



NEWS

For more information:
LaMarriol Smith
lamarriol.smith@ci.buda.tx.us
(512) 523-1052 Office
(512) 496-3743 Cell

For Immediate Release

Aug. 9, 2022

Draft Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Presented to Buda City Council

BUDA, TEXAS – The Buda City Council received the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 budget presentation during a Special Council meeting Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022, in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 405 E. Loop St., in Buda.

The proposed budget totals \$102,323,229, including \$51.5 million in capital projects related to implementation of the 2021 General Obligation Bond and other planned capital projects of the City. The budget proposes to hold the tax rate at \$0.3423 per \$100 of valuation, one of the lowest municipal tax rates in the state for full-service cities. The budget also proposes a combined average utility rate increase of 15% on customers' water and wastewater bills. No rate adjustments are proposed for the sanitation fee.

The proposed \$16,719,483 general fund budget for FY-2023 represents a \$1,547,339 increase over the FY-2022 general fund budget and includes funding for two new police positions, a new development navigator position that will serve as a liaison between commercial- and small-business developers and the City's Development Services staff to assist in navigating the City's development process, and two additional parks maintenance employees.

The budget also includes additional funding for employee compensation in order to retain and attract staff to provide outstanding service to the community, \$51.5 million in capital projects, and a shared expense with Hays County Emergency Communications Center for \$598,000. Focus areas for the upcoming budget year include improvements to the development process and economic expansion, implementation of the 2021 bond propositions, pursuit of federal and state grants for projects, enhanced park programming, employee retention, downtown parking, and increased broadband communication.

“We have produced a budget aimed at meeting the needs of the Buda community. While the City's proposed tax rate exceeds the No-New-Revenue tax rate, it does not exceed the Voter-Approval tax,” Buda City Manager Micah said. “The Fiscal Year 2023 proposed tax rate is .3423 per \$100. The Fiscal Year 2022 preceding year's tax rate was .3423 per \$100. The 2023 No-New-Revenue Rate is .2844 per \$100, but the Voter-Approval Tax Rate is .3432 per \$100,” he explained.

The City will hold a courtesy public hearing on the proposed tax rate and a hearing on the proposed budget on Tuesday, Sept. 6. This courtesy public hearing will allow citizens another opportunity to express their support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate at the same time as the public hearing on the proposed budget. The statutory required public hearing on the tax rate is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 20. The City Council will be asked to vote on the proposed budget and tax rate on Sept. 20.

The draft Fiscal Year 2023 budget may be viewed online at <https://ci.buda.tx.us/131/Budget>.

The City of Buda is home to about 18,000 residents and has earned designations as a “Texas Main Street City,” “Tree City USA,” “Bee City Affiliate” and “Platinum Level Scenic City.” Buda is situated along the Interstate 35 corridor, has 14 parks and a historic downtown district where residents and visitors alike can shop, dine, relax, and *breathe easy here*.

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