advantage of a project AWA is doing to fix issues with their water pipes. While the project was started, it is not completed, so the funds have not yet been fully expended; we have \$40,000 remaining to roll over into the FY26-27 budget.

Priority	Project	Estimated Cost	Description	TUT?
	Street, Sidewalks, Storm Drains			
1	Sutter Hill Road paving	\$800,000	Streets, ACTC \$610,000 , Measure P or Overages can be brought to ACTC board	\$190,000
2	David Drive (50 tons of asphalt)	\$10,000	Repave in front of driveways (4 homes)	\$10,000
3	Randolph and Boston Alley intersection (storm drain and repave intersection with 15 tons of asphalt)	\$5,500	Monteverde project? Sep street project	\$5,500
4	Gopher Flat Speed tables? / Cushions	\$12,000	In touch with Traffic company getting quote (2 cushions and installation)	\$12,000
5	Gopher Flat restriping (must have for next year)	\$19,500	Thermo (not paint) and reflectors every 15 feet.	\$19,500
6	Old 49 Pedestrian Shoulder	\$75,000		\$75,000
7	Bike/Ped Path Signage to Amador City	\$1,000	Crosswalk and signs	\$1,000
8	Gopher street / main street crosswalk	\$12,500	Move two ADA crosswalk sidewalk transition pieces reinstall crosswalk	\$12,500
9	B&B sidewalk - limestone / asphalt Main	\$7,500	Asphalt overlay (job is difficult not confident in estimate)	\$7,500
10	Crestview subdivision Sidewalks	\$20,000	Can do lifts over 1/2" only for \$11,000	\$20,000
11	Mare Street (entire road, 80 tons of asphalt) OR	\$0	Accounted for as part of I/I projects , 15,000	
12	Mare Street (landing, cheaper option than above, 15 tons asphalt)	\$0	Accounted for as part of I/I projects. \$5,000	

Improvements and repaving of Sutter Hill road is the number one Street project in the upcoming year. Work has already begun on weed reduction and tree cleanup. Transportation impact fees from ACTC will be used to fund \$610,000 of the project. Several storm drains need to be redone and it includes three intersections which has increased the cost estimate to \$800,000. We are going out to bid, and once bids come in, we can approach ACTC for additional funds. If those are not awarded, we are recommending the use of TUT to complete this project.

David Drive, while not a high priority road, is a critical repair. Wastewater line repairs left a large gap at the end of each driveway and we feel the City has an obligation to complete the repair.

Randolph and Boston Alley have severe storm drain issues with water pooling on the street constantly. With grants and funding assistance coming on the Monteverde Store, this is a great time to fix this key intersection.

Council has gotten many complaints about speeding and dangerous shoulders on Gopher Flat road. We need to restripe the center line and believe that speed tables are a cost effective way to improve walking, biking and driving.

Old 49 Pedestrian Shoulder Project is a project to make it safer to walk from locations beyond the end of main street. There are already existing wide street areas, partial sidewalks and existing shoulders. With some asphalt, a better walking path can be created that would connect Main street, Element, Kaos Glass, the Trading Post, Hanford Garden, and the Kiota Hotel, alongside Old 49.

Facilities

Priority	Project	Estimated Cost	Description	TUT?
1	Monteverde gutter	\$1,000	Native Sons/Grant, high bid was \$25,000	
2	Monteverde Wall/floor	\$3,000	Native Sons/Grant, high bid was \$25,000, volunteers do labor	
3	Monteverde HVAC	\$15,000	Native Sons/Grant	
4	Monteverde Electrical issues	\$10,000	Duck Race Money, Estimate, George getting formal quote	
5	Auditorium HVAC	\$50,000	\$40,000 donation	
6	Auditorium (repair siding and repaint entire building, last year received bid for 36K)	\$40,000		
7	Admin Building - Roof	\$20,000	Roof past expected life need new	
8	Monteverde Roof	\$20,000		

We have several critical facility needs. The Duck Race is applying funds to the Monteverde General Store Museum and we are applying for a Native Sons grant. A donor has offered to help with HVAC in the auditorium. Roof, siding and paint are needed items that will result in higher costs if put off.

Wastewater

Priority	Project	Estimated Cost	Description	TUT?
1	I/I Projects	\$500,000	5 of the most critical projects	
2	Smart Covers (purchase one for lift station)	\$7,700		
3	Change inlet valve at Preston Forebay	\$30,000	ARSA	
4	Freshwater diversion (50K total, 25K already paid??)	\$25,000	ARSA	

Staff is slowing down wastewater capital spending in the interest of growing reserves as we move closer to construction of a new wastewater treatment plant. Having healthy reserves makes us more appealing to lenders, and it shows grant processors that we have 'skin in the game' in regards to raising rates and putting excess funds away to go towards this end goal. Some projects are unavoidable, however. We have done about \$1M of I/I repairs each of the last two years. Reducing I/I reduces the cost of the new plant and ongoing operations. We are looking at a smaller I/I project in the upcoming fiscal year - 5 critical projects for about \$500,000. These projects are all out of enterprise funds.

Parks

Priority	Project	Estimated Cost	Description	TUT?
1	Creek Cleanup - root ball project	\$11,000	Biologists initial study surveys and construction monitoring (\$40-60/hour)	\$11,000
2	Bryson Pump Track	\$0	Amador Community Foundation Grant of \$10,000	
3	New 3-way valve for pool	\$4,380	Must replace	
4	Beautification Projects - Gateway Park	\$5,000	Irrigation, planting	\$5,000
4	Vehicles (need to replace Eric's vehicle and or build up funds for next year)	\$20,000	Need to keep up with vehicle repairs	
5	ADA Mini Provis Project	\$15,000	Engineering costs, \$125K for equipment, wheelchair friendly material below	
6	Bryson Playground Chips	\$10,000	4 truck loads (can reduce in increments of 2500 if tight)	
7	Sutter Hill Road Beautification (wall of flowers)	\$1,000	Supports Main Street business, volunteer opportunity	\$1,000
9	Beautification of area by creek (sprinkler system and grass 2,500 square feet)	\$7,500	Near Minnie Provis	

One of the PW trucks needs replacing due to age and use. We believe it should be a priority for FY27, since they rely on their vehicles heavily to perform their duties in a timely, proper manner.

Code Enforcement / Administrative Projects

Priority	Project	Estimated Cost	Description	TUT?
1	Code enforcement w legal fund	\$50,000	Estimate for one major legal action	\$50,000
2	Weed Abatement/Fire prevention	\$20,000	Will be recovered as property lien	\$20,000
3	ADA website support	\$5,000	Needed to comply with state law	

Code enforcement is a Council priority this year. We have two or three large issues which will require some legal support. These are nuisance abatement projects which could also reduce fire danger, so they are shown as "TUT eligible". Weed abatement requires funds for enforcement - this money is recoverable over time through property liens.

Public Safety

Priority	Project	Estimated Cost	Description	TUT?
1	Smart Cameras	\$50,000	License plate reader, facial recognition	\$50,000
2	Car cameras X5	\$55,185	5 year plan, year 1 \$11,037	\$55,185
3	Radar	\$4,000	Speed enforcement	\$4,000
4	Evidence equipment and supplies	\$1,200		
5	Computer Replacement	\$1,200		
6	Police Radio Replacement	\$3,000	possibly county OES grant	
7	Handgun and Rifle Replacement	\$3,500		
8	Stop Sticks	\$700		
9	Color Copier	\$4,000		

Smart cameras can supplement our existing work force, many cities are finding them invaluable in solving crimes. Our existing vehicle cameras are old and failing, only a couple of cars having working cameras.

Use of TUT Funds

Projected total revenue for TUT for FY26:	\$588,432
Projected total revenue for TUT for FY27 (delayed 1 Q)	\$606,085
Total Eligible for TUT	\$549,185
Allocated Rollover from FY 25-26:	\$40,000

Total Uses	\$589,185
In Reserve at End of FY 26-27	\$605,332

We could pay for all of the TUT eligible projects using TUT revenue from the current fiscal year and reserve all of the TUT funds from FY26-27 for future projects. We would like to hear from the steering committee and the council on whether we should do this, or do fewer projects in the upcoming year and reserve more funds. We have several larger roads in the CIP that are multimillion dollar projects.

BUDGET IMPACT

The Total cost of all Projects	\$2,091,365
TUT Projects	\$549,185
Enterprise Funds	\$563,700
Grants and Impact Fees	\$834,000
General Fund	\$145,480

We are looking for feedback on all of the priorities and spending levels.

ATTACHMENT

1. Budget - Possible Projects Spreadsheet
2. TUT Resolution and vote language