BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

The Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget development was guided by the City Council’s top priorities, which are aimed at increasing environmental sustainability in City operations and the community at large, improving transportation and roadway safety, addressing housing affordability with a focus on socioeconomic diversity, and improving the City’s infrastructure. Due to COVID, the City of Burlingame suffered significant revenue loss. While the City is committed to its long-term priorities, the focus for fiscal year 2022-23 is to continue to provide high-quality municipal services to the community and to prepare for the City’s eventual fiscal recovery.

CITYWIDE BUDGET

In June 2022, the City Council adopted the budget for fiscal year 2022-23 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023) in the amount of $129.1 million, which includes ongoing funding for the City’s public safety, library, parks and recreation, utility, general administration, and internal services support functions, as well as improvements to our roads, facilities, and utility infrastructure.

As depicted in the pie chart, the majority of the City’s expenditures ($67.6 million, or 52%) is attributable to the General Fund, which funds police, fire, library, parks and recreation, engineering, streets and storm drainage maintenance, planning activities, and internal general administration functions. The second largest expenditure of $27.8 million (22%) is to fund the City’s water and sanitary sewer utilities. Throughout the year the utility customers pay for these services. The majority of these revenues is used to purchase water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), collect and treat wastewater, maintain the capital infrastructure, and administer the utilities. In Fiscal Year 2022-23, the City is expected to fund approximately $21.9 million (17%) in capital improvements to rehabilitate our roads and sidewalks, and rehabilitate and replace aging utility infrastructure. Other funds include special revenue funds, debt service fund, internal services funds, and other enterprise funds such as the Parking Fund, Building Fund, and Solid Waste Fund.

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Ricardo Ortiz
Vice Mayor Michael Brownrigg
Council Member Donna Colson
Council Member Emily Beach
Council Member Ann O’Brien Keighran

ABOUT THE CITY OF BURLINGAME

Year of incorporation 1908
Total Population 30,283 *
Area of City 6.1 square miles
Persons per Household 2.4
Street Miles 84 centerline miles
Sidewalk Miles 116 miles
Streetlights 1,800
Street Trees 14,473
Park Trees 1,607
Species of Trees 309
Parks and Open Spaces 23
Libraries 2
Library Circulation 550,000

*California Department of Finance (2022)
General Fund revenues are projected to be $70.6 million for FY 2022-23, a $3.5 million increase from last year, but still a $14.0 million decrease as compared to FY 2018-19 (pre-COVID). On the expenditure level, current staffing levels and employee benefits have been maintained. Departmental budgets include anticipated operating cost increases, although travel and meeting budgets remain at lower levels. Support for capital improvements is limited to $5.2 million to ease the burden on the General Fund. Overall, due to significant revenue loss from the pandemic-induced recession, funding needs will exceed funding resources in FY 2022-23, resulting in a budget deficit of $5.2 million. The most recent five-year forecast indicates that the General Fund will continue to draw down reserves for the next few years until projected surpluses are achieved in FY 2026-27.

**General Fund Revenues**

Although fiscal recovery remains uneven and fairly unpredictable, the outlook for the City’s fiscal year 2022-23 budget is more stable than could be foreseen a year ago. Property tax, sales and use tax, and transient occupancy tax (TOT) are the top three revenues for the General Fund. Revenues from property tax are anticipated to remain strong, with a projected $28.3 million for FY 2022-23. Sales and use tax revenues are expected to stabilize and rebound somewhat. With the roll-out of vaccinations and an easing of public health protocols, further recovery in sales tax receipts across most major industry groups is anticipated.

**General Fund Expenditures**

- **General Administration**: $7,555,604
- **Public Safety**: $14,072,647
- **Parks and Tree Maintenance**: $6,288,120
- **Other Transfers**: $1,746,524

**Total Transfers**: $8,182,124

**Net (Deficit)**: ($5.2 million)

**Revenues**

- **Property Tax**: $28,298,000
- **Sales and Use Tax**: $17,116,000
- **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT)**: $12,975,000

**Other Revenues**

- **Licenses & Permits**: $5,870,691
- **Fines, Forfeitures and Penalties**: $1,500,000
- **Use of Money & Property**: $800,000
- **Charges for Services**: $1,250,600
- **Other Charges**: $1,250,600
- **State Subventions**: $1,250,600
- **Interest Income**: $1,250,600

**Total General Fund Revenues**: $70,633,225