CITY OF SCOTTSDALE

A REPORT TO OUR CITIZENS

FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017

About Scottsdale

The voters elect a mayor and six councilmembers to govern Scottsdale. The City Council appoints six officers to advise them on policy issues and run daily operations. 2,711 city employees and 5,509 volunteers serve the 238,000 citizens of Scottsdale.

What was accomplished?

These are a few selected accomplishments from the past year, grouped by strategic goal:

VALUE SCOTTSDALE'S UNIQUE LIFESTYLE AND CHARACTER

- New **Scottsdazzle** holiday and Western Week events focus attention on Downtown Scottsdale
- New monthly downtown e-newsletter provides info on city efforts to 1,500+ subscribers

SEEK SUSTAINABILITY

- Improved **green waste recycling** from single-family homes by 7 percent
- Improved safety and reduced risk in four city buildings by installing new fire alarms

PRESERVE MEANINGFUL OPEN SPACE

- Acquired 400+ acres of state land for Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve
- Opened 7½ miles of **new preserve trails** north of Dynamite Boulevard

ADVANCE TRANSPORTATION

- Adjusted **traffic signals** to reduce commutes by 15+ percent on 4 major roads
- Began designing project to add bike lanes along McDowell Road corridor

ENHANCE NEIGHBORHOODS

- **Back to school program** provided 992 children with clothing and backpacks filled with supplies
- More than 4,000 participate in Library's fourth Ultimate Play Date for families
- Police and Fire departments hosted successful 5-day interactive teen academy

SUPPORT ECONOMIC VITALITY

- Attracted, retained or expanded **14 businesses with 1,019 jobs** with average wages of $62,744

How our residents rate Scottsdale

Percent "excellent" or "good"

As a place to live

94% 2006 | 96% 2010 | 98% 2016

Quality of life

90% 2006 | 94% 2010 | 96% 2016

For complete results go to ScottsdaleAZ.gov and search "survey."

How do we compare with our neighbors?

Scottsdale is part of the Phoenix metropolitan area, and taxes and rates vary across the eight largest cities. Scottsdale's rates are lower than all but two or three of the largest cities. Scottsdale's rates are also at or below last year's levels.

CITY PROPERTY TAX ON A $250,000 HOUSE

This is the amount of city-only property tax on a home assessed at $250,000 in area communities. About 10 percent of the total tax bill goes to the city. The rest goes for public schools, the county, and other special districts.

Source: City budget offices

CITY SALES TAX ON A $25,000 CAR

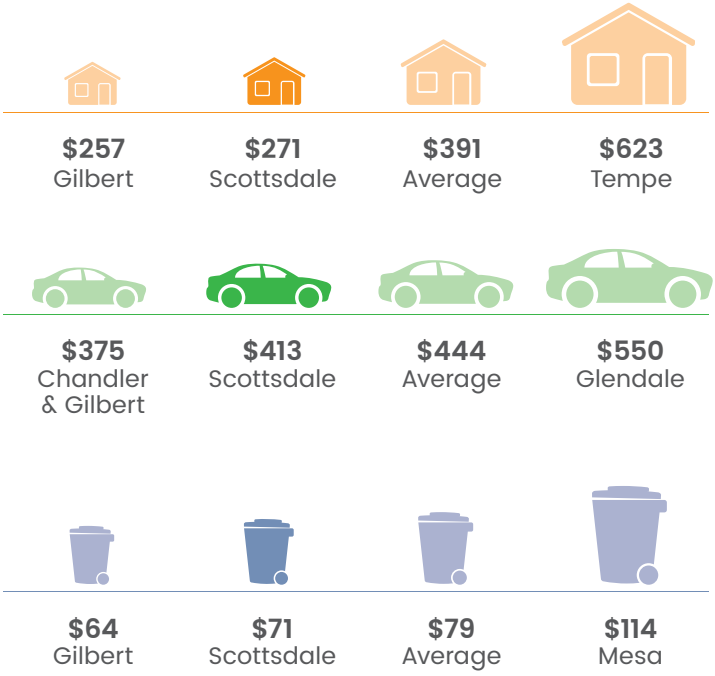
This is the city sales tax that would be due on a new car valued at $25,000 in area communities. In Scottsdale, the city portion is 1.65% of the total 7.95% charged. The rest goes to the state and the county.

Source: Arizona Department of Revenue

MONTHLY RESIDENTIAL UTILITY BILL

This includes water, wastewater (sewer) and solid waste (trash and recycling) for a single-family residential customer in each community. Actual bills may vary based on actual usage and size of property.

Source: City of Tempe



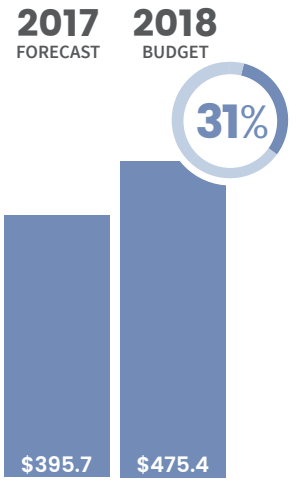
How are we doing?

This is a snapshot of measures from the city's Quarterly Performance Report. For more measures, go to ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search "performance."

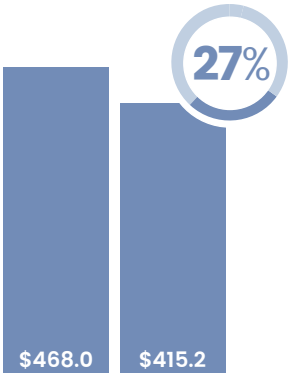
What does it cost to run the city and how are those costs paid?

Scottsdale is required by law to adopt a budget each year, and cannot spend more than that total amount. This includes all city funds for the fiscal year ending June 30. These numbers are as adopted by the City Council on June 2017. The city's financial statements are audited annually by an independent auditor. The most recent audit for 2016 received a clean opinion.

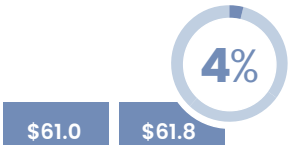
What financial resources are available for the City of Scottsdale? (in millions of dollars)



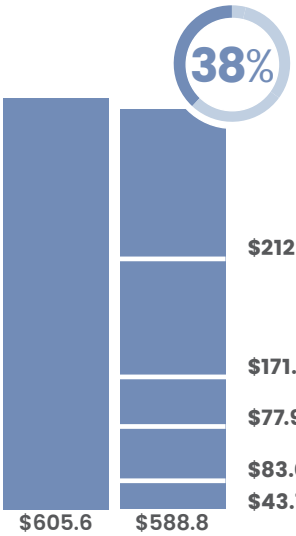
The **fund balance** consists of the accumulated surpluses from prior years held in contingency and reserve.



Other financing sources includes funds carried over from prior years for capital and utilities designated purposes.



Property taxes are collected to support city services, and also to pay for debt service on property, buildings and infrastructure.



The city receives revenue from **local sales and business taxes**, and **service charges** from customers. Key breakouts below.

$212.3 – LOCAL TAXES

$171.7 – UTILITIES AND ENTERPRISES

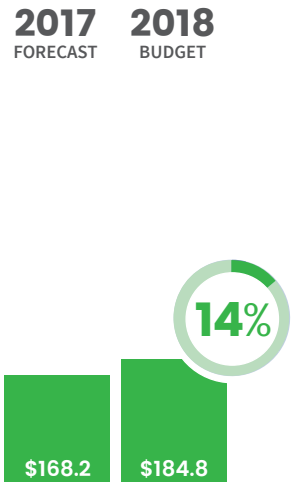
$77.9 – GRANTS, TRUSTS AND INTEREST EARNINGS

$83.0 – STATE AND REGIONAL TAXES

$43.7 – LICENSES, FINES & FEES

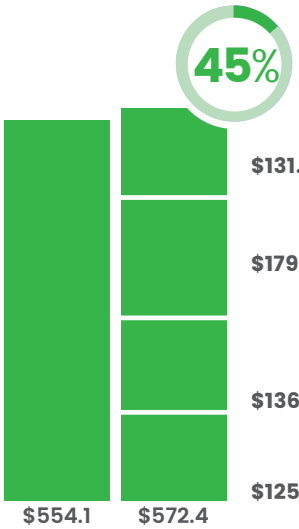
2017 FORECAST	2018 BUDGET	
$1,530.3	$1,541.3	**Total financial resources available**

What are the expenses for running the City of Scottsdale? (in millions of dollars)



The city sets aside about 14% of the total budget for **contingency and reserves.** This is the city's savings account.

The **capital budget** is used to acquire or construct major facilities including buildings, roads and water infrastructure.



The **operating budget** is used to pay for city services and to pay employees that provide those services. Key breakouts shown below.

$131.0 – UTILITY SERVICES FOR CUSTOMERS AND CITY INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

$179.2 – ALL OTHER CITY SERVICES SUCH AS PLANNING, PARKS, LIBRARIES AND ADMINISTRATION

$136.7 – POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES

$125.4 – LONG-TERM DEBT

2017 FORECAST	2018 BUDGET	
$1,363.3	$1,279.8	**Maximum expenditure limit**

What are our priorities for Fiscal Year 2017/18?

The city's mission statement is Simply Better Service for a World-Class Community. The city has six long-term strategic goals and six short-term priorities. Selected objectives that advance these efforts are listed below.

Simply Better Service for a World-Class Community

PHOTOS: BOB BENNETT, SEAN DECKERT, MAUREEN ISREE, W. SCOTT MITCHELL

PRESERVE MEANINGFUL OPEN SPACE

- Initiate site design and public input process for new trailhead at Pima and Dynamite
- Acquire remaining private parcel within the Preserve recommended study boundary area

SUPPORT ECONOMIC VITALITY

- Develop and carry out strategies that support new investment in key employment centers
- Implement Downtown Marketing plan to attract regional visitors and support local business

ENHANCE NEIGHBORHOODS

- Create new grant-funded Family Resource Center to provide library and human services
- Build 3 new fire stations and refurbish another with bond financing approved by voters in 2015

ADVANCE TRANSPORTATION

- Begin planning and acquisition for Cactus Trolley, Airpark Trolley and Scottsdale Limited Bus service
- Invest additional $20 million to replace aging pavement to restore streets to pre-recession standard using bond financing approved by voters in 2015

SEEK SUSTAINABILITY

- Increase residential recycling diversion rate to 30% or more over next two years
- Improve citizen access to services and data through new online app and open data portal

VALUE SCOTTSDALE'S UNIQUE LIFESTYLE AND CHARACTER

- Improve pedestrian and disabled access along sidewalks and improve lighting Downtown
- Expand Canal Convergence event to two weekends and move event to Fall 2018

Citizen-Centric Reporting AGA

This report provides a snapshot of information available in the budget and comprehensive annual financial report documents which are available at ScottsdaleAZ.gov and search "finance."

This report is prepared according to AGA citizen centric reporting standards.

Please contact the City Manager's Office if you have comments or suggestions on how we can improve this report.

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