

Introduction:

The Five-Year Financial Plan is a forecasting tool that assists City leaders in developing strategies to achieve the City's goals. The objectives of the financial plan are to:

1. **Assess** the implications today's decisions have on future financial viability
2. **Develop** strategies to achieve goals and objectives
3. **Analyze** revenue and expenditure trends
4. **Plan** for programs and services that may be offered or eliminated
5. **Grow** the City's strategic decision-making to achieve financial stability and increase bond ratings



Financial forecasts are derived from quantitative trend estimates, including those dependent on economic conditions, as well as qualitative estimates utilizing the experience and knowledge of the City's professional staff. Variables affecting the financial forecast can change quickly, such as capital project timing and financial aid, therefore City staff continuously assess the City's budget and financial health outside of developing this annual forecast.

2023 Working Day Recap

During the 2023 working day session, the following recommendations were made. The actual actions approved by the City Commission are noted for each recommendation.

Specifically, we recommended:

1. No change to the General Fund mill rate for years 2024-2027

Action Taken: The City Commission approved the 2024 General Fund with no mill rate increase.

2. Increasing utility rates by 3% and stormwater rates by 3% for 2024.

Action Taken: The City Commission approved a 3% increase in utility rates and 3% for stormwater for the 2024 budget.

3. Adopting the following long-term plans
 - a. Five-Year Financial Plan

Action Taken: The City Commission adopted as presented.

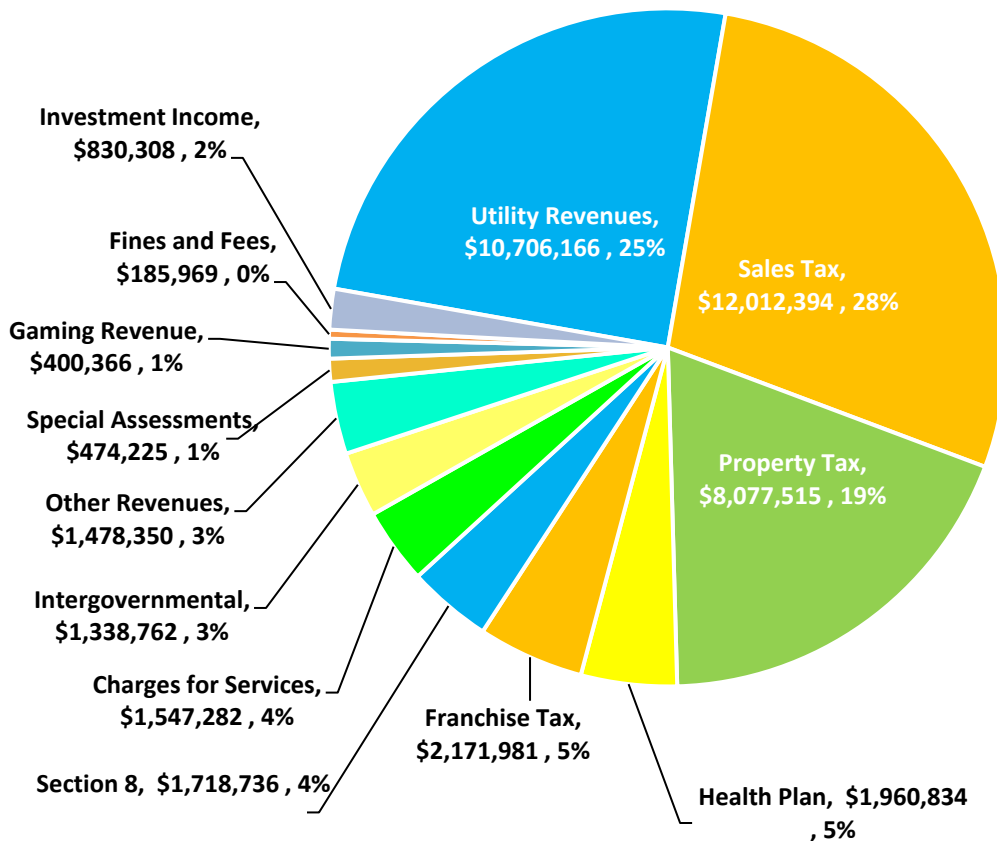
4. Approval of salary increases
 - a. Recommend a 3% COLA increase for 2024

Action Taken: The City Commission approved the 2024 budget with a 3.0% COLA increase.

Revenues

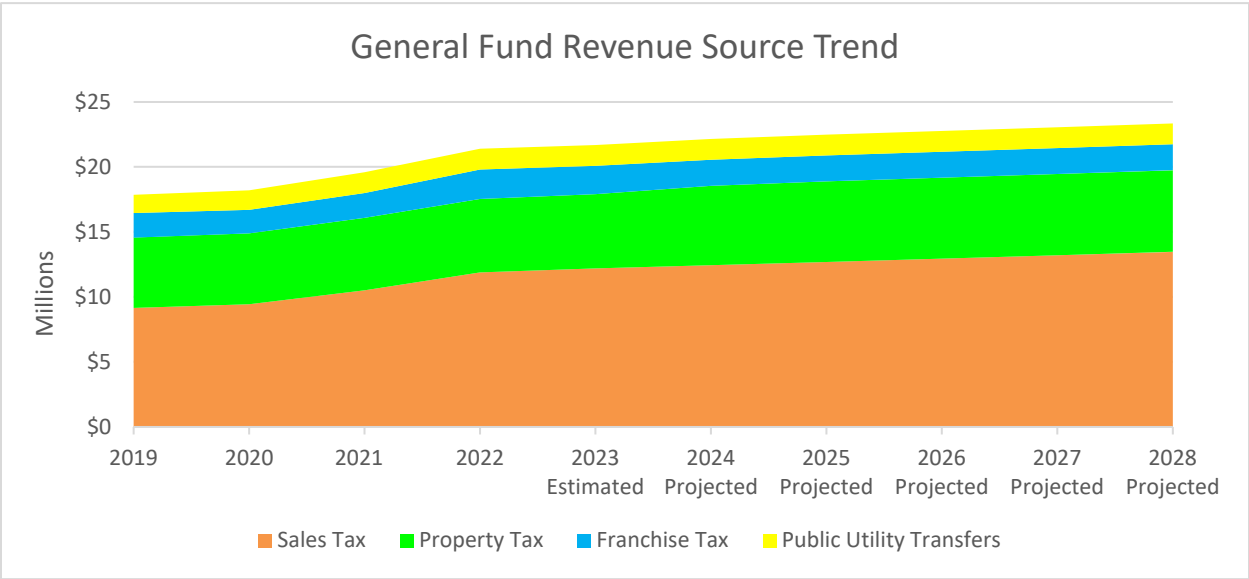
The City of Pittsburg receives revenue from a variety of sources; however, nearly all revenue is collected into two main funds: the General Fund and the Public Utility Fund. When compared to 2022 total revenues, 2023 revenues increased by \$2,714,519. The following pie chart shows the City's 2023 revenues by source and the percentage of total revenues each source represents. Utility revenue, sales tax revenue and property tax revenue comprise 72% of the City's total revenues.

2023 Revenues by Source \$42,902,889



General Fund

The four main sources of revenue in the General Fund are as follows: sales tax, property tax, franchise tax, and transfers from the public utility fund.



Other Types of Revenues

The City's other General Fund revenue sources are:

- Intergovernmental
- Investment Income
- Fines and Fees
- Charges for Services
- Licenses and Permits
- Gaming Revenue

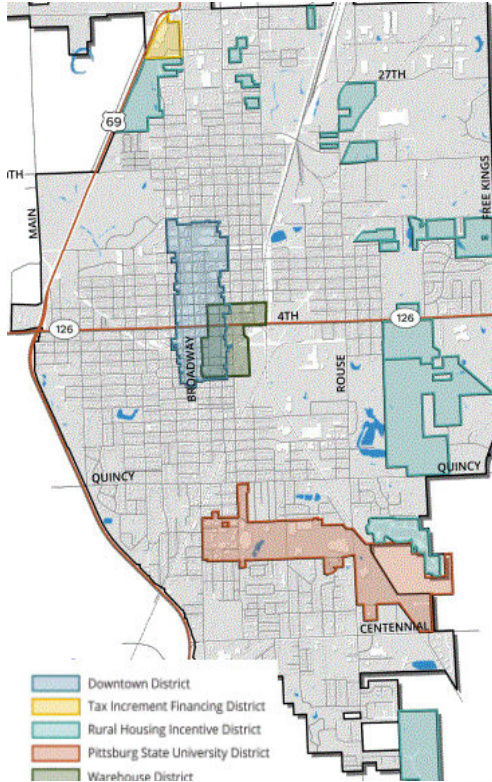
Property Tax

Property tax is an ad valorem tax, meaning it is based on the value of real estate or personal property owned by an individual or company. There are two components for calculating property taxes: property valuations and the mill levy. The City determines the level of service for the upcoming year and sets the property tax rate at an amount, which

will pay for those services.

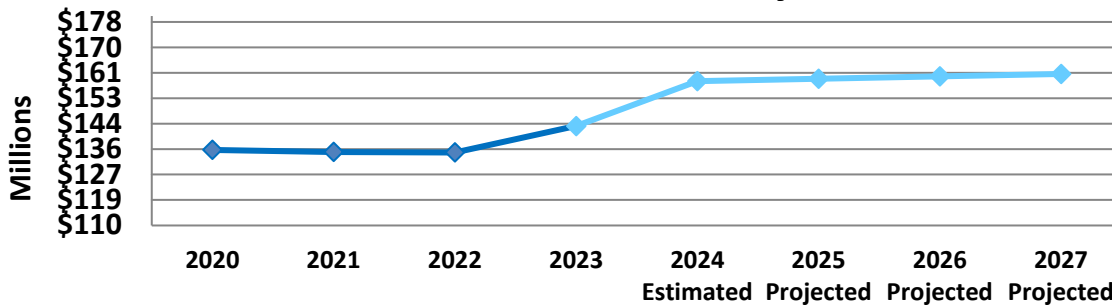
Pittsburg's net assessed valuation has increased over the last three years. Property tax abatement programs such as the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and Rural Housing Incentive Districts, used to incentivize growth in our community, offset the slight increase in valuation.

In 2023, net assessed valuation increased by \$15,010,934 or 10%. With the addition of new commercial developments and expiration of property tax incentives, the total net assessed valuation increase is projected at 10% over the five-year period. The graph below shows the projected trend in net assessed valuation. Main contributors to the increase seen in 2024 are the FedEx facility valuation and the retirement of the TIF.



2020 Pittsburg Land Use Plan – Targeted Overlay Zones

Net Assessed Valuation by Year



For the 2024 budget year, one mill in the City of Pittsburg generates \$158,240. Historically the City has collected approximately 95% of the taxes levied. The table below shows the General Fund mill rate and actual tax dollars generated for the last five years and 2024 estimates.

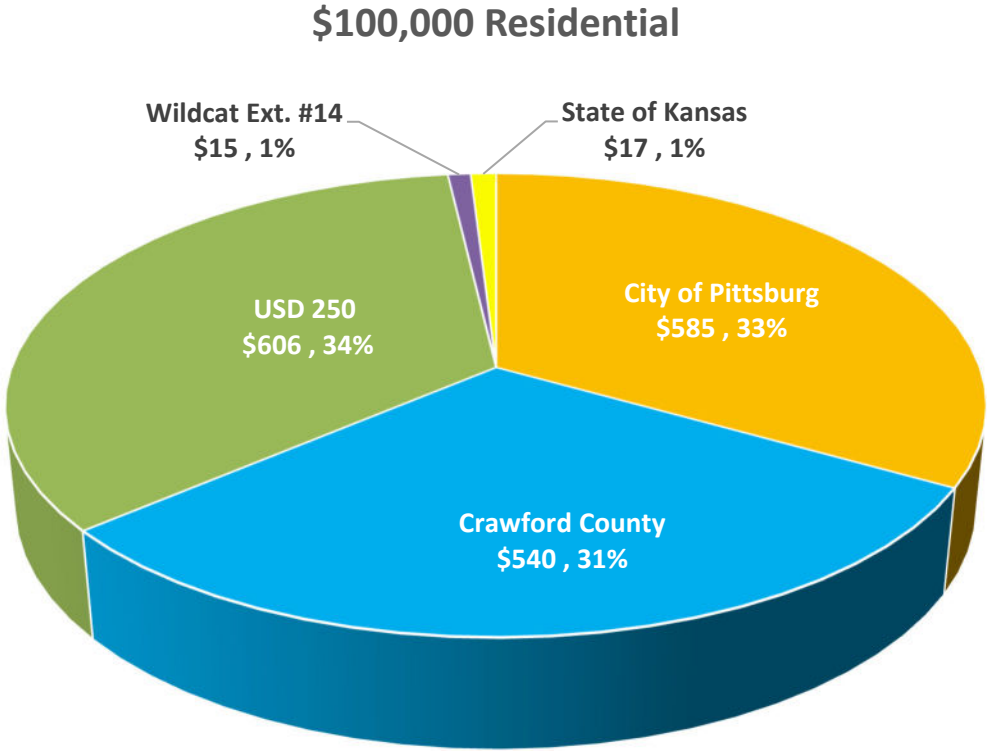
Valued for	Net Valuation	General Fund Mill Rate	Tax Dollars Collected
2018	128,182,295	36.961	4,505,260
2019	130,553,454	36.984	4,623,134
2020	135,225,048	36.967	4,707,235
2021	134,528,473	37.403	4,815,820
2022*	134,352,548	37.520	4,882,570
2023*	143,228,619	36.982	5,116,328
2024*	158,239,553	36.977	5,627,980

The City receives only one third of the property taxes paid by residents. The State of Kansas, Crawford County, Unified School District #250 and the Kansas Wildcat Extension #14 also assess taxes on property.

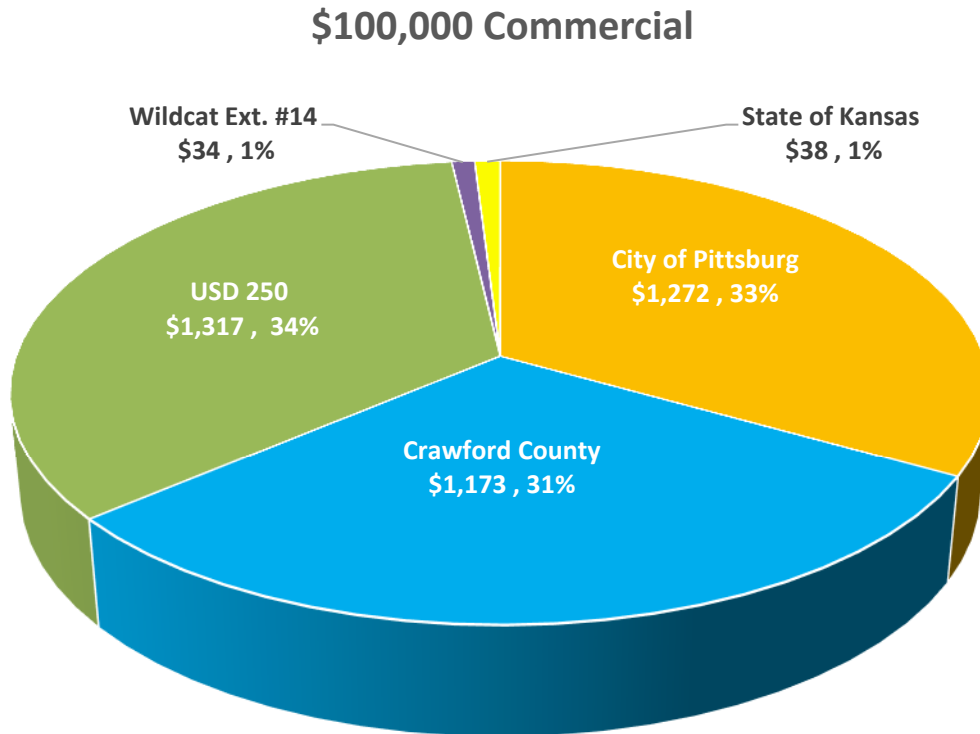
The following table shows the various property tax jurisdictions within Pittsburg and their respective 2023 mill rates.

Entity	Mill Rate
USD 250	52.695
City of Pittsburg	50.889
Crawford County	46.924
State of Kansas	1.500
Kansas Wildcat Extension #14	1.346
TOTAL	153.354

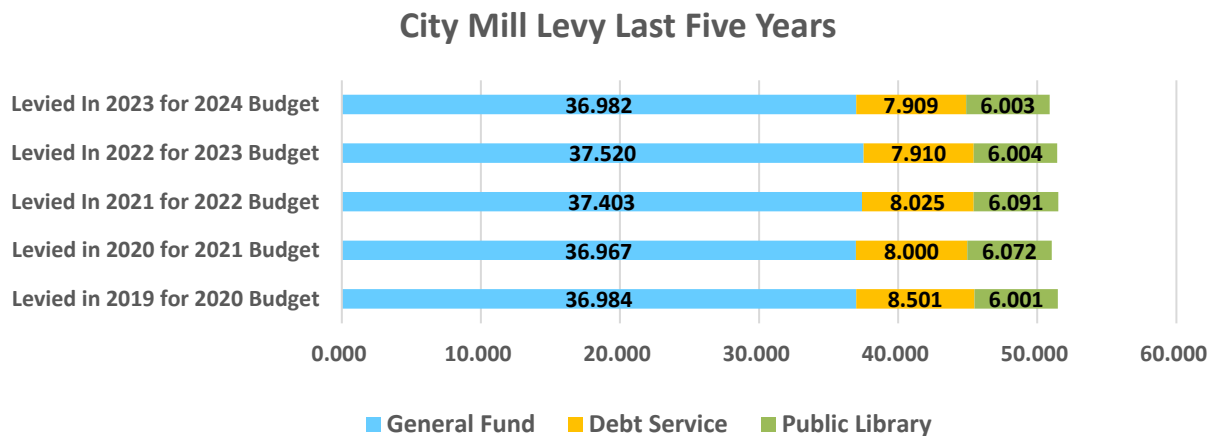
The pie chart shows the various property tax jurisdictions within Pittsburg and their approximate 2023 cost on a residential property with an appraised value of \$100,000.



The pie chart below shows the various property tax jurisdictions within Pittsburg and their approximate 2023 cost on a commercial property with appraised value of \$100,000.



The following graph shows the breakdown of the City property taxes levied for the last five years.

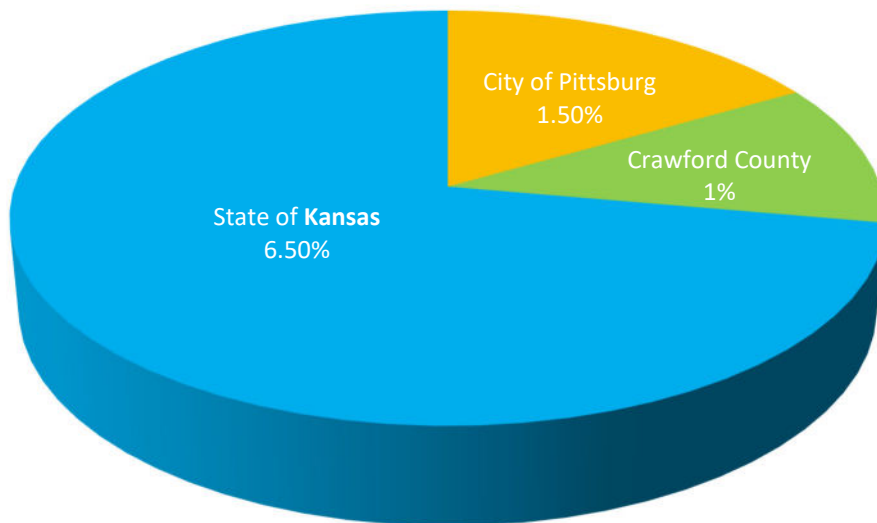


Sales Tax

Sales taxes are a source of revenue paid to a government entity for the sales of certain goods and services. For most sales in Kansas, the law requires the seller to collect the tax from the consumer at the point of sale. Generally, sales tax is collected one month, then the sales tax collected is remitted to the State the following month and then the State remits the appropriate share of the tax to the appropriate governmental entity in the third month.

The following pie chart shows the total sales tax rate within the Pittsburg city limits (excluding the Tax Increment Financing District, Northgate Community Improvement District and Town Center District).

Overall Sales Tax Rate - 9.00%



Sales taxes are the leading source of revenue stream for the City of Pittsburg. However, all the City sales taxes are earmarked for specific uses. The portion of the Crawford County sales tax received by the City is unrestricted and is used to support the General Fund operations. Staff are projecting the city will receive approximately \$3 million of the Crawford County sales tax in 2024.

Of the five programs funded by dedicated sales taxes in Pittsburg, two have renewal or end dates. The tax for street maintenance will expire December 31, 2031. The half-cent sales tax to enhance public safety was renewed by voters for a second time in 2023 and will expire December 31, 2033.

The quarter-cent for economic development and the eighth cent for the Memorial Auditorium and capital outlay have no expiration dates.

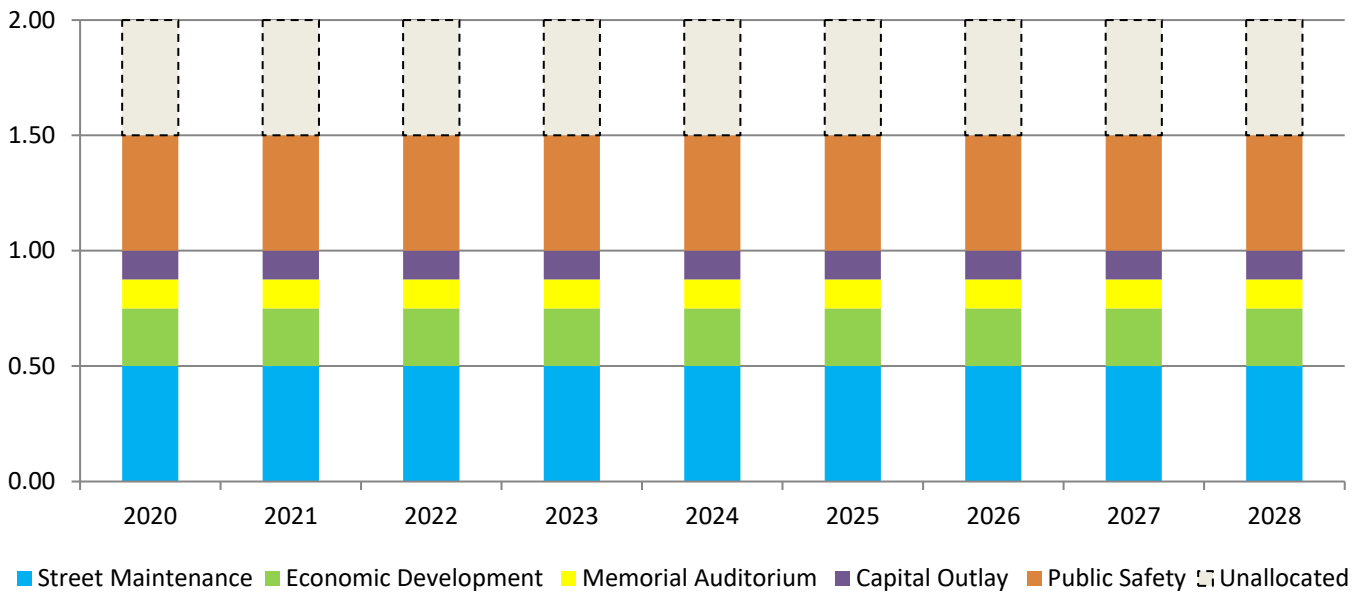
The State of Kansas statutory limit on sales tax rates is two percent for municipalities. The City's portion of the sales tax rate is currently one and a half percent.

Pittsburg Sales Tax Earmarks		
<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Public Safety	.50	12-31-2033
Street Maintenance	.50	3-31-2031
Economic Development	.25	Ongoing
Capital Outlay	.125	Ongoing
Memorial Auditorium	.125	Ongoing
Total	1.50	

The City's Tax Increment Financing District has an additional .30 sales tax rate and is used to repay the Transportation Development District (TDD) debt which is expected to be retired in 2027. Historically, the TDD sales tax has not been sufficient to pay the annual debt payments and the General Fund has to make transfers of \$10,000 to \$20,000 annually.

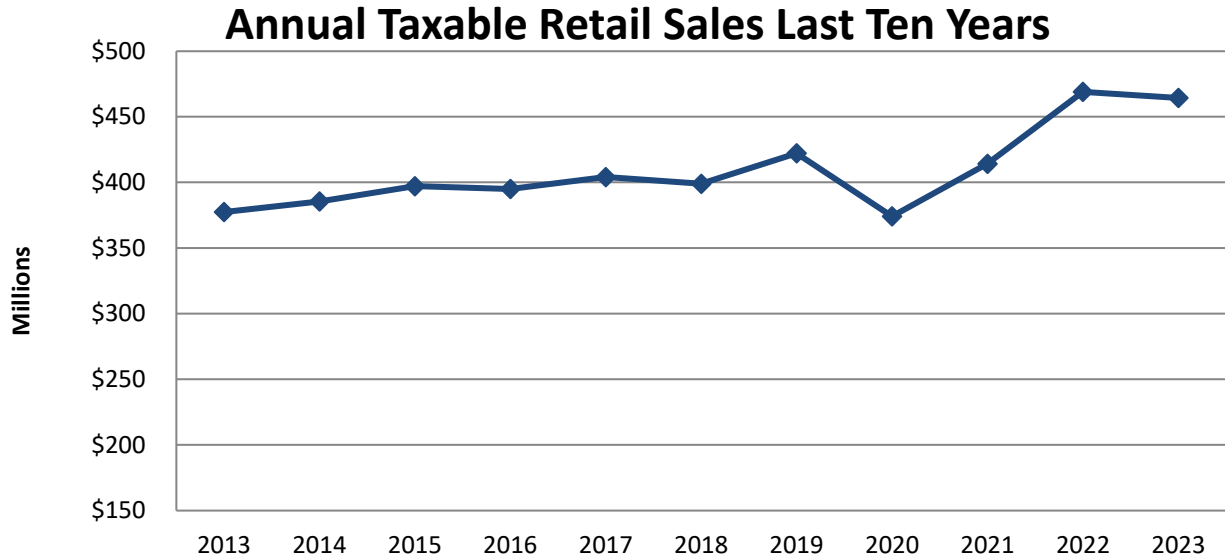
Sales Tax Percentage Rate

Statutory Limit is 2.00%

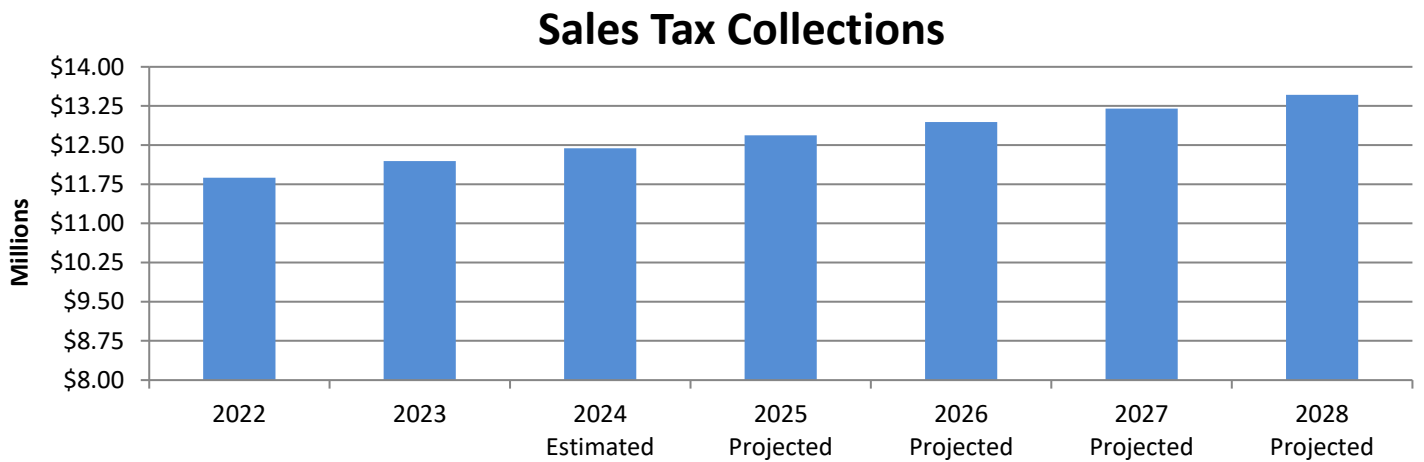


Sales tax collections have steadied resulting in 2.64% growth in sales tax revenue when compared to 2022. The estimate for 2024 through 2027 is 2% growth annually.

The following graph shows annual taxable retail sales for the last ten years. Annual taxable retail sales decreased by 1% in 2023 due to the reduction of tax on grocery items.



The graph below shows actual and projected sales tax revenue collections for the City through 2028.

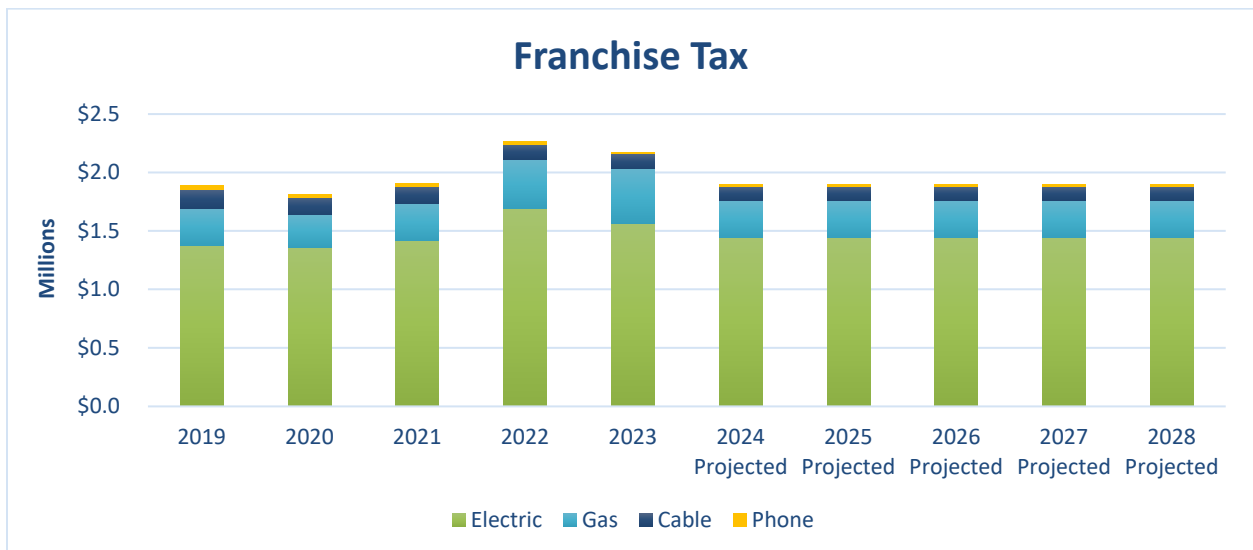


Franchise Taxes

Franchise taxes are the General Fund’s third largest revenue source; and the third largest unrestricted revenue source. Franchise taxes for the City include:

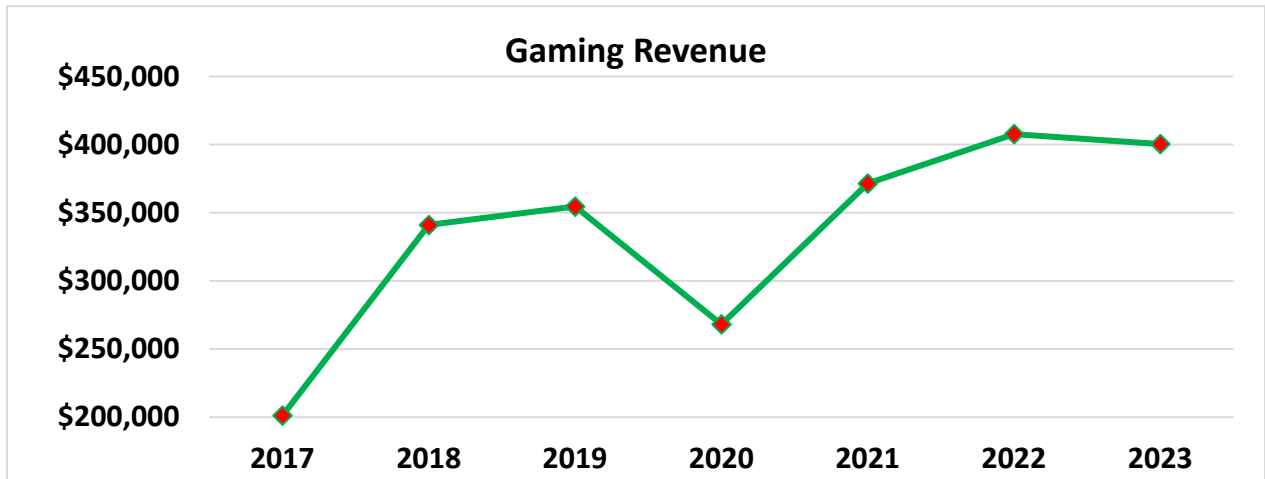
- Electric
- Natural Gas
- Cable
- Telephone

Franchise taxes are not consistent; their unpredictability is based on annual climatic conditions and the commodities market. The electric franchise taxes comprised 72% of the total franchise taxes collected in 2023 and are specifically driven by the climate and stockholder demands. Cable franchise taxes have been declining for several years and cell phones have reduced the dependence on landline telephones, so that portion of franchise tax continues to decline. Staff is projecting total franchise collections to remain flat for the period of 2024-2028.



Casino Gaming Revenue

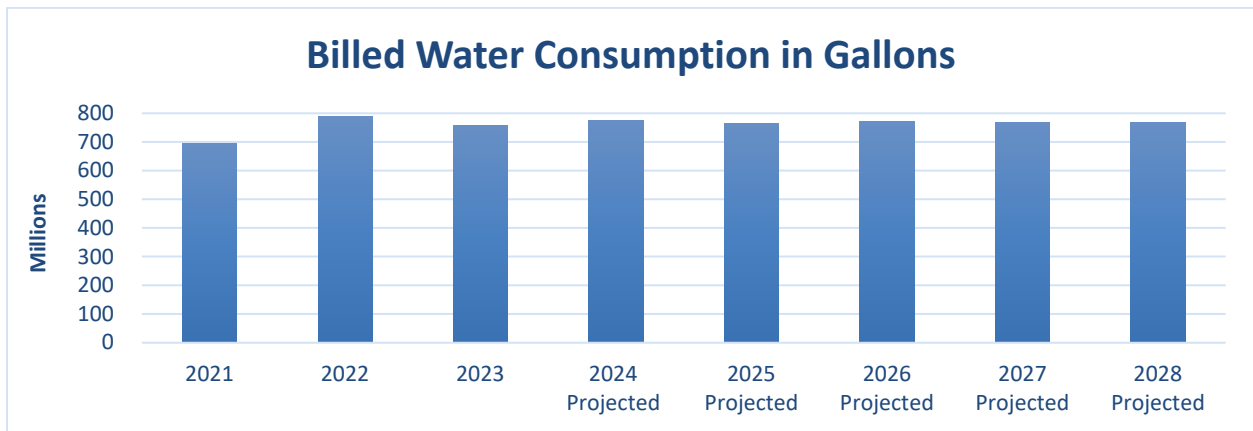
The City receives one percent of the gaming revenues generated by the Kansas Crossing Casino. Gaming revenue for the City supports the City's General Fund. In 2023, the City collected \$400,336 of gaming revenue. For years 2024-2027 staff is projecting revenue amounts of \$370,000 annually.



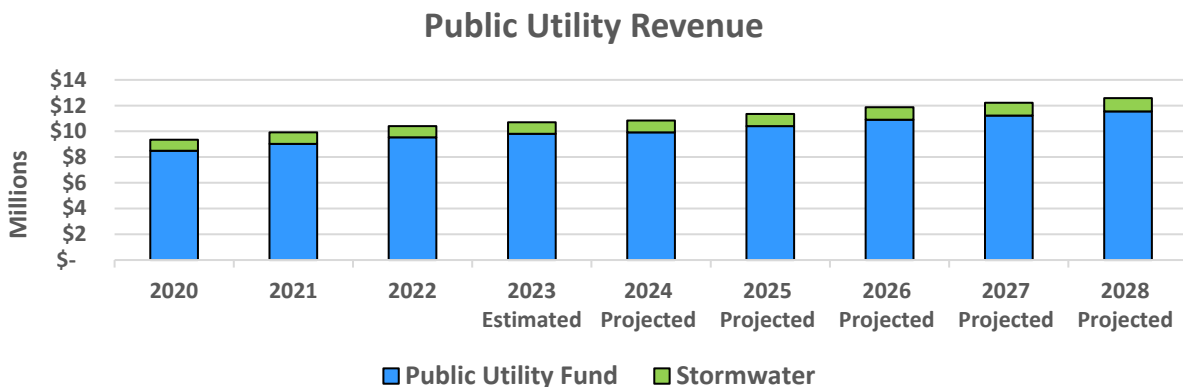
Public Utilities

The primary revenue source for public utility activities is user fees. In the case of water and wastewater, the levels of usage are volatile and based on climatic conditions, as well as consumer types. If the season is mild and wet, water use is lower than during high heat and drought conditions.

The graph on the next page depicts actual and projected billed water consumption for the City's water utility. Last year's consumption decreased by 3.9% over 2022 and is projected to remain closer to the historical average for years 2024 through 2027.



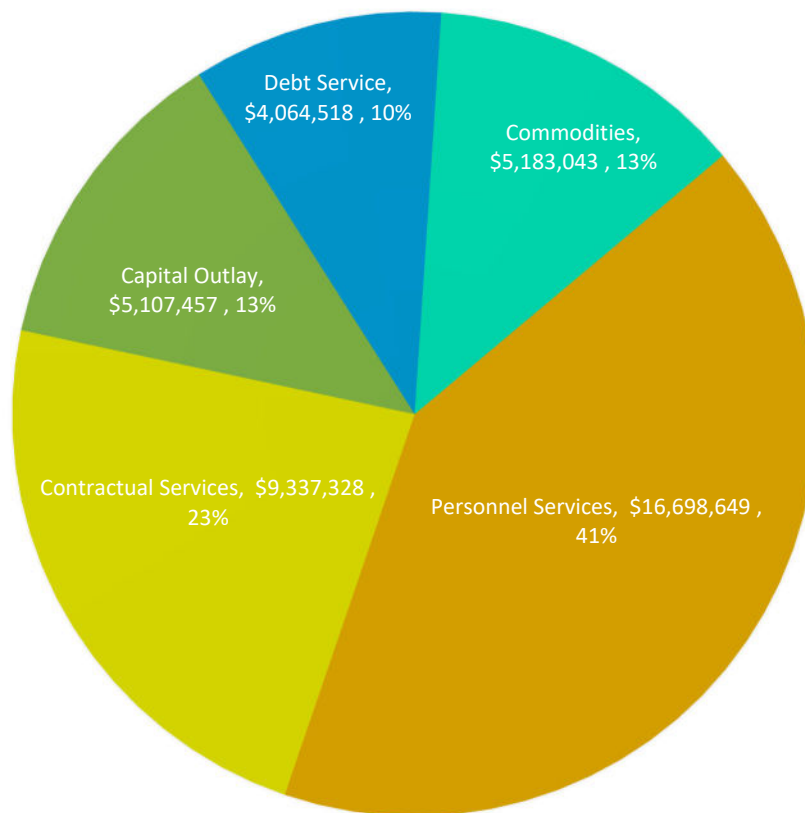
Utility rates were increased by 3% for 2023. Staff recommends 3% per year increase from 2024-2027 to cover operating expenses and debt cost, particularly with the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project planned to begin in 2024.



EXPENDITURES

The City directs its financial focus to program-based initiatives and is budgeting expenditures accordingly in order to accomplish goals. The following chart shows the expenditures by category for 2023 excluding inter-fund transfers.

2023 Expenditures by Category \$40,390,995



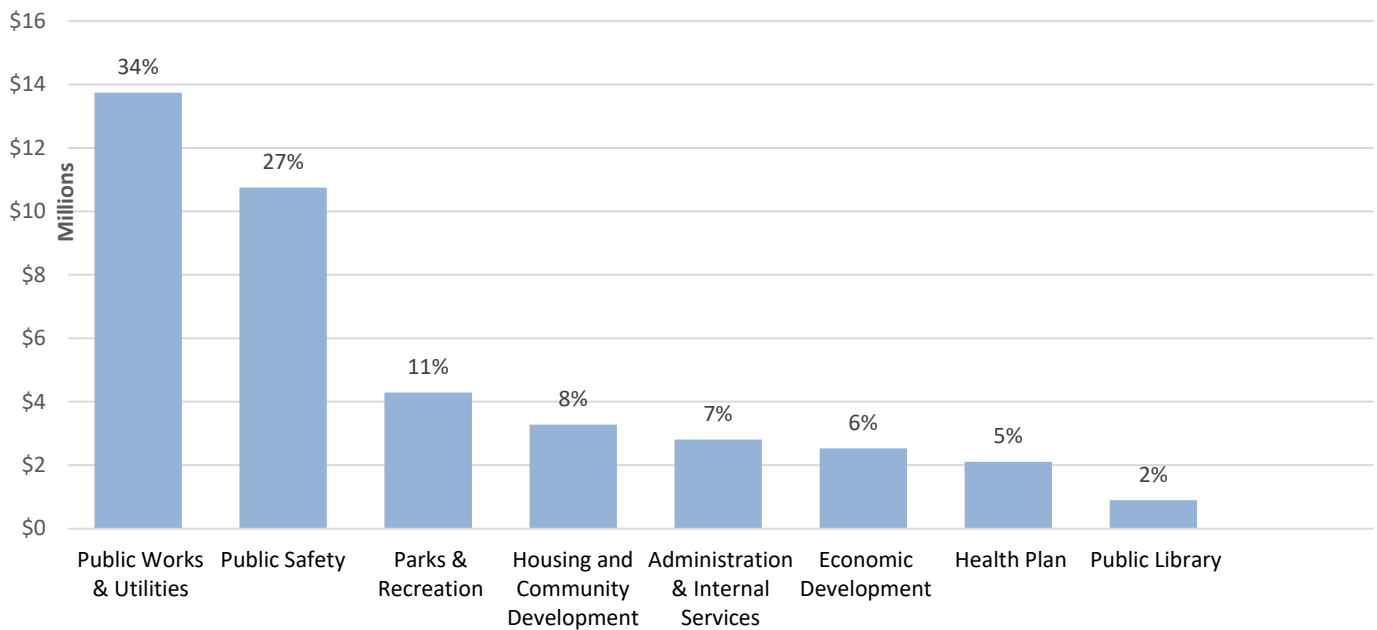
As is the case with most municipalities, personnel expenditures represent the majority of the City's expenditures. The City's benefit costs include health insurance, pensions, social security, worker's compensation insurance, Medicare, and unemployment insurance. For 2024 the city has 297 full-time equivalent employees (FTE) budgeted, with 247 positions having full-time status. Contractual services include property and liability

insurance, group health claims expense, software license agreements, utility costs, professional services, and lease payments for certain equipment.

Commodities are operating materials needed to perform City services such as equipment maintenance, gasoline and oil, chemicals, concrete, rock, computer and network materials, uniforms, janitorial supplies and office supplies.

Another useful way to view the City's expenditures is by program. The 2023 expenditures by program excluding inter-fund transfers are shown below. Major expenditures such as capital outlay and debt service are included within each program.

2023 Expenditures by Program \$40,390,995



City Health Insurance Plan

The City offers health insurance coverage to active employees and their dependents. Retired employees have the option to remain on the City's plan until they are eligible for Medicare.

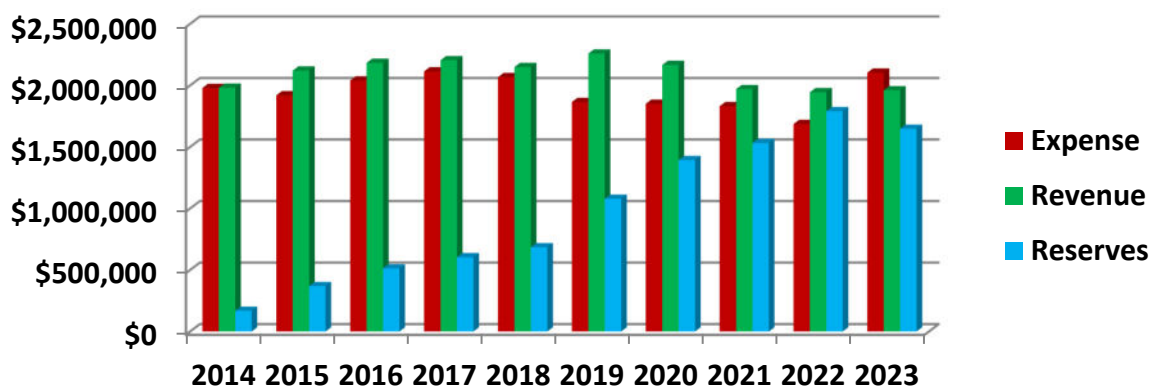
The City's health insurance plan is a self-funded plan paid for by employer and employee contributions to the plan based upon the coverage selected. Self-insured plans are often referred to as "pay as you go" because the claims are paid as they are incurred rather than paying premiums. Any balance that is unused stays in the fund to help offset future costs.

In 2015, the City changed its health insurance plan from a single provider and carved out the provider's network, the pharmaceutical provider, the dental provider, the stop loss insurance provider and the third-party administrator with the expectation of getting better service and saving money. The City's health plan reserves were \$168,669 at the start of 2015 and were \$1,624,016 at the end of 2023, an increase of \$1,455,347.

Insurance premiums for city employees have not been increased for eight years, however, due to the volatility of health insurance costs, staff will review the City's health plan every fiscal year to address affordability and cost containment.

The graph below shows a comparison of revenues, expenditures and reserve levels for the last ten years of the City's health insurance program.

Health Insurance Analysis - Last Ten Years



Capital Improvements

Capital expenditures reflect the cost to acquire, maintain, repair, replace, or upgrade fixed assets. Fixed assets have a life span exceeding a normal business cycle and whose cost exceeds a minimum dollar threshold established by management.

These assets are used to provide services to the public and during the course of their lifetime will require maintenance to keep them operating safely and efficiently. The performance and continued use of these assets are essential to the health, safety, economic development, and quality of life for the public.

Budgetary pressures often cause maintenance to be delayed due to lack of resources. This is referred to as deferred maintenance. Prolonged deferred maintenance results in higher costs, asset failure, and health and safety issues. Therefore, in order to adequately address these issues, a capital improvement plan is essential.

Currently, the City's fixed assets have a net value of approximately \$94.3 million dollars. It is estimated that the City should spend about 5% of the value of assets annually on maintenance. This equates to approximately \$4.7 million dollars each year.

DEBT SERVICE

Effective financial management involves analyzing several funding mechanisms to determine which option is the most beneficial to the City. In some cases, issuing debt is the best available option. The City of Pittsburg traditionally issues debt for infrastructure improvements, which have a long useful life and are unable to be paid from the operating budget. The revenues for making the debt payments are derived from the following sources based upon the nature of the improvement and the type of debt that has been issued:

- Property Taxes
- Charges for Services
- Sales Taxes
- Special Assessments
- Transfers

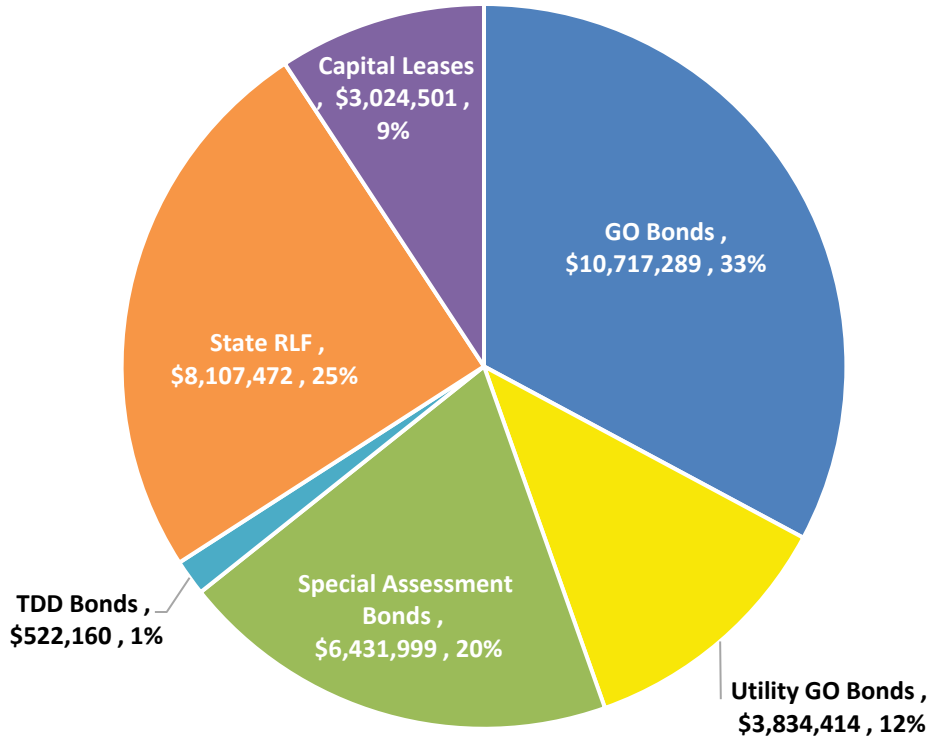
The City's bond rating was upgraded from A+ to AA- by Standard and Poor's in 2015. The upgraded bond rating was due to the City's enhanced financial management practices coupled with stable budgetary performance and projected stability in future years.

The City's current goal for general obligation bonded debt is to keep the debt service mill levy rate between 7 and 10 mills annually. This levy is used to fund general obligation debt payments. For 2024 the mill rate is programmed at 7.909 for debt.

Types of Debt

The City of Pittsburg uses several types of debt to pay for capital improvements and expensive equipment. The total amount of outstanding debt including principal and interest is forecasted at \$32,637,835. The graph on the following page shows the type of debt and the category percentage of the City's total debt.

Pittsburg 2023 Outstanding Debt \$32,637,835



Effective debt management requires monitoring debt levels to ensure the soundness of the City's financial position and continued credit worthiness.

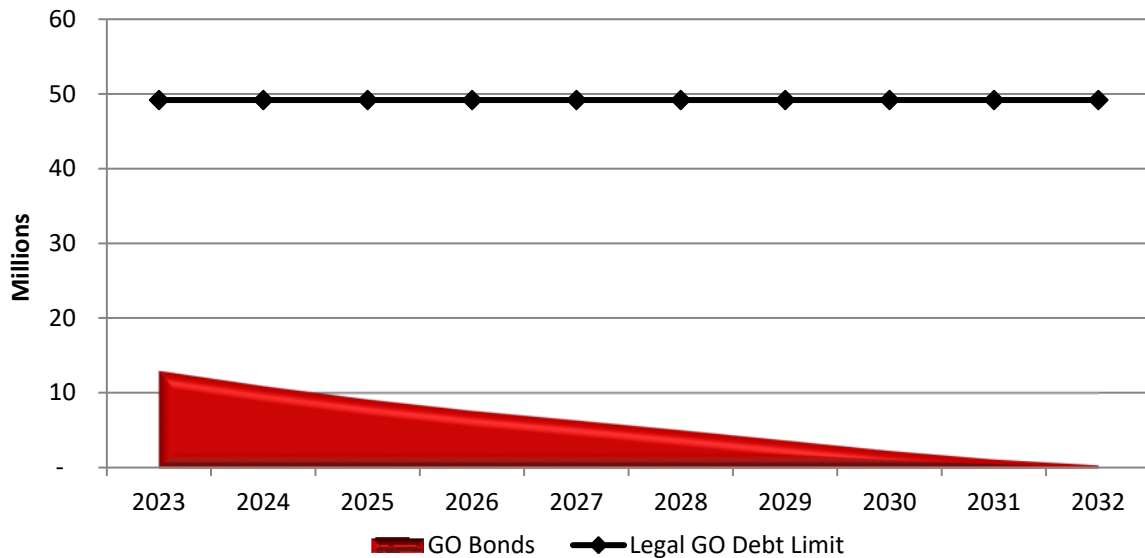
For Fiscal Year 2024

City's property tax supported G.O. debt as a percentage of net assessed valuation	8.9%
City's property tax supported G.O. debt per capita	\$760
Mill Rate	7.909 mills

There are two main types of municipal bonds: general obligation bonds and revenue bonds. A general obligation bond (GO) is a municipal bond backed by the full credit and taxing power of the City. When GO bonds are issued, the City pledges to use all available resources, including general funds and taxes, to repay the bondholders.

General obligation bonds are used to finance public projects that do not make money such as streets and parks. Revenue bonds, rather, are used to finance projects with a built-in revenue stream, such as the City's utilities. Revenue bonds are backed by specific sources of revenue. With GO bonds, the City can, and is expected to, use all means necessary to repay bondholders.

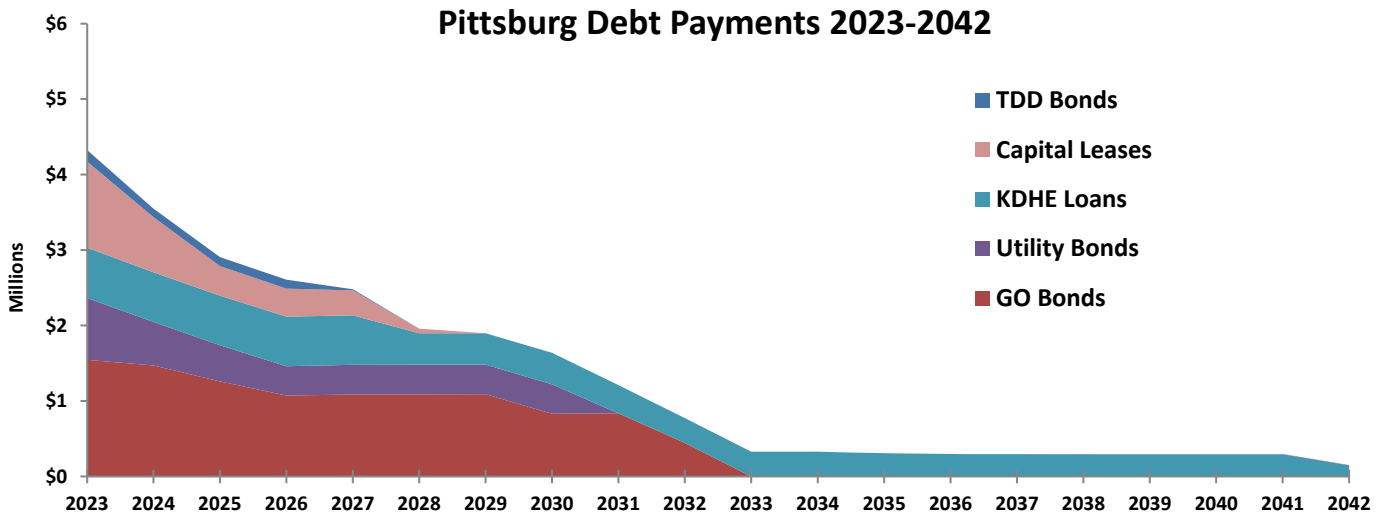
Legal G.O. Debt Limit Compared to Current Debt Level



Kansas statutes require general obligation debt to be less than 30% of assessed valuation. The current legal debt limit is \$49.1 million. The graph above shows the difference between the City's current total outstanding G.O. debt (principal only) of \$14.7 million compared to what is allowed according to State statutes. The red indicates the City's level of G.O. debt as compared to the black line which indicates the legal limits (30% of assessed valuation including motor vehicle).

Cumulative Debt

The following graph depicts the City's total annual debt payments by type and the year the bonds are scheduled to retire. The graph excludes the special assessment bonds being repaid by the Kansas Crossing Casino.



Debt Service Payments Per Year

2023	\$4,324,380	2030	\$1,636,901
2024	\$3,549,105	2031	\$1,209,136
2025	\$2,905,073	2032	\$772,470
2026	\$2,606,567	2033	\$327,870
2027	\$2,480,618	2034	\$327,870
2028	\$1,957,450	2035	\$310,188
2029	\$1,896,926	2036	\$292,505

RESERVES

Reserves are the cornerstone of financial stability and flexibility, providing options to respond to unforeseen risks. The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommends minimum reserve levels at 16% of revenues or two months of expenditures. The City’s goal is two months of expenditures.

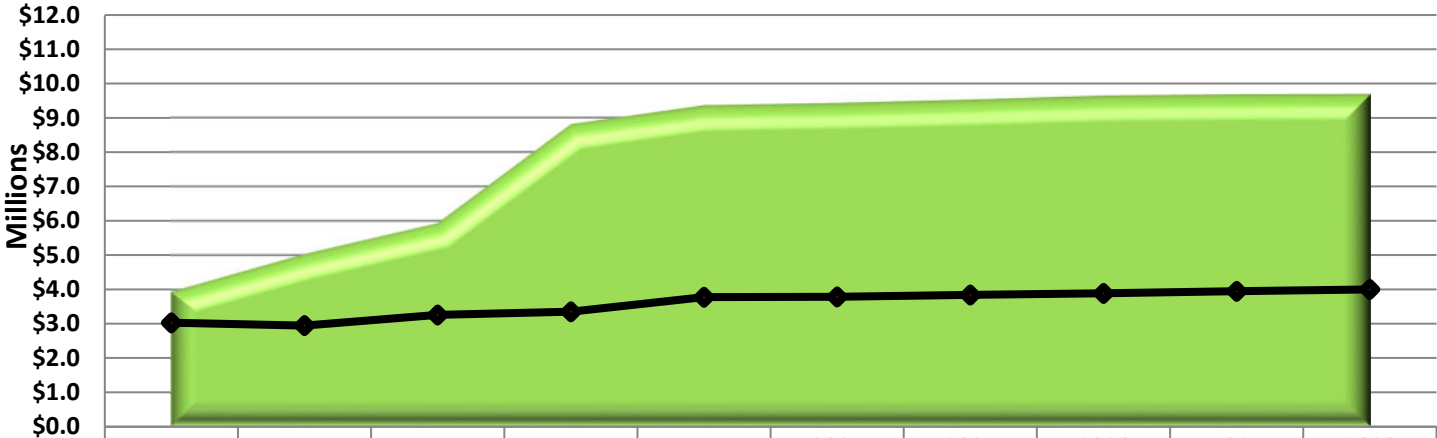
Several risk factors to consider are:

- Revenue volatility
- Infrastructure condition
- Extreme events such as weather and pandemics

Since the great recession, the City has realized growth in community investment with property valuations and sales tax collections increasing each year. At the close of 2023, fund reserve levels for the General Fund and Utility Fund met the City’s goal of at least 16% of expenditures.

Reserves are continually evaluated when determining department budgets and approving expenditures throughout the year. The following graph shows the projected operating reserves of the General Fund compared to the reserve goal of 16% of expenditures.

General Fund Operating Reserves

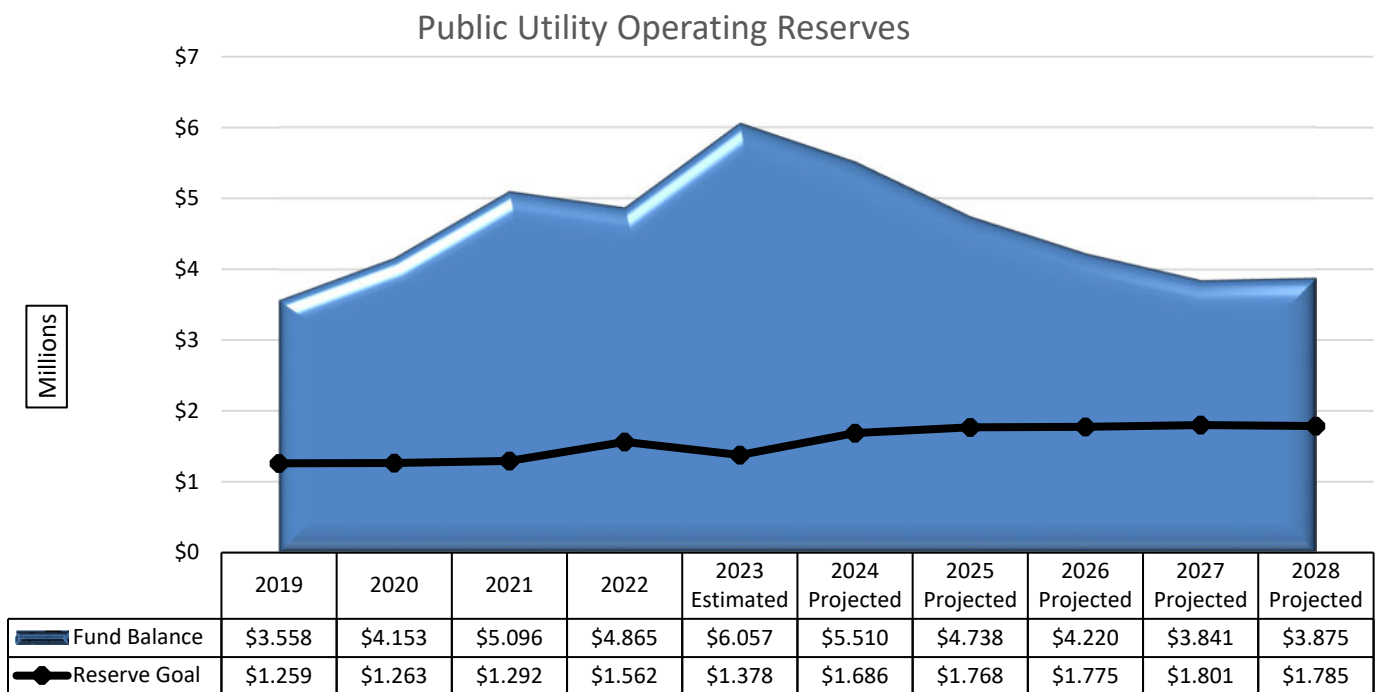


	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 Projected	2025 Projected	2026 Projected	2027 Projected	2028 Projected
Fund Balance	\$3.930	\$5.029	\$5.927	\$8.799	\$9.346	\$9.415	\$9.510	\$9.627	\$9.665	\$9.676
Reserve Goal	\$3.025	\$2.946	\$3.257	\$3.348	\$3.776	\$3.781	\$3.839	\$3.884	\$3.947	\$4.002

Growing reserves the last four years has placed the City in a better position to mitigate operational effects from revenue changes, take advantage of economic development opportunities, and support the City’s workforce through wage or staffing increases.

Public Utility Operating Reserves

The following graph shows projected operating reserves for the public utility fund compared to the reserve goal of 16% of expenditures.



The increase from 2019 to 2021 is to pay the future debt costs of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant. Permanent financing for this new plant will be through the Kansas Division of Health and Environment loan program. Staff are projecting the public utility fund will meet the 16% of expenditures reserve goal for years 2024-2028.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

Not unlike our local businesses, the City is feeling the impact of rising commodity prices and the tight labor market. Revenue sources for the General Fund, such as sales tax, are keeping pace and allowing the City to minimally grow operations to match our community's growth. Utility revenues will need ongoing rate increases to keep up with similar demands and to fund critical improvements to our infrastructure.

Effective financial management has put the City's reserves in a healthy position to mitigate uncontrollable factors such as the prospect of a recession, extreme weather, and rising costs of health insurance, utilities and more.

During the 2021 legislative session, the tax lid was removed and the legislature enacted Senate Bill 13. This legislation established a notice and public hearing requirement if the proposed budget will exceed the property tax levy's revenue neutral rate (RNR). The RNR is the mill rate that would generate the same property tax revenue as levied the previous tax year using the current tax year's total assessed valuation.

Based upon our projections of revenues and expenditures, using historical data and other known factors, this financial plan was prepared with the following assumptions, considerations and recommendations. Staff will continue to review the City's financial position each year and make recommendations in the Five-Year Financial Plan for your consideration.

Assumptions

- Sales tax revenue, 2% growth for years 2024-2028
- Assessed valuation is projected to remain consistent from 2024 to 2028
- Gaming revenue from the Kansas Crossing Casino continues at \$370,000 annually for years 2024-2028
- Utility rate increases of 3% annually for years 2024-2028
- All other revenues project flat to minimal growth
- Retirement costs will continue to rise in years 2024-2028 with a 0.34% KPERS and 1.51% KPF increases annually

- Worker's compensation insurance will continue to increase at a rate of 3% annually
- Contractual and commodities expenses are projected to increase 3.0% annually for years 2024-2028

Considerations

- Adjust revenues based upon historical and current trends
- Monitor and control expenditures
- Maintain a structurally balanced budget
- Maintain reserve levels
- Continue to practice long term planning
- Make data driven decisions
- Provide programs and services guided by the Imagine Pittsburg goals

Recommendations

- 3% COLA in 2025
- Additional 2% merit increase in years 2025 and 2027
- Minimal changes to the Debt Service Fund mill rate for years 2024-2028
- Increase utility rates by 3% annually for years 2024-2028
- No change to mill rate for 2024-2028