



Message from the City Manager

As Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-2014 closes, we remain optimistic about the financial stability of the City of Sparks. It is encouraging to see continued modest revenue increases as we enter a more stable economic climate. As a result of some overall "belt-tightening," we have weathered the worse economic downturn in recent memory, and will end the current year with a healthy fund balance.

In this document, you will find a brief overview of the City of Sparks' FY 2014-2015 Budget.

The General Fund budget consists of \$57 million in total spending (excluding contingency), up \$1.3M from FY 2013-2014 preliminary estimates, and requires no staff layoffs or service reductions.

General Fund Revenue Highlights – FY 2014-2015 Budget

- Consolidated Tax Revenue (CTAX) is projected to increase 3%
- Property tax revenues increase 4% partially due to a 4.37 cent increase to the City's property tax rate
- Business licenses, permits and franchise fees are expected to increase 4% partially due to an increase in the garbage franchise fee from 5% to 8%
- The General Fund will be repaid the remaining \$704K in FY 2014-2015 for a subsidy given to the Development Services Fund in FY 2009-2010 & FY 2010-2011.
- A \$1M transfer from the Motor Vehicle Fund is budgeted to offset the contingency budget and will be made only if other resources are insufficient to meet an emergency budget shortfall

General Fund Expenditure Highlights - FY 2014-2015 Budget

- Health insurance contributions and premiums increase 25%
- New Needs of \$225k including one new position were approved
- Due to the expiration of a grant, Police Department salaries will increase \$350k
- A \$902k investment by the General Fund in needed capital improvements and technology will be made
- A \$734k transfer to Parks & Rec will subsidize costs that are not covered by user fees
- A contingency budget of \$1M is included
- All General Fund Debt service costs in FY 2014-2015 will be funded by unused bond proceeds

The City's fiscal policy is to maintain a minimum unrestricted ending fund balance between 5.5% and 8.3% of expenditures within the General Fund. The FY 2014-2015 General Fund budget meets that goal and results in an ending fund balance equal to 6.4% of expenditures.

The financial stability the new fiscal year brings, largely due to the hard work and sacrifice of the entire City team, is a welcomed relief, though the economic challenges remain far from over as revenue streams are well below pre-recessionary levels. This year will permit us to regroup and focus on confronting and finding solutions for the next series of challenges on the horizon, and allow us to continue down the path of creating a sustainable city government.

Sparks Mayor, City Council, City Attorney and Judges



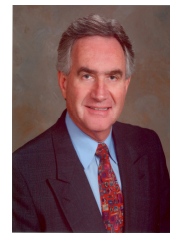
Julia Ratti, Ward 1; Ed Lawson, Ward 2; Ron Smith, Ward 3; Mayor Geno Martini; Mike Carrigan, Ward 4; Ron Schmitt, Ward 5



City Attorney
Chet Adams



Municipal Judge
Barbara McCarthy



Municipal Judge
Jim Spoo

SENIOR STAFF: Stephen W. Driscoll, City Manager; Brian Allen, Police Chief; Tom Garrison, Fire Chief; Jeff Cronk, Financial Services Director; Neil Krutz, Deputy City Manager for Community Services; Tracy Domingues, Parks & Recreation Director

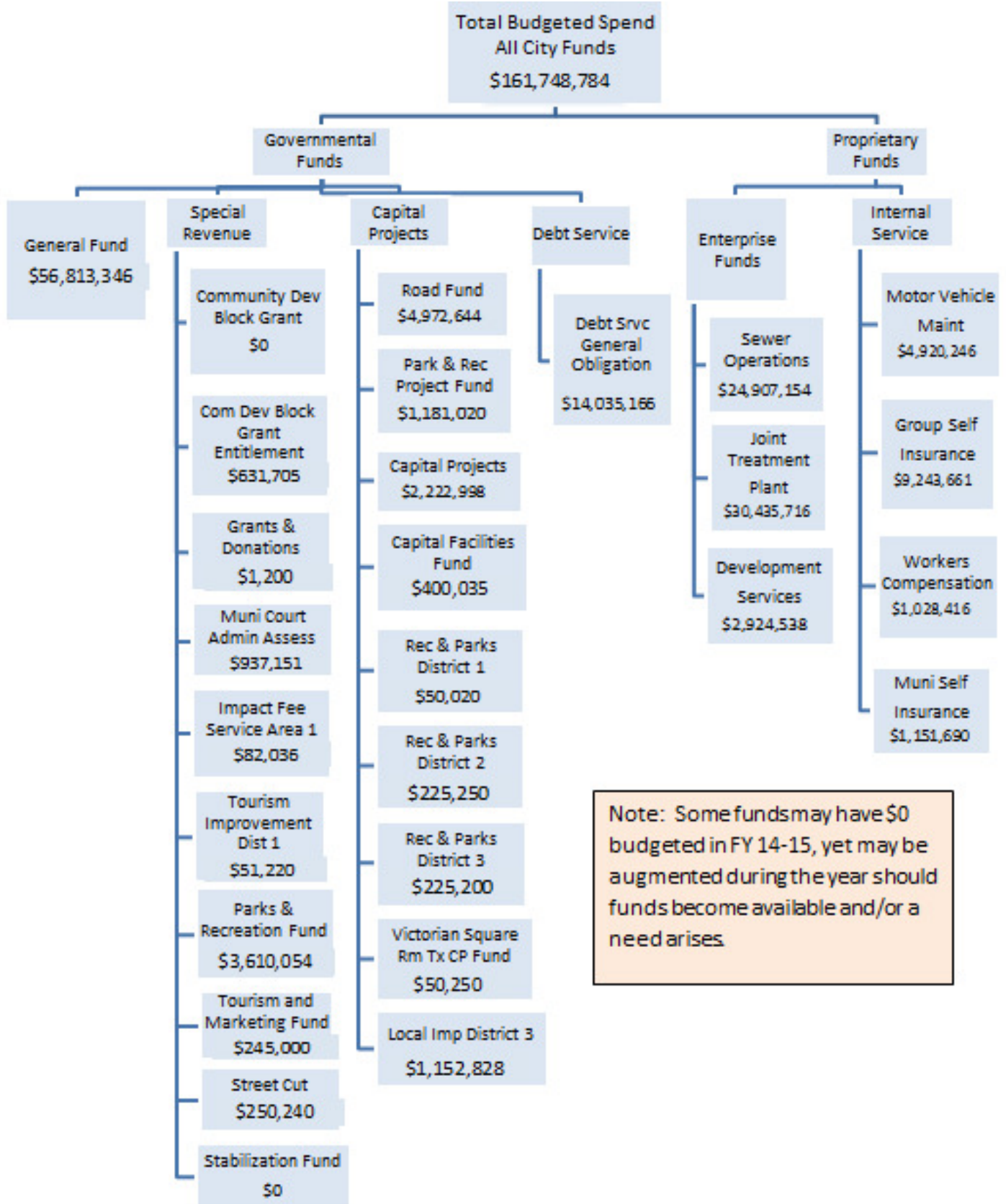
The City of Sparks Vision

Be the city of choice for residents, businesses and visitors.

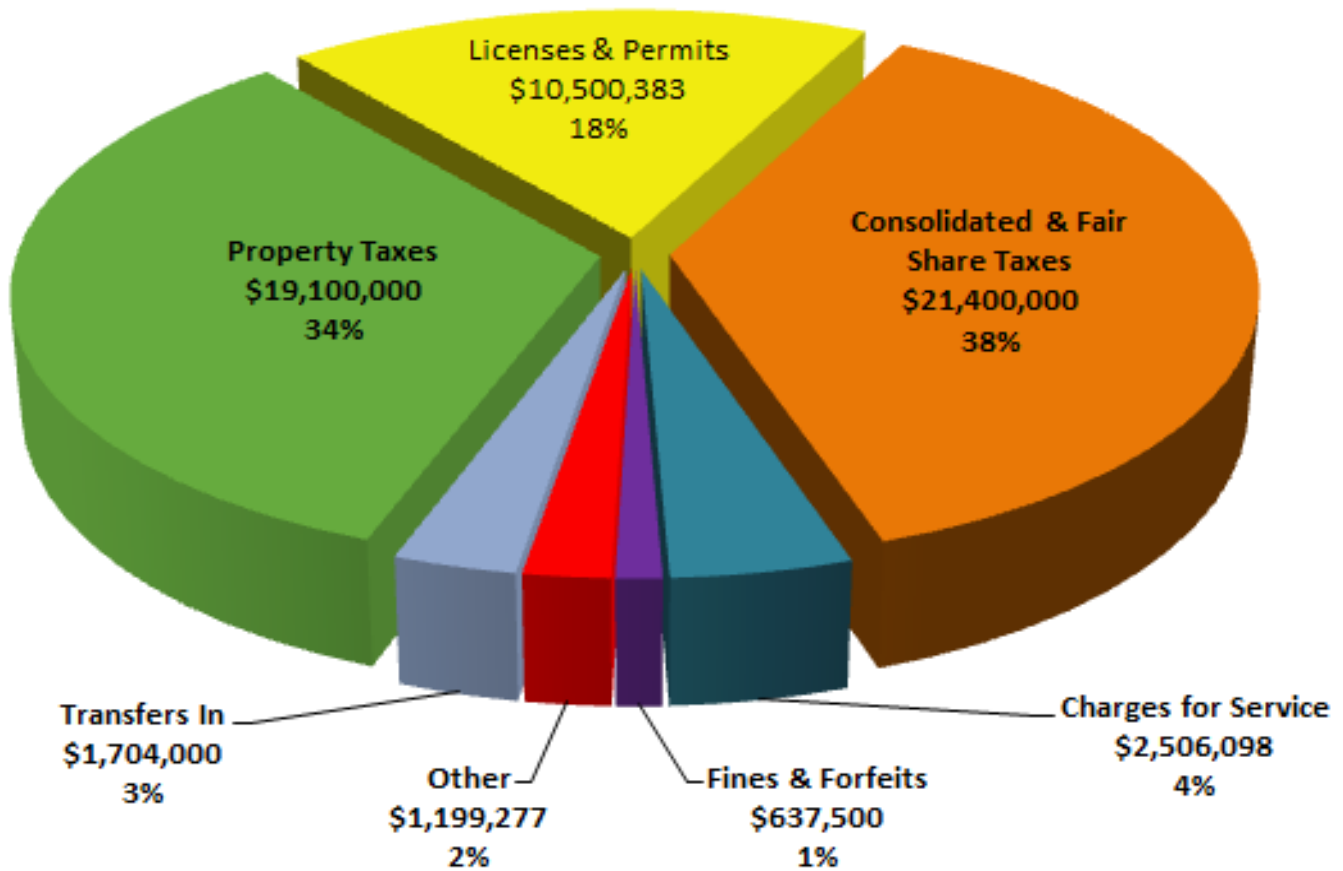
The City of Sparks Mission

By establishing financial stability and an effective work environment, the City of Sparks will provide a safe environment, economic development, special events, cost-effective sustainable services, and opportunities for citizen involvement.

Funds Utilized by City of Sparks with FY 2014-15 Budgeted Expenditures



General Fund Revenues Fiscal Year 2014-15



General Fund Expenditures by Department Fiscal Year 2014-15

