

City of  
Fort Myers, Florida



Highlights of the  
Annual Budget  
Fiscal Year 2020-2021  
Final Hearing: September 23, 2020

**Mayor  
Randall P. Henderson, Jr.**

**City Council**

<b>Teresa Watkins Brown</b>	<b>Ward 1</b>
<b>Johnny Streets, Jr.</b>	<b>Ward 2</b>
<b>Terolyn Watson</b>	<b>Ward 3</b>
<b>Kevin Anderson</b>	<b>Ward 4</b>
<b>Fred Burson</b>	<b>Ward 5</b>
<b>Gaile Anthony</b>	<b>Ward 6</b>

**City Manager  
Saeed Kazemi, P.E.**

**About this document:**

This document provides a summary of the highlights to the City of Fort Myers Fiscal Year 2021 Budget including revenues the City expects to receive and the planned areas for where the money will be spent.

This proposed budget is a deliberate balance of revenues and expenditures prepared in accordance with Florida's statutory Truth in Millage process and best serves the City's prioritization for provision of core services and Council initiatives. Two budget workshops were held during the past several months to provide the opportunity for City Council to discuss the budget.

Due to the fiscal pressures presented by COVID-19, a Fiscal Innovations Team (FIT) was formed to examine trends of real estate, permitting, unemployment and revenue collections both locally and regionally and the team provided direction toward developing this years budget and future projections.

**General Fund Budget Highlights—Revenues:**

- ◆ Levies the rolled-back millage rate with no other increases to rates or fees.
- ◆ The City’s certified taxable property values increase 687.1 million, or 9.67%, with \$346.6 million in new construction and average increases of 4.79% in existing properties. The tentative millage rate of 7.9643, which is the rolled-back rate, is reduced from the prior year’s millage rate of 8.2500 and provides an Ad Valorem revenue budget of \$59.6 million, an increase of \$3.6 million in revenue.

The chart below shows a 15-year trend in the City’s taxable property values and the respective millage rate.

<b>Tax Year</b>	<b>Taxable Value</b>	<b>Millage Rate</b>	<b>Tax Revenue Budget</b>
2006	5,936,396,097	6.8000	37,907,900
2007	7,044,026,365	6.2560	41,593,900
2008	6,846,798,548	7.1634	46,411,500
2009	5,384,093,872	7.4000	38,226,400
2010	4,340,690,277	8.4000	34,676,300
2011	4,077,042,379	8.4000	32,730,300
2012	4,065,886,024	8.7760	34,113,400
2013	4,200,257,846	8.7760	35,146,200
2014	4,556,320,495	8.7760	38,239,300
2015	4,976,882,235	8.7760	41,584,300
2016	5,481,213,852	8.7500	45,573,400
2017	6,122,141,000	8.6500	50,433,500
2018	6,637,122,000	8.4500	53,214,100
2019	7,104,946,482	8.2500	55,944,700
2020	7,792,082,870	7.9643	59,576,100

- General Fund reserves in the total amount of \$8.5 million are used to balance the budget. The ending reserve balance is projected to be \$21.5 million, representing 16.3% of the General Fund budget.

### **General Fund Budget Highlights—Expenditures:**

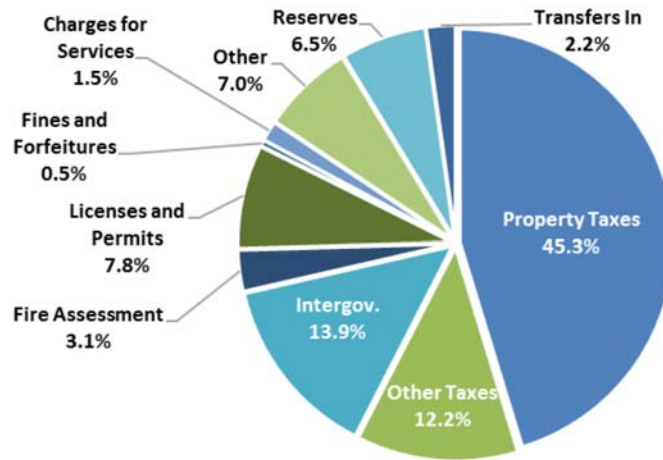
- ◆ Adds a Diversity and Inclusion Analyst position.
- ◆ Includes employee salary adjustments in accordance with union contracts.
- ◆ Pension costs for FY2021 as a % of payroll for all three plans are reduced for a total savings of \$1.7 million to the General Fund.
- ◆ Health insurance cost and benefits stay the same as FY2020.
- ◆ Adds (10) Police Officers funded partially through a 2020 COPS grant for a Community Policing Initiative—City funds 60% of salaries and benefits and operating supplies.
- ◆ Includes a total of \$1.0 million dollars in funding for Community Programs including:
  - ◆ Community Career Initiative, \$140,400
  - ◆ Step Up to Work Summer Youth Program, \$44,900
  - ◆ City services grants for Special Events, \$152,200
  - ◆ Summer Youth Program Scholarships, \$35,000
  - ◆ Programs at STARS/PAL and Council Discretionary, \$354,100
  - ◆ Garden Council (pass-through), \$65,300
  - ◆ Neighborhood Improvement Funds, \$35,000
  - ◆ Arts and Culture & Black History Society, \$165,000
  - ◆ Annual Edison Awards Ceremony/Innovation Showcase, \$25,000

## General Fund Budget at a Glance:

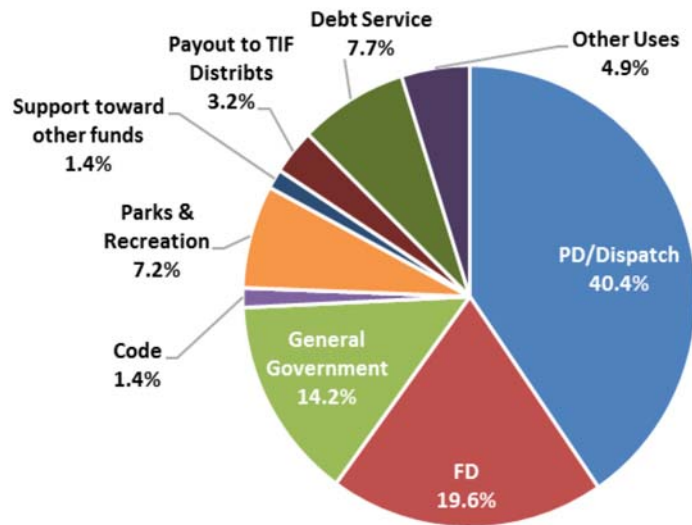
(amounts are reported in millions)

	FY2020	FY2021	\$ Change	%
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Taxes	\$ 71.5	\$ 75.7	\$ 4.2	5.9%
Licenses & Permits	\$ 10.5	\$ 10.3	\$ (0.2)	-1.9%
Fire Assessment Fee	\$ 3.9	\$ 4.1	\$ 0.2	5.1%
Intergovernmental	\$ 18.1	\$ 18.3	\$ 0.2	1.1%
Charges for Services	\$ 1.9	\$ 2.0	\$ 0.1	5.3%
General Administration	\$ 6.5	\$ 6.4	\$ (0.1)	-1.5%
Miscellaneous	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.4	\$ 0.4	13.3%
Transfers from other funds	\$ 4.0	\$ 2.9	\$ (1.1)	-27.5%
Appropriated Reserves	\$ 10.4	\$ 8.5	\$ (1.9)	-18.3%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 129.8</b>	<b>\$ 131.6</b>	<b>\$ 1.8</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
General Government	\$ 17.9	\$ 18.7	\$ 0.8	4.5%
Public Safety				
Police/Dispatch	\$ 54.5	\$ 53.2	\$ (1.3)	-2.4%
Fire Department	\$ 25.0	\$ 25.8	\$ 0.8	3.2%
Code Enforcement	\$ 1.8	\$ 1.8	\$ -	0.0%
<b>Total Public Safety</b>	<b>\$ 81.3</b>	<b>\$ 80.8</b>	<b>\$ (0.5)</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
Physical Environment/ Transportation	\$ 8.4	\$ 8.7	\$ 0.3	3.6%
Recreation/Culture	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.3	\$ 0.3	7.5%
Debt Service	\$ 10.1	\$ 10.2	\$ 0.1	1.0%
Capital Funding	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ -	0.0%
Transfers				
TIF Districts	\$ 3.8	\$ 4.2	\$ 0.4	10.5%
Other Fund Subsidies	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.8	\$ 0.4	28.6%
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b>\$ 5.2</b>	<b>\$ 6.0</b>	<b>\$ 0.8</b>	<b>15.4%</b>
Insurance	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.4	\$ -	0.0%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 129.8</b>	<b>\$ 131.6</b>	<b>\$ 1.8</b>	<b>1.4%</b>

**Components of General Fund Revenues:**



**Components of General Fund Expenditures:**



### **Other City Funds Operating Budget Highlights:**

- ◆ Similar to the General Fund, there are no rate or fee increases imposed by our other City Funds.
- ◆ No addition in the number of full-time positions.
- ◆ The Street Maintenance Fund revenues have been negatively impacted by reduced fuel purchases due to COVID-19 as well as a full year of a reduced allocation of the 6 cent fuel tax from Lee County based on a new 30 year agreement that went into effect January 1, 2020. Total fund revenues decrease from FY2020 by an estimated \$725,000 and therefore results in an increase in the subsidy requirement from the General Fund from \$278,300 to \$713,300, or \$435,000.
- ◆ The Attainable Workforce Housing Fund provides a one-time \$1.5 million contribution towards a trust fund to address the community need for workforce housing in the City. The City will partner with the Southwest Florida Community Foundation to administer a program that will further encourage private investment towards this fund.
- ◆ In the Building, Permits and Inspection Fund, Building, Permitting and Plan Review fees remain reduced 75% for a period of one year. BPI funds 20% of ten Code Enforcement Officers' salaries and benefits.
- ◆ Utility Fund reduces its debt service cost by \$4.94 million, from \$25.42 million to \$20.48 million thanks to recently refinanced debt producing interest savings without extending the terms



## Citywide Budget at a Glance

(amounts are reported in millions)

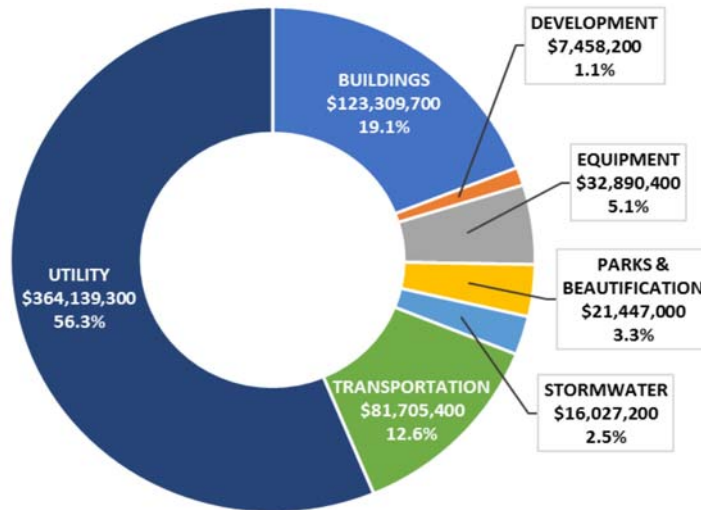
<b>By Fund Type</b>	<b>FY2020</b>	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>Change</b>	
General Fund	\$ 129.8	\$ 131.6	\$ 1.8	1.4%
Utility Fund	\$ 125.6	\$ 121.0	\$ (4.6)	-3.7%
All Other Enterprise Funds	\$ 46.5	\$ 43.8	\$ (2.7)	-5.8%
Debt Service Funds	\$ 44.8	\$ 19.3	\$ (25.5)	-56.9%
Capital Improvement Funds	\$ 39.7	\$ 21.1	\$ (18.6)	-46.9%
Internal Service Funds	\$ 25.4	\$ 25.6	\$ 0.2	0.8%
CRA	\$ 7.4	\$ 13.0	\$ 5.6	75.7%
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 7.7	\$ 9.5	\$ 1.8	23.4%
Trust & Agency Funds	\$ 39.8	\$ 39.7	\$ (0.1)	-0.3%
<b>TOTAL CITYWIDE BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 466.7</b>	<b>\$ 424.6</b>	<b>\$ (42.1)</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>

### **By Function**

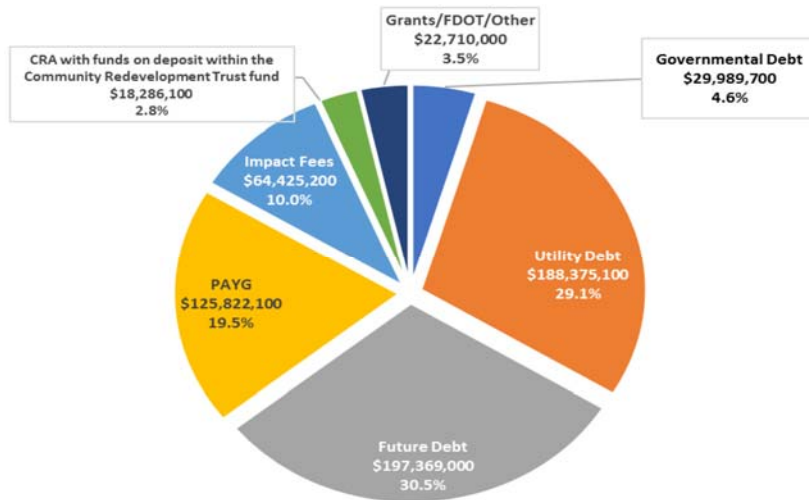
General Government	\$ 63.9	\$ 66.9	\$ 3.0	4.7%
Public Safety	\$ 105.8	\$ 108.7	\$ 2.9	2.7%
Physical Environment	\$ 89.4	\$ 87.2	\$ (2.2)	-2.5%
Transportation	\$ 6.6	\$ 6.2	\$ (0.4)	-6.1%
Economic Environment	\$ 7.3	\$ 11.1	\$ 3.8	52.1%
Culture/Recreation	\$ 12.3	\$ 12.5	\$ 0.2	1.6%
Other Uses	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.4	\$ -	0.0%
Capital Projects	\$ 107.9	\$ 89.0	\$ (18.9)	-17.5%
Transfers	\$ 59.5	\$ 31.6	\$ (27.9)	-46.9%
Expense Reserves	\$ 11.6	\$ 9.0	\$ (2.6)	-22.4%
<b>TOTAL CITYWIDE BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 466.7</b>	<b>\$ 424.6</b>	<b>\$ (42.1)</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>

### Five-Year Capital Improvement Program:

The Capital Improvement Program consists of projects for the five year period ending September 30, 2025 totaling 647.0 million. Expenditures by category are provided below:



Funding sources for the five year Capital Improvement Program are comprised of the following:



**Major projects in the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program:**  
(amounts reported in thousands)

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>	<b>FY2025</b>	<b>Five Year Total</b>
New City Hall	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	30,000
New Police Department Facility	-	15,000	4,000	-	-	19,000
STARS Complex Expansion Phase I	-	3,500	7,000	7,000	-	17,500
Fire Station 7 - New	4,500	1,500	-	-	-	6,000
Billy Bowlegs Recreation Facility	-	1,500	1,500	-	-	3,000
Other Building Projects	1,646	6,003	11,634	16,254	12,274	47,810
Development Projects	1,493	1,615	2,710	870	770	7,458
Solid Waste Equipment	1,824	2,225	2,212	928	1,786	8,975
ITS Equipment	350	2,950	2,350	1,000	-	6,650
Fire Department Equipment	631	967	1,087	1,087	1,327	5,098
Police Department Equipment	870	2,710	500	500	500	5,080
Other Equipment	2,234	1,862	1,874	386	732	7,087
Eastwood Golf Course Renovation	-	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
Forum Neighborhood Park	1,000	750	-	-	-	1,750
Legacy Island	-	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Other Parks & Beautification Projects	1,700	4,909	4,119	2,434	2,535	15,697
Citywide Drainage Rehab & Drainage Improvements	300	300	500	500	500	2,100
Serena Park Drainage	350	700	700	-	-	1,750
Edgewood Ave Neighborhood Drainage	-	300	950	-	-	1,250
Other Stormwater Projects	2,390	800	2,415	3,352	1,970	10,927
First & Second St Improvements - Fowler to Seaboard	-	-	2,775	8,436	-	11,211
Midtown Streetscape Improvements	-	5,500	5,500	-	-	11,000
Realign Downtown SR 82	-	6,500	3,330	-	-	9,830
Veronica Shoemaker Improvement - Michigan to SR 80.	-	400	3,925	-	-	4,325
Citywide Street Overlay Program	1,300	500	500	500	-	2,800
Serena Park Roadway & Lighting	350	825	825	-	-	2,000
US 41 Landscape Improvements	1,000	840	-	-	-	1,840
Other Transportation Projects	5,982	10,110	13,062	8,160	1,385	38,699
Midtown Water/Sewer Evans-MLK-Edison	-	17,410	17,410	-	-	34,820
Edgewood Trunk Sanitary Sewer Improvements	-	4,180	5,680	4,000	5,000	18,860
Pipeline to Cape Coral SWWTP	6,763	6,360	-	-	-	13,123
Reuse Facility at South Plant SWWTP	6,710	6,110	-	-	-	12,820
Neighborhood Utility Improvement Projects	3,000	1,000	5,000	-	-	9,000
Clarifier Rehab (4) Resurface (4) and Trough Covers SWWTP	-	-	591	6,451	-	7,043
Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Project	1,500	1,750	2,000	800	-	6,050
Maravilla Sewer Infrastructure	360	1,500	1,500	-	-	3,360
Serena Park Water & Sewer	350	1,080	1,080	-	-	2,510
Other Utility Projects	42,417	39,544	44,888	43,523	86,182	256,554
<b>Total CIP</b>	<b>89,020</b>	<b>155,199</b>	<b>151,616</b>	<b>121,182</b>	<b>129,961</b>	<b>646,977</b>



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