City of Colorado Springs
2016 Budget in Brief

A Citizen’s Guide to the Budget
City Leadership

In 2015, the citizens of the City of Colorado Springs voted for its second strong mayor, John Suthers, in the new Council–Mayor form of government.

Mayor’s Office
John Suthers, Mayor
Jeff Greene, Chief of Staff

Table of Contents

- City Leadership ➔ Page 2
- City Council ➔ Page 3
- City Organizational Chart ➔ Page 4
- All Funds Summary ➔ Page 5
- General Fund Revenue ➔ Page 6
- General Fund Expenditures ➔ Page 7
- Sales & Use Tax Revenue ➔ Page 8
- Calculating Your Annual Property Tax ➔ Page 10
- Property Tax Revenue ➔ Page 11
- Total Employees ➔ Page 12
- Capital Improvements Program ➔ Page 13
- 2C—Road, Repair, and Maintenance ➔ Page 14
- Colorado Springs at a Glance ➔ Page 15
City Council

Colorado Springs City Council

Front Row (from left to right):
Council Member Bill Murray, At-Large
Council Member Helen Collins, District 4
Council Member Andy Pico, District 6
Council Member Merv Bennett, At Large

Back Row (from left to right):
Council Member Larry Bagley, District 2
Council Member Tom Strand, At-Large
Council President Pro-Tem Jill Gaebler, District 5
Council President Keith King, District 3
Council Member Don Knight, District 1

City Council’s Direct Reports

Denny Nester, City Auditor
Jerry Forte, Utilities Chief Executive Officer
City Organizational Chart

Citizens of Colorado Springs

Mayor

City Council
City Auditor

Airport
City Attorney’s Office
Communications
Fire
Police

Chief of Staff

Deputy Chief of Staff

City Clerk’s Office
Community Development
Economic Development
Finance
Human Resources
Information Technology

Municipal Court Administrator
Office of Emergency Management
Parking System Enterprise
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Planning and Development
Public Works

Organizational structure as of August 31, 2015
The General Fund is only one piece of the City’s total budget. The General Fund supports traditional services:

- Fire
- Police
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
- Planning & Community Development
- Public Works

The City also owns and operates self-supporting enterprise activities that include:

- Airport
- Cemeteries (Fairview and Evergreen)
- Development Review Enterprise
- Parking System (downtown and Old Colorado City)
- Golf Courses (Patty Jewett and Valley Hi)
- Memorial Health System
- Pikes Peak - America’s Mountain

---

3Includes $50,000,000 for 2C-Road Repair, Maintenance and Improvement. Internal Service Funds total $40,663,420, allocated to the General Fund and the Enterprise Funds.
## General Fund Revenue

$266,760,504

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Source</th>
<th>2014 Actual</th>
<th>2015 Budget</th>
<th>2015 EOY Estimate</th>
<th>2016 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales and Use Tax</td>
<td>$142,100,000</td>
<td>$147,855,000</td>
<td>$148,269,936</td>
<td>$157,319,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Tax</td>
<td>19,682,000</td>
<td>19,811,225</td>
<td>19,491,558</td>
<td>19,894,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Taxes</td>
<td>2,643,278</td>
<td>3,047,406</td>
<td>3,005,385</td>
<td>2,999,582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses and Permits</td>
<td>1,030,260</td>
<td>1,236,762</td>
<td>2,112,769</td>
<td>1,905,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental</td>
<td>19,856,832</td>
<td>20,887,930</td>
<td>21,341,195</td>
<td>20,178,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charges for Services</td>
<td>17,744,843</td>
<td>14,860,190</td>
<td>13,444,136</td>
<td>12,909,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines</td>
<td>4,364,103</td>
<td>4,956,073</td>
<td>5,104,132</td>
<td>5,554,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>2,828,906</td>
<td>2,974,242</td>
<td>3,542,008</td>
<td>2,790,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Financing Sources</td>
<td>37,280,834</td>
<td>41,567,014</td>
<td>41,499,999</td>
<td>43,208,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw from Fund Balance</td>
<td>1,760,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>1,490,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$249,291,056</strong></td>
<td><strong>$258,695,842</strong></td>
<td><strong>$259,301,118</strong></td>
<td><strong>$266,760,504</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenue Distribution

- **Sales and Use Tax**: $157,319,940 (59.0%)
- **Property Tax**: $19,894,550 (7.5%)
- **Other Taxes**: $2,999,582 (1.1%)
- **Licenses and Permits**: $1,905,320 (0.7%)
- **Intergovernmental**: $20,178,116 (7.6%)
- **Charges for Services**: $12,909,000 (4.8%)
- **Miscellaneous**: $2,790,612 (1.0%)
- **Fines**: $5,554,892 (2.1%)
- **Other Financing Sources**: $43,208,492 (16.2%)
## General Fund Expenditures

$266,760,504

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department/Division</th>
<th>2016 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Attorney/ Clerk/ Municipal Court</td>
<td>$9,747,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council/City Auditor</td>
<td>$2,347,417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>$15,718,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Costs</td>
<td>$19,084,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund CIP &amp; Projects</td>
<td>$18,274,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>$12,754,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Services Charges</td>
<td>$3,162,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor's Office, Communications, Human Resources</td>
<td>$3,122,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services</td>
<td>$15,883,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning, Economic Development, Community Development</td>
<td>$3,862,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>$137,363,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>$22,671,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCIP Debt Service</td>
<td>$2,766,750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Pie Chart

- **Public Safety**: $137,363,279 (51.49%)
- **Public Works**: $22,671,649 (8.50%)
- **SCIP Debt Service**: $2,766,750 (1.04%)
- **Internal Services Charges**: $3,162,880 (1.19%)
- **Mayor's Office, Communications, Human Resources**: $3,122,426 (1.17%)
- **Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services**: $15,883,760 (5.95%)
- **Planning, Economic Development, Community Development**: $3,862,858 (1.45%)
- **Finance**: $15,718,898 (5.89%)
- **General Costs**: $19,084,530 (6.85%)
- **General Fund CIP & Projects**: $18,274,169 (6.85%)
- **City Attorney/ Clerk/ Municipal Court**: $9,747,444 (3.65%)

---

City of Colorado Springs ♦ 2016 Budget in Brief Page 7
**Sales & Use Tax Revenue**

The Total Sales Tax Rate is **8.25%**

![Pie chart showing the distribution of sales tax revenue.](image)

**City’s portion of the Sales Tax**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Use</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOPS</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSST</td>
<td>0.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C-Road Repair, Maintenance and Improvement</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total City portion 3.12%**

**58.6%** The percentage of total City revenue received from Sales Tax

**Inflation Adjusted Sales Tax Revenue per Capita**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>(1994 constant $)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>$227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>$197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>$187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$215</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sales & Use Tax Revenue

Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST)

The Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST) requires General Fund Public Safety budget allocations, including the Police and Fire Departments, the Office of Emergency Management, as well as the Police and Fire functions of Fleet, IT and Radio be at least 47.65% of General Fund; in 2016 it is 55.29%. The 2016 Budget exceeds the Level of Effort by 7.64%, or $20.4 million.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PSST Budget</th>
<th>2014 Actual</th>
<th>2015 Budget</th>
<th>2016 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>$28,036,072</td>
<td>$28,537,029</td>
<td>$31,086,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total FTE Positions</td>
<td>216.50</td>
<td>228.50</td>
<td>229.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Safety Level of Effort

* Public Safety includes Police, Fire and OEM

Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS)

The Trails, Open Space, and Parks (TOPS) revenue is generated from a 0.1% Sales and Use Tax adopted by voters in April 1997, extended by voters in 2003, and set to expire in 2025. The majority of funds are designated for open space purchases and associated maintenance, development and maintenance of trails, and development of new parks. The budget is based on planned projects and scheduled payments, which can vary from year to year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPS Budget</th>
<th>2014 Actual</th>
<th>2015 Budget</th>
<th>2016 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>$4,605,864</td>
<td>$8,605,864</td>
<td>$6,329,722</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Calculating Your Annual Property Tax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>market value</th>
<th>x</th>
<th>assessment ratio</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>assessed value</th>
<th>x</th>
<th>total mill levy</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>taxes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>243,000</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>7.96%</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>$19,343</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>0.05775</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>$1,117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Library**
- $76
- 3.857 mills

**Southeast Water District**
- $18
- 0.941 mills

**County**
- $152
- 7.869 mills

**School District #11**
- $789
- 40.803 mills

**City**
- $83
- 4.279 mills

Total property taxes are $1,117 with a tax rate of 57.749 mills.

*Temporary Tax Rate Reduction

**Note:** This example is for taxes payable in 2016 and assumes a home with market value of $243,000 in School District #11 and assumes no Special District mill levy. Other school districts have different mill levies.

7% The percentage of your property tax bill that is designated for the City.
Property Tax Revenue

$19,894,550

The amount of property tax revenue the City expects to receive in 2016

“How is my property tax determined?”

Taxing authorities, such as Cities, Counties, School Districts and Special Districts set tax rates and levy the tax on property.

“What is property tax?”

As defined by Merriam-Webster.com, property tax is a tax levied on real or personal property. For residents, the levy is applied to real property, which is your house. Personal property taxes are primarily applied to commercial properties.

“What does my property tax money fund?”

Property tax revenue supports public schools, county governments, municipal governments, libraries and special districts. All of the revenue generated by property taxes stays within your county.
Total Employees
2,261.50 FTE

The General Fund accounts for the largest number of City employees. Of the 1,721 General Fund employees, approximately 72% are Public Safety employees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>2015 Budget</th>
<th>2016 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>1,708.25</td>
<td>1,721.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Services Funds</td>
<td>30.25</td>
<td>29.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Funds</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>151.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety Sales Tax Fund</td>
<td>228.50</td>
<td>229.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Franchise Grant</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Trust (Lottery) Fund</td>
<td>38.50</td>
<td>41.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift Trust/Endowment/Grants</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMD Funds</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails, Open Space and Parks Fund</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>9.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Funds</td>
<td>41.00</td>
<td>62.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Funds Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,222.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,261.50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Capital Improvements Program

The 2016 CIP Budget is primarily funded by restricted funds (approximately 86%), and funds the construction of a number of major capital improvements throughout the City, including various transportation improvements, facility improvements, park projects and IT infrastructure.

The City has a five-year All Funds CIP Plan for $136.6 million in high priority projects. The five-year plan includes projects such as building renovations, road and bridge replacements, multiple stormwater system improvements, and park system maintenance.

**2016 Capital Improvement Program - $136,602,357**

![Pie chart showing the distribution of the 2016 Capital Improvement Program funds]

**2016 General Fund CIP - $18,131,169**

![Pie chart showing the distribution of the 2016 General Fund CIP funds]

City of Colorado Springs  ♦  2016 Budget in Brief  Page 13
Ballot Issue 2C—Road Repair and Maintenance Sales & Use Tax

In November 2015, City voters approved Ballot Question 2C, authorizing the City to temporarily increase its sales and use tax by 0.62% (6.2 pennies on a $10 purchase) for five years to fund only road repairs and improvements, and be permitted to retain all such revenues generated and to expend the same only for road repairs and improvements, exempt from spending and revenue limitations. As approved, the existing sales and use tax rate of 2.5% established by the City Code is increased by 0.62% dedicated to road repairs and improvements to make an effective City tax rate of 3.12% as of January 1, 2016. This tax will sunset (expire) exactly five (5) years from the date of its implementation and will not affect or apply to purchases of food for domestic home consumption, prescriptions, residential utility bills or other items exempt from City sales and use tax under the City Code. This temporary increase in sales and use tax revenue will be placed in a dedicated fund to be used only for funding the cost to repair roads and streets throughout all areas of the City, including cost of road reconstruction where severe deterioration does not allow repair. None of the additional sales and use tax revenue will be used to hire additional City employees or purchase additional equipment for City road projects. The repair work will be contracted out to the private sector.

**Sales Tax Rate Increase**

7.63% ➞ 8.25%

**Cost to the Tax Payer**

$10 per month

$600 over 5 years

The Operations and Maintenance division of Public Works has outlined a number of roads throughout the City to be completed with the new funding. All information on 2C and the progress of paving can be found on the Operations and Maintenance website at www.coloradosprings.gov/streets.
Colorado Springs at a Glance

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Council-Mayor:
Nine-member Council (three Council members elected at-large, and six elected by district) and a popularly elected Mayor as the City’s chief executive.

DEMOGRAPHIC

Population: 457,715 (2016 est.)
College Population¹: 39,172 (2014)
Median Age²: 34.9
Unemployment Rate³: 4.9% (July 2015)

Ethnicity²:
- White (80.1%)
- Hispanic American/Latino (16.6%)
- Black/African American (6.2%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (0.7%)
- Asian (2.8%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0.3%)
- Other (4.8%)
- Two or more races (5.1%)

Average # of Days of Sunshine¹: 300
Average Annual Precipitation⁴: 16.2 inches

Serious Crimes per Thousand Population:
43.4 per 1,000 (Year 2014) compared to 2014 national average of 47 for cities with a population of 250,000-499,999; crimes include murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft

LAND USE

Area in Square Miles: 195 (2015)
Street Lane Miles: 5,661 (2015)
Parkland Acres⁵: 17,266 (2015)

Elevation: 6,035 feet

ECONOMICS

Sales Tax Rate:
City (3.12%); County (1.23%); State (2.9%)
Pikes Peak Rural Transport Authority (1.0%)

City Property Tax Rate:
4.279 mills (2015 rate levied for taxes payable in 2016)

Median Sale Price of an Existing Home⁶:
$243,000 (Aug. 2015)

Property Taxes Paid on a $225,000 House in School District 11:
$1,117 total, City share is $83 (For taxes payable in 2015)

Major Industries¹:
- Aerospace / Defense / Homeland Security
- Clean Technology
- Customer Support / Financial Services / Back Office
- Data Storage, Software IT
- Healthcare
- Higher Education
- Manufacturing
- Medical Innovation & Technology
- National Nonprofits
- Sports & Sports Related Organizations

COMMUNITY

Major Attractions:
- Cave of the Winds
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- Garden of the Gods
- Pikes Peak – America’s Mountain
- Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame & American Cowboy Museum
- Sky Sox Minor League Baseball
- United States Air Force Academy

Sources:
1 Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance Just the Facts (www.coloradospringsbusinessalliance.com)
2 American FactFinder (2010). Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories
3 United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics
4 Climate-Zone.com/climate/united-states/Colorado/colorado-springs/
5 This includes the combined number of parks, open spaces, trails, cemeteries, golf courses, SIMDs, ROWs, and median acreage the City owns and/or manages.
6 Pikes Peak Association of REALTORS (www.ppar.com/statisticssummary)
Budget in Brief is produced each year by the City of Colorado Springs Budget Office. This booklet gives citizens a general overview of the City’s 2016 Budget. The entire City’s Budget is on the Internet at ColoradoSprings.gov/2016Budget. For specific questions or comments, please contact the Budget Office.