

# **Budget in Brief**

Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

The Tempe City Council has set five strategic priorities which are their most important goals for our community. The FY 2020-21 budget is aligned with these strategic priorities and demonstrates Tempe's commitment to be an inclusive, transparent and high-performing organization.



Safe & Secure Communities Ensuring a safe and secure community through a commitment to public safety and justice.



Sustainable Growth & Development

Implementing sustainable growth and development strategies to improve Tempe's environment, quality of life and economic outcomes. Tempe strives to make long-term generational investments in technology, infrastructure and public transit that create a safe, clean, equitable and healthy city.



**Quality of Life** 

Enhancing the quality of life for all Tempe residents and workers through investment in neighborhoods, parks, the arts, human services, and city amenities, with an emphasis on equity and diversity.



Strong Community Connections

Developing and maintaining a strong community connection by emphasizing the importance of open government, customer service and communication with community members.



Financial Stability & Vitality Maintaining long-term financial stability and vitality by focusing on economic development, business retention and generating employment to create a robust and diverse economic base.



Cover photo by: Alex Harris

# **City Budget**

## Capital Projects \$235.4 million\*

Accounts for the capital program to maintain and/or improve the city's infrastructure.

## General Fund \$236.7 million\*

Represents the general operating fund of the city. It is used to support city services such as police, fire, park maintenance, recreation programs, planning and more.

## Special Revenue Funds \$156.7 million\*

The funds are restricted for specific purposes. These include Transit (light rail, buses), Performing Arts (Tempe Center for the Arts), Highway User Revenue Fund (street maintenance) and CDBG/Section 8 (housing assistance).

## Enterprise Funds \$116.8 million

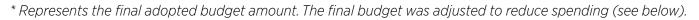
Used to account for operations that are paid for by the users of the service. This would include Water/Wastewater, Solid Waste, Emergency Medical Transportation and Golf operations.

## Debt Service \$30 million

A fund to receive secondary property tax revenue that is used to make principal and interest payments on voter-approved bonds.

## Miscellaneous \$2 million

Used to account for various other expenditures.



# economic impact of COVID-19 on city budget

### FY 2020-21 City Budget Adjustments:

The \$777.6 million final budget was adjusted in August 2020 to reduce Department spending because of the anticipated decline in City revenues due to the economic impact of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Through a participative process that included both resident and employee feedback, the City Council approved adjusting the City budget as follows:

Fund	Budget Adjustments
General Fund (general operations of the City)	(\$11.0 million)
Performing Arts Fund (TCA and arts/cultural programs)	(\$1.0 million)
Transportation (HURF) Fund (street maintenance)	(\$1.3 million)
Total	(\$13.3 million)

These funds are the most impacted by declining tax revenues. The adjustments included reductions in Department operating budgets, use of alternative funding sources, and some increases in fees.



# general fund - where the money comes from



## TOTAL \$226.4 M\*\*

\* \*Amounts were adjusted to reflect the projected decline in revenues due to the COVID-19

## general fund - where the money goes

Public Safety

Police and Fire services.

\$133.1 M



and services, neighborhood code compliance and sustainability.

### Support Services \$34.9 M

Includes support functions such as human resources, legal services, accounting, budget, IT and the City Manager's Office.

## Community & Human Services \$40.2 M

Includes library, Parks and Recreation programs, Tempe PRE, counseling, housing and CARE 7 support services.

# enterprise operations

The City of Tempe provides clean water, treats solid waste and wastewater, showcases two golf courses, and offers ambulance transport. Throughout the year, customers pay for these services.

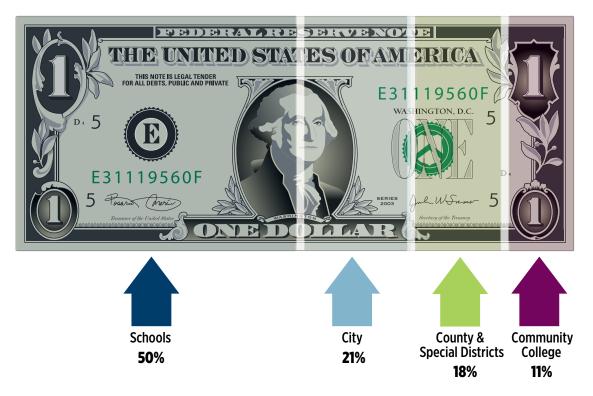


# Tempe continues to improve – capital projects

Tempe has a five-year capital plan that enables long-range, proactive planning for maintenance, improvements and expansions to the city's infrastructure.



# where does my property tax payment go?



## budget process & community participation



#### How to Become Involved in the Budget Process

The City of Tempe values public input and participation in the budget process. To set priorities and craft the best possible budget, community input is critical. Learn more at **tempe.gov/budget**.

- Community and Business Surveys
- Public Budget Forums
- Online Tempe Forum
- Public Budget Meetings\*
- Direct email to Mayor and Council

Tempe has the highest available credit rating, which helps lower the cost of borrowing. Bond Rating: AAA Fitch and S&P

\*Due to concerns over COVID-19 exposure, the City has implemented measures to protect our community including the closing of Council Chambers and limiting public attendance of meetings to electronic means only. Members of the public were invited to participate in live virtual public budget meetings.



Tempe City Council

Corey Woods, **Mayor** Randy Keating, **Vice Mayor** Jennifer Adams, **Councilmember** Robin Arredondo-Savage, **Councilmember** Doreen Garlid, **Councilmember** Lauren Kuby, **Councilmember** Joel Navarro, **Councilmember** 

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More City of Tempe budget details can be found at

## tempe.gov/budget

To learn more about the City Council Priorities, attend a Tempe Accelerates session.

Visit tempe.gov for city government news, alerts and service details.

