# PROGRAM BUDGET

## CITY OF AMES, IOWA
## 2025-2026









*Celebrating our past*

CITY OF Ames™

# PROGRAM BUDGET

## CITY OF AMES, IOWA
## 2025-2026









***We're celebrating, and we want everyone to know it!***

It's been a whirlwind few years, packed with anniversaries and achievements that remind us about the amazing community that is Ames! Whether it's the timeless tunes of the Ames Municipal Band hitting the century mark or the shade-filled memories of Brookside Park's upcoming 100th in 2025, there's plenty to cheer about.

Did you know that Inis Grove and Emma McCarthy Lee Parks turned 75 this year? These gems continue to be the go-to nature space for everything from sunny summer picnics to action-packed pickleball showdowns. Meanwhile, our Water Pollution Control Facility celebrated its 35th birthday, proving that even wastewater can have a glow-up. And Old Town Park, always a charmer, marked its 40th year. Plus, the Ames Human Relations Commission hit the big 5-0. That's a half a century of fostering connection and understanding!

Looking ahead to 2025, the spotlight will shine on Ames City Hall's 35 years in its current home (formerly Ames High School). It's a big anniversary for the Arnold O. Chantland Resource Recovery System, which hits the half-century mark. The facility continues to shift its focus from energy production to waste reduction. It's all reduce, reuse, recycle! Also, let's not forget River Valley Park and Nutty Woods, each celebrating six decades of outdoor adventure.

Some milestones sneak up on you, like this year's 20th anniversary of Ada Hayden Heritage Park (dedicated Aug. 28, 2004). Can you believe we've had 15 years of splash-tacular fun at Furman Aquatic Center (opened on May 29, 2010)? Also, we're celebrating a decade since the Ames Public Library's shiny new addition (ribbon-cutting on Sept. 14, 2014). This is on top of the entire Library celebrating 120 years. Time flies when you're having fun, right?

Even our drop-off recycling center—just a baby at one year old—deserves a shoutout. What started as a grassroots effort and a limited pilot project now diverts paper, plastic, metal, cardboard, clothing, and food waste from the landfill. Talk about a birthday with impact!

This is the time to toast some of Ames' most incredible milestones. These anniversaries are more than numbers; they're a testament to Ames' spirit and resilience. By celebrating our past, we strengthen our present and dream big for the future. So, here's to us! We are a community worth celebrating over and over again.

# City of Ames, Iowa

# 2025/2026
# Program Budget

Adopted by The City Council
April 22, 2025

**Mayor**
John Haila

**Council Members**
Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen
Gloria Betcher
Amber Corrieri
Timothy Gartin
Rachel Junck
Anita Rollins

**City Manager**
Steven L. Schainker

# GFOA Award

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished Budget Presentation Award*

**PRESENTED TO**

**City of Ames**
**Iowa**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

**July 01, 2024**

Christopher P. Morrill

**Executive Director**

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to the City of Ames, Iowa for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024. To receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, operations guide, financial plan, and communication device.

This award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

# Mission Statement

## We are caring people, providing quality Programs with exceptional service to a community of progress

## We Value…

Continuous improvement in our organization and our services.
Innovation in problem solving.
Employee participation in decision making.
Personal and professional development.
Each other as we work together to serve the community.

## We Are…

Proud to provide superior services to our community.
Professional and objective as we address public concerns and needs.
Fair, flexible, and helpful in our actions.
Efficient and fiscally responsible.
Proactive in reviewing and evaluating the type and focus of our services.

Caring People, Quality Programs, Exceptional Service

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July 1, 2025

Mayor and Members of the Ames City Council:

Attached is the City of Ames Budget for FY 2025/26, totaling $332,520,520. This program performance budget reflects 1) the numerous services and Capital Improvement projects that will be provided to our residents, 2) the costs and supporting revenues for each of these services and capital improvement projects, and 3) the associated performance measures that will allow us to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of our program service delivery as well as benchmark our productivity with other comparable cities.

Because we operate a number of enterprise operations that require us to separate their expenditures and revenues from other funds, it is difficult to interpret this service/financial plan for the City in FY 2025/26 by focusing on the macro level. Therefore, on the following pages in this transmittal letter, I have attempted to emphasize the major highlights at the program/activity level.

| Property Taxes<br>21-Cent or 2.08% Increase in Overall Tax Rate<br>From $10.09 to $10.30 |
|---|

A number of changes are impacting the FY 2025/26 budget, which will result in $298,500 less State revenue than was received in the prior year.

**Homestead Exemption**

Under the 2023 State legislation, the property tax exemption for homeowners aged 65 and older will increase to $6,500. **This change is projected to reduce revenue by approximately $85,000 in the FY 2025/26 budget.**

**Military Exemption**

**The State legislature has modified the Military Exemption, increasing its valuation exemption for FY 2024/25. This exemption applies to residential properties owned by veterans who served in designated conflicts during specific periods. As a result, the increase is expected to reduce revenue by approximately $18,500 in the FY 2025/26 budget.**

**State "Backfill" Funding**

In 2015, the State Legislature reduced the percentage of commercial and industrial property subject to property taxation from 100% to 90%. At that time, Iowa cities were promised that the lost revenue from this legislation, which totaled $975,000 annually for the City of Ames, would be reimbursed by the State. Unfortunately, in 2021, the State decided to phase out this backfill over five years**. FY 2025/26 will represent the fifth year of this phase out, which will result in an additional $195,000 of reduced State revenue for the City's budget.**

**Budget Restraints on the General Levy**

The General Levy is one of three levies that generate property tax funding for the city budget. This levy primarily funds Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, Building Inspections, Animal Control, Library, and Parks & Recreation services. For many years, the General Levy was capped at $8.10 per $1,000 of taxable valuation. However, in 2023 the State Legislature established a new law that placed further restrictions on a city's ability to generate property tax funding for these important services. In addition to reducing the number of levies available to cities, the legislation retains the $8.10 levy cap and requires a reduction in the maximum percent of funding that can be generated in the General Levy.

**It is ironic that our increase in taxable valuation for FY 2025/26 is at a level of 2.6%. As a result, we are one of a few cities in the state that could raise our General Levy rate from the current $6.22 all the way up to $8.10.** Any increase higher than 2.75% would have reduced the revenues generated in the General Levy by requiring us to reduce the non-TIF taxable value growth in the General Levy by 1% to 3%, depending on the three tiers reflected in the legislation.

However, over the years, it has been our practice to refrain from raising the General Levy tax rate just because we could. When taxable valuation increased substantially in the past several years, the City Council reduced the levy rate to the point where we would only generate the revenue needed to fund the desired service levels**. You will see that this budgetary philosophy continues in FY 2025/26.**

**Rollback**

Finally, the State Legislature has created a mandated "rollback" calculation that establishes the percentage of the assessed valuation on residential property subject to taxation. In FY 2024/25, this percentage decreased from 55% to 46%, while in FY 2025/26, the rollback rate will increase from 46% to 47%, **resulting in $566,055 additional revenue to the General Fund.**

**Property Tax Asking**

**In the face of the aforementioned revenue losses and gains, the FY 2025/26 Budget reflects a total property tax levy rate increase from the prior year of 21 cents, from $10.09 per $1,000 of taxable valuation to $10.30 per $1,000 of taxable valuation.**

**This modest 2.08% increase in the total City tax levy, coupled with the 2.6% increase in the taxable assessed valuation, generates an additional $1,723,408, or 4.78%, in property tax revenues compared to the previous fiscal year. This increase is necessary to fund the services highlighted in the FY 2025/26 Budget.**

**As you will see in the following pages, a portion of the additional property tax revenues being requested for FY 2025/26 is associated with operating costs for the new Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center and additional staffing for the Animal Control operation. If these amounts are excluded, the new property tax revenues requested would increase by approximately 3.5%, rather than 4.78%.**

The total increase of $1,723,408 in additional property tax revenue needed to fund the expenditures in the FY 2025/26 Budget breaks down in accordance with the following three levies:

General Levy - $1,198,684, or a 5.41% increase in dollars over the prior year.

This levy primarily supports Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, Building Inspections, the Library, Planning, and Parks & Recreation services.

Transit Levy - $66,089, or a 3.11% increase in dollars over the prior year.

This levy pays for the City's share to support the CyRide System.

Debt Service Levy – $458,635 or a 3.90% in dollars over prior year.

This levy funds the annual debt service payments for General Obligation Bonds issued to pay for capital improvements.

**While it is not possible to know how this budget will impact the property taxes for each property owner's specific circumstances, by analyzing each tax classification, we can estimate that, on average, in FY 2025/26:**

- **A residential property tax bill will increase by 4.55% or $21.30 per $100,000 of assessed valuation.**

- **A commercial property tax bill will increase by 0.54% or $4.69 per $100,000 of assessed valuation.**

- **An industrial property tax bill will increase by 3.30% or $29.35 per $100,000 of assessed valuation.**

## Carryover Funds in General Fund

We are fortunate that we are estimating significantly greater than expected revenues and decreased expenditures from the City's FY 2023/24 and FY 2024/25 amended budgets. Additional interest revenue from our General Fund investments and Local Option Sales Tax receipts have contributed to unanticipated revenue, while our difficulty filling vacancies accounts for the greater-than-expected savings on the expenditure side.

**Because these are one-time savings, I strongly recommend that they should not be used to support ongoing operational costs. Therefore, I have included the following one-time expenditures in the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget. Utilizing these funds in this way will still provide savings to our taxpayers since these items are needed and would have otherwise been included in the FY 2025/26 budget, requiring a further increase in property taxes.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Fire: | |
| Station #1 emergency circuits | $ 15,000 |
| Extrication stabilization equipment | $ 35,543 |
| Apartment fire training prop | $ 27,128 |
| Animal Sheltering and Control: | |
| Animal Shelter equipment | $ 7,252 |
| Other Public Safety: | |
| Mobile Command Trailer supplies | $ 10,000 |
| Parks and Recreation: | |
| Community Center security cameras | $30,000 |
| Bandshell restroom door reconfiguration | $20,000 |
| All-Terrain Vehicle for Ada Hayden Heritage Park | $27,000 |
| Parks & Recreation Scholarships | $200,000 |
| Facilities: | |
| City Hall blinds | $90,000 |
| Police parking on north side of City Hall | $25,000 |
| Other: | |
| City Council Priorities Capital Fund | $3,000,000 |

## Public Safety

*Law Enforcement*

In FY 2025/26, the City will continue our partnership with Mary Greeley Medical Center by funding the Alternative Response for Community Health (ARCH) program again. The City's financial support for FY 2025/26 is $132,000, a $30,000 increase compared to FY 2024/25.

This service provides a mental health professional teamed with an EMT/paramedic to respond to calls that historically fell to our police officers to handle. As the number of mental health calls has grown significantly over time, it is agreed that by responding with the ARCH team rather than with our law enforcement personnel, we are able to provide trained professionals equipped to de-escalate the situation, stabilize the crisis, and provide mental health support. Another significant benefit of this partnership is that it frees up our officers' time, allowing them to respond to other calls for service.

In FY 2024/25, the City supported the ARCH budget with an appropriation of $102,000 for 56 hours per week of this service. Staff believed the City was paying 50% of the total cost at the time. It has now been clarified that the City only contributed 50% of the cost of personnel assigned to ARCH. MGMC absorbed other costs related to vehicle fuel/maintenance, education, software, etc.

In addition to the City's contribution, MGMC has agreed to contribute $132,394, while a new partner, ISU, will contribute $30,000 to the ARCH program for the same 56 hours per week of service. MGMC staff is indicating that they: 1) are open to adjusting their schedule to better respond to service demands, 2) will proactively engage in outreach efforts to educate the public about their services when they are not out on calls for service by interacting with the homeless community and other clients at schools, homeless shelters, and at other public locations such as the Library and Bandshell Park, and 3) will continue to explore future grant opportunities to reduce the partners' financial obligation in ARCH.

Similar to most Police Departments throughout the country, it has become extremely difficult to fill law enforcement position vacancies. In response to this challenge, we have implemented four changes to improve our success in this critical activity: 1) offering a referral bonus for department employees who refer a candidate that is ultimately selected, 2) implementing a hiring bonus to an officer candidate who is selected, 3) allowing for "lateral transfers" for officers with experience coming into our department, and 4) taking advantage of a new state law to bypass parts of the Civil Service process to expedite the physical agility test and interview process so a conditional offer can be made more quickly.

The department introduced a new Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (drone) team in FY 2024/25. The purchase of three new devices, funded through Police forfeiture funds, will enhance our capabilities in overwatch, searches, and disaster responses by the Police Department. This equipment will also be available to other departments when not in use for law enforcement activities.

In addition to fulfilling their law enforcement activities, the department remains committed to building trusting relationships with various groups throughout the community. This outreach effort is being accomplished by sponsoring such gatherings as Coffee with Cops, Donuts in the Park, National Night Out, and Carving with Cops, as well as attending the Downtown Farmer's Market and other community events.

*Animal Sheltering and Control*

**You will note that the Animal Sheltering and Control activity reflects an increase of 1.45 FTEs in FY 2025/26. This increase involves the addition of one FTE in anticipation of a new, much larger shelter being opened in late FY 2025/26, as well as the expansion of one existing .30 FTE to a .50 FTE and one .75 FTE to a 1.0 FTE to reflect the amount of hours that these two employees have been working to cover the workload over the past year.**

*Fire Safety*

The FY 2025/26 budget includes an additional Firefighter FTE in preparation of staffing a fourth fire station in north Ames as the City expands in accordance with our Comprehensive Plan. With this new position, 11 FTEs will be available to assign to this new station as we build towards our goal of 12 to 15 FTEs.

Even with the addition of a new position, the Fire Safety budget reflects only a 4% increase in property tax support. The total is particularly impressive given that 93% of the Fire Safety budget consists of personal services spending.

The benefits received by partnerships with other public entities are evident in this activity, with Iowa State University paying 25% of the Fire Safety operating budget and debt service on our apparatus ($2,352,177) and Mary Greeley Medical Center contributing towards the cost of our firefighters' EMT certifications to assist with ambulance responses ($40,000).

To better serve our community, the Fire Prevention Team is developing standardized educational programs that will be delivered consistently across the city. This initiative aligns with the City Council's goal of greater community outreach and will initially prioritize high-risk and underserved populations. Furthermore, thanks to FEMA grant funding, we are introducing a new safety trailer to provide comprehensive all-hazard safety education. This investment underscores our commitment to proactive fire prevention, complementing our essential fire suppression response.

*Building Safety: No Increase in Building and Rental Housing Permit Fees*

The new Property Maintenance Code went into effect in January 2024. Since that time, the number of code complaints has almost doubled (568 to 1,024) in comparison with the same period last year.

The "Ames On The Go" app continues to account for approximately half of all neighborhood complaints. Interestingly, 20% of these complaints were proven to be unfounded. The Inspection staff remains committed to working with their customers to help development occur in accordance with Council-approved codes, regulations, and plans.

Even though our revenue in the Building Safety program is expected to be about the same in FY 2025/26, so too are the expected expenditures. This is primarily due to a longer-tenured Inspector retiring, resulting in the position being filled at the entry level. Therefore, no increases are being requested in building and rental housing permit fees.

## Electric Utility – 1.5% Increase in User Rate Increase

The Electric Utility's long-range strategic plan is guided by three overriding objectives: 1) providing service reliability, 2) mitigating customer cost, and 3) promoting environmental sustainability. As a result, the Electric Utility's budget is impacted mostly by the CIP projects to accomplish the three aforementioned objectives.

In accordance with the City Council's plan to reduce carbon emissions, the FY 2025/26 budget includes a 1.5% electric rate increase. This increase, coupled with a similar percentage increase in each of the next four years, will position us financially to be able to support adding an estimated 50 MW of wind power to our energy portfolio, thereby increasing our renewables from 15% to 31%. The net impact on the median residential customer's electric bill is estimated to be an additional $1.20 per month in FY 2025/26.

Our long-range financial analysis projects significant savings by transitioning away from refused-derived fuel at our Resource Recovery facility in FY 2027/28. Eliminating this process will reduce our boiler gas consumption, resulting in an estimated annual savings of $13 million. These funds can be strategically reinvested in two key priorities: the planned replacement of Unit #7 and the anticipated capacity increases required as our customers electrify their vehicles, homes, and businesses.

Electric staff will be working on an Integrated Resource Planning Study to assess the impacts of load shifting, energy conservation, rate design, the Climate Action Plan, and increased generation/transmission on the utility.

In addition, a team from Electric, Water Pollution Control, and Finance is refining our plan for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) platform. This upgraded system will provide enhanced network information, improved outage notifications, remote control of air conditioning, remote meter reading capabilities, and tamper alerts.

Electric staff will also review the current rebate program to better support the Climate Action Plan. This might involve moving away from incentivizing air conditioners to geothermal and air-source heat pumps. Finally, an evaluation will be made to identify how to better support residential solar installations, time-of-use rates, and EV chargers.

## Water Utility – 3.5% Increase in User Rates

In the past, we planned to alternate user rate increases between the Water and Sanitary Sewer Utilities each year. However, after further analysis, we believe scheduling smaller increases for both utilities in the same year will prove more beneficial to our utility customers by avoiding larger rate increases every other year. **Therefore, the FY 2025/26 budget includes a rate increase designed to generate 3.5% additional revenue, with similar adjustments anticipated annually for the following four years. These incremental increases will support essential operational needs and critical capital improvement projects planned for the coming years.**

The budget for this utility is designed to maintain the status quo, improve resiliency, and manage capital improvement projects. While projects highlighted in the Capital Improvements Plan will take up a significant amount of staff time at the Water Utility, a number of operational improvements will also be undertaken in FY 2025/26. For example, online chlorine analyzers will be installed to continuously monitor the total chlorine levels in multiple locations throughout the distribution network. Piping at the old High Service Pumping Station will be cleaned and repainted to curtail corrosion. The introduction of a new Split Treatment process will achieve savings in lime, carbon dioxide, and lime sludge hauling.

In response to a new federal edict, the Water and Pollution Control Department is exploring plans for a new lead service line replacement incentive program. We intend to unveil our recommendation once more is known about this new requirement.

The Water Meter Division staff is working with their Electric Utility counterparts on installing an Automated Metering Infrastructure that will allow more efficient readings of the meters as well as producing real-time usage data in the two utilities.

## Sanitary Sewer Utility – 5.5% Increase in User Rates

Based on our long-range financial modeling, a series of 5.5% rate increases in each of the next five years, beginning in FY 2025/26, will be needed to generate revenue sufficient to pay for the operational and capital improvement costs scheduled in our CIP.

The staff in this utility have also engaged in a number of efficiency improvements that should benefit customers. For example:

- We purchased an additional 120 acres of farmland adjacent to the WPC Plant. These acres will ensure that we will be able to continue to land apply biosolids from the liquid storage lagoon at a lower cost than drying our biosolids for offsite disposal. While the additional acres will lead to increased seed and fertilizer costs, a corresponding increase in farm income will more than offset these costs.

- WPC staff has found that running an additional pump to increase the recycle flow allows the Plant to use the natural alkalinity more effectively. While this practice will increase electricity for pumping, it is projected to be more cost-effective than feeding the sodium bicarbonate to increase plant alkalinity.

- The UV disinfection system's obsolete control center and hydraulics will be upgraded to ensure efficient operation and compliance with our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit.

- In keeping with our Climate Action Plan recommendations, improvements to our Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) station are scheduled for FY 2025/26. These improvements will increase our capability to accept hauled food waste diverted from the general solid waste stream handled at the Resource Recovery Plant. The FOG material will be anaerobically digested to produce additional methane, which will result in more on-site electricity generation at the Water Pollution Control Plant.

## Stormwater Utility
## No Increase in Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) $5.20 Monthly Fee

Based on the feedback received from the recent Resident Satisfaction Survey, the services provided by this utility to protect our property owners from overland flooding remain a high priority. To help fund the expenditures devoted to the repair of the City’s storm sewer outlets, manholes, and outfalls, as well as managing developers’ compliance with the City’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit to protect waterways, a four-tier fee structure based on impervious area is in place.

In FY 2025/26, of the $1,960,000 anticipated to be generated from these fees, $433,085 is earmarked for direct operating costs to maintain the system. The remaining $1,526,915, along with other revenue, will be devoted to engineering, GIS, other support services, and CIP projects.

Based on the most recent financial analysis, no modifications to the current fee structure or rates are needed in FY 2025/26. When and at what level the next rate increase is needed in this utility will depend on how quickly previously approved but unfinished projects are completed.

Staff in this area will continue to inspect and selectively clear debris from stormwater easements, inspect and repair intakes and pipes to ensure efficient water flow during rainstorms, and enforce the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' stormwater management and pollution prevention plans as they relate to construction projects.

**Resource Recovery Utility**
**No Increase in the $10.50 Per Capita Property Tax Subsidy from Partner Entities**
**No Increase in the $75 Per Ton Tipping Fee to Garbage Haulers**

Since the mid-1970s, we have 1) promoted reusing materials so they don't enter the waste stream, 2) recycled material such as glass for free by offering drop-off sites throughout the City, 3) processed garbage brought by private haulers to our Resource Recovery Plant by separating metals for resale, and 4) burned the remaining material, known as Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF), in the Electric Utility's boilers as an alternative fuel source. However, new federal requirements and operational challenges will make it impossible to continue burning RDF. Therefore, we are finalizing a plan for a new path forward with the introduction of a new Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus that will facilitate solid waste disposal in a partner landfill, recycling materials sold on the open market, yard waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal, and lightweight demolition material disposal.

Since we will likely not drastically change our operations for another two years, we have attempted to develop a maintenance-of-services budget in FY 2025/26. **Therefore, the tipping fee charged to local haulers who bring garbage to the Resource Recovery Plant for processing will remain at $75 per ton for FY 2025/26. In addition, the per capita property tax subsidy paid by the City ($592,484) and our other government partners in Story County ($319,966) will remain the same for FY 2025/26.**

A number of developments have caused us to dip into our available balance, including 1) unplanned maintenance at the Power Plant, which reduced our tipping fee and recycled metal revenue, 2) the contract with the Boone County Landfill increased from $57 to $60 per ton, and 3) recycling commodity markets have been trending downward. Therefore, we project that we may need to increase the tipping fee at the Resource Recovery Plant up to $95 per ton beginning in FY 2026/27 and maintain that level until we develop more accurate costs for operating our new campus.

## Streets and Traffic

The primary focus areas in these two activities are improved public outreach, service efficiencies, and service deliveries. A few examples include:

- Our Geographic Information Systems (GIS) staff is implementing new citizen engagement tools that will allow customers to find GIS information on their own easily. In addition, their website will now provide snow removal status, hydrant flushing projections, electric outages, construction information, and recycling locations.

- Public Works vehicles will be outfitted with hardware to collect pavement condition data routinely. This data will be uploaded to a maintenance program that can constantly update information. This information will be used to analyze the longevity of various pavement repair techniques and identify where funds from the street maintenance budget can be best allocated to improve user experiences. This service will replace a program previously provided by the state, which did not offer the same functionality and was more suited for use on highways rather than local streets.

- The budget includes the purchase of new pavement marking grinders that will significantly improve our efficiency in removing outdated markings. In accordance with changes in federal traffic regulations, lane markings will be increased in width. These efforts will assure high-quality, visible markings on our roadways, which will be particularly helpful in poor weather, at night, and for vehicles equipped with more advanced lane detection equipment.

- Per the City Council’s directive, staff plans to initiate proactive inspections of sidewalks in late FY 2024/25, with an anticipated 10% of the sidewalk system to be inspected annually. Guidelines recently adopted by the City Council provide property owners additional alternatives to repair sidewalks to a safe condition, which should prove less costly to the property owner when compared to replacement while still providing a safe and effective sidewalk network.

- In keeping with the Council's commitment to sustainability, we are using material cleaned from the street sweeper and mixed with compost for our backfill projects to sustain plant and grass growth.

- The City will continue supplementing our plow trucks and operators for snow and ice events by contracting with 12 private individuals with the necessary equipment. This helps the City reach all parts of the street network more quickly during snow and ice emergencies without adding the increased costs associated with additional full-time staff and equipment.

## Transit

All three major funders of CyRide—the Iowa State University Student Government, the City of Ames, and the Iowa State University Administration—are under extreme pressure to hold the line on expenditures. In response to this pressure, CyRide has prepared a budget for FY 2025/26 that calls for only a 2.50% increase in funding from all three parties. The funding request to the partners is expected to increase incrementally up to 4% by FY 2029/30. The City's share comes from property taxes generated by the Transit Levy.

The CyRide staff continues to exhibit its prowess in obtaining much-needed federal and state grants to cover vehicle purchases, facility improvements, and operational expenses. CyRide received three federal grants to replace seven 40' diesel buses with five Battery Electric Buses (BEBs) and two articulated 60' buses, increasing the BEB fleet to seven and the articulated fleet to ten. In addition, a discretionary grant was received for seven new 40' diesel buses. State grants were also awarded to complete the renovation of the shop, upgrade the sprinkler system, and install fire-rated doors.

Gaining access to these state and federal funds is critical for CyRide operations as it appears that in the future, the ability to raise local property tax funding for our transit system will be made even more difficult by the State Legislature. The reliance on federal funding does raise concern for staff, as changes to the availability of this funding source is being threatened by the federal government at this time.

## Parking – No Increase in Parking Related Fees or Fines

The recent partnership with Story County to place registration stops on vehicles with a significant amount of unpaid parking tickets has resulted in a slight increase in outstanding tickets being paid. However, it is too early to determine whether this effort will significantly impact the Parking Fund's overall health. It appears we are unable to cover the projected expenditures in the Parking Fund with projected revenues for our parking operation in each of the next five years. We are getting by in the interim by drawing down the available balance in the Parking Fund. In addition, we will have to discontinue the

desired transfer to the Parking Capital Reserve Fund to cover needed improvements to our various public parking lots. Equally significant is that our current financial projections indicate that in FY 2027/28, we will end the year below our fund balance goal, and by FY 2029/30, the balance in the Parking Fund will be negative.

Approximately 20 new “smart” parking meters are slated for installation each year. These meters will improve our service by accepting credit cards, coins, smart cards, and payments via the Park Mobile app. They will also be capable of providing reports regarding parking space utilization at different times of the day.

**Therefore, while not popular, it will soon be time for the City Council to consider increasing revenue in this fund by raising fines and/or meter fees to keep the fund solvent or switching from a user-based fee system to a property tax-supported system. However, dedicating property tax revenues to this fund may be difficult given the constraints imposed by the state in recent years on the City’s ability to raise taxes.**

## Airport

Airport operations are experiencing increasing maintenance expenditures due to the fuel farm reaching the end of its useful life and the T-hangers showing signs of structural wear. For FY 2025/26, we estimate Airport operating expenses to be $162,801, supported by $191,944 in user revenues in land leases, building leases, and fuel flowage fees. The $29,143 of excess revenue will be available to pay toward the $70,975 debt service payment for the new terminal. In accordance with a previously negotiated contract, ISU will pay the remaining $41,832 debt service.

A consultant will be hired to assist in redesigning Airport Drive, enhancing accessibility and visual appeal within the terminal area. In addition, efforts will be made to improve the overall visual appeal of the Airport grounds with enhanced landscaping and turf management.

In keeping with the Airport Master Plan, staff is exploring a potential public/private partnership to add new aircraft hangars and improve support services. These investments, it is hoped, will bolster airport services while sharing the financial responsibility with private sector entities.

Airport farm operations help us provide the local match for the Federal Aviation Administration grants that fund various capital improvements at the Airport. In FY 2025/26, we anticipate $6,000 in expenditures to maintain the farmland owned by the City surrounding the Airport, offset by $92,691 of revenue generated from cash rent for our farm operation. The excess revenue will be transferred to the Airport Improvement Fund which is projected to have a balance of $324,940 by the end of FY 2025/26.

## Parks & Recreation

The General Fund support for Parks and Recreation activities appears skewed in FY 2025/26, where, for the first time, the budget reflects eight months of expenditures associated with the opening of the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center. Included in these expenditures are two new FTEs: an Aquatics Coordinator and Principal Clerk to staff this new facility. Existing Parks & Recreation maintenance staff will assist with cleaning the building and maintaining the HVAC and filtration systems.

The partnership with 60 Forward Center, which opened in September 2024, has provided additional space for programming weightlifting, yoga, and aerobic classes for those over 60 years of age.

Savings in the General Fund realized in prior years have been incorporated into the budget to increase our scholarship funding for recreation programs by $200,000. This additional funding will bring the total balance in the Scholarship Fund to approximately $500,000 at the end of FY 2025/26. Funding of $100,000 is also included in FY 2025/26 to hire a consultant to develop a conceptual plan, along with estimated expenditures and revenues, for a new indoor recreation center.

In keeping with the Council's goal to promote partnerships with local organizations, we will be offering new STEM camps, cooking classes, chess camps, and Challenge soccer camps where the organization provides the instructors and curriculum for the camp and Parks and Recreation markets the event, provides the facility, and handles registration. Obtaining this broader knowledge from partnerships allows us to offer a wider variety of offerings to our residents in our Instructional Programs.

We will also explore a new partnership with Can Play to offer additional adaptive programming to serve the recreation needs of individuals with physical and/or intellectual disabilities.

To promote participation in our athletic programs, we will offer a new concept of one-time events (e.g., tournaments) rather than leagues. We hope these events will be attractive to individuals who are too busy for a longer-term time commitment.

Property tax support for Aquatics will increase significantly in FY 2025/26, rising from $211,134 to $468,836. This substantial increase reflects the inclusion of eight months of operating costs for the new Fitch Family Indoor Aquatics facility, which is slated to open in late fall.

The Lutheran Church of Hope, a major renter of our Auditorium and Gym, is building its own facility. This will result in an estimated annual revenue loss of $44,000, prompting us to proactively develop new revenue streams for these venues. Our strategy includes attracting larger events, increasing the number of shared-use events, and partnering with a vendor to provide beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages during events.

In an effort to generate additional interest in our offerings, new programs have been added to our fitness portfolio, such as Cycle Zone, Cycle Beats, Chair Yoga, Intro To Weight Lifting, Pilates Fusion, Xpress Upper Body Challenge, Xpress Cardio HIIT, Xpress Leg Challenge, Xpress Strength, Zumba Beginners, and Triple Threat.

We anticipate very healthy balances in the two enterprise funds in Parks and Recreation. Unreserved balances of $883,496 in the Homewood Golf Course and $369,906 in the Ames/ISU Ice Arena funds are expected at the end of FY 2025/26.

## Library

The Library budget reflects a continued commitment to providing facilities, technology, collections, and programs to meet the educational needs of people of all ages. Because the community uses the facility heavily, funds have been earmarked for building upkeep and maintenance.

Partnerships with other city and county entities continue through participation in shared community events and hosting dialogs around a variety of issues of public interest. The Library's involvement with EcoFair, Juneteenth, National Night Out, Ames School District Community Enrichment, Parks and Recreation summer camps, and All Aboard for Kids camp highlight this outreach.

The staff has seen a greater interest in hands-on and interactive programs where participants can meet other people and learn in the community. Therefore, programs such as International Community Meeting, Speed Friending, and Ames Repair Café are being offered along with the more traditional educational lecture programs.

## Thank You!

I have attempted to highlight only a few of the many initiatives that will be undertaken by our City employees in FY 2025/26, supported by the funding highlighted in the budget, as they strive to provide exceptional service at the best price to Ames residents and visitors to our community. I want to thank our Department Heads and their staff members for developing reasonable budget requests, which is never an easy task since we are often pulled in opposite directions by our residents and customers with opposing views as to what excellent service means to them.

In addition, our budget management team, composed of our Finance Director, Corey Goodenow, our Budget Manager, Nancy Masteller, our Budget Analyst, Patti Lehman, our Finance Department Secretary, Bre Van Sickle, and our two Assistant City Managers, Brian Phillips and Pa Vang Goldbeck, deserve recognition for their work in reviewing each line item within the various program and activity budgets, assisting with the preparation of performance measures and highlights, and compiling the relevant financial information reflected in this budget document.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven L. Schainker
City Manager

# COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

How the town was named…Ames was platted as a city and was established in 1864 to serve the Cedar Rapids and Missouri River Railroad. Cynthia Duff, an early Ames settler, was instrumental in helping secure land for the railroad. The railroad president, John Blair, named the town after his friend Oakes Ames, a railroad promoter and congressman from Massachusetts, who never lived in Ames.




Conveniently located…near the crossroads of the nation, where I-35 and I-80 intersect, Ames is centrally located to all points. Interstate road systems place Ames just a few hours' drive from Minneapolis, Kansas City, Omaha, Chicago, and St. Louis. Des Moines, the state capital, is only 30 minutes away.

## Ames Community School District:

1 Preschool Center
5 Elementary Schools
1 Middle School
1 High School







## Average Temperature:

Winter - 24 degrees
Summer - 74 degrees
Rain - 36 inches
Snow - 31 inches

## Education:

Bachelor's Degree - 31.3%
Graduate Degree - 30.3%
Attainment (2020)





## Form of Government:

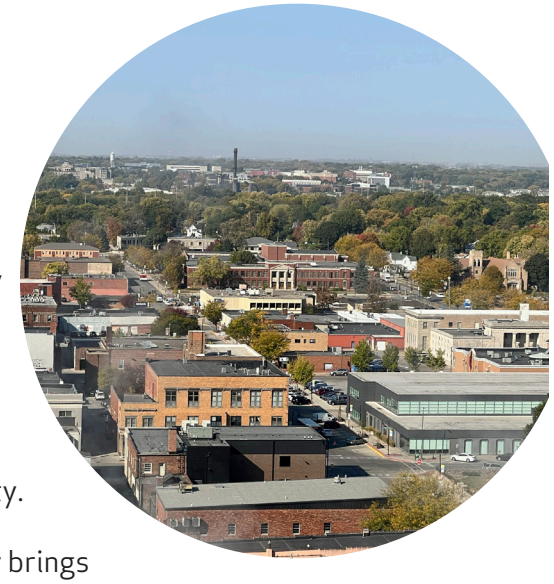
Manager - Council
Fiscal Year: July 1 - June 30
Area: 27.7 sq. miles

## Ranked nationally as a great place to live…



- No. 3 on the list of 5 College Towns to Live in After Graduation (Livability, 2023)
- No. 3 Best Small Cities for Small Businesses (VerizonSpecials.com, 2023)
- One of the Top 100 Best Places to Live (Livability, 2022)
- River Town of the Year (Iowa Rivers Revival, 2021)
- No. 1 10 Best States to Retire in 2021 (MoneyRates, 2021)
- No. 5 Best Iowa High Schools (US News & World Report, 2021)

# COMMUNITY OVERVIEW



Beneath the small-town charm of Ames, Iowa, beats the heart of a much larger city. With a population of more than 66,000, Ames offers cultural, recreational, educational, business, and entertainment amenities more common in bigger metros. As a growing city, Ames continues to focus on building a strong community filled with opportunities for all. There are so many reasons that Ames, Iowa, is the Smart Choice!

Home to Iowa State University, Ames not only educates students from around the globe, but has become a player in developing the world's bio-economic future. No visit to Ames would be complete without experiencing Iowa State University. The campus boasts large expanses of green space, attractive buildings, and approximately 30,000 students. The University brings excitement and vitality to our city and provides cultural and entertainment options typically found only in larger cities.



Located along Highway 30 and Interstate 35 in Iowa's Cultivation Corridor, Ames is an attractive location for new businesses to locate and for existing businesses to expand. World class companies including 3M, Barilla, BASF, Boehringer Ingelheim, Hach, Danfoss, Syngenta, and many others are located in Ames. The community's commitment to excellence is contagious.

Ames and Iowa State University together offer an unsurpassed quality of life. Ames, Iowa is your ***Smart Choice!***

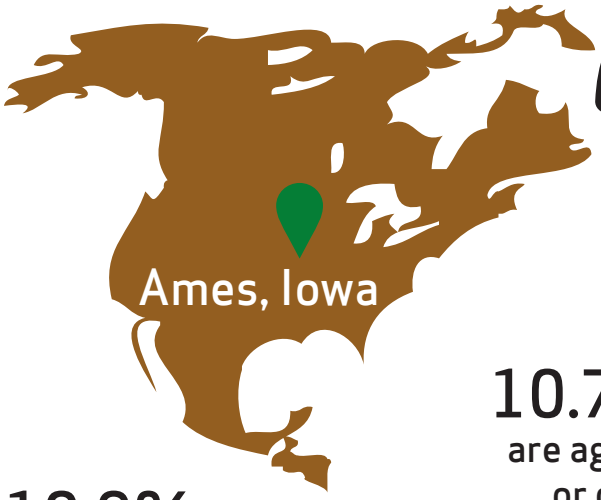
| Principal Employers 2024 | |
|---|---|
| Employer | Employees |
| Iowa State University | 18,212 |
| Mary Greeley Medical Center | 1,545 |
| McFarland Clinic, PC | 1,200 |
| Danfoss Corporation* | 1,052 |
| Iowa Department of Transportation | 975 |
| City of Ames** | 972 |
| United States Department of Agriculture | 750 |
| Ames Community School District | 700 |
| Hach Chemical | 580 |
| Workiva | 550 |

*Formerly Sauer-Danfoss*
***This includes full-time, part-time, and temporary employees*
*Source: United States Department of Labor, City of Ames, and company inquiries*

| Principal Property Taxpayers 2024 | |
|---|---|
| Taxpayer | Taxable Assessed Value |
| Iowa State University Research Park | $67,803,701 |
| Barilla America, Inc. | $49,670,131 |
| Clinic Building Company, Inc. | $35,497,425 |
| Campus Investors IS, LLC | $34,570,683 |
| FP A6 University West, LLC | $25,179,953 |
| Spirit Realty, LP | $23,716,140 |
| Bricktowne Ames LC | $21,973,417 |
| SZ Ames Apartments, LLC | $21,839,873 |
| GW Land Holdings, LLC | $20,447,255 |
| Dayton Park, LLC | $20,098,133 |

*Source: Story County Auditor*

# WHO IS IN AMES? OUR COMMUNITY




Population **66,000**
including ISU students



**30,432**
ISU students
as of Fall 2024

**69%**
are off campus

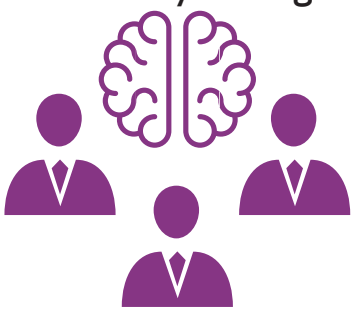
According to the Ames Resident Satisfaction survey

**80%**
feel they belong in Ames

**10.7%**
are age 65 or older

**10.9%**
are foreign born

The average age is **23**



The poverty rate is **26%**
Most common racial or ethnic group living below the poverty line is White

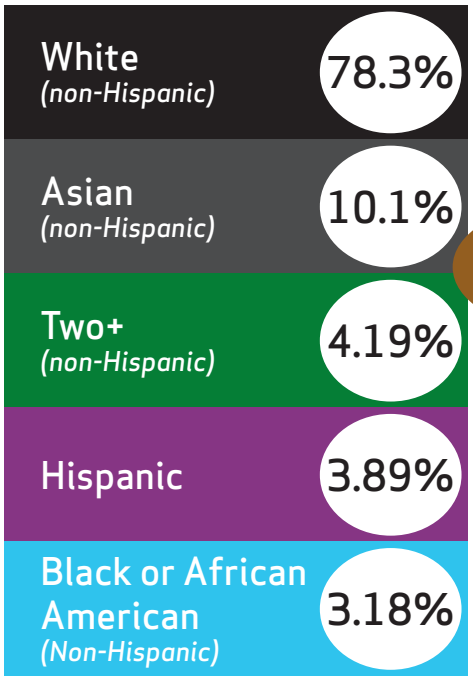


The median household income is **$60K**



**42.9%**
are homeowners

The **5** largest ethnic groups are:







**13.4%**
speak a language other than English at home

Languages and dialects spoken in Ames according to school district reports:
**58**
including Chinese, Spanish, Ukranian, Haitian Creole/French, Arabic, Tamil, and Hindi

CITY OF ames

# ANNUAL COMMUNITY EVENTS





## Special Olympics Summer Games

In May, Ames hosts one of eight statewide championships for individuals with intellectual disabilities that includes track & field, Bocce, cycling, developmental events, soccer, swimming, and tennis competitions.

## Ames On The Half Shell

Live music and performances are held from May through July hosted by the Ames Junior Chamber at the Durham Bandshell Park.

## Farmers Markets

The residents of Ames enjoy two market locations that provide fresh local produce, meats and cheese, crafts, artwork, and prepared food from May through October. Live music, local entertainment, educational and free children's activities can also be found throughout the season.

## Art Walk

Over 60 artists participate in this June downtown event, including painters, jewelry makers, photographers, woodworkers, potters, sculptors, and musicians.

## Iowa Games

Over 60 sports are offered in an Olympic-style format to all ages and abilities, including weekend athletes, school children, and senior citizens during the month of July.

## Foodies & Brew

This July event features live music, food samplings from local restaurants and chefs, and samples of local, craft and microbrews, and is hosted at the Ames Municipal Airport Hangar. All proceeds go toward funding the historic preservation, beautification, and economic development of downtown Ames.

## Pridefest

This September LGBTQIA+ celebration includes live performances, presentations, poetry readings, live music, food cart vendors, and educational & youth programs. The celebration helps build community for LGBTQIA+ people in Ames, Iowa State University, and the surrounding area.

## Oktoberfest

Live polka music, beer sampling tent, German food vendors, and Gutentag games can be enjoyed at this October event in downtown Ames.

## Snow Magic

Downtown Ames starts the holiday season with the lighting of the Snow Magic tree in Tom Evans Plaza in November. Shoppers can stroll through the shopping district with hot cocoa, cider, or coffee and visit festive business open houses.

## Holiday Home Tour

Tour beautiful Ames homes and enjoy the holiday decorating for two days during December. Five homes are chosen annually.

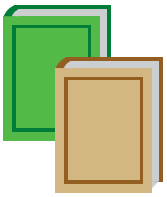
# CITY SERVICES

The City of Ames provides police and fire service, library services, recreation programs, building inspections, and planning and economic development services. The City maintains the street system, parking lots, parks, and municipal cemeteries. Also, it operates the Ames Animal Shelter, the Ames/ISU Ice Arena, Homewood Golf Course, and the Ames Municipal Airport.

Electrical service, water, sanitary sewer service, and storm water control are all provided by City utilities. The City also operates the Resource Recovery Plant, which collects garbage and converts it refuse which can be burned for fuel at the City's Power Plant.

## Public Safety:

**1** Police Station
**56** Sworn Officers
**3** Fire Stations
**63** Full-Time Firefighters



**1** Main Library
**1** Bookmobile



**41** City Parks
**1** 9-Hole City Golf Course
**1** Skate Park
**1** Dog Park
**3** Ice Rinks
**1** Lake
**1,268** Acres in Park System
**1** 18-Hole Disc Golf Course



**1** Municipal Airport



## Transportation:

**1** City Bus System - CyRide



The City's transit system, CyRide, is operated by a board consisting of the City of Ames, Iowa State University Administration, and the ISU Student Government. The City Manager serves as the City's representative on the Transit Board.

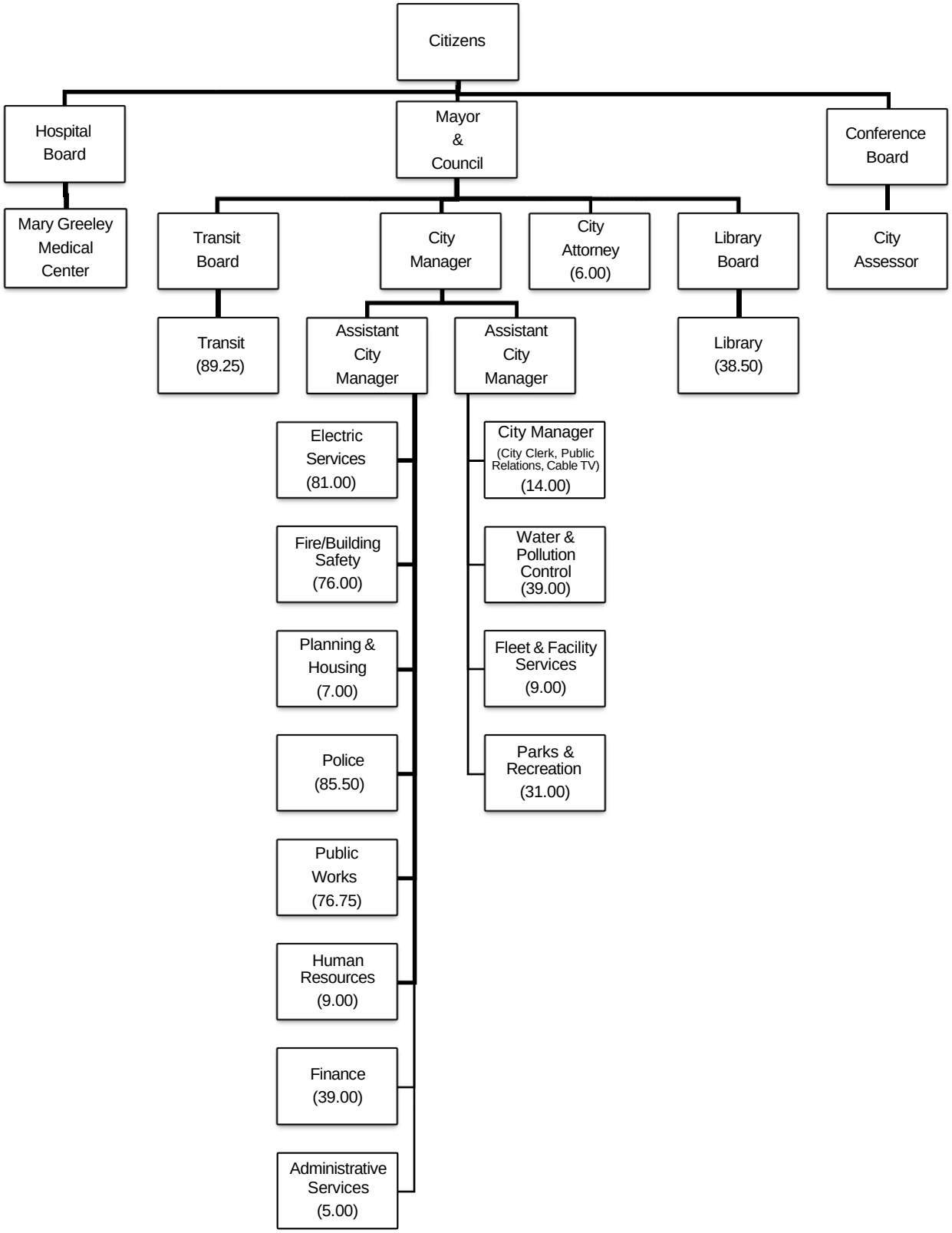


**1** Municipal Hospital - Mary Greeley

Medical service is provided by Mary Greeley Medical Center, a non-profit municipal hospital which, by City ordinance, is governed by a board of trustees. The hospital's financial and budget information is not included in the City's budget document, but it is included in the City's annual audited financial statements.

# City of Ames Organizational Chart

Includes number of Full-Time Equivalent Employees (FTE)



# City Council Values, Goals, and Tasks

The budget process begins each year with the Ames City Council setting its goals for the coming year and developing a plan for how to accomplish those goals. The City Council's current values were created in Council retreats held in January of 2020. A decision was made at that time to replace the Council's former model of Goals, Objectives, and Tasks with a new model of Values, Goals, and Tasks. The intention of the new model is that the value statements will be used to support a variety of additional initiatives instead of just the specific goals and tasks identified at the goal-setting sessions.

On January 6, 2024, the Mayor and City Council met in a workshop setting to review the values and to update the goals and tasks for the upcoming year. The Council's values, goals and task were approved on March 12, 2024. The City Council goals were incorporated into departmental goals which were used in developing the FY 2025/26 budget during the fall and winter of 2024 and early 2025. In accordance with City Council's directive, staff will plan to provide status updates regarding the progress toward accomplishing the Council goals in the spring and fall of each year.



Mayor John Haila



Gloria Betcher



Tim Gartin



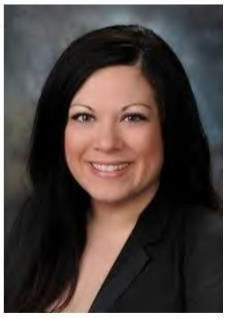
Anita Rollins



Rachel Junck



Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen



Amber Corrieri

# City Council Values, Goals, and Tasks

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025

***VALUES - GOALS - TASKS***

## A. WE VALUE COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC

A1. Increase public feedback on proposed major projects, studies, and policy changes prior to City Council making final decisions.

A1.T1. Utilize non-traditional, creative, innovative ways to improve community engagement, particularly underrepresented groups.

- Implement, at least, one new technique for obtaining public feedback with special emphasis on engaging our under-represented residents.
- Staff will report to Council some creative software and services that exist to collect feedback, and the Council will consider adopting one or more programs (Polco software for example).
- Use targeted direct emails on specific issues of interest (for example NAACP, Latino, Asian American communities, etc.).
- Post City information flyers in grocery stores and other public spaces (such as: Food At First, Overflow Thrift Store, churches, other places) where underrepresented people might eat/shop/worship/frequent.

A1.T2. Highlight outreach efforts in a more standardized format on staff reports, CAFs, and other reports to Council.

A1.T3. Develop performance measures and metrics that staff will report regularly to the Council/public regarding issues such as permit process timing, etc.

A1.T4. Develop an outreach policy setting expectations for the types of outreach that should be used for various types of activities.

## B. WE VALUE DIVERSE HOUSING OPTIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY

B1. Increase quantity and variety of single and multi-family housing units at various price points or rental rates related to new construction and rehabilitation of existing.

B1.T1. Adopt Council approved items included in AEDC housing document.

- Explore how to get the existing land within the City to move forward with development.
- Review/consider incentive options and development requirements to spur on more housing (tax abatement, TIF, sharing in infrastructure costs off site, etc.).
- Analyze resident demographics (including income), target housing price points and possible incentives to “match” income.

B1.T2. Explore opportunities to partner with groups such as the ISU Design College, College of Engineering, Construction Management, etc. and/or IEDA and enter into, at least, one partnership involving an innovative research project that focuses on lowering housing costs, and are both sustainable and affordable.

B1.T3. Explore, support, and pursue a creative housing development with a public partner (ISU, ISU Foundation, Ames & Gilbert CSD). Similar to the Purdue University Foundation housing development project or school district building rental units for school staff.

B1.T4. Engage with United Way of Story County, Story County Housing Trust, other community partners in the following ways:

- Study, review, evaluate existing strategies and programs of the other entities related to diverse housing needs.
- Develop joint (City/other entity) strategies that complements, builds on and/or leverages these existing initiatives.
- Consider/evaluate/study options for the City to financially support affordable housing rehabilitation, with the understanding that the City shall not become the sole funder of this initiative.
- Continue discussions with Polk County regarding a possible partnership in a grant application for an owner-occupied, income-based retrofit program.

*Note: The above task also would positively impact the Council's carbon reduction plan goals.*

**C. WE VALUE A FUN, VIBRANT, AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY THAT ATTRACTS AND RETAINS PEOPLE**

C1. Plan, budget, and initiate construction of multiple new City owned projects.

C1.T1. Complete the planned Splash Pad, Agility Course, Schainker Plaza, and Mini-Pitch Field.

C1.T2. Complete the face lift of City Hall interior with new carpet, base, paint, signage/wayfinding, and ceiling tiles when needed. Consider installing LED lighting in public areas to start, and within three years replace all lighting with LED in building.

C1.T3. Prioritize, schedule, conceptually design, and determine funding strategy for:

- Replacement of existing Animal Control Shelter
- Relocation and construction of a new Fire Station #2 (Campustown)
- New privately or City owned Indoor Recreation Center with walking track, basketball/pickleball courts, soccer pitch, and multi-purpose space. (Note: Initially meet with private developers to ascertain viability and potential for a private indoor complex.)
- New Community Park along Ontario Road in west Ames
- New Fire Station #4

C1.T4. Receive the Main Street Improvements Study, adopt the Council-approved recommendations, and develop a plan for financing the City-supported components in the CIP.

C2. Support arts and culture in the community, including community celebrations, festivals and/or events.

C2.T1. Ask Board and Commissions to identify ways in which they can support or partner with outside community groups (such as Ames Main Street, Campustown Action Association, cultural and international organizations) to host new or existing events in the community that celebrate arts and culture, with the goal of holding two new annual events.

## D. WE VALUE A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

D1. Further diversify membership on City Boards and Commissions.

D1.T1. Identify the barriers to increased diversity and participation on boards and commissions (e.g., childcare, transportation, virtual meetings). Include evaluation of best practices from other communities who are successful in achieving diverse membership.

D1.T2. Adopt solutions that are within the Council's control to improve diversity and participation.

D2. Consider pursuing a Community-Wide Inclusion plan.

D2.T1. Initially, review research performed by City staff regarding what other cities' plans look like and accomplish.

## E. WE VALUE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

E1. Adopt a new plan for collection and disposal of waste and recyclable items.

E1.T1. Decide how to handle the disposal of solid waste. In accordance with Goal A1, engage the public and solicit feedback as a part of the decision-making process.

E1.T2. Make decision on organized collection of residential waste and recyclable items. Here again, engage the public and solicit feedback as a part of the decision-making process in accordance with Goal A1.

E1.T3. Educate the public on what has changed from past communications over the decades where "throw everything in your trash" is no longer the case. Cast vision for waste reduction, recycling, and reuse opportunities for the future.

E1.T4. Identify specific a schedule and steps required for this new plan and explain how each steps integrates with Climate Action Plan.

E2. Pursue initiatives that use new and emerging technologies or processes to assist in meeting the Climate Action Plan.

E2.T1. Explore with ISU, ISURP, Chevron REG, and others on what opportunities may exist to serve as a test case. (For example the REG/Biodiesel/Optimus test using city heavy truck fleet or a ISU a researcher is studying how to turn plastics into fuel.)

E3. Increase use of public transit and active transportation.

E3.T1. Encourage the Transit Board to pursue going "fare free" for the current system.

E3.T2. Engage in a more aggressive marketing plan and strategy promoting public use of CyRide.

E3.T3. Explore options and support initiatives to increase transportation availability for those unable to get to work, school, or other desired destinations within Ames.

## City Council Appointees

| *Name* | *Title* | *Phone Number* |
|---|---|---|
| Steve Schainker | City Manager | 515-239-5101 |
| Mark Lambert | City Attorney | 515-239-5146 |

## Department Heads

| *Name* | *Department* | *Phone Number* |
|---|---|---|
| Donald Kom | Electric Services | 515-239-5171 |
| Corey Goodenow | Finance | 515-239-5114 |
| Rich Higgins | Fire | 515-239-5414 |
| Corey Mellies | Fleet Services/Facilities | 515-239-5520 |
| Bethany Ballou | Human Resources | 515-239-5199 |
| Sheila Schofer | Library | 515-239-5630 |
| Keith Abraham | Parks and Recreation | 515-239-5350 |
| Kelly Diekmann | Planning and Housing | 515-239-5400 |
| Geoff Huff | Police | 515-239-5130 |
| John Joiner | Public Works | 515-239-5162 |
| Barbara Neal | Transit (CyRide) | 515-239-5565 |
| John Dunn | Water and Pollution Control | 515-239-5150 |

# How to Use This Budget Document

The following notes and definitions have been prepared to assist the Mayor, Council, and citizens of Ames in more readily understanding the format and terminology which are used in this budget.

## Program Budget Philosophy

Program budgeting provides a methodology and set of tools that are specifically designed to help provide policy makers and the citizens with clear information on what the City of Ames does and how much it costs, creating a more transparent budget. The program budget provides information for decision making on a ***service*** or ***program-oriented*** basis. ***Policy makers*** are thus given the means to make crucial budgetary decisions based upon specific and measurable ***service levels***, as well as upon the total dollar cost of those services. At the same time, ***citizens*** should be able to see the service-level ***results*** of the elected representatives' decision. A program budget is meaningful to the governing board and the public because programs are directly relevant to how they experience public services. A program budget is organized into service areas rather than just departments, objects of expenditure, and line items.

## Program Structure

Within this budget, City services are grouped in six "programs," each of which addresses a broad category of needs within the community. These programs are as follows:

Public Safety
Utilities
Transportation
Culture and Recreation
Community Development
General Government

In addition to these six operating programs, two additional programs identify other "non-operating" types of expenditures:

Debt Service
Internal Services/Transfers

These programs have next been divided into "sub-programs" and "activities." Each of these levels reflects the City's efforts to address community needs at a progressively more specific level. To illustrate the pyramiding nature of this program structure, a portion of the transportation program is outlined below.

| *Program* | *Sub-Program* | *Activity* |
|---|---|---|
| Transportation | Street System | Street Surface Maintenance<br>Street Surface Cleaning<br>Snow and Ice Control |
| | Public Parking | Parking Operation & Maintenance<br>Parking Law Enforcement<br>Parking Violation Collection |

The activity sheet (or sub-activity, when necessary) is the basic building block of the program budget. Using the performance, personnel, cost, and funding information given on these sheets, budget decisions are made for each of the activities. The summary of activities into sub-programs and of sub-programs into programs then provides us with a comprehensive program of all those services which are provided by the City.

## Fund Accounting and Major Funds

To meet various reporting requirements and generally accepted accounting principles, the City of Ames has established a number of financial funds to record financial activity. These funds allow the City to segregate specific financial activity and meet requirements of various financial regulations, restrictions, and limitations on use of various revenue sources. The following matrix shows the relationship between the City's budgetary programs and the City's fund structure. A budget is established for each fund and program.

**Matrix of Funds and Programs**

| Funds: | Public Safety | Utilities | Transportation | Culture & Recreation | Community Development | General Government | Debt Service | Capital Projects | Internal Services |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***General Fund **** | X | | X | X | X | X | | X | |
| ***Special Revenue Funds:*** | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | | | | X | X | X | | X | |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | | | | | X | X | | X | |
| Road Use Tax | | | X | | X | | | X | |
| Public Safety Spec Rev | X | | | | | | | | |
| City-Wide Housing | | | | | X | | | | |
| CDBG Program | | | | | X | | | | |
| HOME Program | | | | | X | | | | |
| P&R Donations/Grants | | | | X | | | | | |
| Library Donations/Grants | | | | X | | | | | |
| Utility Assistance | | X | | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous Donations | | | X | X | | | | | |
| Economic Development | | | | | X | | | | |
| TIF Funds | | | | | X | | | | |
| ***Capital Projects Fund **** | | | | | X | X | | X | |
| ***Permanent Funds*** | | | | X | | | | | |
| ***Enterprise Funds:*** | | | | | | | | | |
| Airport | | | X | | | | | | |
| Water Utility * | | X | | | | | X | X | |
| Sewer Utility * | | X | | | | | X | X | |
| Electric Utility * | | X | | | | | X | X | |
| Parking | | | X | | | | | | |
| Transit | | | X | | | | | X | |
| Stormwater Utility | | X | | | | | | X | |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | | | | X | | | | X | |
| Homewood Golf Course | | | | X | | | | X | |
| Resource Recovery | | X | | | | | | X | |
| ***Debt Service Fund*** | | | | | | | X | | |
| ***Internal Service Funds:*** | | | | | | | | | |
| Fleet Services | | | | | | | | | X |
| Information Technology | | | | | | | | | X |
| Risk Management | | | | | | | | | X |
| Health Insurance | | | | | | | | | X |

* Indicates a major fund or fund group

# How to Use This Budget Document

The fund summary section of this document provides brief descriptions, revenues, expenses, and fund balances for each fund. The major funds represent significant activities of the City of Ames and include the following funds or fund groups:

General Fund
Debt Service Fund
Capital Projects Fund
Water Utility Fund
Sewer Utility Fund
Electric Utility Fund

Combined, these major funds represent approximately three-quarters of total City expenses. In the Fund Summary section, funds by type are listed. A description of how each fund is used is provided at the top of each fund page.

### Department Goals and Core Services

Each activity page within each program will list departmental goals and core services. These goals are set by the department responsible for providing the service for that activity.

The goals listed in the budget should:

- Support the goals of the organization and activity
- Describe what will be accomplished
- Reflect the planned benefit to customers
- Allow measurement of progress
- Define quantifiable future targets (if appropriate)

### Performance Measures

Reporting of accomplishments of objectives will include the following types of service measures where appropriate:

- Input – unit of resources expended to produce services
- Output – quantity of products or units of service produced
- Efficiency – inputs used per unit of output or outputs per unit of input
- Service Quality – Measure of the extent to which customers are satisfied with a program or how timely or accurately the service is provided
- Outcome – qualitative results of service; ultimate benefit to customer

The objective of service measurement reporting is to provide more complete information about the City of Ames' performance than can be provided by financial statements and schedules. The service measures are designed to assist users in assessing the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of services provided. The future budget year's projected measures are an estimate or target.

### Highlights

Highlights of each activity's budget are described beneath the goals and performance measures section. The first section lists items that impact that activity's budget, such as personnel changes, increased cost of supplies, or changes in service levels. The second section, "In-Progress Activities" describes projects or initiatives occurring in the current fiscal year. The third section, "Upcoming Activities" describes significant projects or changes that are projected for the upcoming year for which the budget is being established.

### Expenditures
The columns of financial information include:

- One historic year of actuals.
- The current year's adopted budget.
- The second amendment to the current year's budget which is prepared while budgeting for the future year. The City of Ames amends the current year's budget in October for project carryovers from the previous fiscal year and prepares a final amendment in May.
- The Manager's recommended budget after the PROBE (Productive Review of Budget Entries) and the City Manager have reviewed and approved the budget (draft budget document) or the adopted budget after the City Council approves and certifies the budget (final budget document).

### Types of Expenditures
Six types of expenditures are noted.

- Personal Services includes full-time and part-time wages, overtime, various leaves, benefits for IPERS, health insurance, FICA, Medicare FICA, Utility retirement, Police and Fire retirement, workers comp, life insurance, and unemployment compensation.
- Internal Services includes charges from other City departments for services such as fleet maintenance, computer services, messenger service, legal services.
- Contractual includes services provided by external vendors such as consulting, outside legal services, repairs, maintenance, and utilities.
- Commodities includes office supplies, food, minor equipment, structural materials, chemicals, equipment parts and supplies, meters and meter parts, and fuel.
- Capital includes equipment, vehicles, and improvements to land, building, utility systems, streets, and traffic systems. The City of Ames' capitalization threshold is $5,000.
- Other Expenditures includes bond and interest payments, insurance claims, refunds, and transfers.

### Funding Sources
Specific revenues which have been assigned to a program activity are listed. Not every revenue source can be assigned to just one program activity as explained below in Fund Support.

### Fund Support
Wherever possible, efforts have been made to assign specific revenue sources to the various program activities. Both costs and revenues related to a given City service can thus be shown on the same page. Levels of "self-support" for the given activity can thus be made evident.

When specific revenues cannot be assigned to a given activity, then the funding source shown will be "fund support." This indicates that the funding will come from the respective fund, and not from any specific revenue sources within that fund.

It is not always possible to assign the revenues to the appropriate program activity. However, all major revenue sources for each fund are shown on the respective fund summary sheets.

### Percentage Change
The percentage change number on the financial pages indicates the percentage change between the column for the Manager Recommended or Adopted column and the Adopted column for the previous fiscal year.

### Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)

When referring to the number of people employed by the City and to the number of positions authorized in any given department, this budget uses the term “full-time equivalent”, or “FTE”. One FTE is equivalent to 2,080 hours of work per year by full-time and permanent part-time employees (52 weeks times 40 hours per week equals 2,080 hours).

### Beginning Balances

The beginning balances shown on the fund sheets reflect not only cash, but also other assets and liabilities. Exclusions to assets as shown in the audit are capital assets in the Enterprise and Internal Service Funds, and inventory in all the funds. Excluded from liabilities are employee benefits which are not recorded on City books but are shown in the audited City financial statements as a liability.

Emphasis has been placed on the beginning balances for the current year adjusted, which are then carried forward based on the estimated revenues and expenditures to estimate a beginning balance for the beginning of the next fiscal budget.

In this budget presentation, the fund sheets reflect the excess or deficit of revenues over/under expenses and then add this excess or deficit to the beginning balance to establish a new ending balance.

The ending balance is then carried forward and becomes the beginning balance for the next budget year.

# Budget and Fiscal Policies

The Ames City Council adopts the City's budget and fiscal policies each year as part of the budget process. A separate investment policy was adopted by City Council on July 31, 2018, and a separate debt policy on June 27, 2017. The budget follows and complies with all the City's budget and fiscal policies.

## Financial Plan Purpose and Organization

### *Financial Planning Objectives*

Through its financial planning process, the City will link resources with results by:

- Identifying community needs for services.
- Establishing the programs required to provide these services.
- Establishing program policies and goals which define the nature and level of program services required.
- Identifying activities performed in delivering program services.
- Proposing objectives for improving the delivery of program services.
- Identifying and appropriating the resources required to perform program activities and accomplish program objectives.
- Setting standards to measure and evaluate the output of program activities, accomplishment of program objectives, and expenditure of program appropriations.

The City will use financial modeling tools to assist in the financial planning process and assess and forecast the effect of proposed service level changes on tax rate and fees.

### *Annual Budget*

The City's annual budget emphasizes long-range planning and effective program management. The benefits expected from the annual budget include:

- Reinforcing the importance of long-range planning in managing the City's fiscal affairs.
- Concentrating on developing and budgeting for the accomplishment of significant objectives.
- Establishing realistic timeframes for achieving objectives.
- Creating a proactive budget that provides for stable operations and ensures the City's long-term fiscal health.
- Promoting orderly spending patterns.

The City will maintain Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) standards for the "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" and will submit the budget document annually for review under the GFOA program.

### *Measurable Objectives*

The financial plan will establish measurable program objectives and allow reasonable time to accomplish those objectives.

### *Budget Amendments*

The Council will formally review the City's fiscal condition, and amend the budget, if necessary, in accordance with the Code of Iowa and administrative rules for local governments.

***Balanced Budget***
The City will maintain a balanced budget. This means that:

- Operating revenues must fully cover operating expenditures, including debt service, over the long term.
- Ending fund balance (or working capital in enterprise funds) must meet minimum policy levels. For the General Fund, this level has been established at 25% of operating revenues.

Under this policy, it is allowable for total expenditures to exceed revenues in a given year; however, in this situation, the beginning fund balance will be used primarily to fund capital improvement plan projects, or other one-time, non-recurring expenditures. Excess balances may also be utilized as part of a program to stabilize property tax levy rates over a planned number of years.

## Financial Reporting

***Annual Reporting***
The City will prepare annual financial statements as follows:

- In accordance with various requirements, the City will contract for an annual audit by a qualified independent certified public accountant. The City will strive for an unqualified auditor's opinion.
- The City will use generally accepted accounting principles in preparing its annual financial statements and will strive to meet the requirements of the GFOA's Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting program.
- The City will issue audited financial statements within 180 days after year-end.

## General Revenue Management

***Diversified and Stable Base***
The City will seek to maintain a diversified and stable revenue base to reduce the effects of short-term fluctuations in any one revenue source.

***Current Revenues for Current Uses***
The City will fund current expenditures with current revenues, avoiding procedures that balance current budgets by postponing needed expenditures, accruing future revenues, or rolling over short-term debt.

***Interfund Transfers and Loans***
To achieve important public policy goals, the City has established various special revenue, capital project, debt service and enterprise funds to account for revenues whose use should be restricted to certain activities. Accordingly, each fund exists as a separate financing entity from other funds, with its own revenue sources, expenditures, and fund equity.

Any transfers between funds for operating purposes are clearly set forth in the annual budget. These operating transfers, under which financial resources are transferred from one fund to another, are distinctly different from interfund borrowings, which are usually made for temporary cash flow reasons, and are not intended to result in a transfer of financial resources by the end of the fiscal year. In summary, inter-fund transfers result in a change in fund equity; interfund borrowings do not, as the intent is to repay the loan in the near term.

## User Fee Cost Recovery Goals

### *Ongoing Review*

Fees will be reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis to ensure that they keep pace with changes in service delivery costs, as well as changes in methods or levels of service delivery. In instances where State or other regulations limit the level of fees charged for City services, the user fee cost recovery principles may not apply. The budget document will identify where fee levels have been limited and clearly identify the subsidy required due to user fee limitations.

### *User Fee Cost Recovery Levels*

In setting user fees and cost recovery levels, the following factors will be considered:

- Community-Wide Versus Special Benefit – The level of user fee cost recovery should consider the community-wide versus special service nature of the program or activity. The use of general-purpose revenues is appropriate for community-wide services, while user fees are appropriate for services that are of special benefit to easily identified individuals or groups.
- Service Recipient Versus Service Driver – After considering community-wide versus special benefit of the service, the concept of service recipient versus service driver should also be considered. For example, it could be argued that the applicant is not the beneficiary of the City's development review efforts; the community is the primary beneficiary. However, the applicant is the driver of development review costs, and as such, cost recovery from the applicant is appropriate.
- Effect of Pricing on the Demand for Services – The level of cost recovery and related pricing of services can significantly affect the demand and subsequent level of services provided. At full cost recovery, this has the specific advantage of ensuring that the City is providing services for which there is genuinely a market that is not overly stimulated by artificially low prices. Conversely, high levels of cost recovery will negatively impact the delivery of services to lower income groups. This negative feature is especially pronounced, and works against public policy, if the services are specifically targeted to low-income groups.
- Feasibility of Collection and Recovery – Although it may be determined that a high level of cost recovery may be appropriate for specific services, it may be impractical or too costly to establish a system to identify and charge the user. Accordingly, the feasibility of assessing and collecting charges should also be considered in developing user fees, especially if significant program costs are intended to be financed from that source.

### *Factors Favoring Low-Cost Recovery Levels*

Very low-cost recovery levels are appropriate under the following circumstances:

- There is no intended relationship between the amount paid and the benefit received.
- Collecting fees is not cost-effective or will significantly impact the efficient delivery of the service.
- There is no intent to cover the cost of the service. Examples may include park shelter and auditorium rental.
- The service is non-recurring, generally delivered on a "peak demand or emergency basis, cannot reasonably be planned for on an individual basis, and is not readily available from a private sector source. Many public safety services fall into this category.
- Collecting fees would discourage compliance with regulatory requirements and adherence is primarily self-identified, and as such, failure to comply would not be readily detected by the City. Small-scale licenses and permits might fall into this category.

***Factors Favoring High-Cost Recovery Levels***
The use of service charges as a major source of funding service levels is especially appropriate under the following circumstances:

- The service is similar to services provided through the private sector and private or other public sector alternatives could or do exist for the delivery of the service.
- For requested service that requires added costs, it is intended that there be a direct relationship between the amount paid and the level and cost of the service received. An example is higher fees for utility hookup after normal working hours.
- The service is regulatory in nature and voluntary compliance is not expected to be the primary method of detecting failure to meet regulatory requirements. Building permit, plan checks, and subdivision review fees for large projects would fall into this category.

***General Concepts Regarding the Use of Service Charges***
The following general concepts will be used in developing and implementing service charges:

- Revenues should not exceed the reasonable cost of providing the service.
- Cost recovery goals should be based on the total cost of delivering the service, including direct costs, departmental administration costs, and organization-wide support costs such as accounting, personnel, data processing, vehicle maintenance and insurance.
- The method of assessing and collecting fees should be as simple as possible to reduce the administrative cost of collection.
- Rate structures should be sensitive to the "market" for similar services as well as to smaller, infrequent users of the service.
- A unified approach should be used in determining cost recovery levels for various programs based on the factors discussed above.

***Low-Cost Recovery Services***
Based on the criteria discussed above, the following types of services should have very low-cost recovery goals. In selected circumstances, there may be specific activities within the broad scope of services provided that should have user charges associated with them. However, the primary source of funding for the operation as a whole should be general-purpose revenues, not user fees.

- Delivering public safety emergency response services such as police patrol services and fire suppression.
- Maintaining and developing public facilities that are provided on a uniform, community-wide basis such as streets, parks, and general-purpose buildings.
- Providing social service programs and economic development activities.

***Recreation Programs***
The following cost recovery policies apply to the City's recreation programs:

- Cost recovery for activities directed to adults should be relatively high.
- Cost recovery for activities directed to youth and seniors should be relatively low. Although ability to pay may not be a concern for all youth and senior participants, these are desired program activities, and the cost of determining need may be greater than the cost of providing a uniform service fee structure to all participants. Further, there is a community-wide benefit in encouraging high levels of participation in youth and senior recreation activities regardless of financial status.
- In circumstances where services are similar to those provided in the private sector, cost recovery levels should be higher.

The City Parks and Recreation Department will work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to review recreation programs and establish specific cost recovery targets for broad program classifications.

***Planning, Building Safety, and Public Works Engineering Services***

Cost recovery for these services should generally be very high. In most instances, the City's cost recovery goal should be 100%. Exceptions to this standard include long range planning activities, as this function is clearly intended to serve the broader community.

- Planning services include planned development permits, tentative tract and parcel maps, rezonings, general plan amendments, variances, and use permits.
- Building and safety services include building permits, structural plan checks, inspections, and rental inspections.
- Engineering services include public improvement plan checks, inspections, subdivision requirements, and encroachments.

***Comparability with Other Communities***

In setting user fees, the City will consider fees charged by other agencies in accordance with the following criteria:

- Surveying other comparable communities provides useful information about the market for the fees being assessed.
- If prudently analyzed, they can serve as a benchmark for how cost-effectively the City provides its services.
- However, fee surveys should never be the sole or primary criteria in setting City fees as there are many factors that affect how and why other communities have set their fees at their levels. For example:

    1. What level of cost recovery is their fee intended to achieve compared with our cost recovery objectives?
    2. What costs have been considered in computing the fees?
    3. When was the last time that their fees were comprehensively evaluated?
    4. What level of service do they provide compared with our service or performance standards?
    5. Is their rate structure significantly different than ours and what is it intended to achieve?

    These can be very difficult questions to address in fairly evaluating fees among different communities. As such, the comparability of our fees to other communities should be one factor among many that is considered in setting City fees.

## Enterprise Fund Fees and Rates

***Water, Sewer, Electric, and Resource Recovery***

The City will set fees and rates at levels which fully cover the total direct and indirect costs, including operations, capital outlay, capital improvements, and debt service, of the following enterprise programs: water, sewer, electric, and resource recovery. For major City utilities including water, sewer, and electric, the City will model five years of projected revenues and expenses including capital improvements. These projections will be used to identify and notify the City Council of the timing and level of possible rate changes.

***Stormwater Utility***
Stormwater utility rates are intended to fund operating costs of the Storm Sewer Utility. Major capital improvements will be funded by other funding sources including general obligation bonds.

***Homewood Golf***
Golf program fees should fully cover direct operating costs. Because of the nine-hole nature of the golf course with its focus on youth and seniors, subsidies from other City funds (Local Option Tax, General, Hotel/Motel Tax) to finance capital improvements will be presented to the City Council as part of the financial planning process.

***Ice Arena***
The Ames/ISU Ice Arena fees and rates are set to fully cover direct operating costs. The City of Ames and Iowa State University will fund major capital improvement costs.

***Transit (CyRide)***
Costs for operating the CyRide transit system will be shared based on the agreement between the City of Ames, Iowa State University, and the ISU Student Government. The City support of CyRide will be limited to the transit property tax rate.

***Payment In-Lieu of Taxes***
In accordance with long-standing practices, the City will treat the Electric Utility in the same manner as if it were privately owned and operated. In addition to setting rates at levels necessary to fully cover the cost of providing electric service, this means assessing reasonable property tax in-lieu of fees.

- For the Electric Utility, property tax in-lieu fees are established under the same methodology used in assessing property tax for the City of Ames.

***Enterprise Fund Debt Service***
The City will set enterprise fund rates at levels needed to fully cover debt service requirements as well as operations, maintenance, administration, and capital improvement costs. The ability to afford new debt for enterprise operations will be evaluated as an integral part of the City's rate review and setting process.

## Grant Funding Policy
The City will actively seek grant funding to fund both operating and capital expenditures. Prior to acceptance of grant funding, an evaluation of the grant must determine the following:

- The grant purpose is compatible with City program objectives.
- The benefits provided by the grant exceed the cost of administration.
- The grant does not commit the City to long-term tax funded expenditures after the completion of the grant period. The City will evaluate the cost and funding source to determine whether to continue the service when the grant period ends. The decision to continue to fund or drop will be made prior to accepting the grant. Alternatively, the City could choose to continue the service with other funding.

## Revenue Distribution

The Council recognizes that generally accepted accounting principles for state and local governments discourage the earmarking of General Fund revenues, and accordingly, the practice of designating General Fund revenues for specific programs should be minimized in the City's management of its fiscal operations. Approval of the following revenue distribution policies does not prevent the City Council from directing General Fund resources to other functions and programs, as necessary.

### *Road Use Tax Revenue*

All Road Use Tax revenues (which are restricted by the State for street-related purposes) will be recorded in the Road Use Tax fund and reports will be provided to the State of Iowa per Code of Iowa requirements. The City will utilize this fund primarily for eligible operations and maintenance activities; the available funds may be utilized for eligible capital improvement funding.

The City maintains several other special revenue funds. The policy for revenue allocation for these funds will be included in the City Fund Policy Document.

## Investments

### *Responsibility*

Investments and cash management are the responsibility of the City Treasurer or designee.

### *Investments Objectives*

The City's primary investment objective is to achieve a reasonable rate of return while minimizing the potential for capital losses arising from market changes or issuer default.

Accordingly, the following factors will be considered in priority order in determining individual investment placements:

- Safety
- Liquidity
- Yield

The City Council adopted a formal investment policy; this policy requires regular reporting by the City Treasurer that demonstrates compliance with the policy.

## Fund Balance Designations and Reserves

### *Minimum Fund Balance*

The City will establish and maintain fund balances based on evaluation of each individual fund. The minimum balance will be set at a level that is considered the minimum necessary to maintain the City's creditworthiness and to adequately provide for:

- Economic uncertainties, local disasters, and other financial hardships or downturns in the local or national economy.
- Contingencies for unseen operating or capital needs.
- Cash flow requirements.

### *Other Designations and Reserves*

In addition to the designations noted above, fund balance levels will be sufficient to meet funding requirements for projects approved in prior years which are carried forward into the new year; debt service reserve requirements; reserves for encumbrance; and other reserves or designations required by contractual obligations, state law, or generally accepted accounting principles.

***Equipment Replacement***
For certain assets, the City will establish and maintain equipment replacement funds to provide for the timely replacement of vehicles, technology, and other capital equipment. The City will maintain balances in the Fleet and Technology Replacement Funds adequate to allocate the cost of replacement over the lives of the assets.

The annual contribution to these funds will generally be based on the estimated life of the vehicle or equipment and its projected replacement cost. Sales of surplus equipment, as well as any related damage and insurance recovered, will be credited to the replacement funds. The City Information Technology and Fleet Services policies cover this subject in greater depth.

***Future Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Designations***
The Council may designate specific fund balance levels for future development of capital projects that it has determined to be in the best long-term interest of the City.

## Capital Improvement Management

***CIP Projects - $15,000***
Construction projects, equipment purchases, and certain studies that cost $15,000 or more, and are infrequent in nature, will be included in the City's capital improvement plan (CIP) rather than a program operating budget. Routine operating and maintenance projects that exceed the $15,000 threshold will not qualify as CIP projects and will be included in program operating budgets.

***CIP Purpose***
The purpose of the CIP is to systematically plan, schedule, and finance capital projects to ensure cost-effectiveness as well as conformance with established policies. The CIP is a five-year plan organized into the same functional groupings used for the operating programs. The CIP will reflect a balance between capital replacement projects that repair, replace, or enhance existing facilities, equipment or infrastructure, and capital projects that significantly expand or add to the City's existing capital asset system.

***CIP Review***
The City Manager, Assistant City Managers, Finance Department staff, and applicable department personnel will review project proposals, determine project phasing and funding, and review and evaluate the draft CIP budget document.

***CIP Appropriation***
The City's annual CIP appropriation is based on the projects designated by the City Council through adoption of the five-year capital improvements financial plan. Adoption of the CIP document does not automatically authorize funding for the entire five-year plan. The first year of the plan is included as part of the annual budget process and will be authorized by City Council with the budget authorization.

***CIP Budget Carryover***
Appropriations for CIP projects lapse at the end of each fiscal year. Projects that are not completed are reviewed and will be submitted to the City Council as part of a budget amendment.

## Capital Improvement Financing and Debt Management

### *Capital Improvement Financing*

The City will consider the use of debt financing for capital improvement projects only under the following circumstances:

- When the project's useful life will exceed the term of the financing.
- When project revenues or specific resources, including property taxes, will be sufficient to service the long-term debt.

Debt financing will not be considered appropriate for recurring purposes such as current operating and maintenance expenditures.

The additional cost of public capital improvements required to support specific developments will be financed primarily by the owners of the development and will be specified in development agreements.

Road Use Tax revenue is a major funding source in financing transportation system improvements, operations, and maintenance. However, revenues from these fees are subject to fluctuation. Accordingly, the following guidelines will be followed in designing and building projects funded with Road Use Tax revenue:

- The availability of Road Use Tax for funding eligible projects will be analyzed as part of the five-year capital improvement plan.
- If adequate funds are not available, the Council will make one of two determinations:
    1. Defer the project until funds are available.
    2. Based on the priority of the project, issue G.O. Bonds, or use other funding sources.

The City will use the following criteria to evaluate pay-as-you-go versus long-term financing in funding capital improvements.

### *Factors Favoring Pay-As-You-Go Financing*

- Current revenues and adequate fund balances are available, or project phasing can be accomplished.
- Existing debt levels adversely affect the City's credit rating.
- Market conditions are unstable or present difficulties in marketing.

### *Factors Favoring Long-Term Financing*

- Revenues available for debt service are deemed sufficient and reliable so that long-term financings can be marketed with investment grade credit ratings.
- The project securing the financing is of the type that will support an investment grade credit rating.
- Market conditions present favorable interest rates and demand for City financings.
- A project is mandated by state or federal requirements, and resources are insufficient or unavailable.
- The project is immediately required to meet or relieve capacity needs and current resources are insufficient or unavailable.
- The life of the project or asset to be financed is ten years or longer.
- The cost of the project should be spread to benefitted users over the life of the capital improvement.

***Debt Management***
An analysis will be prepared as part of the Capital Improvement Plan process to determine the impact of outstanding and planned debt issuances on current and future budgets for debt service and City operations. This analysis will also address the reliability of revenues to support debt service. The City has adopted a comprehensive debt policy that provides guidance for use of debt financing.

**Excellence Through People (ETP)**
Ensuring that quality programs are provided in an "efficient and fiscally responsible manner" is one of the key concepts embodied in the City's Mission Statement. To this end, the City will monitor and review methods of operation to ensure that services continue to be delivered in the most cost-effective manner possible. This review process encompasses a wide range of productivity issues, including:

- Analyzing systems and procedures to ensure efficient delivery of services.
- Evaluating the ability of new technologies and related capital investments to improve productivity.
- Developing the skills and abilities of all City employees.
- Developing and implementing appropriate methods of recognizing and rewarding exceptional employee performance.
- Evaluating the ability of the private sector to perform the same level of service at a lower cost.

# Budget Calendar

State statute normally requires a municipality to certify its budget by April 30. A goal during the entire process is to encourage citizen involvement in the annual budget decision making process through public hearings.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Spring** | Resident Satisfaction Survey administered to 1,350 residents asking funding priorities, effectiveness of services, and preferred changes in emphasis/service levels. All results are reviewed with the City Council prior to the start of the budget process. |
| **August September** | Departments prepare Capital Improvement Project (CIP) information for the five-year plan and begin preparation of amended 2024/25 and proposed 2025/26 operational budgets. Resident Satisfaction Survey results are presented to the City Council. |
| **November** | November 7 – Public town budget meeting to receive input from residents for budget service levels and projects. The meeting is televised, and the public can call in and email questions. |
| **December** | December 10 – City Council budget meeting to review issues, priorities, and preferences in service levels for the 2025/26 budget. Staff drafts five-year CIP. PROBE meetings (Productive Review of Budget Entries) are conducted with Assistant City Managers, Finance Director, Budget Manager, and City departments. All revenues, operational program costs, and current year CIP adjustments are reviewed. |
| **January** | The City Manager holds budget review meetings with departments. The City Manager's recommended draft budget document is prepared. January 21 – CIP workshop with City Council. January 28 – Public hearing for resident input on CIP. January 31 – City Council budget overview. |
| **February** | February 4, 5, 6, and 11 – City Council reviews entire program budget with department heads in public meetings. |
| **March** | The County sends Truth-in-Taxation statements to property owners to provide information on proposed tax levies and hearing dates. |
| **April** | April 8 – the City Council holds a Property Tax Levy Public Hearing. April 22 – Final budget hearing and adoption of amended 2024/25 budget and proposed 2025/26 budget. State statute requires the 2025/26 budget be certified with the County Auditor by April 30. |
| **May** | Departments review their budgeted revenues and expenses in May to make adjustments which will more accurately reflect the City's anticipated revenues and expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30. After City Council review and approval, the amendments are submitted to the County Auditor by the end of May as required by State statute. |

# Budget Process

All City funds are appropriated and included in the budget. Mary Greeley Medical Center, a non-profit municipal hospital, is included in the City's annual audited financial statements, but is not included in the City's budget document. The hospital, by City ordinance, is governed by a separate Board of Trustees.

The budget process for the City begins in late August with the Internal Service group of departments called the "Early 8". The Early 8 group prepares budget adjustments for the current fiscal year and budget projections for the future fiscal year. Productive Review of Budget Entries (PROBE) meetings are conducted with the Assistant City Managers, Finance Director, Budget Manager, and Early 8 Department/Division Heads in September. By early October, internal service schedules are prepared from the Early 8's approved budgets for fleet services, information technology services, risk and property insurance, financial services, messenger service, and human resources.

In September, departments are asked to identify any uncompleted capital improvement projects or capital purchases from the prior fiscal year that need to be incorporated into the current year budget. These "carryover" amounts are summarized and presented to City Council in September or October as the first amendment to the current year's adopted budget.

In early October, budget instructions, along with the internal services schedules, are sent to the rest of the City departments. Payroll projections for both the current and future fiscal years are also provided. These projections include any staffing changes, updated salary information, union settlements, and health insurance rate changes that may have occurred since the current year's budget was adopted. The departments then have until mid-November to complete adjustments for the current fiscal year and projections for the future fiscal year.

Departments also prepare proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project sheets in September and October. The City Manager's Office conducts tours with each department in October to review the proposed projects, and revised project sheets are submitted to the Finance Department by mid-November. The Finance Department edits the sheets and prepares summary reports for the City Manager to determine the total funding necessary for the proposed projects.

Preliminary fund projections are prepared after the mid-November operational budget and CIP deadlines. The month of December is spent in PROBE meetings with the remaining City departments to review their operational budgets. CIP review meetings are also held to determine the adequacy of funding, and a draft CIP document is prepared.

In early January, the Budget Manager and Finance Director prepare summaries of all City funds and operating programs to present to the City Manager. The City Manager, Assistant City Managers, Finance Director, and Budget Manager meet with the departments and complete the City Manager's recommended budget by the end of January. Also, during January, the draft CIP is presented to the City Council in a workshop, followed by a public hearing one week later.

A budget overview is presented to City Council in late January or early February, followed by departmental budget presentations. A final budget wrap-up meeting is held in early February to approve the amended current year budget, the future year budget, and the Capital Improvement Plan.

# Budget Process

The final budget hearing and adoption of the amended and future budgets take place before the required March 15 certification deadline.

In April, a final amendment to the current year's budget is prepared if necessary. Any necessary amendments are summarized by the Finance Department and presented to the City Manager and the City Council by the end of May.

**Accounting/Budget Basis**

The City's government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. The City's accounting and budget records for general governmental operations are maintained on a modified accrual basis, with the revenue being recorded when available and measurable and expenditures being recorded when the services or goods are received, and the liabilities incurred. Revenues for which payment has not been received 60 days after fiscal year-end are reclassified as deferred revenue. The primary differences between the financial statement and the budget record are the recognition of debt issuance and repayment, the treatment of capital outlay, the recognition of depreciation expense, and the recognition of a compensated absence liability. Accounting records for the enterprise and internal service funds are maintained on the accrual basis.

**Budget Amendment Process**

The City's budget is typically amended three times during the fiscal year. The first amendment is submitted in September or October for carryovers of uncompleted projects from the prior fiscal year. A second amendment is approved with the new fiscal year budget in March, and a final amendment is prepared in May. Budget amendments are prepared by individual departments and reviewed by the Finance Department and the City Manager's Office. Amendments are published and a public hearing is held prior to City Council approval. After City Council review and approval, amendments are submitted to the Story County Auditor as required by the State of Iowa.

**Public Input**

The City welcomes public input to ensure that the adopted budget includes the services and programs that are most important to the Ames community. There are multiple opportunities for the public to be involved in the budget process, beginning with the annual Resident Satisfaction Survey which is sent to 1,350 residents in the spring before the budget process begins. The survey asks residents to give feedback about the effectiveness of City services, funding priorities, and upcoming capital improvements. The results of the survey are presented to City Council in early fall at the beginning of the budget process and are used to prioritize operational funding and proposed capital improvements.

The annual Town Budget Meeting is held in late October and early November and provides another opportunity for community members to provide input either by attending the meeting in person, attending virtually, or emailing suggestions or requests to the City Manager's Office or City Council members. Input can also be submitted through the City's multiple social media platforms. This public input is summarized and included in information provided to City Council during the Budget Issues presentation, typically done at a City Council meeting in early December.

# Budget Process

During January and February, departmental presentations to City Council of the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and operational budgets are all open to the public and streamed on the City's television channel and social media platforms. Public input can be given at multiple times during the process, and the documents being reviewed, such as the draft CIP, draft budget, and special reports, are available on the City's website. Hard copies of the documents are available for public viewing at the Ames Public Library, the City Clerk's Office, and the City Manager's Office.

Throughout the year, the public is also encouraged to contact City Council, the City Manager's Office, and departments with suggestions and input. Email addresses and phone numbers are available on the City's website, www.cityofames.org.

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# FINANCIAL SUMMARIES





ADA HAYDEN HERITAGE PARK
20 YEARS
2004-2024





1990-2025
AMES CITY HALL
35 YEARS

BROOKSIDE PARK
100 YEARS
1925-2025






CITY OF
ames™

# Financial Summaries


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# Revenue By Type

| | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Property Taxes*** | 35,139,460 | 36,441,753 | 36,441,753 | 38,342,796 | 5.2% |
| ***Other Taxes:*** | | | | | |
| State Replacement Tax | 1,015,618 | 805,634 | 805,634 | 610,317 | -24.2% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 12,033,283 | 12,000,000 | 12,400,000 | 12,400,000 | 3.3% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,762,285 | 2,878,000 | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | -3.7% |
| ***Total Other Taxes*** | 15,811,186 | 15,683,634 | 15,980,634 | 15,783,317 | 0.6% |
| ***Licenses & Permits*** | 1,500,974 | 1,612,051 | 1,562,801 | 1,562,801 | -3.1% |
| ***Intergovernmental Revenue:*** | | | | | |
| Federal Grants | 7,261,609 | 10,654,416 | 31,345,512 | 22,674,045 | 112.8% |
| State Road Use Tax | 9,392,282 | 9,300,000 | 9,400,000 | 9,500,000 | 2.2% |
| State Grants/Other State Funding | 5,007,908 | 3,976,975 | 8,651,132 | 5,557,861 | 39.8% |
| Local Government Funding | 10,465,264 | 9,857,133 | 10,116,635 | 10,192,623 | 3.4% |
| ***Total Intergovernmental Revenue*** | 32,127,063 | 33,788,524 | 59,513,279 | 47,924,529 | 41.8% |
| ***Charges for Services:*** | | | | | |
| Utility Charges | 89,945,213 | 101,300,259 | 96,600,043 | 99,088,500 | -2.2% |
| Other Charges for Services | 8,706,638 | 8,694,745 | 9,225,647 | 9,871,437 | 13.5% |
| ***Total Charges for Services*** | 98,651,851 | 109,995,004 | 105,825,690 | 108,959,937 | -0.9% |
| ***Fines, Forfeit, & Penalty*** | 524,804 | 631,100 | 1,970,371 | 633,800 | 0.4% |
| ***Use of Money & Property:*** | | | | | |
| Interest Revenue | 13,130,141 | 6,692,427 | 6,846,326 | 6,163,896 | -7.9% |
| Other Uses of Money/Property | 1,750,272 | 1,729,733 | 1,756,066 | 1,752,896 | 1.3% |
| ***Total Use of Money & Property*** | 14,880,413 | 8,422,160 | 8,602,392 | 7,916,792 | -6.0% |
| ***Miscellaneous Revenue:*** | | | | | |
| Proceeds from Bonds | 12,791,309 | 18,815,000 | 18,815,000 | 20,227,500 | 7.5% |
| State Revolving Loan Program | 10,278,225 | 26,080,000 | 46,606,629 | 26,240,000 | 0.6% |
| Other Miscellaneous Revenue | 2,255,051 | 2,459,400 | 10,989,061 | 3,706,899 | 50.7% |
| **Total Miscellaneous Revenue** | 25,324,585 | 47,354,400 | 76,410,690 | 50,174,399 | 6.0% |
| ***Internal Service Revenue*** | 24,458,593 | 24,154,404 | 23,269,747 | 24,417,590 | 1.1% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 248,418,929 | 278,083,030 | 329,577,357 | 295,715,961 | 6.3% |
| ***Transfers*** | 34,958,302 | 25,597,427 | 31,171,106 | 25,030,918 | -2.2% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 283,377,231 | 303,680,457 | 360,748,463 | 320,746,879 | 5.6% |

# Revenue By Fund

| | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***General Fund **** | 46,449,867 | 45,720,757 | 45,829,019 | 47,465,237 | 3.8% |
| ***Special Revenue Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 12,191,286 | 12,164,622 | 12,558,730 | 12,558,616 | 3.2% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,762,285 | 2,878,000 | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | -3.7% |
| Road Use Tax | 9,415,227 | 9,300,000 | 9,404,055 | 9,504,055 | 2.2% |
| Other Special Revenue Funds | 3,611,698 | 3,174,501 | 7,597,754 | 5,007,063 | 57.7% |
| ***Total Special Revenue Funds*** | 27,980,496 | 27,517,123 | 32,335,539 | 29,842,734 | 8.5% |
| ***Capital Project Funds **** | 21,681,963 | 26,064,140 | 41,589,824 | 20,285,414 | -22.2% |
| ***Permanent Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Cemetery Perpetual Care | 24,451 | 25,570 | 25,570 | 26,250 | 2.7% |
| Furman Aquatic Center Trust | 57,051 | 27,000 | 27,000 | 35,000 | 29.6% |
| ***Total Permanent Funds*** | 81,502 | 52,570 | 52,570 | 61,250 | 16.5% |
| ***Enterprise Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Airport | 1,412,427 | 1,565,203 | 4,652,812 | 11,172,408 | 613.8% |
| Water Utility * | 27,385,549 | 20,101,993 | 30,677,408 | 21,822,456 | 8.6% |
| Sewer Utility * | 15,495,066 | 39,948,813 | 55,858,832 | 41,222,332 | 3.2% |
| Electric Utility * | 71,840,875 | 76,896,752 | 73,231,799 | 78,312,253 | 1.8% |
| Parking | 939,910 | 1,057,500 | 972,500 | 1,060,800 | 0.3% |
| Transit | 20,828,571 | 17,099,528 | 26,982,505 | 21,114,125 | 23.5% |
| Stormwater Utility | 2,477,858 | 2,599,298 | 3,503,500 | 2,618,500 | 0.7% |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | 629,287 | 690,733 | 741,618 | 777,595 | 12.6% |
| Homewood Golf Course | 561,936 | 502,528 | 563,376 | 578,956 | 15.2% |
| Resource Recovery | 4,985,799 | 4,964,178 | 5,504,328 | 5,517,828 | 11.2% |
| ***Total Enterprise Funds*** | 146,557,278 | 165,426,526 | 202,688,678 | 184,197,253 | 11.4% |
| ***Debt Service Fund*** | 14,497,428 | 13,884,631 | 14,079,603 | 13,479,696 | -2.9% |
| ***Internal Service Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Services | 5,627,959 | 5,146,638 | 5,430,579 | 5,739,377 | 11.5% |
| Information Technology | 3,605,409 | 3,082,995 | 3,175,066 | 2,775,928 | -10.0% |
| Printing Services | - | 128,923 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Messenger Services | - | 119,689 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Risk Management | 3,645,191 | 4,105,519 | 3,349,931 | 3,745,829 | -8.8% |
| Health Insurance | 13,250,138 | 12,430,946 | 12,217,654 | 13,154,161 | 5.8% |
| ***Total Internal Services*** | 26,128,697 | 25,014,710 | 24,173,230 | 25,415,295 | 1.6% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 283,377,231 | 303,680,457 | 360,748,463 | 320,746,879 | 5.6% |

****Indicates a major fund or fund group***

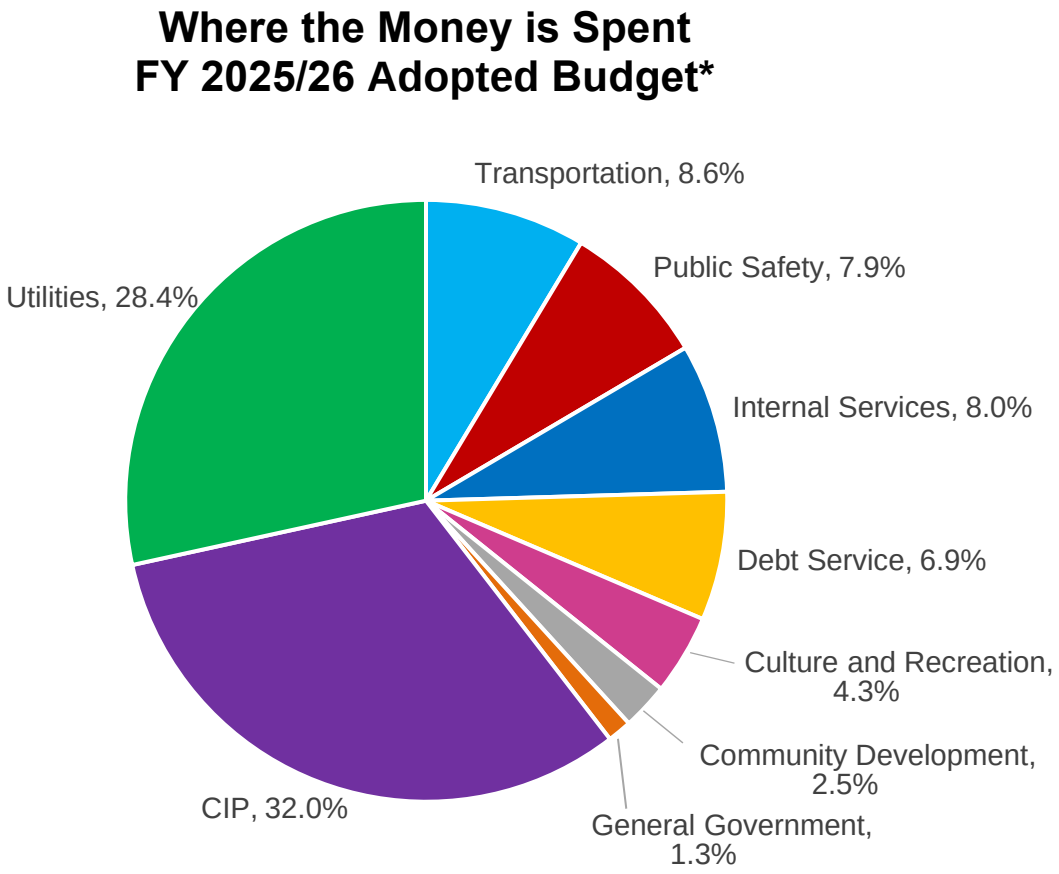
# Expenditures by Program

| *Operations:* | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | % Change From |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Public Safety:*** | **Actual** | **Adopted** | **Adjusted** | **Adopted** | **Adopted** |
| Law Enforcement | 10,543,668 | 11,849,108 | 11,425,668 | 12,269,884 | 3.6% |
| Fire Safety | 8,414,062 | 8,894,108 | 9,137,755 | 9,250,301 | 4.0% |
| Building Safety | 1,793,038 | 1,972,225 | 1,913,631 | 1,994,042 | 1.1% |
| Animal Control | 821,433 | 734,074 | 804,808 | 908,763 | 23.8% |
| Other Public Safety | 12,522 | 16,498 | 26,420 | 15,559 | -5.7% |
| ***Total Public Safety*** | 21,584,723 | 23,466,013 | 23,308,282 | 24,438,549 | 4.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Utilities:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Services | 55,681,030 | 65,904,833 | 63,658,856 | 64,408,013 | -2.3% |
| Water and Pollution Control | 9,194,675 | 11,542,474 | 11,590,188 | 11,956,279 | 3.6% |
| Water Distribution System | 1,690,994 | 1,856,246 | 1,853,323 | 1,975,698 | 6.4% |
| Sanitary Sewer System | 1,018,108 | 1,024,972 | 1,017,792 | 1,038,011 | 1.3% |
| Stormwater Management | 806,185 | 948,114 | 932,247 | 980,255 | 3.4% |
| Resource Recovery | 4,559,176 | 4,578,108 | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 9.8% |
| Utility Customer Service | 1,794,196 | 1,876,601 | 1,895,850 | 1,892,349 | 0.8% |
| ***Total Utilities*** | 74,744,364 | 87,731,348 | 85,725,112 | 87,275,472 | -0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Transportation:*** | | | | | |
| Street/Traffic System | 8,039,037 | 8,885,421 | 8,997,585 | 9,422,416 | 6.0% |
| Transit System | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |
| Parking System | 889,471 | 1,041,680 | 953,377 | 1,031,607 | -1.0% |
| Airport Operations | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| ***Total Transportation*** | 22,889,468 | 25,667,292 | 25,670,059 | 26,314,954 | 2.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Culture and Recreation:*** | | | | | |
| Parks and Recreation | 5,157,019 | 5,766,175 | 5,794,411 | 6,564,041 | 13.8% |
| Library Services | 5,414,604 | 5,790,943 | 5,790,062 | 6,102,886 | 5.4% |
| Art Services | 286,581 | 286,931 | 555,848 | 298,978 | 4.2% |
| Cemetery | 248,617 | 256,846 | 252,805 | 258,096 | 0.5% |
| ***Total Culture and Recreation*** | 11,106,821 | 12,100,895 | 12,393,126 | 13,224,001 | 9.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Community Development:*** | | | | | |
| Planning Services | 952,431 | 1,030,469 | 980,720 | 1,178,104 | 14.3% |
| Economic Development | 2,218,221 | 2,748,908 | 2,700,825 | 2,853,961 | 3.8% |
| Sustainability | 7,573 | 27,444 | 1,125,179 | 24,927 | -9.2% |
| Housing Services | 399,345 | 1,536,189 | 5,550,240 | 1,600,998 | 4.2% |
| Human Services | 1,790,481 | 1,957,016 | 1,968,128 | 2,053,976 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Community Development*** | 5,368,051 | 7,300,026 | 12,325,092 | 7,711,966 | 5.6% |

# Expenditures by Program

| *General Government:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| City Council | 654,973 | 577,611 | 771,116 | 609,033 | 5.4% |
| City Clerk | 277,713 | 292,545 | 300,768 | 312,095 | 6.7% |
| City Manager | 470,043 | 596,254 | 695,048 | 611,789 | 2.6% |
| Public Relations | 325,413 | 510,054 | 374,681 | 400,852 | -21.4% |
| Financial Services | 527,364 | 700,309 | 690,974 | 596,981 | -14.8% |
| Legal Services | 542,622 | 580,797 | 579,686 | 609,546 | 5.0% |
| Human Resources | 352,252 | 413,535 | 492,240 | 493,804 | 19.4% |
| Facilities | 440,573 | 386,107 | 553,334 | 410,591 | 6.3% |
| ***Total General Government*** | 3,590,953 | 4,057,212 | 4,457,847 | 4,044,691 | -0.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Operations*** | 139,284,380 | 160,322,786 | 163,879,518 | 163,009,633 | 1.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Public Safety CIP | 15,684 | - | 1,847,974 | 3,541,905 | |
| Utilities CIP | 27,937,564 | 36,561,000 | 84,494,635 | 49,973,000 | 36.7% |
| Transportation CIP | 18,937,160 | 12,804,268 | 58,918,352 | 37,840,563 | 195.5% |
| Culture and Recreation CIP | 7,017,624 | 22,352,108 | 24,361,516 | 6,810,079 | -69.5% |
| Community Development CIP | 240 | 175,000 | 388,001 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| General Government CIP | 179,868 | 75,000 | 2,141,597 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| Internal Services CIP | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total CIP*** | 54,088,140 | 71,967,376 | 172,152,075 | 98,415,547 | 36.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Debt Service:*** | | | | | |
| General Obligation Bonds | 12,979,460 | 13,425,435 | 13,421,870 | 14,092,994 | 5.0% |
| Electric Revenue Bonds | 964,806 | 966,213 | 966,213 | 966,075 | 0.0% |
| SRF Loan Payments | 5,597,185 | 6,031,446 | 5,888,263 | 6,070,082 | 0.6% |
| Bond Costs | 131,847 | 279,450 | 302,450 | 200,222 | -28.4% |
| ***Total Debt Service*** | 19,673,298 | 20,702,544 | 20,578,796 | 21,329,373 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Services | 4,915,968 | 3,614,837 | 5,741,966 | 5,775,956 | 59.8% |
| Information Technology | 2,912,357 | 2,880,388 | 3,165,107 | 2,760,052 | -4.2% |
| Risk Management | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| Health Insurance | 12,274,128 | 12,294,406 | 12,291,748 | 12,175,481 | -1.0% |
| Health Promotion | 271,444 | 327,557 | 352,812 | 373,131 | 13.9% |
| ***Total Internal Services*** | 23,666,821 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Expenditures Before Transfers*** | 236,712,639 | 276,038,336 | 381,420,665 | 307,489,602 | 11.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | 34,958,302 | 25,597,427 | 31,171,106 | 25,030,918 | -2.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 271,670,941 | 301,635,763 | 412,591,771 | 332,520,520 | 10.2% |

# Expenditures by Program




*Excluding Transfers

The proposed FY 2025/26 budget of $332,325,520 and the proposed FY 2024/25 adjusted budget of $412,771,771 were approved by the Ames City Council on April 22, 2025, with the following changes:

- Two projects in the General Fund were moved from the proposed FY 2024/25 adjusted budget to the FY 2025/26 budget to better match the timing of when the projects would be completed. The two projects were funding for the Fire Station alerting system ($80,000) and funding for a conceptual plan for a new recreation center ($100,000).
- Because of the two projects being moved to FY 2025/26, additional property tax revenue was needed to maintain a balanced budget in the General Fund. Property tax revenue was increased by $180,000 to cover the cost of the additional projects.
- Funding of $15,000 was also added in the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund for an allocation to the Ames Regional Economic Alliance in the City Council Grant Program for workforce development.

With these changes, the final approved expenditures were $332,520,520 for the FY 2025/26 budget and $412,591,771 for the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget.

# Expenditures by Fund

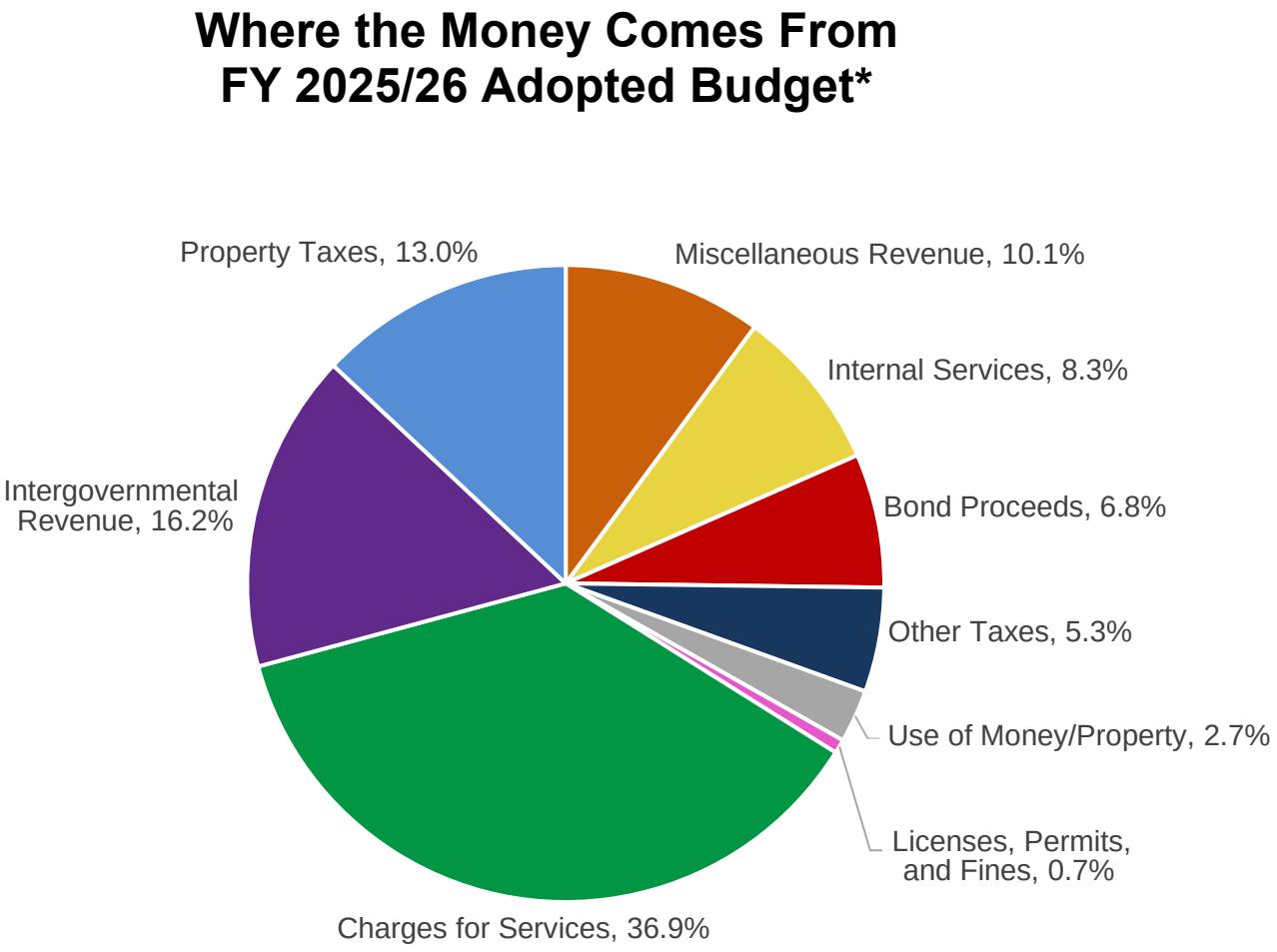
| | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***General Fund **** | 45,716,040 | 45,969,369 | 51,890,236 | 47,465,237 | 3.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Special Revenue Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 11,277,073 | 11,883,906 | 17,882,015 | 12,514,377 | 5.3% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,264,374 | 2,670,046 | 2,736,851 | 2,580,261 | -3.4% |
| Road Use Tax | 8,953,716 | 10,448,807 | 14,752,776 | 11,225,779 | 7.4% |
| Other Special Revenue Funds | 6,163,992 | 4,348,398 | 11,133,074 | 5,294,311 | 21.8% |
| ***Total Special Revenue Funds*** | 28,659,155 | 29,351,157 | 46,504,716 | 31,614,728 | 7.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Capital Project Funds **** | 19,254,499 | 27,464,705 | 52,773,072 | 24,764,979 | -9.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Permanent Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Cemetery Perpetual Care | - | - | - | - | |
| Furman Aquatic Center Trust | 28,889 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| ***Total Permanent Funds*** | 28,889 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| | | | | | |
| ***Enterprise Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Airport | 1,270,832 | 1,598,708 | 5,099,249 | 11,178,662 | 599.2% |
| Water Utility * | 25,914,293 | 20,817,737 | 31,428,905 | 24,613,133 | 18.2% |
| Sewer Utility * | 16,336,978 | 36,841,630 | 50,460,545 | 38,341,464 | 4.1% |
| Electric Utility * | 69,884,260 | 75,472,014 | 88,588,309 | 81,563,608 | 8.1% |
| Parking | 889,471 | 1,041,680 | 953,377 | 1,031,607 | -1.0% |
| Transit | 18,711,993 | 17,456,142 | 30,817,872 | 23,002,693 | 31.8% |
| Stormwater Utility | 2,231,502 | 2,805,114 | 8,816,456 | 3,537,255 | 26.1% |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | 768,256 | 621,809 | 733,546 | 595,249 | -4.3% |
| Homewood Golf Course | 336,657 | 383,362 | 459,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| Resource Recovery | 4,975,636 | 5,341,271 | 5,817,938 | 5,577,633 | 4.4% |
| ***Total Enterprise Funds*** | 141,319,878 | 162,379,467 | 223,175,601 | 189,847,533 | 16.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Debt Service Fund*** | 12,979,460 | 13,425,435 | 13,421,870 | 14,092,994 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Internal Service Funds:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Services | 4,962,167 | 3,614,837 | 5,741,966 | 5,775,956 | 59.8% |
| Information Technology | 2,912,357 | 2,880,388 | 3,165,107 | 2,760,052 | -4.2% |
| Risk Management | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| Health Insurance | 12,545,572 | 12,621,963 | 12,644,560 | 12,548,612 | -0.6% |
| ***Total Internal Services*** | 23,713,020 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 271,670,941 | 301,635,763 | 412,591,771 | 332,520,520 | 10.2% |

****Indicates a major fund or fund group***

# Revenue Discussion

**Revenue Projections**

The revenue projection process begins with estimates submitted by City departments. The Finance Director and Budget Manager review the estimates and make adjustments as needed on all revenues. Prior year's actuals and current year-to-date amounts are used to project both the current year and next year's revenues. Information received from the State, County, Iowa League of Cities, and other sources is utilized to project recent trends and anticipated revenue amounts. Interest earnings are projected using conservative interest rate projections and current balances and interest accrual information. The Budget Review Team then reviews revenues, expenses, and ending fund balances during departmental budget meetings to determine if fees and charges need to be adjusted. Many funds have a minimum fund balance requirement for cash flows or other purposes. Fund balances above the minimum balance are available for capital improvements or special projects as approved by the City Manager and City Council.




*Excluding Transfers

# Revenue Discussion

## Local Economy

The City is supported by a diverse economy that includes both the private and public sectors. Ames is home to several large governmental agencies including Iowa State University (ISU), Iowa Department of Transportation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Animal Disease Center and National Veterinary Services Laboratories, and a U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratory. ISU and other government employers add significant local economic stability that has resulted in an unemployment rate below the national and state averages for the past 30 years.

In December 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the Ames metropolitan statistical area (MSA) unemployment rate of 1.9% (preliminary) was one of the lowest in the nation, below the Iowa and national unemployment rates of which were at or above 2.9%. The City has continued a general trend of steady employment growth since the onset of employment loss during the COVID pandemic and has nearly fully recovered to pre-pandemic levels. The City has also experienced steady growth in population, increasing from 58,965 in the 2010 census to 66,427 in 2020, a 12.65% increase over ten years.

Ames has continued steady, moderate, and sustainable growth in both population and property valuation. The assessed valuation for property in Ames grew by 4.4 % from January 2020 to January 2021. ISU student enrollment has fallen slightly from recent peaks with 29,969 students enrolled for the fall 2022 semester, a reduction of 2% from the prior year.

The commercial and industrial sectors, which were slowed during the COVID Pandemic, began the process of returning to standard construction activity, including new construction valuation of roughly $37.3 million in FY 2021/22. The City continues to work with the state of Iowa and a local developer to make significant enhancements to the City's downtown area through the redevelopment of the Lincoln Way Corridor. The proposed project includes a City constructed indoor aquatics center as well as private commercial, retail, and housing. This project, which will transform a highly visible sections of the City, was awarded a $10 million Iowa Reinvestment District Grant by the Iowa Economic Development Authority.

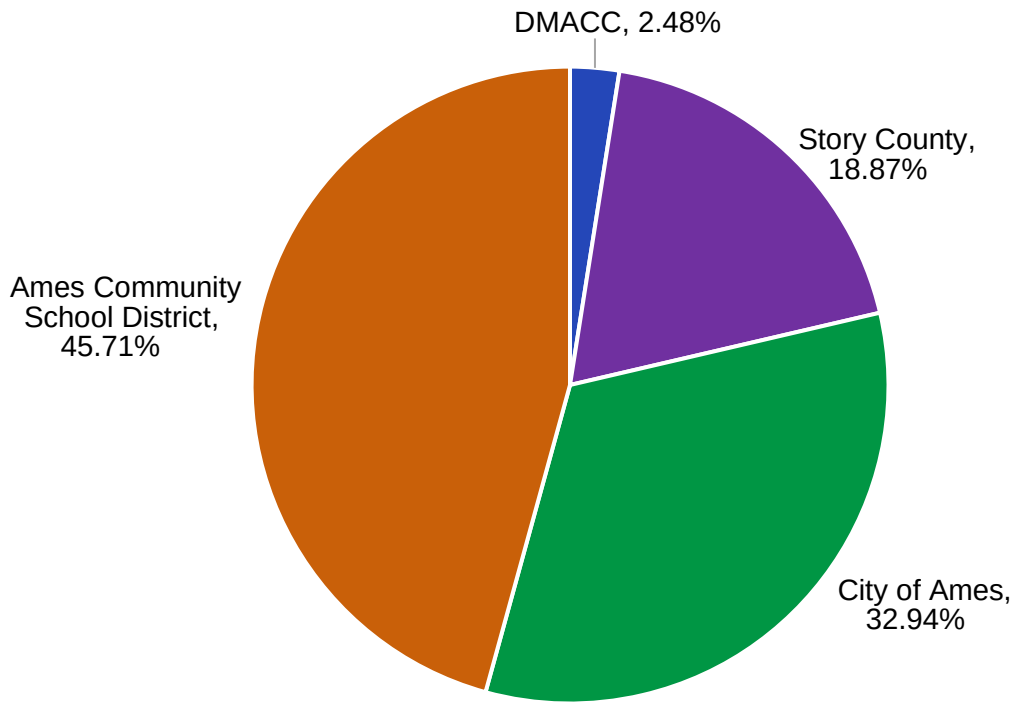
Some of the specific factors of the local economy and City financial practices that have impacted the budget include:

- Growing tax base anchored by the presence of Iowa State University.
- Expanding local economy continues to maintain very low unemployment.
- Active economic development, including both residential and commercial projects.
- Diverse larger taxpayer base with low concentration.
- Conservative budgeting practices leading to positive budget-to-actual financial performance.
- Strong general fund unrestricted cash balances.
- Significant revenue raising flexibility.

# Property Taxes

Property taxes are certified July 1 with the first half due on or before September 30 and the second half due on or before March 31. The first half taxes become delinquent on October 1 and the second half taxes become delinquent on April 1. There is a 1% per month penalty for delinquency. Taxes are collected by Story County and distributed to the City in proportion of its levy to all levies.

## Breakdown of Property Taxes Paid FY 2024/25 Rates




*Excluding Transfers

| Previous Year's Breakdown | |
|---|---|
| Ames Community School District | 45.27% |
| City of Ames | 33.13% |
| Story County | 19.18% |
| DMACC | 2.42% |

City property taxes are approximately one-third of a resident's total property tax bill. The other taxing bodies are the School District, Story County, and Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC).

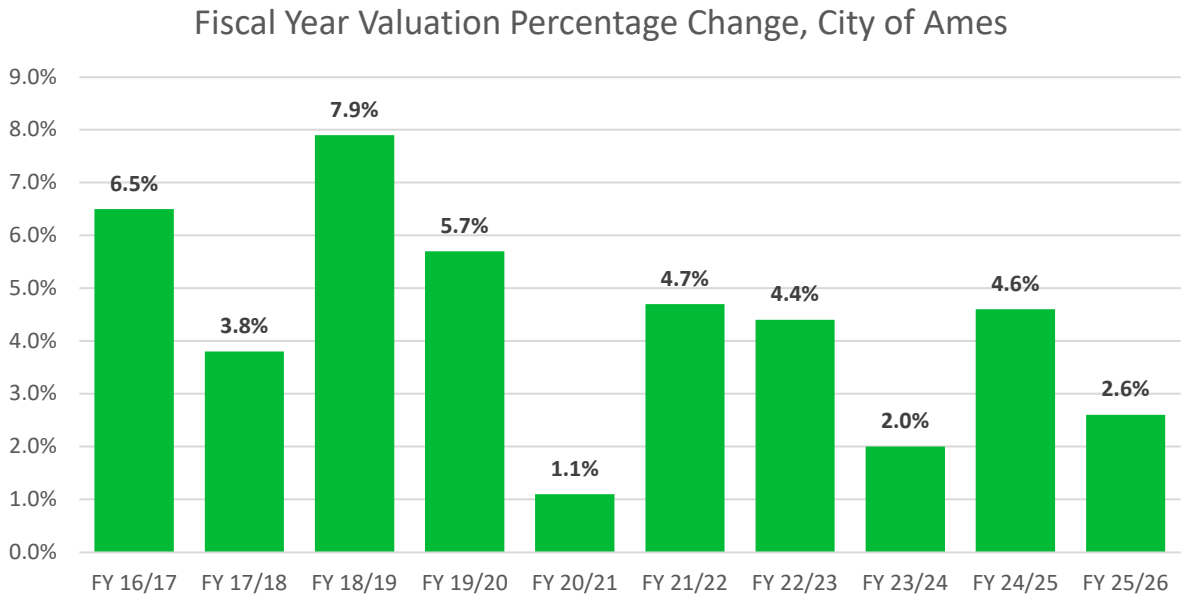
# Property Tax Levy Comparisons

| City | Population | General Levy per $1,000 | Total Levy per $1,000 | Total Levy per Capita |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Waterloo * | 67,314 | $8.91 | $22.07 | $759.52 |
| Council Bluffs * | 62,799 | $8.26 | $17.85 | $1,003.74 |
| Davenport * | 101,724 | $8.47 | $16.61 | $850.56 |
| Des Moines * | 214,133 | $7.94 | $16.61 | $714.13 |
| Sioux City * | 85,797 | $8.56 | $16.54 | $679.42 |
| Cedar Rapids * | 137,710 | $8.32 | $16.47 | $891.72 |
| Iowa City | 74,828 | $8.40 | $15.63 | $914.70 |
| Marion * | 41,535 | $8.03 | $14.80 | $729.61 |
| Cedar Falls * | 40,713 | $8.22 | $11.86 | $629.35 |
| West Des Moines * | 68,723 | $8.13 | $10.85 | $1,028.54 |
| **Ames *** | **66,427** | **$6.22** | **$10.09** | **$541.38** |
| Urbandale * | 45,580 | $7.86 | $10.08 | $874.80 |
| Dubuque * | 59,667 | $7.94 | $9.93 | $472.29 |
| Ankeny | 67,887 | $6.02 | $9.90 | $790.31 |
| **Average** | | $7.95 | $14.24 | $777.15 |

* Cities that collect local option sales tax

Iowa law limits a city's tax levy for the general fund to no more than $8.10 per $1,000 valuation in any tax year, except for specific levies authorized outside the limit. The City of Ames general fund levy for FY 2023/24 was $6.34.

# Valuation Growth




The average annual valuation increase over the last ten years is 4.33%. The FY 2025/26 total taxable valuation of $3,656,669,644 is made up of the following components:

| | Taxable Valuation | Percentage of Valuation | Change From Prior Year |
|---|---|---|---|
| Residential property | 2,461,222,098 | 67.31% | 3.30% |
| Commercial/multi-residential property | 1,035,801,105 | 28.32% | 1.70% |
| Industrial property | 160,211,162 | 4.38% | 3.46% |
| Utilities | 12,622,092 | 0.35% | 1.65% |
| Utilities subject to excise | 8,093,207 | 0.22% | 0.10% |
| Less Exemptions (military, 65+) | -21,280,020 | -0.58% | 72.36% |
| **Total** | **3,656,669,644** | **100.00%** | **2.60%** |

### Factors Impacting Valuation Growth

The taxable valuation for the FY 2025/26 budget is based on property values as of January 1, 2024. It is influenced by property additions or removals, changes in valuations, and state-mandated rollback adjustments.

For FY 2025/26, the City's total taxable valuation grew by $92.5 million (2.60%). Since 2024 was not a reassessment year, the increase was mainly due to:

- **New construction**: +$58 million
- **Property reclassification**: -$3.5 million
- **Valuation changes to existing properties**: -$23.2 million
- **Expiration of tax exemptions**: +$6 million
- **State rollback adjustments**: +$55 million

Looking ahead, a significant tax base increase is expected after the January 1, 2025 reassessment. The City Assessor projects a 10% rise in residential assessed values, though a lower rollback rate will moderate its impact. Additionally, recent state tax reforms may further limit property tax collections.

# Property Tax Levy

| | |
|---|---|
| **Taxable Valuation** | $3,656,669,644 |
| **% Change from FY 2024/25** | 2.60% |

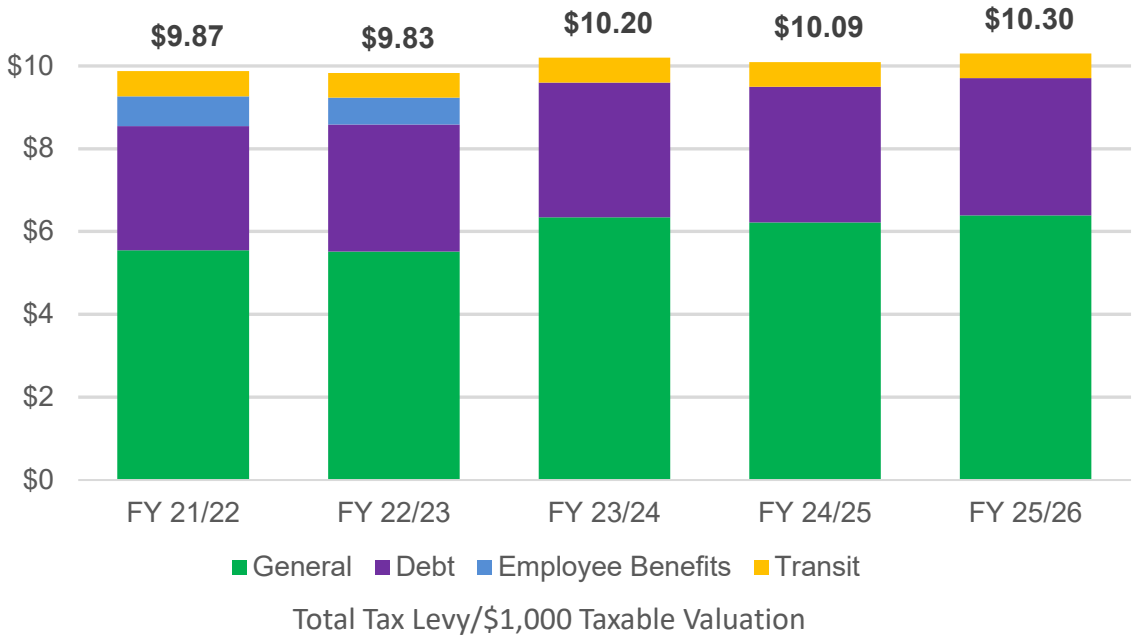
| Levy Required | Levy Per $1,000 Valuation | Dollar Amount | Rate Change | % | Dollar Change | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Requirement | 8.5247 | 31,172,106 | 0.1488 | 1.78% | 1,318,737 | 4.42% |
| ***Less:*** | | | | | | |
| State Replacement Tax | (0.1025) | 374,803 | 0.0363 | -26.16% | (119,947) | -24.24% |
| Local Option Property Tax | (2.0346) | 7,440,000 | (0.0145) | 0.72% | 240,000 | 3.33% |
| **Net General Levy** | 6.3876 | 23,357,303 | 0.1706 | 2.74% | 1,198,684 | 5.41% |
| | | | | | | |
| Transit Levy Requirement | 0.6091 | 2,227,370 | (0.0006) | -0.09% | 54,326 | 2.50% |
| **Less:** | | | | | | |
| State Replacement Tax | (0.0101) | 36,756 | 0.0036 | -26.16% | (11,763) | -24.24% |
| **Net Transit Levy** | 0.5991 | 2,190,614 | 0.0030 | 0.50% | 66,089 | 3.11% |
| | | | | | | |
| Debt Levy Requirement | 3.5347 | 13,006,549 | 0.0684 | 1.97% | 595,027 | 4.79% |
| **Less:** | | | | | | |
| Use of Fund Balance | (0.1631) | 600,000 | (0.0514) | 45.97% | 200,000 | 50.00% |
| State Replacement Tax | (0.0540) | 198,757 | 0.0193 | -26.27% | (63,608) | -24.24% |
| **Net Debt Levy** | 3.3177 | 12,207,792 | 0.0363 | 1.11% | 458,635 | 3.90% |
| | | | | | | |
| **Grand Total Tax Levy** | 10.3043 | 37,755,709 | 0.2099 | 2.08% | 1,723,408 | 4.78% |

Ag Levy – Valuation: $4,023,828 x 3.00375 = $12,087

TIF valuation available for Debt Service - $22,973,002

# Property Tax Levy

All property taxes collected for the City are levied on the assessed valuation of real and personal property as determined by the City Assessor. The FY 2025/26 total tax levy is $37,755,709, a 4.78% increase from the FY 2024/25 total tax levy of $36,032,301. Total property tax revenue of $38,342,796 as shown on the revenue summary page, also includes $12,087 for ag land, $25,001 for mobile home taxes, and $550,000 for TIF related tax collections. The City's overall levy is made up of individual levies as described below.




***General Levy***

The general levy, which is used to fund basic City services such as police and fire protection, park maintenance, and library services, is limited by the State of Iowa to $8.10 per $1,000 of assessed valuation. The City of Ames' general levy for FY 2025/26 is $6.38759, a slight increase from the FY 2024/25 rate of $6.21704.

The remaining $1.71241 difference between the City's general levy and the State limit could be used to fund operations in the future if it becomes necessary. Sixty percent of the City's local option sales tax is applied to property tax relief which creates a credit of $2.03/$1,000 valuation for FY 2025/26. A total of $374,803 will also be received in State Replacement Tax funding for FY 2025/26.

***Transit Levy***

A transit levy can be implemented without voter approval to fund the operations of a municipal transit system. This levy may not exceed $0.95/$1,000 valuation. The levy is collected in the General Fund and then transferred to the Transit Fund. The FY 205/26 levy of $0.59907 will generate $2,190,614, a 3.11% increase over the amount collected for FY 2024/25. A total of $36,756 will also be received in State Replacement Tax funding for FY 2025/26.

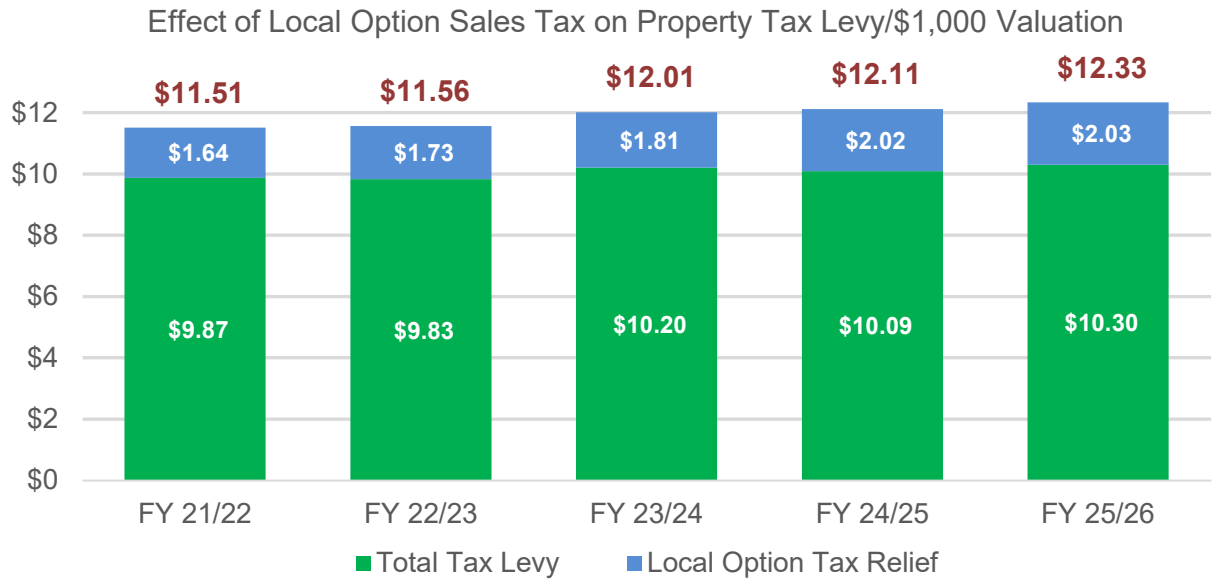
***Trust and Agency Levy***

A trust and agency levy is available to fund all payroll benefits. In the past, this levy has been used by the City to fund the cost of the state police/fire retirement system. For FY 2025/26, contributions for police and fire retirement will instead be funded by the City's general levy. No trust and agency levy will be used for FY 2025/26.

# Property Tax Levy

***Debt Service Levy***

The debt service levy is used to collect the funds necessary to pay the principal and interest on the City's general obligation debt. The tax amount required for FY 2025/26 is $12,207,792, with an additional $198,757 funded by State Replacement Tax revenue and $600,000 funded through the use of the Debt Service Fund balance. The levy of $3.31766/$1,000 valuation for FY 2025/26 is 1.11% higher than the rate of $3.28134 required for FY 2024/25.




**Represents the total levy if Local Option Tax had not been approved.**

On November 4, 1986, the citizens of Ames approved a Local Option Tax of 1% to be used for property tax relief (60%) and community betterment (40%). The property tax relief portion of this tax is expected to generate $7,440,000 in FY 2025/26, which will lower the total necessary tax levy by $2.03. The chart above illustrates what the total levy would need to be if the Local Option Sales Tax had not been approved. Adjusted local option sales tax revenue for FY 2024/25 is projected to be $12,400,000 which is a 3.3% increase over the $12,000,000 amount adopted for FY 2024/25. Local option sales tax revenue for FY 2025/26 is being budgeted at $12,400,000, a 3.3% increase over the amount adopted for FY 2024/25.

# Property Tax Cost of Services per Residence

**3-Year Comparison**

| | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Assessed Value | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Rollback | 54.6501 | 46.3428 | 47.4316 |
| Taxable Value | 54,650 | 46,343 | 47,432 |
| Tax Rate per $1,000 | 10.20100 | 10.09446 | 10.30432 |
| Calculated Tax | 557 | 468 | 489 |
| ***Public Safety:*** | | | |
| Law Enforcement | 126 | 103 | 108 |
| Fire Protection | 73 | 61 | 64 |
| Building Safety | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Animal Control | 6 | 5 | 7 |
| ***Utilities:*** | | | |
| Stormwater Management | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Resource Recovery | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| ***Transportation:*** | | | |
| Streets and Traffic | 161 | 120 | 123 |
| Transit (Transit Levy) | 33 | 28 | 28 |
| Airport | - | - | 3 |
| ***Culture and Recreation:*** | | | |
| Parks | 22 | 18 | 18 |
| Recreation | 11 | 10 | 30 |
| Library Services | 71 | 76 | 60 |
| ***Community Development:*** | | | |
| Planning Services | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| Economic Development | - | 1 | 1 |
| ***General Government:*** | | | |
| City Council/City Clerk | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| City Manager | 6 | 5 | 6 |
| Communications | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Financial Services | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| Legal Services | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| Human Resources | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Facilities | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| ***Total*** | 557 | 468 | 489 |

All categories reflect their applicable amounts for debt service

# Other Revenues

## Other Taxes

### *State Replacement Tax*

Beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014/15, the Iowa Legislature established a standing appropriation to reimburse local governments for property tax revenue losses associated with the newly implemented rollback on commercial and industrial properties. This reimbursement, known as the State Replacement Tax, was fully funded by the Legislature through FY 2021/22.

However, legislation enacted in 2021 initiated a phased reduction and eventual elimination of the State Replacement Tax. For the City of Ames, the FY 2025/26 budget represents the final year of the five-year phase-out period. The City has proactively accounted for the fiscal impact of this phase-out within its long-range financial planning and annual budgeting processes.

In addition, the Iowa Legislature passed House File 2552 during the 2022 Legislative Session, enacting further modifications to the state's property tax valuation system. The most significant change was the replacement of the Business Property Tax Credit with a permanent automatic rollback on the first $150,000 of assessed valuation for all commercial, industrial, and railroad properties.

Under this new system, effective in FY 2023/24, the first $150,000 of valuation for qualifying properties is now taxed at the residential rollback rate. Any remaining valuation continues to be taxed at 90% of the assessed value. To mitigate the financial impact on local governments, the legislation includes a standing appropriation of $125 million to offset revenue losses. However, because the appropriated amount is insufficient to fully reimburse all jurisdictions, the funding is distributed proportionally. For the City of Ames, this shortfall is projected to result in an estimated annual revenue loss of approximately $150,000.

### *Local Option Sales Tax*

Beginning in January 1987, an additional 1% local option sales tax was applied to all goods and services delivered within the City of Ames, to which the State of Iowa sales tax already applies. The additional tax was approved by the voters in November of 1986. Of the total received, 60% of the funds is earmarked for property tax relief and 40% for community betterment projects.

The total Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) revenue collected within a county is distributed among participating jurisdictions using a two-part formula:

1. **Population-Based Allocation (75%)**: This portion is distributed based on each jurisdiction's share of the county's total population, as determined by the most recent certified federal census.

2. **Property Tax-Based Allocation (25%)**: This portion is allocated based on the amount of property taxes levied by each jurisdiction during the base years of 1982 to 1985. Each jurisdiction's share is calculated by dividing its property tax levy by the total property tax levied in the county during those years.

It's important to note that the distribution formula does not directly consider where the sales occurred within the county. Instead, it focuses on population and historical property tax data.

The adjusted LOST revenue for FY 2024/25 was increased from $12,000,000 to $12,400,000, a 3.3% adjustment, to reflect actual collections. The FY 2025/26 LOST revenue estimate remains at $12,400,000, based on current local economic trends and projections from the Iowa Department of Revenue, including anticipated revenue from online retail sales subject to the tax.

# Other Revenues

***Hotel/Motel Tax***

Hotel/Motel tax revenues are collected in the General Fund and transferred to the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Of the 7 cents per dollar collected, 5 cents is passed through to Discover Ames, 1 cent is transferred to the Local Option Sales Tax Fund to replace the Local Option Sales Tax that is not collected on hotel stays, and the remaining 1 cent is allocated to the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund for economic development opportunities. Hotel/Motel Tax revenue is projected using information received from Discover Ames about upcoming events to be held in the city, along with the evaluation of current receipts and historical trends.

From FY 2022/23 to FY 2023/24, Hotel/Motel Tax revenue collections decreased from $2,878,000 to $2,762,000, approximately 4%. This revenue decrease is likely due to a decrease in the number of events that drive hotel room occupancy being held in Ames in FY 2023/24. For FY 2025/26, Hotel/Motel Tax revenue is being projected at $2,773,000, which is a slight increase over the FY 2023/24 actual revenue of $2,762,000, and a 3.6% decrease compared to the FY 2024/25 adopted projection of $2,878,000. The adjusted 2024/25 projected revenue has also been decreased from $2,878,000 to $2,775,000 to better reflect actual revenues being received. The City will continue to maintain a strong balance in the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund, with a projected balance of $2,178,490 at the end of FY 2025/26.

## Licenses and Permits

Fees from licenses and permits include cable TV franchise fees, beer and liquor licenses, cigarette permits, garbage hauling licenses, service connections, and building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, sign, and sidewalk permits. Projected revenues in this category are estimated by the departments issuing the licenses and permits, based on trends in activities that generate license and permit revenue and any changes that have been made to fee schedules. No license or permit fee increases are scheduled for FY 2025/26. This revenue category is budgeted to decrease slightly by $49,250, or 3.1%, in FY 2025/26, largely due to a decrease in the amount expected to be received for cable TV franchise fees.

## Intergovernmental Revenue

***Road Use Tax***

Road Use Tax (RUT) is collected by the State of Iowa on motor vehicle fuel sales and allocated to local governments on a per capita basis. Estimates are revised annually based on actual experience and reflect changes in fuel prices and general economic activity. The City's allocation is budgeted to increase by 2.2% to $9,500,000 for FY 2025/26, based on projections received from the Iowa Department of Transportation and an analysis of past and current receipts. Road Use Tax revenue is being projected for FY 2025/26 at a slightly higher amount than the State's projection based on past experience of actual revenues consistently being higher than the amounts projected by the State.

***Federal and State Funding***

Many state and federal grants are construction project related and thus significantly increase and decrease with the timing of projects. Grants from the federal government include Federal Transportation Assistance, Community Development Block Grant funds, Department of Transportation grants, and Federal Aviation Administration grants. This type of intergovernmental revenue is budgeted based on the grant funding awarded for each individual program or project. For FY 2025/26, federal funding is projected to be $22,674,045, a 112.8% increase from FY 2024/25. The large increase is due to approximately $10,000,000 in federal funding projected for the reconstruction of Runway 1/19 at the Ames Municipal Airport. Federal funds will continue to be received for the City's transit system, housing programs, and street and traffic projects.

State grant and other state revenues are also projected to increase in FY 2025/26, from $3,976,975 in FY 2024/25 to $5,557,861, a 39.8% increase. The increase is primarily due to approximately $1,100,000 in additional state funding projected for traffic improvement capital projects. A $400,000 state grant is also included in the budget for a stormwater erosion control project in FY 2025/26.

Other intergovernmental revenue is received from Story County for library services, ISU Student Government and Iowa State University for transit services, Iowa State University for fire protection services, and Iowa State University, Story County, and several adjacent communities for a shared emergency communications system. These revenues are budgeted based on the amount of the departmental budget to be shared by the other governmental units participating in the shared services. For FY 2025/26, these revenue sources are projected to be $10,192,623, a $335,490, or 3.4%, increase compared to the FY 2024/25 adopted budget.

## Charges for Services

### *Utility Charges*

The largest revenue category for the City of Ames is metered charges for electricity, water, and sanitary sewer service. Revenues for these utilities are projected by the directors of the individual utilities and are based on factors such as service area growth, expected cost increases, and future capital improvements. Models are developed to project revenue and expense trends over five, ten, and twenty-year periods. These models are used to determine the best timing of rate increases and capital improvement projects. In FY 2024/26, rate increases are included for the Electric Utility (1.5%), the Water Utility (3.5%) and the Sewer Utility (5.5%). Despite these rate increases, utility charges for services are projected to decrease by $2,211,759 (2.2%) from $101,300,259 in FY 2025/26 to $99,088,500 in FY 2025/26.

The reason that utility charges for services decreased, even with rate increases, is due to the decrease in projected Electric Utility charges. Electric charges for services are the largest component of the Utility Charges category and are projected to decrease by $3,796,050, or 5.1%, in FY 2025/26, even with a 1.5% rate increase included. The decrease is due to metered sales being budgeted significantly higher in the FY 2024/25 adopted budget. This was done in anticipation of a large energy cost adjustment (ECA) needing to be implemented due to higher natural gas costs. Fuel costs did not increase as much as was anticipated, resulting in the large ECA adjustment not being implemented. Projected meter sales for FY 2025/26 no longer reflect that adjustment.

Charges for services in the Water Utility are projected to increase by 4.8%, or $663,820, in FY 2025/26. This increase is reflective of the 3.5% rate increase being implemented on July 1, 2025. Similar rate increases are anticipated annually for each of the next four years. These incremental increases will support essential operational needs and critical capital improvements planned in upcoming years. The increases will also be used to build the balance in the Water Utility Fund to a new goal of 25% of operating expenses.

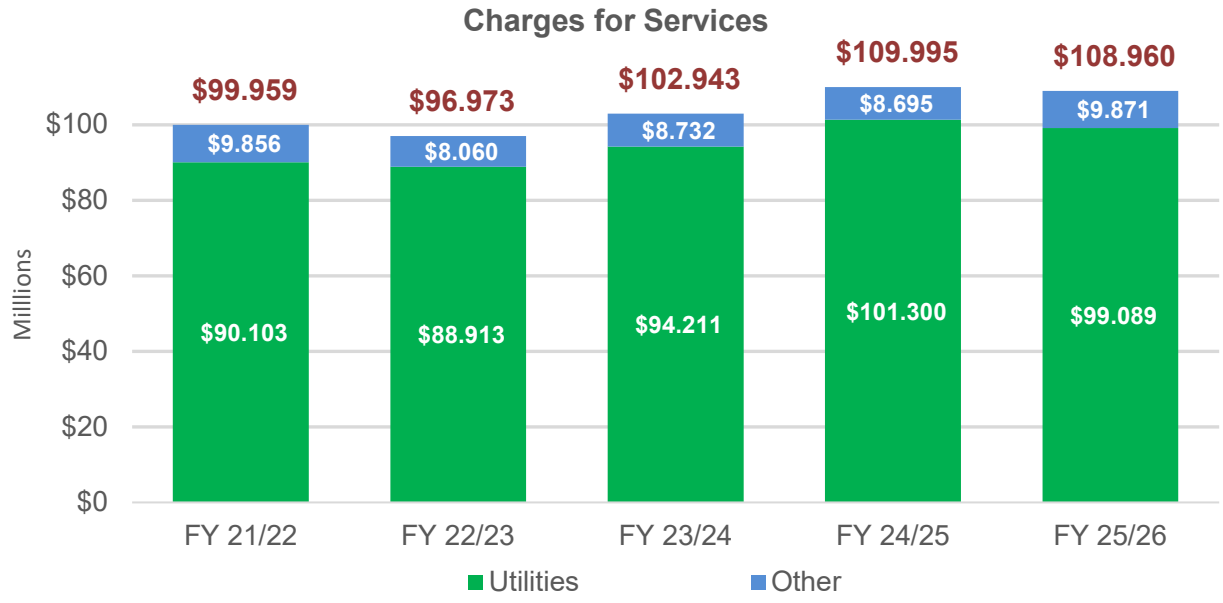
Sewer Utility charges for services are projected to increase by $919,019, or 7.9%, in FY 2025/26. In addition to the 5.5% rate increase planned for July 1, 2025, projections indicate that rate increases will also be necessary in this utility in each of the next four years to finance the cost of operations and necessary capital improvements. The fund balance in the Sewer Utility fund is also being built up over time to a new goal of 25% of operating expenses.

# Other Revenues

The Utility Charges category also includes fees paid on customer utility bills for stormwater fees. The stormwater rate structure, which is based on impervious surface area, was last increased in FY 2012/23. Revenue from the fee is used to cover the City's stormwater permit program and storm sewer maintenance activities, as well as to help finance large stormwater capital improvement projects. No stormwater fee increases are included for FY 2025/26, with the revenue increase for FY 2025/26 projected at only $1,452.

***Other Charges for Services***

This category includes charges for other City services exclusive of utilities, such as transit services, parking fees, recreation facility and program fees, library services, rental housing fees, and charges at the Ames Municipal Cemetery. Revenue in this category is projected to increase by $1,176,692 or 13.5%. The largest component of this increase is the addition of revenue for the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center, which is projected to open in FY 2025/26. Fees have also been increased for other Parks and Recreation programs and facilities, the Ames/ISU Ice Arena, Homewood Golf Course, and the cemeteries.



# Other Revenues

## Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties

Revenue included in this category is derived from fines and penalties such as municipal court fines, and overtime and illegal parking. No fine or penalty increases have been implemented for FY 2025/26. Consequently, revenue in this category is being projected to decrease by only $2,700 or 0.4%.

## Use of Money and Property

### *Interest Revenue*

Interest is earned on investments and pooled cash accounts managed by the City Treasurer. Projections are computed using actual and projected cash and investment balances and current and expected interest rates. For FY 2025/26, interest projections have been decreased by 7%, or $528,531. This is partially due to lower fund balances as capital projects are completed and also to be more conservative in interest rate projections.

### *Other Uses of Money and Property*

Rental of City-owned property, such as City facilities, farmland, and land leased for cell tower use, is accounted for in this revenue category. There are no significant changes in this revenue category projected for FY 2025/26, with revenue expected to increase by only $23,163, or 1.3%.

## Miscellaneous Revenue

### *Bond Proceeds*

Proceeds from the sale of general obligation bonds are used to fund large capital projects. A $20,227,500 general obligation bond issue to be repaid from the debt service levy is planned to fund projects included in the FY 2025/26 CIP. The bond issue is 7.5%, or $1,412,500, higher than the issue for FY 2024/25. The increase is largely due to $800,000 in G.O. bond debt being issued to construct a new Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus in FY 2025/26. Although this debt is being issued as general obligation debt, it will be abated by revenues from the Resource Recovery Fund. The balance of the increase is due to bond funding for street and traffic improvement projects returning to a more normal level in FY 2025/26. The funding for these improvements was lowered in FY 2025/26 to allow Public Works to catch up on some of the backlog in their construction projects.

### *State Revolving Fund Loan Program*

Funds borrowed through Iowa's low-interest State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program are used to finance various Water and Sewer Utility CIP projects. In FY 2025/26, funding of $26,240,000 is projected to be borrowed through this program. That amount is a $160,000, or 0.6%, increase over the $26,080,000 amount borrowed for FY 2023/24. The majority of the SRF funding in both fiscal years is being used to finance the first phase of the Nutrient Reduction Modifications project at the City's Water Pollution Control facility.

### *Other Miscellaneous Revenue*

Other miscellaneous revenue includes revenues of a non-recurring nature which are not assigned to another specific revenue category. Examples include special assessments, donations, insurance reimbursements, damage claims, and the sale of capital assets. This revenue category is expected to increase by $1,247,499, or 50.7%, in FY 2025/26, due almost entirely to donations expected to be received for the Animal Shelter Relocation project.

# Other Revenues

## Internal Services

Internal service revenue is earned by departments that operate as internal service funds and perform services for other City departments. These services include fleet maintenance, computer services, phone and communication systems, and risk and health insurance. Total internal service revenue is projected to be $24,417,590 for FY 2025/26, an 1.1% increase over the adopted budget for FY 2024/25. This smaller than normal increase is primarily due to a decrease in property insurance rates allocated to Electric Services. Computer charges to departments were also decreased in FY 2025/26 due to a change in Information Technology staffing.

## Transfers

Transfers between City funds are projected to be $25,030,918 in FY 2025/26, a $566,509, or 2.2%, decrease compared to the FY 2024/25 adopted budget. The decrease is primarily due to a $784,195 transfer from the General Fund to the Debt Service Fund that was budgeted in FY 2024/25. A similar transfer is not included in the FY 2025/26 budget.

The 2025/26 transfer budget includes a $2,452,707 transfer from the Electric Utility to the General Fund as a payment in lieu of taxes. This payment is calculated annually by applying the current year's tax levy to the historical capital value of the Electric Utility as stated in the previous year's audited financial statements. The transfer projected for FY 2025/26 is a $31,923, or 1.3%, increase over the transfer included in the FY 2024/25 adopted budget.

# Expenditure Discussion

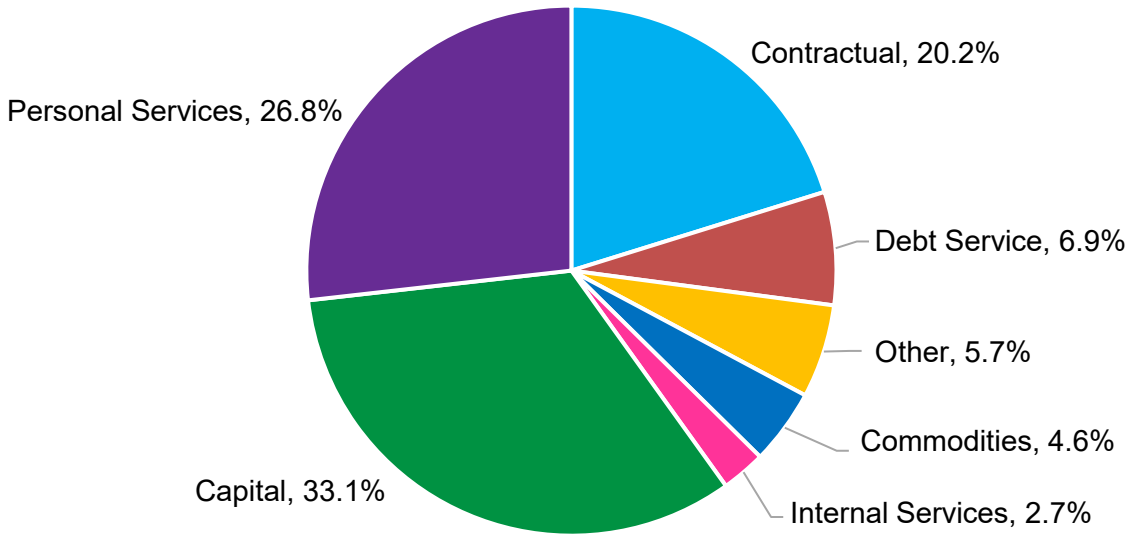
Expenditure are presented by program on pages 58 through 60 and by fund on page 61.

### Expenditures by Category

The City of Ames FY 2025/26 consolidated budget reflects a total expenditure amount of $332,520,520. This is an increase of $30,884,757, or 10.2%, in expenditures from the FY 2024/25 budget, as summarized below.

| | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 69,973,962 | 78,956,072 | 75,645,696 | 82,381,701 | 4.3% |
| Internal Services | 10,310,373 | 9,010,858 | 8,545,544 | 8,399,229 | -6.8% |
| Contractual | 57,478,175 | 62,555,901 | 65,284,881 | 62,097,711 | -0.7% |
| Commodities | 13,141,463 | 13,757,621 | 14,726,218 | 14,164,388 | 3.0% |
| Capital | 49,296,547 | 73,731,076 | 176,026,433 | 101,736,847 | 38.0% |
| Debt | 19,673,298 | 20,702,544 | 20,578,796 | 21,329,373 | 3.0% |
| Other (refunds, insurance claims, etc.) | 16,838,821 | 17,324,264 | 20,613,097 | 17,380,353 | 0.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures Before Transfers*** | 236,712,639 | 276,038,336 | 381,420,665 | 307,489,602 | 11.4% |
| Transfers | 34,958,302 | 25,597,427 | 31,171,106 | 25,030,918 | -2.2% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 271,670,941 | 301,635,763 | 412,591,771 | 332,520,520 | 10.2% |

**Breakdown by Major Expense Category**
**FY 2025/26 Adopted Budget***




*Excluding Transfers

# Expenditure Discussion

## Summary of Increases and Decreases

***Personal Services: $3,425,629 (4.3%) increase***

Personal Services includes salaries and benefits for full-time, permanent part-time, and temporary employees, including overtime, vacation, sick leave, and compensatory time. For FY 2025/26, a pay increase of 3.5% has been budgeted for salaried employees, and another 2% has been projected for merit increases. Health insurance contributions are budgeted to increase by 8% in 2025/26.

New budgeted positions for FY 2025/26 include an additional Fire Fighter, an Animal Control Attendant at the Animal Shelter, an increase in a .75 FTE Animal Control Officer to full-time, an increase in a .3 FTE Animal Control Officer to a .5 FTE, and an additional Aquatics Coordinator and an additional Principal Clerk added for the new Fich Family Indoor Aquatic Center. There were also several changes in the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget. An IT position that had remained vacant for several years was eliminated. A Human Resources Specialist position was created to help with the ongoing high level of recruitments, and a .75 Ice Arena Coordinator position was increased to full-time. Overall, FTEs have been increased by 4.7 FTEs between the FY 2024/25 adopted and FY 2025/26 adopted budgets.

***Internal Services: $611,629 (6.8%) decrease***

Internal Service expenditures include payments for services performed internally by other City departments, such as fleet maintenance, technology services, legal services, messenger, and risk insurance charges. The projected decrease in internal service costs in FY 2025/26 is largely due to lower property insurance costs being charged to Electric Services as a result of a reappraisal of the value of the Power Plant.

***Contractual: $458,190 (0.7%) decrease***

Contractual expenditures include payments for services performed by outside vendors, such as consulting services, outside attorney services, and repairs and maintenance charges. This category also includes utility charges, paid either to the City for electricity, water, and sewer, or to outside utilities for gas and phone service. Although the cost of many services increased for FY 2025/26, the increases were more than offset by the decrease in property insurance paid to the City's insurance provider as a result of the reassessment of the value of the City's Power Plant.

***Commodities: $406,767 (3%) increase***

Commodities include equipment and supplies that are noncapital in nature. This category includes such diverse items as office supplies, chemicals for the Electric, Water, and Sewer Utilities, fuel and vehicle parts for fleet equipment, tools, computers, and Library materials. After several years of significant increases in this category due to cost increases after COVID and supply chain issues, commodity increases are projected to be at a more normal level for FY 2025/26.

***Capital: $28,005,771 (38.0%) increase***

Capital expenditures include large capital projects, such as street and utility improvements, as well as specific capital equipment costing over $5,000, such as vehicles and large pieces of equipment. The 37.9% increase projected in this category for FY 2025/26 is due to an increased level of capital projects budgeted for Electric Services ($13,412,000), street improvement projects ($6,670,000), and the Ames Municipal Airport ($9,850,000).

# Expenditure Discussion

***Debt: $626,829 (3.0%) increase***
Debt includes principal and interest payments made on general obligation bonds and Electric revenue bonds, as well as payments made on loans received through the State's Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) program. Debt service expenditures are increasing modestly in FY 2025/26. G.O. bond debt service is projected to increase $644,268, or 5.2%, in FY 2025/26, largely due to the increased level of debt being issued for street improvement projects.

Debt Service payments to the Iowa State Revolving Fund (SRF) program are projected to decrease by $9,122, or 0.2%. This debt remains level because the SRF funding required for the Nutrient Reduction project at the Water and Pollution Control facility, which is using a majority of this funding, is approximately the same amount in both FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.

***Other: $56,089 (0.3% increase)***
Expenditures in this category include health and liability insurance claims, pass-through expenditures such as Hotel/Motel Tax proceeds to Discover Ames, energy efficiency rebates offered through City utilities, and grants awarded to human service agencies, arts programs, and civic and neighborhood associations. With no significant changes to any of these programs, this category of expenses remains level for FY 2025/26.

***Transfers: $566,509 (2.2% decrease)***
Transfers are the shifting of dollars between City funds. Most are routine in nature, such as the transferring of a percentage of local option tax receipts to the General Fund for property tax relief and the transfer of funds from the Electric Utility to the General Fund as an in-lieu of property tax payment. A complete listing of budgeted FY 2025/26 transfers is included on page 371-372.

# Authorized Employment Levels FTE

Full Time Equivalents (FTE)

| | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Department | | | | |
| City Manager/City Clerk | 12.50 | 14.00 | 14.00 | 14.00 |
| Legal Services | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 |
| Human Resources | 8.00 | 8.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 |
| Planning & Housing | 7.00 | 7.00 | 7.00 | 7.00 |
| Administrative Services | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| Finance | 41.00 | 40.00 | 39.00 | 39.00 |
| Fleet Services/Facilities | 9.50 | 9.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 |
| Transit | 88.25 | 89.25 | 89.25 | 89.25 |
| Fire/Building Safety | 74.00 | 75.00 | 75.00 | 76.00 |
| Police/Animal Control | 85.05 | 84.05 | 84.05 | 85.50 |
| Library | 38.50 | 38.50 | 38.50 | 38.50 |
| Parks and Recreation | 28.75 | 28.75 | 29.00 | 31.00 |
| Water & Pollution Control | 39.00 | 39.00 | 39.00 | 39.00 |
| Electric Services | 81.00 | 81.00 | 81.00 | 81.00 |
| Public Works: | | | | |
| Administration | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Traffic | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.00 |
| Streets | 22.00 | 22.00 | 22.00 | 22.00 |
| Engineering | 14.75 | 14.75 | 14.75 | 14.75 |
| Utility Maintenance | 13.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 |
| Resource Recovery | 15.00 | 15.00 | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| Parking | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Public Works Total | 76.75 | 76.75 | 76.75 | 76.75 |
| **Total** | **600.30** | **601.30** | **601.55** | **606.00** |

# Changes in Employment Levels FTE

Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)

The staffing level changes for the City of Ames that are included in the 2024/25 adjusted budget and 2025/26 adopted budget are as follows:

**2024/25 Adjusted: 601.55 (0.25 Increase)**

-1.00 An IT position that has remained unfilled for several years has been eliminated.

1.00 A Human Resources Specialist position has been added to assist with the large number of recruitments.

0.25 The Ice Arena Coordinator position has been increased from a .75 FTE to full-time to create more interest in position.

**2025/26 Adopted: 606.00 (4.45 Increase)**

1.00 As additional Firefighter position is being added in anticipation of staffing needs for a fourth fire station

0.45 One Animal Control Officer is being increased from a .75 FTE to full-time and another Animal Control Officer is being increased from a .3 FTE to a .5 FTE to better reflect the hours that the positions are actually working.

1.00 An Animal Control Attendant position is being added to Animal Control due to increased staffing needs at the Shelter and in anticipation of a new, larger Animal Shelter facility.

2.00 With the opening of the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatics Center, an Aquatics Coordinator and a Principal Clerk are being added to staff that facility.

# Adjusted Budget for FY 2024/25
# Compared to the Adopted Budget for FY 2024/25

The adopted budget is typically amended in the fall to incorporate carryovers, uncompleted capital improvement projects or capital purchases from the prior fiscal year. A second amendment is approved in March to incorporate operating expense and revenue changes. The following table summarizes significant adjustments that were made to the FY 2024/25 budget as part of these two amendment processes.

| 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | % Change | $ Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| 301,635,763 | 412,591,771 | 36.8% | 110,956,008 |

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Operating Budget Carryovers and Adjustments:*** | |
| Reduction in Public Safety operations | (157,731) |
| Reduction in Electric Services operations | (2,245,977) |
| Other changes in Utilities operations | 239,741 |
| Emerald Ash Borer program carryover | 95,443 |
| Increase in CyRide operating expenses | 67,349 |
| Other changes in Transportation operations | (160,025) |
| Reduction in Parks and Recreation expenditures | (77,548) |
| Parks and Recreation Donations expenditure carryovers | 105,784 |
| Decrease in Library Services expenditures | (881) |
| Public Art program carryover | 88,917 |
| Artwork for Downtown Plaza | 150,000 |
| Other Art Services carryovers | 30,000 |
| Cemetery reduction in expenditures | (4,041) |
| Decrease in Hotel/Motel Tax pass-through to ACVB | (73,542) |
| Carryover funding for sustainability programs | 1,097,735 |
| CDBG program carryover | 1,392,964 |
| HOME program carryover | 2,617,734 |
| Other changes in Community Development operations | (9,825) |
| Ames History Museum allocation carryover | 30,000 |
| City website upgrade carryover | 37,338 |
| Budgeting/Reporting System funding carryover | 105,320 |
| Human Resources funding carryover | 169,312 |
| City Hall space needs carryover | 159,269 |
| Reductions in other General Government operations | (100,604) |
| ***Total Operating Budget Adjustments*** | 3,556,732 |

# Adjusted Budget for FY 2024/25
# Compared to the Adopted Budget for FY 2024/25

| ***CIP Project Carryovers and Adjustments:*** | **$ Change** |
|---|---|
| Animal Shelter Relocation | 1,205,000 |
| Other Public Safety CIP | 642,974 |
| Electric Services | 15,355,236 |
| Water Production/Treatment | 7,417,476 |
| Water Pollution Control | 2,231,660 |
| Water Distribution System | 2,887,018 |
| Sanitary Sewer System | 14,049,912 |
| Stormwater | 5,714,414 |
| Resource Recovery | 277,919 |
| Street Improvements | 17,567,614 |
| Shared Use Path System | 3,017,831 |
| Traffic Improvements | 7,811,601 |
| Street Rehabilitation | 2,263,497 |
| Transit System | 11,854,236 |
| Airport | 3,599,305 |
| Parks and Recreation | 1,658,015 |
| Other Culture and Recreation | 351,393 |
| Façade/Neighborhood Grants | 213,001 |
| City Facilities | 2,066,597 |
| ***Total CIP Project Adjustments*** | 100,184,699 |
| | |
| ***Debt Service Carryovers and Adjustments:*** | |
| Reduction in SRF loan payments | (143,183) |
| Additional bond costs | 19,435 |
| ***Total Debt Service Adjustments*** | (123,748) |
| | |
| ***Internal Services Carryovers and Adjustments:*** | |
| Fleet equipment carryovers | 2,128,334 |
| Information Technology carryover | 227,854 |
| Increase in Shared Communications | 58,568 |
| Decrease in Risk Management expenses | (669,799) |
| Increase in other Internal Service expenses | 19,689 |
| ***Total Internal Service Adjustments*** | 1,764,646 |
| | |
| ***Transfers Carryovers and Adjustments:*** | |
| Additional transfer from General Fund to P&R Scholarship Fund | 200,000 |
| Additional transfer from General Fund to Council Priorities Fund | 3,000,000 |
| Increase to Local Option Sales Tax transfer to General Fund | 240,000 |
| Transfer from GO bond funds to Street Construction for unreimbursed grant expense | 270,279 |
| Transfer SRF grant proceeds from Sewer Utility to Stormwater fund | 300,000 |
| Transfer from Transit Operations to Transit Student Trust Fund | 440,145 |
| Increase to Transit Operations transfer to Transit Capital Reserve | 1,000,000 |
| Other transfer changes | 123,255 |
| ***Total Transfer Adjustments*** | 5,573,679 |
| | |
| ***Difference between FY 2024/25 Adopted and Adjusted Budgets*** | 110,956,008 |

# Capital Summary

The City's capital budget consists of both capital items included in departmental operating budgets and capital projects included in the City's five-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). The capital budget for FY 2025/26 of $101,736,847 is composed of the following operating capital and capital improvement projects:

| | |
|---|---|
| Operating Capital | 3,621,300 |
| CIP (capital portion only)* | 98,115,547 |
| **Total Capital** | **101,736,847** |

* The CIP totals $98,415,547 and includes $300,000 in non-capital items:
- Water Treatment Plant arc flash study ($25,000)
- Recreation Center conceptual plan ($100,000)
- Neighborhood Improvement Program ($50,000)
- Downtown and Campustown Facade Grant Programs ($125,000)

# Operating Capital

Operating capital includes both purchases that occur each year and purchases that are more non-routine in nature. Funding for all operating capital is approved as part of each department's budget review with the Finance Department and the City Manager's Office. Departments submit requests for capital purchases and provide background information explaining the benefits of the capital acquisition and how it will improve the service delivered by the department. Final approval of capital purchases is by City Council as part of the budget review process.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Recurring Capital Purchases:** | |
| Fleet Services vehicles/equipment | 2,779,300 |
| Electric transformers | 600,000 |
| Information Technology equipment | 70,000 |
| Public Art acquisitions | 20,500 |
| **Total Recurring Capital** | 3,469,800 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Non-Recurring Capital Purchases:** | |
| Electric sweep frequency response analysis package | 35,000 |
| Electric meter test kit | 65,000 |
| W&PC Lab sampler | 6,500 |
| Water Meter sandblast cabinet | 10,000 |
| Sanitary Sewer System flow meters | 25,000 |
| Traffic ATC cabinet test equipment | 10,000 |
| **Total Non-Recurring Capital** | 151,500 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Total Operating Capital** | 3,621,300 |

# Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)

## Process

The City's five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), contained in a separate document, is used to plan for major additions and upgrades to the City's infrastructure system, as well as other major capital improvements or programs. Construction projects, equipment purchases, and certain studies that cost $15,000 or more will be included in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) while minor capital outlays of less than $15,000 will generally be included within program operating budgets. CIP projects are also infrequent in nature; operating and maintenance projects that exceed the $15,000 threshold but are routine in nature will not qualify as CIP projects.

The CIP process begins with departments evaluating the need for projects and submitting proposed project sheets in the fall of each year. Resources used to identify priority projects include plans such as the Ames 2040 Comprehensive Plan, the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Ames Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan (Walk Bike Roll Ames), as well as professional studies of facilities and utility needs. The City Manager and Assistant City Managers tour the projects and discuss them with the departments. In mid-November, after the operational budgets are submitted, fund projections are prepared to determine if funding is available for the proposed projects. A draft CIP is prepared by the end of December. In January, the City Council holds a CIP workshop followed a week later by a public hearing for citizen input. The CIP is typically approved in February with the operating budget.

The Capital Improvements Plan for FY 2025/26 through FY 2029/30 reflects expenditures of $458,545,990 over five years in the following areas to improve infrastructure and facilities for both citizens and visitors to the City of Ames.

| ***Expenditures:*** | **Total** | **2025/26** | **2026/27** | **2027/28** | **2028/29** | **2029/30** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Safety | 6,814,747 | 3,541,905 | - | 1,144,302 | 1,331,544 | 796,996 |
| Utilities | 282,792,000 | 49,973,000 | 40,975,000 | 79,711,000 | 95,731,000 | 16,402,000 |
| Transportation | 156,685,224 | 37,840,563 | 42,621,641 | 26,578,069 | 25,730,259 | 23,914,692 |
| Culture and Recreation | 11,004,019 | 6,810,079 | 1,173,500 | 1,139,380 | 894,280 | 986,780 |
| Community Development | 875,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 |
| General Government | 375,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Internal Services | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 458,545,990 | 98,415,547 | 85,020,141 | 108,822,751 | 123,937,083 | 42,350,468 |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | | |
| Debt | 269,207,006 | 49,797,908 | 40,078,256 | 73,979,302 | 87,041,544 | 18,309,996 |
| City | 111,762,293 | 23,717,417 | 21,235,221 | 22,700,914 | 26,080,485 | 18,028,256 |
| Other | 77,576,691 | 24,900,222 | 23,706,664 | 12,142,535 | 10,815,054 | 6,012,216 |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 458,545,990 | 98,415,547 | 85,020,141 | 108,822,751 | 123,937,083 | 42,350,468 |

Funding for the five-year Capital Improvements Plan is from a combination of debt issuance, City revenues, and outside funding. Proposed debt issuance for the five-year plan includes $68,964,793 in general obligation bonds, $6,880,000 in general obligation bonds abated by Resource Recovery revenue, $3,540,213 available from previously issued bonds, $141,470,000 in Electric revenue bonds, and $48,352,000 in state revolving fund loans that will be used to finance water and sanitary sewer projects.

## Reconciliation of Capital Programs for FY 2025/26 to the CIP Document

The FY 2025/26 approved capital projects are incorporated into the budget as capital programs. These programs are found at the end of each applicable program section.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Total 2025/26 CIP per Capital Improvements Plan** | | 98,415,547 |
| Public Safety CIP | Page 140 | 3,541,905 |
| Utilities CIP | Page 194 | 49,973,000 |
| Transportation CIP | Page 240 | 37,840,563 |
| Culture and Recreation CIP | Page 287 | 6,810,079 |
| Community Development CIP | Page 313 | 175,000 |
| General Government CIP | Page 344 | 75,000 |
| Internal Services CIP | | - |
| **Total CIP in Budget Document** | | 98,415,547 |

The totals by program sometimes vary slightly between the budget document and the Capital Improvements Plan document. If a street project includes a water or sewer line replacement, for example, both components of the project may be shown as part of the street project in the Capital Improvements Plan document. The projects will, however, be shown in their separate program areas in the budget document. In FY 2025/26, there are no projects that overlap between programs. The totals by program are the same in both the Capital Improvements Plan document and the budget document.

## Summary of Increases and Decreases

Below is a table summarizing the changes in CIP expenditures from FY 2024/25 to FY 2025/26.

| ***CIP Program Expenditures*** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **$ Change** | **% Change** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Safety CIP | - | 3,541,905 | 3,541,905 | |
| Utilities CIP | 36,561,000 | 49,973,000 | 13,412,000 | 36.7% |
| Transportation CIP | 12,804,268 | 37,840,563 | 25,036,295 | 195.5% |
| Culture and Recreation CIP | 22,352,108 | 6,810,079 | (15,542,029) | -69.5% |
| Community Development CIP | 175,000 | 175,000 | - | 0.0% |
| General Government CIP Projects | 75,000 | 75,000 | - | 0.0% |
| ***Total CIP Change*** | 71,967,376 | 98,415,547 | 26,448,171 | 36.8% |

***Public Safety CIP - $3,541,905 increase***

The increase in the Public Safety CIP program is primarily due to the addition of the Animal Shelter Relocation project, which is budgeted at $3,250,000. A project to replace the Fire Station Alerting System is also included in the CIP at a cost of $291,905. There were no Public Safety CIP projects included in the FY 2024/25 CIP.

***Utilities CIP - $13,412,000 (36.7%) increase***

The increase in the Electric Services CIP program is $7,550,000 and is primarily due to two new projects: the Prairie View 161 kV Substation project ($4,000,000) and the New Thermal Generation project ($2,000,000).

The Water Production and Treatment CIP program is increasing by $3,854,000 primarily due to two new projects: the Technical Services Complex Renovation project ($1,680,000) and the Wellfield Standby Power project ($1,757,000).

In FY 2024/25, Stormwater projects were reduced in the CIP to allow Public Works to catch up on a backlog of projects. Stormwater funding returns to a more normal level in FY 2025/26, which includes a $650,000 increase over FY 2024/25 funding.

A new Resource Recovery project, the Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus, is included in the CIP for the first time at a cost of $880,000 for the FY 2025/26 portion of the project.

***Transportation CIP - $25,036,295 (195.5%) increase***

Street Improvement CIP projects were greatly reduced in FY 2024/25 to allow Public Works to catch up on a backlog of delayed projects. In FY 2025/26, funding returns to a more normal level, with funding increased of $6,670,000.

The Traffic Improvements CIP program increases by $2,516,000 due to a new project to improve the intersection at 13th Street and Grand Avenue, budgeted at $3,070,000.

The CIP program for the Transit system has been increased by $5,340,295, largely due to a $4,644,683 increase in the Vehicle Replacement program. The Facility Improvements program also increased by $750,000.

The Airport CIP program increased by $9,850,000 in FY 2025/26 due to an Airport Airside Improvements program project to reconstruct Runway 010/19. The 2025/26 portion of the project is budgeted at $10,635,000.

***Culture and Recreation CIP - $15,542,725 (69.5%) decrease***

The Parks and Recreation CIP program decreased by $15,569,725 in FY 2025/26. The decrease was caused by the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center project, which was budgeted at $20,699,268 in FY 2024/25, the main construction year for the project. Funding in FY 2025/26 is $4,879,579, the amount needed to complete the project.

# CIP Annual Operating Budget Impact

Many capital improvement projects have an impact on the City's operating budget by requiring additional personnel, increasing maintenance costs, or increasing debt service costs to fund the projects. Other projects reduce maintenance costs by improving systems or processes. Below is a summary of the effect of the FY 2025/26 Capital Improvements Plan on the City's operating budget.

| Program: | 2025/26 Capital Budget | Personal Services | Operational Capital | Other Operations | Debt Service | Revenue Increase | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Safety | 3,541,905 | - | - | - | 22,579 | - | 3,564,484 |
| Utilities | 49,973,000 | - | - | - | 865,323 | - | 50,838,323 |
| Transportation | 37,840,563 | - | - | 2,979 | 1,353,030 | - | 39,196,572 |
| Culture and Recreation | 6,810,079 | 227,609 | - | 910,434 | 74,587 | 856,387 | 7,166,322 |
| Community Development | 175,000 | - | - | - | - | - | 175,000 |
| General Government | 75,000 | - | - | - | - | - | 75,000 |
| Internal Services | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| **Total Expenditures** | **98,415,547** | **227,609** | **-** | **913,413** | **2,315,519** | **856,387** | **101,015,701** |

A new project to relocate the Ames Animal Shelter is included in the Capital Improvement Plan for the first time. Because the new facility will be larger, it is anticipated that operating costs will increase compared to the current facility. Because the project is still being developed, additional operating costs were not included in the FY 2025/26 budget,

A shared use path will be constructed along South Dayton Avenue from East Lincoln Way to Southeast 16th Street. This addition to the shared use path system will add approximately one mile of paved trail, adding approximately $2,708 to the Public Works operating budget for shared use path maintenance and snow and ice removal. A trail connection will also be constructed from Moore Memorial Park to the Iowa Creek Trail. Maintenance of the 0.1-mile connection will add approximately $271 to the Public Works operating budget.

City Council has approved the construction of the new Fitch Family Indoor Aquatics Center. This project, which is expected to open in FY 2025/26, will add approximately $227,609 in additional personal service costs and $910,434 in other costs annually to the Parks and Recreation operating budget. These additional expenses will be partially offset by anticipated annual revenues of $856,387 at the new facility.

Debt service costs are related to General Obligation bond funding for Public Safety, Transportation, and Culture and Recreation capital projects. The Utilities program debt service includes costs related to State Revolving Fund debt issued for the Water Pollution Control Nutrient Reduction project ($771,557) and General Obligation bond funding for the Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus ($93,766). The General Obligation bond funding for Resource Recovery will be abated by revenues in the utility.

# Program Operation by Fund

The following table summarizes the relationship between the City's programs presented in the budget document and the City's fund structure.

| Funds: | Public Safety | Utilities | Transpor-tation | Culture & Recreation | Community Development | General Government | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***General Fund ** | 24,298,049 | - | 1,176,129 | 11,235,798 | 1,292,206 | 3,690,201 | 41,692,383 |
| ***Special Revenue Funds:*** | | | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | - | - | - | 334,994 | 2,053,976 | 329,907 | 2,718,877 |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | - | - | - | - | 2,158,722 | 15,000 | 2,173,722 |
| Road Use Tax | - | - | 8,246,287 | - | 28,032 | - | 8,274,319 |
| Public Safety Special Revenues | 140,500 | - | - | - | - | - | 140,500 |
| City-Wide Housing | - | - | - | - | 29,410 | - | 29,410 |
| CDBG Program | - | - | - | - | 684,122 | - | 684,122 |
| HOME Program | - | - | - | - | 256,483 | - | 256,483 |
| HOME ARPA Program | - | - | - | - | 630,983 | - | 630,983 |
| P&R Donations/Grants | - | - | - | 179,900 | - | - | 179,900 |
| P&R Scholarships | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Library Donations/Grants | - | - | - | 471,831 | - | - | 471,831 |
| Utility Assistance | - | 15,500 | - | - | - | - | 15,500 |
| Miscellaneous Donations | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Economic Development | - | - | - | - | 28,032 | - | 28,032 |
| TIF Funds | - | - | - | | 550,000 | - | 550,000 |
| **Total Spec Rev Funds** | 140,500 | 15,500 | 8,246,287 | 986,725 | 6,419,760 | 344,907 | 16,153,679 |
| ***Capital Projects Fund ** | - | - | - | - | - | 9,583 | 9,583 |
| ***Permanent Funds:*** | | | | | | | |
| Aquatic Center Trust Fund | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| ***Enterprise Funds:*** | | | | | | | |
| Airport | - | - | 168,801 | - | - | - | 168,801 |
| Water Utility * | - | 9,171,939 | - | - | - | - | 9,171,939 |
| Sewer Utility * | - | 6,758,628 | - | - | - | - | 6,758,628 |
| Electric Utility * | - | 65,317,283 | - | - | - | - | 65,317,283 |
| Parking | - | - | 1,031,607 | - | - | - | 1,031,607 |
| Transit | - | - | 15,692,130 | - | - | - | 15,692,130 |
| Stormwater Utility | - | 987,255 | - | - | - | - | 987,255 |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | - | - | - | 595,249 | - | - | 595,249 |
| Homewood Golf Course | - | - | - | 406,229 | - | - | 406,229 |
| Resource Recovery | - | 5,024,867 | - | - | - | - | 5,024,867 |
| **Total Enterprise Funds** | - | 87,259,972 | 16,892,538 | 1,001,478 | - | - | 105,153,988 |
| ***Total Operations*** | 24,438,549 | 87,275,472 | 26,314,954 | 13,224,001 | 7,711,966 | 4,044,691 | 163,009,633 |

* Indicates a major fund or fund group

# Summary of Changes in Fund Balance

*Fund Balance* is defined as the net assets of a fund calculated on a budgetary basis and used as a measure of the financial resources available in the fund. The following is an overview of the changes in the City's fund balances based on the adopted FY 2025/26 budget. Explanations of changes in fund balances greater than 10% are summarized on the following page.

| | FY 2025/26 Adopted Beginning Fund Balance | FY 2025/26 Adopted Ending Fund Balance | Change in Fund Balance | % Change | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General Fund *** | 10,904,767 | 10,904,767 | - | - | |
| | | | | | |
| **Special Revenue Funds:** | | | | | |
| Local Option Tax | 5,369,944 | 5,414,183 | 44,239 | 0.8% | |
| Hotel Motel Tax | 1,970,751 | 2,163,490 | 192,739 | 9.8% | |
| Road Use Tax | 4,075,607 | 2,353,883 | (1,721,724) | -42.2% | A |
| Police Forfeiture | 156,657 | 154,657 | (2,000) | -1.3% | |
| Public Safety Donations/Grants | 7,494 | 7,494 | - | 0.0% | |
| Animal Shelter Donations | 152,515 | 151,015 | (1,500) | -1.0% | |
| City-Wide Housing | 388,563 | 359,653 | (28,910) | -7.4% | |
| CDBG Program | - | - | - | | |
| HOME Program | - | - | - | | |
| HOME/American Rescue Plan | - | - | - | | |
| Employee Benefit Property Tax | - | - | - | | |
| Fire/Police Retirement | - | - | - | | |
| Parks & Recreation Donations/Grants | 6,912 | 13,824 | 6,912 | 100.0% | B |
| Parks & Recreation Scholarships | 497,059 | 508,059 | 11,000 | 2.2% | |
| FEMA/COVID-19 | - | - | - | | |
| FEMA/Derecho 2020 | - | - | - | | |
| American Rescue Plan | 2,748,750 | 2,748,750 | - | 0.0% | |
| Library Donations/Grants | 519,800 | 533,100 | 13,300 | 2.6% | |
| Utility Assistance | 18,010 | 18,010 | - | 0.0% | |
| Miscellaneous Donations | 32 | 32 | - | 0.0% | |
| Developer Projects | 248,258 | 249,758 | 1,500 | 0.6% | |
| Economic Development | 547,166 | 547,166 | - | 0.0% | |
| Tax Increment Financing (TIF) | 1,227,909 | 940,359 | (287,550) | -23.4% | C |
| **Total Special Revenue Funds** | 17,935,427 | 16,163,433 | (1,771,994) | -9.9% | |
| | | | | | |
| **Capital Project Funds: *** | | | | | |
| Special Assessments | (659,940) | (499,926) | 160,014 | -24.2% | D |
| Street Construction | 294,325 | 294,325 | - | 0.0% | |
| Park Development | 721,469 | 836,469 | 115,000 | 15.9% | E |
| Winakor Donation | 1,996,665 | 1,902,299 | (94,366) | -4.7% | |
| Indoor Aquatic Center Donations | 54,813 | 54,813 | - | | |
| Council Priorities Capital Fund | 6,765,399 | 5,075,399 | (1,690,000) | -25.0% | F |
| Bond Proceeds | 6,207,447 | 3,237,234 | (2,970,213) | -47.8% | G |
| **Total Capital Project Funds** | 15,380,178 | 10,900,613 | (4,479,565) | -29.1% | |

*Indicates a major fund or fund group

# Summary of Changes in Fund Balance

| | FY 2025/26 Adopted Beginning Fund Balance | FY 2025/26 Adopted Ending Fund Balance | Change in Fund Balance | % Change | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Permanent Funds:** | | | | | |
| Cemetery Perpetual Care | 1,134,830 | 1,161,080 | 26,250 | 2.3% | |
| Aquatic Center Trust | 1,134,931 | 1,169,931 | 35,000 | 3.1% | |
| **Total Permanent Funds** | 2,269,761 | 2,331,011 | 61,250 | 2.7% | |
| **Enterprise Funds:** | | | | | |
| Airport | 3,282,284 | 3,276,030 | (6,254) | -0.2% | |
| Water Utility * | 20,334,611 | 17,543,934 | (2,790,677) | -13.7% | H |
| Sewer Utility * | 23,092,450 | 25,973,318 | 2,880,868 | 12.5% | I |
| Electric Utility * | 45,332,423 | 42,081,068 | (3,251,355) | -7.2% | |
| Parking | 1,382,563 | 1,411,756 | 29,193 | 2.1% | |
| Transit | 20,468,108 | 18,579,540 | (1,888,568) | -9.2% | |
| Stormwater Utility | 2,611,122 | 1,692,367 | (918,755) | -35.2% | J |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | 412,164 | 594,510 | 182,346 | 44.2% | K |
| Homewood Golf Course | 812,326 | 985,053 | 172,727 | 21.3% | L |
| Resource Recovery | 1,135,515 | 1,075,710 | (59,805) | -5.3% | |
| **Total Enterprise Funds** | 118,863,566 | 113,213,286 | (5,650,280) | -4.8% | |
| **Debt Service** | 4,528,442 | 3,915,144 | (613,298) | -13.5% | M |
| **Internal Service Funds:** | | | | | |
| Fleet Services | 14,303,782 | 14,267,203 | (36,579) | -0.3% | |
| Information Technology | 3,881,200 | 3,897,076 | 15,876 | 0.4% | |
| Risk Management | 4,047,280 | 4,142,680 | 95,400 | 2.4% | |
| Health Insurance | 7,245,151 | 7,850,700 | 605,549 | 8.4% | |
| **Total Internal Service Funds** | 29,477,413 | 30,157,659 | 680,246 | 2.3% | |
| **Totals** | 199,359,554 | 187,585,913 | (11,773,641) | -5.9% | |

*Indicates a major fund or fund group

Some funds, such as the Utility funds, Transit, Parking, and Fleet Services, contain separate sinking or reserve funds. The funds are shown in aggregate in this table; the separate components making up each fund are shown in the Fund Summaries section beginning on page 375.

The Special Assessments fund has a negative fund balance because the fund begins to pay debt service on the bonds issued for projects that will be abated through special assessments. The special assessments that are collected over time are then used to repay the negative balance caused by the debt service.

# Summary of Changes in Fund Balance

**Explanation of Changes in Fund Balance Greater than 10%:**

***A) Road Use Tax Fund:*** Road Use Tax Fund expenses for FY 2025/26 include capital projects approved out of the unreserved fund balance, resulting in a 42.2% drawdown of the fund balance.

***B) Parks and Recreation Donations/Grants:*** The balance in Parks and Recreation's Donations and Grants fund will increase by 100% in FY 2025/26 as expenses have not yet been budgeted for all projected donations.

***C) Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Fund:*** Property tax revenue on several TIF districts have been completely received and are now being used to pay the debt service associated with the projects, reducing the TIF Fund's balance by 23.4%.

***D) Special Assessments Fund:*** The negative balance in the Special Assessments Fund is projected to decrease by 24.2% as assessment revenue continues to be received while debt service payments begin to decrease.

***E) Park Development Fund:*** Funding is transferred each year to the Park Development fund from local option sales tax proceeds to use for larger park development or park improvement projects. In FY 2025/26, the funding will be transferred as normal, but no park projects have been identified, creating a 15.9% increase in the Park Development fund balance.

***F) Council Priorities Capital Fund:*** This fund, which is used at the discretion of City Council, to help fund capital projects which are a priority of the City Council, is being drawn down by 25% in FY 2025/26 as a portion of the available balance is directed to the Animal Shelter Relocation project.

***G) Bond Proceeds:*** As a result of project cost savings, bond proceeds from bonds issued in FY 2024/25 for the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center have been reprogrammed into the FY 2025/26 budget to cover the FY 2025/26 expenses for the project. This reprogramming of bond proceeds replaced the issuance of additional debt originally planned for the project. The remaining bond funds created a higher-than-normal balance at the beginning of FY 2025/26, and a 47.8% decrease in the fund balance during FY 2025/26.

***H) Water Utility:*** The Water Utility fund balance is projected to decrease by 13.7% in FY 2025/26 due to the planned use of the Utility's fund balance for several large capital projects. These projects include facility improvements at the Water Treatment Plant, the renovation of the Technical Services Complex, which houses the Laboratory and Metering divisions, and the installation of standby power at the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex well field.

***I) Sewer Utility:*** The Sewer Utility fund balance is projected to increase by 12.5% in FY 2025/26 due to a 5.5% rate increase effective July 1, 2025.

***J) Stormwater Utility:*** The Stormwater Utility fund balance is projected to decrease by 35.2% in FY 2025/26 due to the planned use of the fund balance for stormwater capital projects. Because of a backlog of stormwater capital projects, fewer projects were programmed in the last several years, resulting in a substantially higher fund balance in the utility. As the older projects are being completed, capital project programming is returning to more normal levels.

***K) Ames/ISU Ice Arena:*** Ice Arena revenue is projected to increase in FY 2025/26 as Iowa State University men's and women's hockey returns to the Ice Arena. Additionally, ISU and the City of Ames each contribute $40,000 annually for capital improvements at the arena. In FY 2025/26, the $80,000 in revenue is projected to be received, but no capital projects are planned.

***L) Homewood Golf Course:*** The City's nine-hole golf course is projected to continue the trend of increased revenues that began several years ago. With expenses projected at a more normal increase, the fund balance for Homewood Golf Course is projected to increase by 21.3% during FY 2025/26.

***M) Debt Service:*** The Debt Service fund's balance is expected to decrease by 13.5% in FY 2025/26 due to the addition of principal and interest payments for the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center in FY 2025/26.

# Long Range Financial Planning

In addition to the Budget and the Capital Improvements Plan, the City, as part of its budget process, prepares long-range plans for City-owned utilities, debt service, and several of the special revenue funds. These plans are used to forecast projected necessary rate increases, to level debt and necessary tax increases, and to schedule large capital projects. These plans are revised annually in response to the strategic goals set by the City Council at its annual goal-setting session.

## General Fund

| | Adjusted 2024/25 | Adopted 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Property Taxes | 24,860,865 | 25,996,564 | 27,036,427 | 28,117,884 | 29,242,599 | 30,412,303 |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | 2,828,460 | 2,885,029 | 2,942,730 | 3,001,585 |
| Licenses/Permits/Fines | 1,539,301 | 1,539,301 | 1,570,087 | 1,601,489 | 1,633,519 | 1,666,189 |
| Intergovernmental Revenue | 2,750,046 | 2,876,265 | 2,731,713 | 2,812,289 | 2,895,704 | 2,982,065 |
| Charges for Services | 2,409,820 | 3,008,855 | 3,084,076 | 3,161,178 | 3,240,207 | 3,321,212 |
| Interest/Miscellaneous | 1,370,215 | 1,133,622 | 750,000 | 750,000 | 750,000 | 750,000 |
| Transfers | 10,123,772 | 10,137,630 | 10,441,759 | 10,755,012 | 11,077,662 | 11,409,992 |
| **Total Revenues** | 45,829,019 | 47,465,237 | 48,442,522 | 50,082,881 | 51,782,421 | 53,543,346 |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Law Enforcement | 11,351,668 | 12,209,884 | 12,576,181 | 12,953,466 | 13,342,070 | 13,742,332 |
| Fire/Building Safety | 10,813,552 | 11,244,343 | 11,581,673 | 11,929,123 | 12,286,997 | 12,655,607 |
| Parks and Recreation | 4,420,154 | 5,346,647 | 5,507,046 | 5,672,257 | 5,842,425 | 6,017,698 |
| Library Services | 5,355,538 | 5,631,055 | 5,799,987 | 5,973,987 | 6,153,207 | 6,337,803 |
| Other Operating Expenses | 7,563,565 | 7,260,454 | 7,478,268 | 7,702,616 | 7,933,694 | 8,171,705 |
| Capital Improvements | 3,642,631 | 180,000 | - | - | - | - |
| Transfers | 8,740,528 | 5,592,854 | 5,760,640 | 5,933,459 | 6,111,463 | 6,294,807 |
| **Total Expenses** | 51,887,636 | 47,465,237 | 48,703,795 | 50,164,908 | 51,669,856 | 53,219,952 |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (6,058,617) | - | (261,273) | (82,027) | 112,565 | 323,394 |
| Beginning Balance | 16,963,384 | 10,904,767 | 10,904,767 | 10,643,494 | 10,561,467 | 10,674,032 |
| **Ending Balance** | 10,904,767 | 10,904,767 | 10,643,494 | 10,561,467 | 10,674,032 | 10,997,426 |

**Assumptions:**
Property tax revenue increases 4% each year based on expected property value increases. Other revenues are projected separately. Operating expenses are projected to increase 3% each year. CIP projects are typically budgeted using General Fund funding only in the adjusted current year budget when savings are available. The General Fund is budgeted to be balanced each year.

**Analysis:**
The General Fund will be greatly affected in the next several years by changes in state legislation affecting property taxes and property values. The General Fund will need to be closely monitored to continue to develop a balanced budget.

# Long Range Financial Planning

| Local Option Sales Tax Fund | Adjusted 2024/25 | Adopted 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 12,400,000 | 12,400,000 | 12,586,000 | 12,774,790 | 12,966,412 | 13,160,908 |
| Hotel/Motel Tax Transfer | 158,730 | 158,616 | 160,202 | 161,804 | 163,422 | 165,056 |
| **Total Revenues** | 12,558,730 | 12,558,616 | 12,746,202 | 12,936,594 | 13,129,834 | 13,325,964 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Property Tax Relief | 7,440,000 | 7,440,000 | 7,551,600 | 7,664,874 | 7,779,847 | 7,896,545 |
| Additional Transfers | 140,000 | 140,000 | 140,000 | 140,000 | 140,000 | 140,000 |
| Other Program Expenses | 2,677,595 | 2,718,877 | 2,853,560 | 2,994,959 | 3,143,408 | 3,299,260 |
| Capital Improvements | 7,624,420 | 2,215,500 | 2,123,500 | 2,169,380 | 2,194,280 | 2,166,780 |
| **Total Expenses** | 17,882,015 | 12,514,377 | 12,668,660 | 12,969,213 | 13,257,535 | 13,502,585 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (5,323,285) | 44,239 | 77,542 | (32,619) | (127,701) | (176,621) |
| Beginning Balance | 10,693,229 | 5,369,944 | 5,414,183 | 5,491,725 | 5,459,106 | 5,331,405 |
| **Ending Balance** | 5,369,944 | 5,414,183 | 5,491,725 | 5,459,106 | 5,331,405 | 5,154,784 |

**Assumptions:**
Local Option Sales Tax increases 1.5% each year and Hotel/Motel Tax transfer increases 1% each year. Property tax relief increases 1.5% each year and other program expenses increases vary by expense. CIP project expenses are based on the adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan.

**Analysis:**
Local Option Tax has shown indications of increased growth and improved stability from online retailers collecting and remitting state and local sales tax. Forecasts indicate that adequate funding will be available for planned CIP projects with additional fund balance available to meet contingencies.

# Long Range Financial Planning

| Hotel/Motel Tax Fund | Adjusted 2024/25 | Adopted 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | 2,800,730 | 2,828,737 | 2,857,024 | 2,885,594 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Pass-through to Discover Ames | 1,981,350 | 1,979,922 | 1,999,721 | 2,019,718 | 2,039,915 | 2,060,314 |
| Property Tax Relief Transfer | 238,095 | 237,923 | 240,302 | 242,705 | 245,132 | 247,583 |
| Community Betterment Transfer | 158,730 | 158,616 | 160,202 | 161,804 | 163,422 | 165,056 |
| Other Program Expenses | 295,788 | 188,800 | 188,800 | 188,800 | 188,800 | 188,800 |
| Capital Improvements | 62,888 | - | - | - | - | - |
| **Total Expenses** | 2,736,851 | 2,565,261 | 2,589,025 | 2,613,027 | 2,637,269 | 2,661,753 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | 38,149 | 207,739 | 211,705 | 215,710 | 219,755 | 223,841 |
| Beginning Balance | 1,932,602 | 1,970,751 | 2,178,490 | 2,390,195 | 2,605,905 | 2,825,660 |
| **Ending Balance** | 1,970,751 | 2,178,490 | 2,390,195 | 2,605,905 | 2,825,660 | 3,049,501 |

**Assumptions:**
Hotel/Motel Tax revenue increases 1% each year; the pass through to Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau and the transfers for property tax relief and community betterment also increase 1% each year. Other program expenses remain unchanged each year.

**Analysis:**
Hotel/Motel Tax revenue are highly dependent on events and activities that attract people to the Ames area for overnight stays. Significant events including Iowa State University athletic events, large concerts, performing arts performances, and large conferences have a material effect on the annual collections. The ending fund balances offer the City flexibility to support economic development projects that would be otherwise unattainable without City involvement.

# Long Range Financial Planning

## Road Use Tax

| | Adjusted 2024/25 | Adopted 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Road Use Tax | 9,404,055 | 9,504,055 | 9,884,197 | 10,279,544 | 10,690,704 | 11,118,309 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 7,908,343 | 8,274,319 | 8,348,106 | 8,473,914 | 8,602,034 | 8,732,514 |
| Capital Improvements | 6,844,433 | 2,951,460 | 2,029,844 | 2,030,000 | 2,530,000 | 2,530,000 |
| **Total Expenses** | 14,752,776 | 11,225,779 | 10,377,950 | 10,503,914 | 11,132,034 | 11,262,514 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (5,348,721) | (1,721,724) | (493,753) | (224,370) | (441,330) | (144,205) |
| Beginning Balance | 9,424,328 | 4,075,607 | 2,353,883 | 1,860,130 | 1,635,760 | 1,194,430 |
| **Ending Balance** | 4,075,607 | 2,353,883 | 1,860,130 | 1,635,760 | 1,194,430 | 1,050,225 |

**Assumptions:**
Road Use Tax revenue increases approximately 4% each year. Operating expenses vary by the type of expense. CIP project expenses are based on the adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan.

**Analysis:**
This tax is allocated to local governments on a per capita basis and is expected to gradually increase in the coming year based on the Iowa Department of Transportation projections.

# Long Range Financial Planning

| Water Utility Fund | Adjusted 2024/25 | *3.5% Rate Increase* Adopted 2025/26 | *3.5% Rate Increase* 2026/27 | *3.5% Rate Increase* 2027/28 | *3.5% Rate Increase* 2028/29 | *3.5% Rate Increase* 2029/30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Water Utility Revenues | 20,850,915 | 17,181,604 | 16,568,554 | 17,030,895 | 17,999,534 | 18,293,886 |
| **Total Revenues** | 20,850,915 | 17,181,604 | 16,568,554 | 17,030,895 | 17,999,534 | 18,293,886 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 8,923,010 | 9,171,939 | 9,481,555 | 9,802,146 | 10,134,365 | 10,478,661 |
| Debt Service | 4,550,191 | 4,707,694 | 4,700,325 | 4,693,027 | 5,455,105 | 5,446,290 |
| Capital Improvements | 7,854,653 | 6,092,000 | 3,391,000 | 4,454,000 | 5,810,000 | 3,339,000 |
| **Total Expenses** | 21,327,854 | 19,971,633 | 17,572,880 | 18,949,173 | 21,399,470 | 19,263,951 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (476,939) | (2,790,029) | (1,004,326) | (1,918,278) | (3,399,936) | (970,065) |
| Beginning Balance | 20,436,412 | 19,959,473 | 17,169,444 | 16,165,118 | 14,246,840 | 10,846,904 |
| **Ending Balance** | 19,959,473 | 17,169,444 | 16,165,118 | 14,246,840 | 10,846,904 | 9,876,839 |

**Assumptions:**
Charges for services include projected rate increases. Iowa State University contract payments fluctuate with projected capital payments, interest revenue varies with the projected fund balance, and operating expenses increase by a percentage based on the 6-year trend. CIP project expenses, grant revenue, and debt service are based on the adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan. Demand for water may decrease due to rate increases.

**Analysis:**
The Water Fund reflects the stable operation of the new water treatment plant that was completed in 2017 and is expected to meet water treatment demand into the foreseeable future. Rate increases are planned to maintain debt service coverage requirements and fund capital improvements in the water supply and distribution systems.

# Long Range Financial Planning

| Sewer Utility Fund | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | *5.5% Rate Increase* | *5.5% Rate Increase* | *5.5% Rate Increase* | *5.5% Rate Increase* | *5.5% Rate Increase* |
| | **Adjusted 2024/25** | **Adopted 2025/26** | **2026/27** | **2027/28** | **2028/29** | **2029/30** |
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Sewer Utility Revenues | 12,875,281 | 13,553,800 | 13,589,874 | 14,027,176 | 14,627,438 | 15,250,408 |
| **Total Revenues** | 12,875,281 | 13,553,800 | 13,589,874 | 14,027,176 | 14,627,438 | 15,250,408 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 6,502,690 | 6,758,628 | 6,984,438 | 7,217,849 | 7,459,406 | 7,709,404 |
| Debt Service | 1,742,294 | 1,752,254 | 3,353,330 | 5,258,240 | 5,806,329 | 6,130,843 |
| Capital Improvements | 4,486,069 | 2,162,000 | 5,290,000 | 4,077,000 | 3,611,000 | 3,050,000 |
| **Total Expenses** | 12,731,053 | 10,672,882 | 15,627,768 | 16,553,089 | 16,876,735 | 16,890,247 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | 144,228 | 2,880,918 | (2,037,894) | (2,525,913) | (2,249,297) | (1,639,839) |
| Beginning Balance | 22,935,540 | 23,079,768 | 25,960,686 | 23,922,792 | 21,396,879 | 19,147,582 |
| **Ending Balance** | 23,079,768 | 25,960,686 | 23,922,792 | 21,396,879 | 19,147,582 | 17,507,743 |

**Assumptions:**
Charges for services include projected rate increases. Iowa State University revenue varies with contract terms, and interest revenue varies with the projected fund balance. Operating expense increases reflect the 6-year trend calculation. CIP project expenses, grant revenue, and debt service are based on the adopted 2025-30 Capital Improvements Plan.

**Analysis:**
The Sewer Fund includes a series of rate increases to fund the CIP with improvements both to the treatment plant and the collection system. The fund balance is expected to decrease by the end of the five-year Capital Improvements Plan with the planned drawdown of the fund.

| Electric Utility Fund | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | *1.5% Rate Increase* | *1.5% Rate Increase* | *1.5% Rate Increase* | *1.5% Rate Increase* | *1.5% Rate Increase* |
| | **Adjusted 2024/25** | **Adopted 2025/26** | **2026/27** | **2027/28** | **2028/29** | **2029/30** |
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Revenues | 71,353,597 | 71,520,500 | 72,593,308 | 73,682,208 | 74,787,441 | 75,909,253 |
| Bond Proceeds | - | 5,527,500 | 10,942,500 | 50,000,000 | 75,000,000 | - |
| Grant Revenue | 690,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | - |
| **Total Revenues** | 72,043,597 | 77,098,000 | 83,585,808 | 123,732,208 | 149,837,441 | 75,909,253 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 64,435,222 | 65,184,681 | 66,162,451 | 55,154,888 | 57,085,309 | 59,083,295 |
| In-Lieu-of-Tax Payment | 2,420,784 | 2,452,707 | 2,550,815 | 2,652,848 | 2,758,962 | 2,869,320 |
| Debt Service | 985,267 | 984,543 | 2,197,606 | 4,907,719 | 10,426,040 | 10,425,730 |
| Capital Improvements | 19,595,236 | 11,790,000 | 16,275,000 | 57,985,000 | 84,060,000 | 5,300,000 |
| **Total Expenses** | 87,436,509 | 80,411,931 | 87,185,872 | 120,700,455 | 154,330,311 | 77,678,345 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (15,392,912) | (3,313,931) | (3,600,064) | 3,031,753 | (4,492,870) | (1,769,092) |
| Beginning Balance | 57,177,587 | 41,784,675 | 38,470,744 | 34,870,680 | 37,902,433 | 33,409,563 |
| **Ending Balance** | 41,784,675 | 38,470,744 | 34,870,680 | 37,902,433 | 33,409,563 | 31,640,471 |

**Assumptions:**
Charges for services include projected rate increases. Growth in demand is estimated at 1% annually. Interest revenue varies with the fund balance and other revenues are projected individually. Operating expenses increase 1.5% each year. The in-lieu-of-tax payment to the General Fund is estimated to increase 4% each year. CIP project expenses and related bond issuances are based on the adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan.

**Analysis:**
The Electric Utility Fund includes a series of rate increases to fund the CIP. There is some planned spend down in the fund. As the City moves away from refuse derived fuel and considers incorporating renewable energy sources into its portfolio, power costs are projected to create a need for gradually increasing rates to accommodate the associated debt service.

## Stormwater Utility Fund

| | Adjusted 2024/25 | Adopted 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Stormwater Utility Revenues | 2,203,500 | 2,218,500 | 2,247,488 | 2,279,659 | 2,365,142 | 2,454,070 |
| **Total Revenue** | 2,203,500 | 2,218,500 | 2,247,488 | 2,279,659 | 2,365,142 | 2,454,070 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 941,247 | 987,255 | 1,016,873 | 1,047,379 | 1,078,800 | 1,111,164 |
| Capital Improvements | 6,575,209 | 2,150,000 | 1,950,000 | 1,650,000 | 1,800,000 | 1,250,000 |
| **Total Expenses** | 7,516,456 | 3,137,255 | 2,966,873 | 2,697,379 | 2,878,800 | 2,361,164 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (5,312,956) | (918,755) | (719,385) | (417,720) | (513,658) | 92,906 |
| Beginning Balance | 7,924,078 | 2,611,122 | 1,692,367 | 972,982 | 555,262 | 41,604 |
| **Ending Balance** | 2,611,122 | 1,692,367 | 972,982 | 555,262 | 41,604 | 134,510 |

**Assumptions:**
Charges for services are projected to remain level and interest revenue varies with the fund balance. Operating expense increases reflect the 6-year trend calculation. CIP project expenses are based on the adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan.

**Analysis:**
The Stormwater Utility Fund balance and the capital project budget have grown substantially due to delays in completing capital projects. The fund balance is expected to decrease by the end of the five-year Capital Improvements Plan with the planned drawdown of the fund.

# Long Range Financial Planning

| Resource Recovery Fund | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Tipping Fee Increase* Adjusted 2024/25 | Adopted 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Charges for Services | 4,591,878 | 4,605,378 | 4,605,378 | 4,605,378 | 4,605,378 | 4,605,378 |
| Per Capita Support | 912,450 | 912,450 | 912,450 | 912,450 | 912,450 | 912,450 |
| **Total Revenues** | 5,504,328 | 5,517,828 | 5,517,828 | 5,517,828 | 5,517,828 | 5,517,828 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 5,100,240 | 5,176,744 | 5,254,395 | 5,333,211 |
| Debt Service | 113,163 | 93,766 | 93,766 | 1,033,766 | 1,033,766 | 1,033,766 |
| Capital Improvements | 927,919 | 459,000 | 465,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 |
| **Total Expenses** | 5,817,938 | 5,577,633 | 5,659,006 | 6,460,510 | 6,538,161 | 6,616,977 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (313,610) | (59,805) | (141,178) | (942,682) | (1,020,333) | (1,099,149) |
| Beginning Balance | 1,449,125 | 1,135,515 | 1,075,710 | 934,532 | (8,150) | (1,028,483) |
| **Ending Balance** | 1,135,515 | 1,075,710 | 934,532 | (8,150) | (1,028,483) | (2,127,632) |

**Assumptions:**
Most revenues remain flat, and operating expenses increase 1.5% each year. CIP project expenses and debt service are based on the adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan.

**Analysis:**
Changes in federal regulation will make burning refuse-derived fuel at the Power Plant infeasible towards the later years of the 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan. The City is developing a concept to transition to a Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus. During this process, the fund will be monitored to avoid the negative balances currently projected in 2027/28 through 2029/30. Significant increases in tipping fees or per capita support may be implemented if necessary.

| Health Insurance Fund | *8% Rate Increase* **Adjusted 2024/25** | *8% Rate Increase* **Adopted 2025/26** | *7% Rate Increase* **2026/27** | *7% Rate Increase* **2027/28** | *7% Rate Increase* **2028/29** | *7% Rate Increase* **2029/30** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenues:** | | | | | | |
| Employer Contributions | 10,858,096 | 11,695,567 | 12,514,257 | 13,390,255 | 14,327,573 | 15,330,503 |
| Employee Contributions | 882,301 | 949,437 | 1,015,898 | 1,087,011 | 1,163,102 | 1,244,519 |
| Other Revenue | 477,257 | 509,157 | 544,798 | 582,934 | 623,739 | 667,401 |
| **Total Revenues** | 12,217,654 | 13,154,161 | 14,074,953 | 15,060,200 | 16,114,414 | 17,242,423 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Expenses:** | | | | | | |
| Health Insurance | 12,291,748 | 12,175,481 | 12,784,255 | 13,423,468 | 14,094,641 | 14,799,373 |
| Health Promotion Program | 352,812 | 373,131 | 395,519 | 419,250 | 444,405 | 471,069 |
| **Total Expenses** | 12,644,560 | 12,548,612 | 13,179,774 | 13,842,718 | 14,539,046 | 15,270,442 |
| | | | | | | |
| Net Increase/(Decrease) | (426,906) | 605,549 | 895,179 | 1,217,482 | 1,575,368 | 1,971,981 |
| Beginning Balance | 7,672,057 | 7,245,151 | 7,850,700 | 8,745,879 | 9,963,361 | 11,538,729 |
| **Ending Balance** | **7,245,151** | **7,850,700** | **8,745,879** | **9,963,361** | **11,538,729** | **13,510,710** |

**Assumptions:**
Since the City is self-insured, the projected fund balance is evaluated annually to make sure premium increases are sufficient to maintain the desired fund balance. Health insurance premiums charged to departments and employees are expected to increase 7% each year; other revenues are estimated individually. Health insurance operating expenses are projected to increase 5% each year. The Health Promotion Program's cost is expected to increase 6% each year.

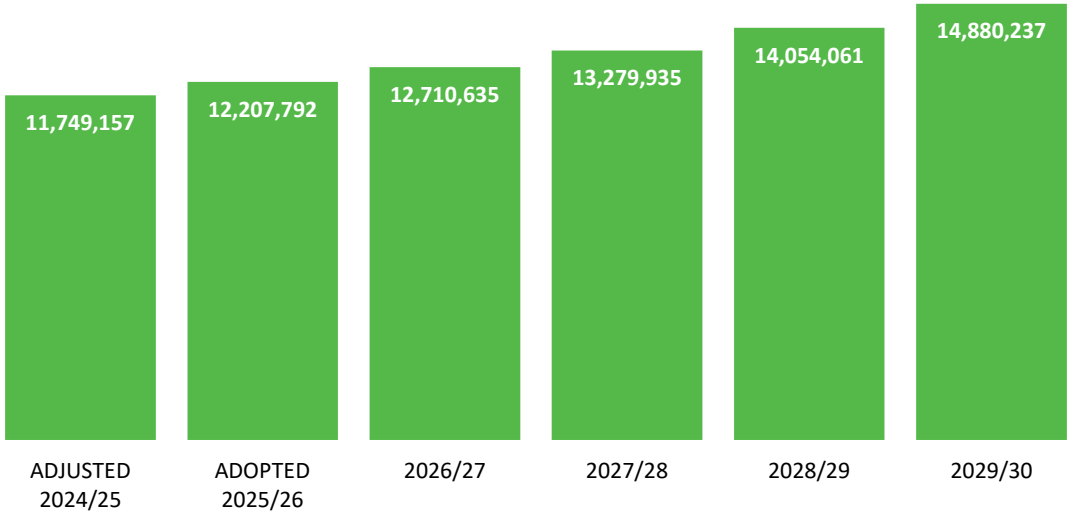
**Analysis:**
The Health Insurance Fund is evaluated annually both to determine rates charged for the self-funded health plans and to determine the fund balance necessary to cover unsubmitted claims and claim fluctuations. The evaluation and opinion by independent actuaries indicate that the fund balance is more than adequate and the City can absorb a period of unfavorable claims without significantly increasing rates.

| Debt Service Fund | Adjusted 2024/25 | Adopted 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Debt Service Issues:** | | | | | | |
| Current | 12,411,522 | 11,556,353 | 10,761,957 | 9,937,096 | 9,348,169 | 8,647,038 |
| Proposed 2025/26 | - | 1,450,196 | 1,450,196 | 1,450,196 | 1,450,196 | 1,450,196 |
| Proposed 2026/27 | - | - | 1,633,632 | 1,633,632 | 1,633,632 | 1,633,632 |
| Proposed 2027/28 | - | - | - | 1,394,161 | 1,394,161 | 1,394,161 |
| Proposed 2028/29 | - | - | - | - | 1,283,053 | 1,283,053 |
| Proposed 2029/30 | - | - | - | - | - | 1,587,307 |
| **Total Debt Service** | 12,411,522 | 13,006,549 | 13,845,785 | 14,415,085 | 15,109,211 | 15,995,387 |
| **Less:** | | | | | | |
| State Replacement Tax | 262,365 | 198,757 | 135,150 | 135,150 | 135,150 | 135,150 |
| Use of Debt Svc Fund Balance | 400,000 | 600,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 920,000 | 980,000 |
| **Net Debt Service** | 11,749,157 | 12,207,792 | 12,710,635 | 13,279,935 | 14,054,061 | 14,880,237 |
| **Debt Service Levy** | **3.28134** | **3.31766** | **3.35370** | **3.40186** | **3.49530** | **3.59298** |

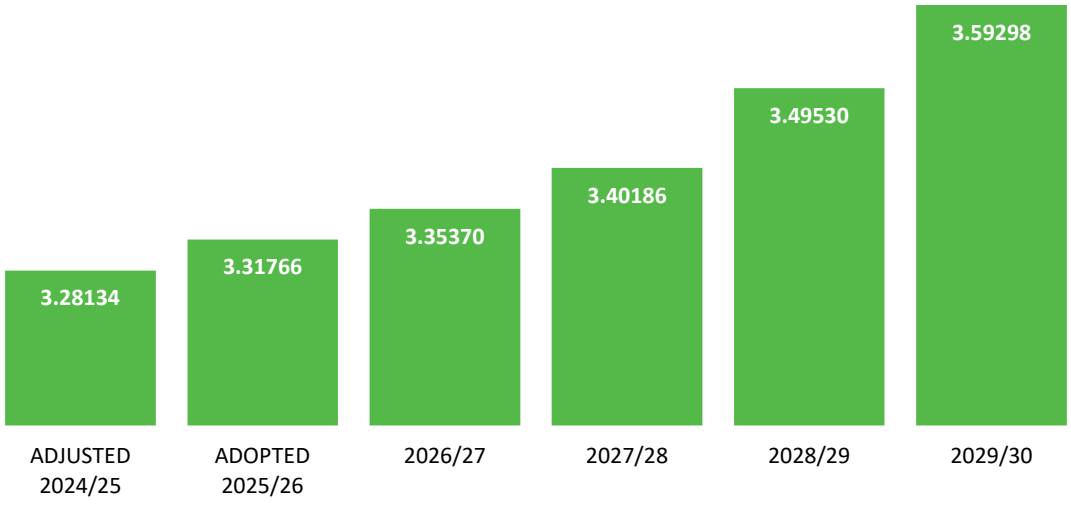
**Assumptions:**
Assumes 3% annual growth in taxable value. Debt service amounts are based on the adopted 2025-2030 Capital Improvements Plan. Future debt service is estimated using a term of 20 years for all debt related to the indoor swimming pool and 12 years for all other debt issuances. The estimate utilizes a conservative interest rate of 5%. Only tax supported debt is included in the projection; abated debt is excluded.

**Analysis:**
The Debt Service Fund has accumulated a balance due to savings due to refunding, favorable bond sales, and the close-out of unused bond proceeds when projects are completed. The Debt Service Fund balance is considered as part of long-term debt planning and is used to reduce variation in the debt service property tax levy.

## Net Debt Service




## Debt Service Levy



# PUBLIC SAFETY





AMES MUNICIPAL BAND
100 YEARS
1924-2024





1989-2024
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY
35 YEARS

AMES DOG PARK
15 YEARS
2009-2024






CITY OF ames™

# Public Safety Program

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# Public Safety Summary

## Description:

The Public Safety program includes activities to protect the lives, safety, and property of residents and visitors to the City of Ames. The ***Law Enforcement*** activity includes the Police Department's patrol and emergency response teams, specialized criminal investigations, traffic enforcement, juvenile services, emergency communications, and Police administration and records. ***Fire Safety*** includes Fire Department administration and educational programs for the prevention of fires and other hazards, as well as the actual suppression of fires and response to other emergencies. ***Building Safety*** is responsible for the enforcement of the City's structural, rental housing, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical codes. ***Animal Control*** operates the City's animal shelter, which provides shelter and services for domestic animals found within the City as well as urban wildlife. ***The Other Public Safety*** activity includes expenditures for the City's Emergency Operations Center and for maintenance of the City's storm warning system. ***Public Safety CIP*** includes capital improvements that support Public Safety activities.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Law Enforcement | 10,543,668 | 11,849,108 | 11,425,668 | 12,269,884 | 3.6% |
| Fire Safety | 8,414,062 | 8,894,108 | 9,137,755 | 9,250,301 | 4.0% |
| Building Safety | 1,793,038 | 1,972,225 | 1,913,631 | 1,994,042 | 1.1% |
| Animal Control | 821,433 | 734,074 | 804,808 | 908,763 | 23.8% |
| Other Public Safety | 12,522 | 16,498 | 26,420 | 15,559 | -5.7% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 21,584,723 | 23,466,013 | 23,308,282 | 24,438,549 | 4.1% |
| | | | | | |
| Public Safety CIP | 15,684 | - | 1,847,974 | 3,541,905 | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 21,600,407 | 23,466,013 | 25,156,256 | 27,980,454 | 19.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 157.65 | 157.65 | 157.65 | 160.10 | |






# Public Safety Summary

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 18,349,482 | 20,561,052 | 19,663,678 | 21,494,263 | 4.5% |
| Internal Services | 1,774,753 | 1,709,874 | 1,730,519 | 1,700,421 | -0.6% |
| Contractual | 921,243 | 897,198 | 1,078,404 | 946,859 | 5.5% |
| Commodities | 420,000 | 297,889 | 537,862 | 297,006 | -0.3% |
| Capital | 115,973 | - | 297,819 | - | |
| Other | 3,272 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Operations*** | 21,584,723 | 23,466,013 | 23,308,282 | 24,438,549 | 4.1% |
| | | | | | |
| Public Safety CIP | 15,684 | - | 1,847,974 | 3,541,905 | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 21,600,407 | 23,466,013 | 25,156,256 | 27,980,454 | 19.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Program Revenues | 3,999,252 | 4,229,760 | 4,219,452 | 4,307,820 | 1.9% |
| General Fund | 17,248,199 | 19,088,686 | 18,706,496 | 19,990,229 | 4.7% |
| Forfeiture/Donations/Grants | 337,272 | 147,567 | 382,334 | 140,500 | -4.8% |
| ***Total Operations Funding*** | 21,584,723 | 23,466,013 | 23,308,282 | 24,438,549 | 4.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Public Safety CIP Funding:*** | | | | | |
| G.O. Bonds | - | - | 368,541 | 211,905 | |
| General Fund | 15,684 | - | 374,433 | 80,000 | |
| New Animal Shelter Donations | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | |
| Council Priorities Fund | - | - | 1,105,000 | 1,750,000 | |
| ***Total CIP Funding*** | 15,684 | - | 1,847,974 | 3,541,905 | |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 21,600,407 | 23,466,013 | 25,156,256 | 27,980,454 | 19.2% |



# Law Enforcement

## Description:

Law Enforcement activities comprise four areas: ***Administration and Records*** includes departmental supervision, finance, and records systems. ***Crime Prevention and Police Services*** includes the uniformed patrol sub-activity, which is responsible for emergency response, the Safe Neighborhoods Team, traffic enforcement, and the Mental Health Advocate. Crime Prevention and Police Services also includes Investigations, which is responsible for investigating crimes against persons and property, vice, narcotics, fraud, and the School Resource Officer and Juvenile Investigator. ***Emergency Communications*** is responsible for all emergency telephone communications, radio contact with emergency responders, implementation of the emergency medical dispatch program, and the initial documentation associated with fire, law enforcement, and emergency services. ***Police Forfeiture*** activities are the result of forfeited property and seized assets directly related to criminal activities as well as grants to the Police Department. (Animal Control reports to the Police Department but is described in a separate Public Safety activity.)

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administration/Records | 1,079,821 | 1,158,279 | 1,222,039 | 1,276,952 | 10.3% |
| Police Services | 8,167,588 | 9,158,647 | 8,791,003 | 9,429,223 | 3.0% |
| Emergency Communications | 1,296,259 | 1,532,182 | 1,412,626 | 1,563,709 | 2.1% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 10,543,668 | 11,849,108 | 11,425,668 | 12,269,884 | 3.6% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 78.60 | 77.60 | 77.60 | 77.60 | |



# Law Enforcement

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 8,869,821 | 10,266,181 | 9,603,134 | 10,622,120 | 3.5% |
| Internal Services | 1,015,497 | 886,022 | 921,133 | 909,051 | 2.6% |
| Contractual | 487,015 | 501,915 | 653,794 | 548,314 | 9.2% |
| Commodities | 142,492 | 194,990 | 219,887 | 190,399 | -2.4% |
| Capital | 25,596 | - | 27,720 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 3,247 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 10,543,668 | 11,849,108 | 11,425,668 | 12,269,884 | 3.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| *Police Revenues:* | | | | | |
| Municipal Fines/Fees | 18,618 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 0.0% |
| Charges for Services | 102,661 | 92,000 | 92,000 | 92,000 | 0.0% |
| Police Forfeiture | 65,443 | 12,000 | 26,000 | 12,000 | 0.0% |
| Police Grants | 44,901 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| Police Donations | 24,203 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 1,886 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 257,712 | 187,000 | 201,000 | 187,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 10,285,956 | 11,662,108 | 11,224,668 | 12,082,884 | 3.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 10,543,668 | 11,849,108 | 11,425,668 | 12,269,884 | 3.6% |





# Police Administration and Records

**Description:**

Police Administration provides leadership and direction for the Police Department through strategic planning, crime analysis, prioritization, and strategic budgeting. This activity serves as the supervisory and administrative backbone of the department. Police Administration also coordinates departmental improvement through policy development and review, leadership and supervisory development, employee professional development and education, and community relations activities.

Police Records is responsible for developing and maintaining records of criminal and civil activities including investigative reports, recordings, accident reports, and crime statistics. These records are used by departmental staff, as well as the court system, other law enforcement agencies, insurance companies, and the public.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 852,981 | 940,376 | 984,289 | 1,042,046 | 10.8% |
| Internal Services | 129,005 | 97,736 | 105,099 | 108,412 | 10.9% |
| Contractual | 90,807 | 110,242 | 123,451 | 116,394 | 5.6% |
| Commodities | 7,028 | 9,925 | 9,200 | 10,100 | 1.8% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,079,821 | 1,158,279 | 1,222,039 | 1,276,952 | 10.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 1,079,821 | 1,158,279 | 1,222,039 | 1,276,952 | 10.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,079,821 | 1,158,279 | 1,222,039 | 1,276,952 | 10.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 7.30 | 7.30 | 7.30 | 7.30 | |



# Police Administration and Records

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide a professional, community-focused, efficient, and effective police force | Sworn officers | 57 | 56 | 56 | 56 |
| | | Cases created | 4,923 | 4,974 | 4,772 | 4,800 |
| | | Record checks processed | 1,399 | 1,489 | 1,324 | 1,350 |
| | Provide timely, accurate reports and public information | Attorney requests for information | 1,513 | 1,631 | 1,559 | 1,550 |
| | | Public records requests | 275 | 272 | 228 | 250 |
| | Build trust within the community | Citizens very or somewhat satisfied with police services | 87.3% | 90.8% | 90.0% | 90.0% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Personal service costs have increased 10.8% in the FY 2025/26 budget due to increased health insurance costs related to a shift from single to family coverage.
- Internal service costs have increased 10.9% in the FY 2025/26 budget due to the consolidation of printing and graphics services for all Police divisions into the Administration activity.
- Annual software maintenance costs have increased in the requested budget. Lexipol, the department's policy and procedure software, increased from $18,406 to $20,872.
- Supply chain issues have improved, but still present issues in getting equipment in a timely manner.
- Funds from FY 2023/24 were rolled over into FY 2024/25 due to unforeseen delays in acquiring office chairs for the Records division. This resulted from delayed product availability in FY 2023/24.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Ames Resident Police Advisory Committee (ARPAC) has now been in existence for three years. One member left and a new member was selected. ARPAC is now turning its attention to outreach and engagement with the community.
- ARPAC is in the early phase of planning a meeting where the public will be invited to talk with, ask questions, and relay any police-related concerns to ARPAC members. ARPAC members have indicated that they now have the knowledge needed to hold such meetings.
- ARPAC is also looking to actively reach out to other committees, organizations, and community groups for both input and engagement. ARPAC members are looking for opportunities to collaborate and speak with other targeted community partners.
- In addition, ARPAC is interested in helping the department with recruitment by reaching out to various sources to help fill Police vacancies.
- ARPAC will also look to promote its mission with other tools such as continued social media activity and reaching out to the Ames Tribune and Iowa State Daily to achieve a broader audience.

## Upcoming Activities

- Administrative staff will be addressing the Police Department web pages and social media accounts to ensure information is more available to end users and to be compliant with new ADA requirements.
- Administrative staff will continue to be challenged with the recruitment and retention of Police Officers, Public Safety Dispatchers, Animal Control staff, and Community Safety Officers.

# Police Services

**Description:**

The Police Services activity is the core of the Law Enforcement program. This activity encompasses the Patrol division, which is the largest area of operations within the Police Department. Officers respond to calls for both routine and emergency services, assist neighborhood residents, and provide preventive patrol. The initial response and preliminary investigation of all incidents related to law enforcement, motor vehicle accident investigation, preventive patrol, and home and business security are performed within the Patrol division. This unit also includes the Mental Health Advocate.

The other component of the Police Services activity is General Investigations. This sub-activity is responsible for the development and implementation of the most current investigative techniques in an effort to apprehend, detain, and successfully prosecute persons engaged in criminal activity. This area is also responsible for juvenile investigations, arson investigations, the Drug Task Force Officer, sexual assault response, forensic analysis, and evidence management.

Chapter 809 of the Code of Iowa provides court procedures for the forfeiture of assets which are directly related to criminal activities. The use of forfeit funds is also governed by State law. Authorized uses include law enforcement activities or items which are not currently budgeted. This activity also oversees grant programs and donations that support law enforcement activities.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Patrol | 6,811,595 | 7,722,627 | 7,305,332 | 7,925,929 | 2.6% |
| Investigations | 1,355,993 | 1,436,020 | 1,485,671 | 1,503,294 | 4.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 8,167,588 | 9,158,647 | 8,791,003 | 9,429,223 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 6,997,494 | 8,012,190 | 7,540,025 | 8,259,176 | 3.1% |
| Internal Services | 748,881 | 646,831 | 659,540 | 641,260 | -0.9% |
| Contractual | 263,445 | 321,461 | 364,031 | 354,888 | 10.4% |
| Commodities | 128,925 | 178,165 | 199,687 | 173,899 | -2.4% |
| Capital | 25,596 | - | 27,720 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 3,247 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 8,167,588 | 9,158,647 | 8,791,003 | 9,429,223 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Police Forfeiture Funds | 65,443 | 12,000 | 26,000 | 12,000 | 0.0% |
| Police Grant Funds | 44,901 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| Police Donations | 24,203 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 134,547 | 60,000 | 74,000 | 60,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 8,033,041 | 9,098,647 | 8,717,003 | 9,369,223 | 3.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 8,167,588 | 9,158,647 | 8,791,003 | 9,429,223 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 58.30 | 57.30 | 57.30 | 57.30 | |

# Police Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide a highly competent on-street presence<br><br>Enhance trust within the community by building relationships and communicating effectively | Homicide cases | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Assault cases | 271 | 370 | 404 | 385 |
| | | Theft cases | 514 | 668 | 661 | 650 |
| | | Sexual assaults | 100 | 67 | 65 | 65 |
| | | Domestic calls for service | 120 | 188 | 207 | 200 |
| | | OWI, public intoxication, and other liquor arrests | 295 | 346 | 346 | 289 |
| | | Noise complaints | 618 | 704 | 629 | 620 |
| | | Mental health contacts (APD contacts) | 3,600 | 2,786 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| | | Incidents recorded | 28,540 | 31,075 | 31,349 | 31,000 |
| | | Incidents per sworn position | 500 | 555 | 560 | 550 |
| | | Public education events | 50 | 42 | 45 | 45 |
| | | Facebook followers | 33,713 | 35,634 | 35,634 | 37,415 |
| | | Facebook page engagements | 2,605,292 | 2,046,458 | 2,046,458 | 2,500,000 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Prolonged vacancies have reduced the personal services budget in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget. These vacancies are in our Patrol Division and Communications which are critical positions to the Police Department operation.
- Uniform and equipment expenses continue to increase as open positions are filled. In addition, training costs have increased due to hiring new staff. As new staff are on-boarded, they require additional training beyond in-house Field Training and the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.
- Cost increases are budgeted in FY 2025/26 for software annual maintenance, equipment, and supplies. These costs are expected to continue to increase yearly with no sign of leveling off.
- The Story County 911 Services Board has decreased from subsidizing 40% to 30% of radio subscriber fees for all Law Enforcement and Fire agencies utilizing the StoryComm radio system. This decrease will create an increased cost for the City in the FY 2025/26 budget. It is anticipated that eventually, the radio subscriber fees will be paid entirely by the City, likely in the next few years.
- Calls for service involving homeless individuals have increased significantly over the last year and it is anticipated this will continue. Mental health calls also remain a significant portion of the overall call volume. Staff is working with Alternative Response for Community Health (ARCH), a service of Mary Greeley Medical Center, to ensure these residents are connected with appropriate service providers rather than relying on a police officer response. Unfortunately, there was some turnover on this team which resulted in fewer hours of coverage in the first half of FY 2024/25. A new social worker has been hired and hours of service have again increased. Through November of calendar year 2024, ARCH responded to 500 mental health calls. However, an additional 425 calls were identified where ARCH could have been utilized but was not in service at the time of call. Funding for one-half of the estimated personnel cost for the ARCH program ($132,000) has been included in the FY 2025/26 budget.

# Police Services

## In-Progress Activities

- The department continues to take advantage of grant opportunities with the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau for increased traffic enforcement, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant for equipment and training, and the Bulletproof Vest Program for vest replacement.
- With the bar owners and managers' cooperation, the department sees fewer high-quality fake IDs and a return to using someone else's ID to gain entry. The department has stepped up efforts to train bar staff and provide educational resources, along with increased enforcement efforts.
- Outreach efforts have continued in FY 2024/25 with programming such as Coffee with Cops, Donuts in the Park, and a presence at the Downtown Farmers Market. These outreach efforts provide an opportunity for more personal interactions between officers and the public they serve. These efforts are in addition to more visible programs such as National Night Out, Carving with Cops, and Shop with a Cop, among others. National Night Out has grown for several years culminating in the largest event to date in 2024 with an estimated 2500 attendees. National Night Out partnered with the Blast Back event and transitioned from backpacks and school supplies to giving out over 800 free pairs of shoes, hundreds of bike helmets, and several bikes. In addition, a new partnership with the National Guard provided a Blackhawk helicopter landing at the event for tours.
- The department's Mental Health Advocate and peer support team has continued their work in officer wellness. A wellness room has been created for staff. Officers and other staff can use the room if they are feeling stressed, anxious, or just need to escape from the noise and fast pace of patrolling and call taking. They continue to look for new ways to improve health and wellness in the department.





# Police Services




**Upcoming Activities**

- The department has started a Small, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (SUAS) team, commonly known as drones. Federal forfeiture money was utilized to purchase several drones with different capabilities to assist in overwatch, searches, disaster response and situational awareness. Other city departments will also have access to the drones.
- Staffing remains a challenge for the department as retirements occur in the next year or two and there are fewer individuals entering the profession. The department continues to look for creative ways to improve recruitment and retention including changing the recruitment and testing to speed up the process and adding part-time positions. In late 2024, the City Council approved suspending Civil Service for 12 months to assist in the department's hiring process. In addition, the department offers lateral transfers for new hires with experience, and a hiring and referral incentive program.



# Emergency Communications

**Description:**

Emergency Communications is responsible for the operation of the 911 Center and the initial dispatch of emergency responders. This activity's staff also provides advance medical information through the emergency medical dispatch program, receives 911 calls and text messages, receives non-emergency calls, manages radio communication, coordinates with state and federal agencies, manages criminal information services, and aids Police Department walk-in customers. The Center handles all wireless and emergency medical dispatch 911 calls from anywhere in the City, including the ISU campus.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 1,019,346 | 1,313,615 | 1,078,820 | 1,320,898 | 0.6% |
| Internal Services | 137,611 | 141,455 | 156,494 | 159,379 | 12.7% |
| Contractual | 132,763 | 70,212 | 166,312 | 77,032 | 9.7% |
| Commodities | 6,539 | 6,900 | 11,000 | 6,400 | -7.3% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,296,259 | 1,532,182 | 1,412,626 | 1,563,709 | 2.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 1,296,259 | 1,532,182 | 1,412,626 | 1,563,709 | 2.1% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,296,259 | 1,532,182 | 1,412,626 | 1,563,709 | 2.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 13.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 | |



# Emergency Communications

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide prompt and accurate emergency communications services for police, fire, and emergency medical services | Emergency 911 calls | 17,601 | n/a* | 18,500 | 18,500 |
| | | Non-emergency calls | 104,871 | n/a* | 105,000 | 105,000 |
| | | Emergency medical dispatch calls | 4,276 | n/a* | 4,350 | 4,350 |

*Actual data not available for FY 2023/24 due to a change in software and record management.

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Through December 2024, the Emergency Communications division was down one FTE, compared to four vacancies in 2023. However, due to training time for the new FTE, Public Safety Dispatchers have continued to work a substantial amount of overtime to cover shifts. It has also been necessary utilize partner agencies for dispatching assistance, which is higher in cost ($26,507 through August of 2024). Salary savings have helped to offset the overtime costs and partner agency charges. It's anticipated that staffing may return to closer to normal levels in the next several months, possibly in the first quarter of 2025.
- In FY 2024/25, a part-time (less than 20 hours per week) position has been added to supplement for some vacancies until staffing improves.
- The Communications Supervisor position was vacant for several months in FY 2024/25; a new Supervisor, however, was selected in the spring of 2025 and is in place.
- The 12.7% cost increase in internal services is largely due to hardware and software costs associated with the Police Department's participation in the area's Shared Communications System. The cost of this system is allocated to the Ames Police Department, Iowa State University, Story County, and the E911 Board, as well as some smaller local cities and agencies.

## In-Progress Activities

- Recruitments for Public Safety Dispatchers are ongoing with the inclusion of a hiring and referral incentive to assist in generating more interest in the positions. As of January 2025, two new Public Safety Dispatchers have received the hiring incentive.
- In FY 2024/25, the department partnered with the Story County Sheriff's Office and Iowa State University Police to provide additional communications staff in the City's communications center. In other instances, City of Ames Public Safety Dispatchers worked in the Iowa State University Police Department's Communication Center to cover the workload. The paid arrangement allowed the department to meet the operational needs of the shifts and allowed Ames Public Safety Dispatchers to get much needed time off and rest.

## Upcoming Activities

- The current Communication Center workstations are approximately ten years old and require continual repairs and maintenance to keep them in working order. The workstations house all the computers and equipment needed for the Public Safety Dispatchers to perform their duties. After years of 24/7 use, the workstations are getting worn out and require frequent repairs. In FY 2024/25, staff will begin researching new products and determining needs and costs for replacement in the upcoming year.

# Fire Safety

## Description:

The ***Fire Administration*** activity supports and directs seven activities. The Fire Safety sub-program is based upon the premise that citizens and property should be free from loss and damage due to fires and similar emergencies. To approach this goal, an impressive and highly effective array of services is provided to the community. Extensive efforts are made in fire prevention, fire safety education, and fire inspection. These efforts are mainly recorded under the ***Fire Prevention and Safety Education*** activity. When a "preventive failure" takes place and a fire or other emergency actually occurs, the capabilities of the ***Fire Suppression and Emergency Action*** are pressed into action. These include minimizing loss of life and property from fire, controlling hazardous situations, performing rescue, and providing first-response medical assistance. Also included under this activity are various non-emergency services, such as maintaining apparatus and facilities, testing hydrants, testing water flow, and establishing pre-fire plans.

The City of Ames also provides Fire Protection to Iowa State University, who reimburses the City by paying 25% of the Fire Department's operating costs as well as contributing to the debt services costs associated with fire apparatus replacement.

The success of the City's Fire Safety/Admin sub-program is reflected in economic terms (e.g., insurance fire class rating), as well as in the more important areas of the safety of property, health, and life.

| ***Activities:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administration/Support | 1,318,256 | 1,374,236 | 1,403,527 | 1,433,729 | 4.3% |
| Suppression/Emergency Action | 6,904,210 | 7,342,325 | 7,301,537 | 7,632,403 | 4.0% |
| Prevention/Safety Education | 191,596 | 177,547 | 432,691 | 184,169 | 3.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 8,414,062 | 8,894,108 | 9,137,755 | 9,250,301 | 4.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 61.70 | 62.70 | 62.70 | 63.70 | |

# Fire Safety

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 7,515,241 | 8,204,530 | 7,991,186 | 8,577,569 | 4.6% |
| Internal Services | 404,383 | 430,753 | 427,374 | 428,253 | -0.6% |
| Contractual | 210,094 | 212,876 | 235,184 | 200,772 | -5.7% |
| Commodities | 193,967 | 45,949 | 220,441 | 43,707 | -4.9% |
| Capital | 90,377 | - | 263,570 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 8,414,062 | 8,894,108 | 9,137,755 | 9,250,301 | 4.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| *Fire Revenues:* | | | | | |
| Iowa State University | 2,111,912 | 2,213,527 | 2,217,925 | 2,302,575 | 4.0% |
| MGMC | 39,217 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| Grants/Donations | 36,961 | - | 237,834 | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 2,633 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,190,723 | 2,253,527 | 2,495,759 | 2,342,575 | 4.0% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 6,223,339 | 6,640,581 | 6,641,996 | 6,907,726 | 4.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 8,414,062 | 8,894,108 | 9,137,755 | 9,250,301 | 4.0% |



# Fire Administration and Support

**Description:**

The major role of Fire administration and Support is to direct and reinforce the operations of all Fire Department activities (e.g., Fire Suppression, Emergency Action, Fire Prevention and Safety Education, Structural Code Enforcement, etc.). This includes maintaining necessary records and documentation and providing overall direction and oversight functions. This activity is also responsible for providing various training opportunities and programs for all firefighters.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 1,098,114 | 1,157,921 | 1,156,114 | 1,222,708 | 5.6% |
| Internal Services | 123,971 | 133,247 | 131,790 | 140,202 | 5.2% |
| Contractual | 81,951 | 79,568 | 106,792 | 68,619 | -13.8% |
| Commodities | 9,171 | 3,500 | 8,831 | 2,200 | -37.1% |
| Capital | 5,049 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,318,256 | 1,374,236 | 1,403,527 | 1,433,729 | 4.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 986,059 | 1,030,677 | 1,052,645 | 1,075,297 | 4.3% |
| Iowa State University | 329,564 | 343,559 | 350,882 | 358,432 | 4.3% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 2,633 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,318,256 | 1,374,236 | 1,403,527 | 1,433,729 | 4.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 6.70 | 6.70 | 6.70 | 6.70 | |

# Fire Administration and Support

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide a professional, community-focused, efficient, and effective fire department | Citizen satisfaction survey results (very/somewhat satisfied) | 97.8% | 98.6% | 98.6% | 100% |
| | | ISO rating* | 3 | 3/3Y | 3/3Y | 3/3Y |
| | | Fire's Facebook page followers | 7,300 | 9,406 | 9,421 | 10,321 |
| | Provide an efficient, effective emergency response to reduce risk to the public and firefighters. | Fire service cost per capita | $126 | $130 | $135 | $140 |
| | | Geographical area served (square miles) | 28.50 | 28.50 | 28.71 | 29.05 |
| | | Emergent responses within 5 minutes (within city limits) | 82.6% | 76.9% | 72.4% | 68.0% |

*3Y denotes areas of the City served by Xenia Water which do not meet the same standards as City of Ames Water

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Contractual expenses in the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget increased by 34% due to costs associated with legal assistance for union negotiations, the replacement of a garage door at Station #3, and advancing expenditures from FY 2025/26 to reduce that year's budget obligations.
- Internal Services are projected to be up 5.2% in the FY 2025/26 requested budget. This is attributed largely to a 20% increase in computer services costs and the new allocation process for City printing and graphics services.
- Commodities are projected to be up by $5,331 in the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget for office furniture and new computer security authentication keys, which will reduce the FY 2025/26 budget obligation.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Fire Department continues to play a key role in leading the City's incident command response efforts, including the evaluation of state-funded emergency operations center management software. The City has been approved by the Iowa Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management to pilot a program that assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of providing local emergency incident command centers with access to the same software used by county and state emergency management coordinators during natural and manmade disasters to enhance communication and resource allocation.
- Discussions with Iowa State University (ISU) are ongoing regarding the relocation of Fire Station #2. A preliminary review of a potential ISU owned site, which includes soil samples, land survey, and a conceptual design with cost estimate, is in-progress.

## Upcoming Activities

- The Ames City Council has a goal that the Fire Department respond to 85% of emergent incident calls within five minutes. As part of the Ames 2040 Plan and growing response time challenges, staff continues to explore alternative building sites and building types for a fourth fire station. As Ames expands and develops, particularly in areas farther from existing stations, response times are becoming less predictable, which may impact public safety and the Department's ability to meet service expectations. The evaluation of a fourth station aims to ensure that coverage can be optimized, response times can be improved, and the department can continue to effectively serve a growing and dynamic community.

# Fire Suppression and Emergency Action

**Description:**

The goal of the suppression and emergency action team is to protect people and property from loss and danger due to fires or other life-threatening situations. To achieve this goal, extensive efforts are made in the areas of prevention, safety regulations, and through public safety education, which enables citizens to recognize hazards and unsafe practices. An important responsibility of the activity is the development and continual update of pre-fire action plans. The suppression and emergency action team responds to all incidents according to well-defined procedures. Various non-emergency services are also provided, such as performing maintenance of apparatus, testing hydrants, conducting water flow tests, and inspecting buildings.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 6,261,609 | 6,885,511 | 6,673,949 | 7,186,864 | 4.4% |
| Internal Services | 270,075 | 288,662 | 286,946 | 279,421 | -3.2% |
| Contractual | 122,837 | 127,355 | 122,284 | 125,961 | -1.1% |
| Commodities | 175,571 | 40,797 | 202,080 | 40,157 | -1.6% |
| Capital | 74,118 | - | 16,278 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 6,904,210 | 7,342,325 | 7,301,537 | 7,632,403 | 4.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 5,104,029 | 5,476,744 | 5,444,414 | 5,694,302 | 4.0% |
| Iowa State University | 1,737,930 | 1,825,581 | 1,814,805 | 1,898,101 | 4.0% |
| MGMC | 39,217 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| Grants/Donations | 23,034 | - | 2,318 | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 6,904,210 | 7,342,325 | 7,301,537 | 7,632,403 | 4.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 54.00 | 55.00 | 55.00 | 56.00 | |



# Fire Suppression and Emergency Action

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide a professional, community-focused, all-hazards fire department | Total dispatched incidents | 5,811 | 5,982 | 6,396 | 6,510 |
| | | Structure fires | 53 | 51 | 51 | 52 |
| | | Emergency medical incidents | 3,590 | 3,552 | 3,656 | 3,747 |
| | | Percent of emergent responses (vs. non-emergent responses) | 45.8% | 42.3% | 41.8% | 40.3% |
| | Provide an efficient, effective emergency response to reduce risk to the public and firefighters. | Average turnout time non-medical (Goal: 80 seconds) | 76 sec | 79 sec | 77 sec | 76 sec |
| | | Average turnout time medical (Goal: 60 seconds) | 65 sec | 67 sec | 62 sec | 60 sec |
| | | Fireground effectiveness (fire loss to pre-incident value %) | 99.63% | 99.51% | 99.47% | 99.50% |
| | Provide training for firefighters and work with businesses on inspections and pre-planning to reduce risk and improve responder performance | Average training hours per firefighter | 71.9 | 110.0 | 173.1 | 168.2 |
| | | Business pre-plan inspections conducted | 176 | 198 | 270 | 270 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Manufacturing and delivery delays for firefighting protective clothing are improving, but still far exceed pre-COVID levels. Due to these delays, $53,005 was carried forward from FY 2023/24 for purchases awaiting delivery. An additional $78,125 has been added to commodities in the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget for scheduled firefighting protective clothing replacement.
- Funding of $13,953 has been added to the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget to purchase replacement air monitoring equipment.
- A new firefighter position has been added to the FY 2025/26 budget at a cost of $75,402. This amount is lower than the actual cost to add an FTE due to offsetting salary savings from anticipated retirements, the decision to start new hires three months later in the fiscal year, and a conservative estimate for health care selection options. This position is being added to increase staffing levels in preparation for a fourth fire station.

  With this new position, there are 11 firefighters available to staff a future Fire Station 4. Staff estimates that 12 to 15 firefighters are needed to open that new station, depending on how the staffing model is designed.

- Continuing the longstanding partnership between the City and Mary Greeley Medical Center (MGMC), the budget reflects MGMC contributing funding for a portion of the cost for firefighters to be certified as emergency medical technicians.

# Fire Suppression and Emergency Action

**In-Progress Activities**

- The Department is collaborating with Pierce Manufacturing to finalize the design elements for the replacement of Engine 2. The design process will consider the technical improvements implemented with the recent purchase of Engine 1, with a goal of ensuring the fleet continuously evolves to meet the growing and changing needs of the community.
- The department currently operates two medium-duty rescue vehicles, to provide emergency medical response and vehicle extrication services. The reconfiguration of the hazardous materials apparatus into an all-hazards special operations apparatus has allowed the Department to downsize from the medium-duty rescue vehicles to pickup trucks with utility boxes. The pickup trucks will be used to provide emergency medical response, while optimizing the vehicle fleet and reducing maintenance costs associated with commercial sized vehicles.
- In collaboration with Fleet Services and Parks and Recreation, staff is working to purchase a lightweight, rigid-hull inflatable boat to support water rescue efforts on the South Skunk River and Ioway Creek, as well as to enhance capabilities during flooding events.



# Fire Suppression and Emergency Action



**Upcoming Activities**

- The department's current station alerting system is outdated, with some components no longer supported by the manufacturer. Staff is exploring new options to improve response times, integrate more effectively with dispatch and radio systems, reduce maintenance needs, and protect the health of the first responders. Features such as ramping lights, tones, and zoned alerting will ensure that only the necessary personnel are notified, minimizing unnecessary stress and disruption for other team members.
- The department's current Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and associated equipment, such as supplied air units for confined space rescue and rapid intervention rescue kits, are reaching their OSHA regulated 15-year life expectancy and need to be replaced. The specifically designed and regulated air compressor used to fill SCBA cylinders at Fire Station 3 will also be replaced as part of this project, which has been added to the City's CIP for FY 2029/30.

# Fire Prevention and Safety Education

## Description:

The function of this activity is to assist with the administration and enforcement of city ordinances pertaining to the prevention of fires. This includes the use of explosives, flammable and toxic materials, and other hazardous materials. Staff reviews all new construction and remodeling plans for code compliance and conducts inspections on the installation, maintenance, and regulation of all fire escape exits for adequacy in the event of a fire to establish a reasonable level of safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosions, or other dangerous conditions. In coordination with other fire department personnel, this activity conducts public safety educational programs and events. This activity also assists in the investigation into the cause and origin of fires.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 155,518 | 161,098 | 161,123 | 167,997 | 4.3% |
| Internal Services | 10,337 | 8,844 | 8,638 | 8,630 | -2.4% |
| Contractual | 5,306 | 5,953 | 6,108 | 6,192 | 4.0% |
| Commodities | 9,225 | 1,652 | 9,530 | 1,350 | -18.3% |
| Capital | 11,210 | - | 247,292 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 191,596 | 177,547 | 432,691 | 184,169 | 3.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 133,251 | 133,160 | 144,937 | 138,127 | 3.7% |
| Iowa State University | 44,418 | 44,387 | 52,238 | 46,042 | 3.7% |
| Grants/Donations | 13,927 | - | 235,516 | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 191,596 | 177,547 | 432,691 | 184,169 | 3.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | |

# Fire Prevention and Safety Education

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Ensure that fire protection systems are installed, updated, and maintained according to recognized code standards | Commercial inspections | 241 | 354 | 375 | 400 |
| | | Residential inspections | 45 | 49 | 30 | 40 |
| | | Educational inspections | 9 | 20 | 6 | 8 |
| | | Plan reviews | 171 | 90 | 162 | 165 |
| | | Fire inspection deficiencies found and corrected | 241 | 138 | 215 | 220 |
| | | Knox Box key installations | 46 | 45 | 50 | 50 |
| | Perform public outreach about fire safety and prevention | Fire safety presentation hours | 293 | 293 | 325 | 330 |
| | | Adults attending presentations | 3,544 | 4,205 | 5,230 | 5,250 |
| | | Children attending presentations | 3,974 | 4,302 | 4,650 | 4,850 |
| | | People trained to use a fire extinguisher | 907 | 698 | 775 | 800 |
| | | People trained how to do a fire drill | 25 | 166 | 141 | 150 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Fire Department Open House has become a popular community event, drawing over 1,200 attendees in FY 2024/25. Four new interactive stations were introduced to enhance the experience. In FY 2025/26, plans include a dedicated "Freddie" station where children can interact one-on-one with the famous fire safety mascot. With the increase in guests and stations to visit, additional fire safety education material is needed. An additional $7,883 has been added to the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget, which will help reduce the FY 2025/26 budget obligation.





# Fire Prevention and Safety Education

**Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets, continued**

- There is a growing community need for comprehensive all-hazards safety education. Technological advances have expanded the department's outreach capabilities, allowing the department to bring hands-on training directly to citizens.

  To help address this need, the Department has secured a $235,516 Fire Prevention and Safety grant from FEMA. This grant and the department's matching contribution of $11,776 has been added to the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget. This funding will be used to acquire an all-hazards, handicap-accessible, safety trailer. The trailer will feature a heated door prop, simulations of common household hazards, and scenarios highlighting severe weather awareness. Iowa State University will reimburse the City for 50% of the local match for the project ($5,888).



# Fire Prevention and Safety Education



### In-Progress Activities

- The City's website now features a form that customers can use to request fire crews meet with a building representative to install or change the keys in a Knox Box. This new request process has streamlined the procedure, improved tracking abilities, and standardized the process. Last year, 45 Knox Box key installations were completed.
- The Fire Prevention Team is developing standardized educational programs to be consistently delivered throughout the community. The team will first identify and prioritize high-risk or underserved target audiences through careful analysis. They will then actively promote awareness of the available programs and make them easily accessible to residents. Importantly, the team will track participation, feedback, and outcomes to continuously improve their outreach strategies. This data-driven approach will ensure the programs have the greatest possible impact in reducing fire risks and keeping the community safe.

### Upcoming Activities

- When a building's fire alarm or sprinkler system is not functioning properly, the building is placed under a fire watch protocol. During a fire watch, a designated building representative is required to physically inspect the entire premises every 15 minutes and document their rounds in a log. These daily fire watch logs must be submitted to the fire department. An application is currently in development to streamline this process, which will allow the fire watch logs to be submitted in real-time, with the data automatically imported into a central spreadsheet. Additionally, the app will include detailed fire watch instructions, a printable placard to be displayed at each building entrance, a direct link to the Fire Department's website for quick reference, and an electronic sign-off form for the fire watch officer to accept responsibility. This digital solution will improve accountability, ensure proper documentation, and make the fire watch procedure more efficient compared to the traditional paper-based logging system.

# Building Safety

## Description:

Building Safety issues building permits, inspects building construction and renovations, and enforces building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing codes. Construction plans are reviewed for code compliance prior to permits being issued, and inspections are conducted on-site to determine that codes are being followed during the construction process.

This activity also issues Letters of Compliance for rental units, performs periodic inspections of all rental units, and investigates potential rental code violations.

Building permit revenue is collected to cover the cost of the building safety activity. Rental housing annual fees are set to offset the cost of the rental inspection activity based on the projected budget. The neighborhood liaison program is funded through the General Fund and not offset by user fees.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Structural Code Enforcement | 1,189,435 | 1,269,566 | 1,269,327 | 1,307,291 | 3.0% |
| Rental Housing Program | 474,557 | 548,167 | 491,935 | 534,300 | -2.5% |
| Community Codes Liaison | 129,046 | 154,492 | 152,369 | 152,451 | -1.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,793,038 | 1,972,225 | 1,913,631 | 1,994,042 | 1.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,407,233 | 1,530,373 | 1,480,996 | 1,583,904 | 3.5% |
| Internal Services | 313,571 | 350,608 | 339,626 | 317,505 | -9.4% |
| Contractual | 69,982 | 88,144 | 88,144 | 89,533 | 1.6% |
| Commodities | 2,252 | 3,100 | 4,865 | 3,100 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,793,038 | 1,972,225 | 1,913,631 | 1,994,042 | 1.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Inspections Revenue: | | | | | |
| Building Permits | 875,510 | 934,319 | 934,319 | 934,319 | 0.0% |
| Electrical Permits | 80,729 | 115,575 | 115,575 | 115,575 | 0.0% |
| Mechanical Permits | 78,547 | 89,878 | 89,878 | 89,878 | 0.0% |
| Plumbing Permits | 108,980 | 114,785 | 114,785 | 114,785 | 0.0% |
| Sign Permits | 9,428 | 13,144 | 13,144 | 13,144 | 0.0% |
| Rental Housing Fees | 533,686 | 548,167 | 533,461 | 537,083 | -2.0% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 2,359 | 1,865 | 1,865 | 1,961 | 5.2% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 1,689,239 | 1,817,733 | 1,803,027 | 1,806,745 | -0.6% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 103,799 | 154,492 | 110,604 | 187,297 | 21.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,793,038 | 1,972,225 | 1,913,631 | 1,994,042 | 1.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 12.30 | 12.30 | 12.30 | 12.30 | |

# Building Safety

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Assist customers in completing code compliant projects by issuing permits and conducting inspections | Building/trade permits issued | 4,073 | 3,818 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| | | Building/trade inspections performed | 6,397 | 5,993 | 5,600 | 5,600 |
| | | Inspections per building/trade inspector | 1,279 | 1,199 | 1,140 | 1,140 |
| | Assist customers in maintaining safe dwellings through periodic rental inspections | Rental housing units registered | 15,632 | 15,647 | 15,722 | 15,750 |
| | | Rental housing inspections | 5,271 | 2,077 | 3,258 | 5,000 |
| | | Rental housing inspections per inspector | 1,757 | 692 | 1,086 | 1,666 |
| | Promote safe and attractive neighborhoods | Neighborhood complaints | 576 | 942 | 1,100 | 1,100 |
| | | Neighborhood inspections | 703 | 991 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| **Promote economic development** | Promote partnerships and encourage successful construction projects | New construction valuation commercial* | $133.9 | $147.2 | $112.5 | $110.0 |
| | | New construction valuation residential* | $29.0 | $32.5 | $32.5 | $33.0 |

*In millions

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Filling the Housing Inspector position in September 2024 after an eight-month vacancy led to decreased expenditures in the adjusted FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 budgets. Rental housing inspections are anticipated to return to average numbers for FY 2024/25.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Fire Chief and Building Official will be working with the Inspection staff to reinforce their mission to work in unison with customers to help development occur in accordance with adopted codes, regulations, and plans.
- The Property Maintenance Code went into effect January 1, 2024. Compared to the same time period last year (January 1- June 30), the number of code complaints nearly doubled (from 568 to 1,024). Staff is working hard to address each complaint in a timely manner and maintain the high level of customer service expected.
- The “Ames on the Go” mobile app continues to account for almost half of all neighborhood complaints (FY 2023/24 was 45%). Twenty percent of these complaints are found to be unfounded, leading to no enforcement action.
- Staff partnered with RSVP to have a volunteer scan every property file. Files will be stored electronically, making it easier for staff in other locations to obtain property information.

## Upcoming Activities

- The State of Iowa is proposing to adopt the 2023 National Electrical Code (NEC). Historically, the City has followed the State’s lead and adopted its version with a few local amendments. Staff is closely following the State’s process and is ready to proceed with local adoption shortly after State approval.
- Staff is researching alternative software programs that will help increase efficiencies across departments and expedite the permitting process. New software will assist staff in creating metrics to better assess permit approval and code compliance timelines.

# Animal Sheltering and Control

**Description:**

The Animal Sheltering and Control activity provides impoundment and sheltering for domestic animals found within the City. Animals are also accepted from pet owners who wish to terminate their ownership without euthanasia or abandonment. Adoption services place shelter animals with people seeking pets. This activity is also responsible for enforcing municipal ordinances and state laws related to animals, logging and tracking animal bites, investigating suspected cases of animal neglect and rabies, and for dealing with urban wildlife conservation and relocation.

The Animal Sheltering/Control activity also provides programming and tours for adults and children. An active volunteer group provides supplemental staffing at the shelter, which is open to the public 30 hours/week or by appointment. Donations received from the public provide additional funding for animal services, special programs, and projects at the shelter.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 553,167 | 555,968 | 584,362 | 706,670 | 27.1% |
| Internal Services | 38,461 | 39,593 | 39,566 | 43,653 | 10.3% |
| Contractual | 153,290 | 90,663 | 97,682 | 104,640 | 15.4% |
| Commodities | 76,490 | 47,850 | 76,669 | 53,800 | 12.4% |
| Capital | - | - | 6,529 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 25 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 821,433 | 734,074 | 804,808 | 908,763 | 23.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Charges for Services | 33,086 | 31,500 | 31,500 | 31,500 | 0.0% |
| Animal Shelter Donations | 165,764 | 87,567 | 70,500 | 80,500 | -8.1% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 198,850 | 119,067 | 102,000 | 112,000 | -5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 622,583 | 615,007 | 702,808 | 796,763 | 29.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 821,433 | 734,074 | 804,808 | 908,763 | 23.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.05 | 5.05 | 5.05 | 6.50 | |



# Animal Sheltering and Control

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide safe and humane sheltering facilities and adoption and re-home services | Live animals through facility | 1,102 | 1,074 | 1,100 | 1,200 |
| | | Cat/dog live release rate | 99.10% | 98.4% | 98.0% | 98.0% |
| | Assist citizens in responding to animal control issues | Calls for field activity services | 2,661 | 2,620 | 2,800 | 2,900 |
| | | Rescue calls – animals left in vehicles | 101 | 88 | 85 | 75 |
| | | Deceased animals picked up | 392 | 311 | 400 | 450 |
| | Promote quality of life improvements for animals in the community | Community outreach talks/tours | 17 | 11 | 15 | 20 |
| | | Volunteer services hours | 3,645 | 5,320 | 6,200 | 7,000 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Animal hoarding cases remain a significant concern for the Ames Animal Shelter. In FY 2024/25, staff responded to several cases involving multiple animals. Scarce Shelter space makes it very difficult to care for animals in large numbers. These cases require a substantial amount of staff time and resources, including food, cleaning, and veterinary care costs. Responding to these cases also disrupts the ability of the Shelter to remain open to the public for other routine sheltering and animal control services.
- In FY 2023/24, the Shelter had a total of 20,179 days of care for animals in our building (sum of the total days each animal was in our care). In FY 2024/25, that number decreased to 17,967 days of care. The increase in FY 2023/24 was due to the animal hoarding incidents as those cases worked their way through the legal process taking up to six months.
- In FY 2024/25, the Shelter added a heating/air conditioning unit in the dog adoption room and also had several costly repairs to aging air units and laundry machines.
- The FY 2025/26 budget includes funding to increase a .5 Animal Control Officer position to a full-time position. Funding is also included to increase a .3 Animal Control Officer FTE to a .5 FTE. The change in positions better reflects the actual hours currently being worked by these positions to meet operational needs.
- The Animal Control Shelter currently operates with one .5 Animal Control Attendant position and relies on part-time and volunteer help to assist in caring for the animals at the shelter. Funding has been added to the FY 2025/26 budget for an additional Animal Control Attendant FTE to meet needs at the current shelter and to prepare for staffing needs at a larger new shelter.





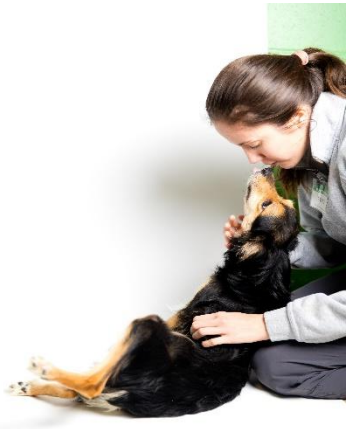

# Animal Sheltering and Control





**In-Progress Activities**

- Recognizing the need for a new Animal Shelter at some point in the near future, the FY 2023/24 adjusted budget included $100,000 to determine the estimated costs of a new facility that would be adjacent to the existing Dog Park, along with geotechnical and survey work necessary for the site. Since that time, the City has identified an existing building that may serve the needs of a shelter. This will require an evaluation of the potential site to determine its suitability to serve as a shelter. If it is, the property/building would be purchased, and remodeling would occur to add the necessary components for a shelter.
- Due to increasing costs of pet ownership, staff has found that pet owners need additional assistance to help them to keep their pets during periods of financial crisis. The shelter has kept a small stock of various pet foods (typically donated by the community) to provide to owners in need. Because storage space is very limited, staff has also partnered with groups like Food at First and Bailing Out Benji to supply them with food to give to pet owners in need.
- Due to the increase of animal care needs within the Shelter, staff has continued to be reliant on volunteer assistance. These volunteers represent approximately 7,000 hours per year, which are equivalent to 3.4 FTEs. In addition, staff implemented a Junior Volunteer Program that allows 10- to 15-year-old children to volunteer with a parent/guardian and allows 16- and 17-year-olds to volunteer with parental consent. Several families are now participating in the new program.



# Animal Sheltering and Control

**Upcoming Activities**

- In addition to microchip clinics held by the Shelter staff to help owners more easily reclaim their pets, staff is exploring the possibility of hosting vaccination clinics to help pet owners have better access to life-saving veterinary care for their animals.
- Staff will be exploring a pet licensing program that is common practice in other cities across Iowa.



# Other Public Safety

## Description:

The Other Public Safety activity accounts for the operation of the City's Emergency Operations Center and the City's storm warning system. The Emergency Operations Center is located at the City's Water Treatment Plant and is activated during emergency situations such as floods and windstorms. The Center may also be used to coordinate Public Safety and other departments during large community events.

The Storm Warning System sub-activity accounts for the operation of the City's storm warning system. This includes computer and software costs to operate the system, as well as maintenance performed by Electric Distribution crews on the City's storm warning sirens.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Emergency Operations | 2,448 | 3,448 | 13,448 | 2,481 | -28.1% |
| Storm Warning System | 10,074 | 13,050 | 12,972 | 13,078 | 0.2% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 12,522 | 16,498 | 26,420 | 15,559 | -5.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 4,020 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0.0% |
| Internal Services | 2,841 | 2,898 | 2,820 | 1,959 | -32.4% |
| Contractual | 862 | 3,600 | 3,600 | 3,600 | 0.0% |
| Commodities | 4,799 | 6,000 | 16,000 | 6,000 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 12,522 | 16,498 | 26,420 | 15,559 | -5.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 12,522 | 16,498 | 26,420 | 15,559 | -5.7% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 12,522 | 16,498 | 26,420 | 15,559 | -5.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |

# Other Public Safety

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide a reliable storm warning system for public safety | City sirens | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| | | Iowa State University sirens | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| | Provide citywide command, coordination and communication during natural disasters or emergencies | City siren tests per year | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| | | Incident Command Center trainings/exercises | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Funding of $10,000 is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget to purchase supplies and additional minor equipment for the City's new Mobile Command Trailer.

## In-Progress Activities

- The City's Incident Command Team continues to meet and update the City's Emergency Response Plan.
- The City purchased a Mobile Command Trailer in October 2024 from JHB Group for $214,233 using escrow funds set aside for the replacement of the current Incident Command Bus. The addition of a mobile operations trailer has increased the City's ability to reach more customers in both emergency and non-emergency events. By utilizing a trailer platform, services from multiple departments can be deployed into different parts of the community to enhance community outreach events, support City operations, and allow fixed facility services to become mobile.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff from the City's Incident Command Team will be working alongside the Story County Emergency Manager to evaluate the effectiveness of the State of Iowa's hosted incident command WebEOC software at the local level. Currently, WebEOC is only available for communications and resource requests between county-level emergency management agencies and Iowa Homeland Security during disasters. Evaluating the effectiveness of the software at the local level to communicate situational awareness and resource requests to the county emergency management agency could prove beneficial for improved local Incident Command Center events.

# Public Safety CIP

## Description:

This is a summary of the Public Safety program capital improvements which are detailed in the City of Ames five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Fire Safety:*** | | | | | |
| Engine 1 Replacement | - | - | 384,558 | - | |
| Fire Station Improvements | 15,684 | - | 132,252 | - | |
| Apartment Training Prop | - | - | 27,128 | - | |
| Station 2 Relocation | - | - | 40,000 | - | |
| Station Alerting System | - | - | - | 291,905 | |
| *Total Fire Safety CIP* | 15,684 | - | 583,938 | 291,905 | |
| ***Animal Control:*** | | | | | |
| Animal Shelter Relocation | - | - | 1,205,000 | 3,250,000 | |
| ***Storm Warning System:*** | | | | | |
| Outdoor Storm Warning System | - | - | 59,036 | - | |
| ***Total Public Safety CIP*** | 15,684 | - | 1,847,974 | 3,541,905 | |

### Fire Safety ($291,905)

The Fire Department's ***Station Alerting System*** automates the process of alerting and dispatching fire apparatus and personnel to emergency incidents. The system integrates directly into the Public Safety Communication Center's computer aided dispatch system, allowing 911 dispatchers to dispatch the most appropriate emergency response vehicles automatically and instantaneously. The system also dispatches Mary Greeley Medical Center (MGMC) ambulances. The 17-year-old system's wall mounted controls and information systems are obsolete and no longer functioning. As a result, the stations continue to receive audio dispatches but no longer receive visual displays showing incident locations. Additionally, the system operates on a single network connection and does not have a secondary backup connection with the Public Safety Communications Center. This leaves the system vulnerable to network interruptions caused by damaged fiber during construction or power outages. Funding of $291,905 is included in the FY 2025/26 budget to replace the system's equipment and technology at all three fire stations and in the Public Safety Communications Center. This project has been advanced in the CIP due to increasing reliability concerns with the current system.

### Animal Control ($3,250,000)

The current Animal Shelter facility, located at 325 Billy Sunday Road, was constructed in 1994 and is a 3,337 square foot metal building. The facility has proven to be unsuitable for long-term animal sheltering and control operations. The building is poorly insulated, leading to moisture and temperature problems, including water leaks and occupant discomfort. Additionally, the current space is insufficient for the number of animals served by the facility, making it difficult to isolate animals for disease control and comfort. The ***Animal Shelter Relocation*** project will address these issues by relocating the facility to a new location at 2715 Dayton Road. The new location, a former childcare facility, contains over 12,700 square feet of interior space and has existing office space, visitor areas, storage, kitchen and laundry facilities, parking, and exterior yard space. Funding of $1,205,000 is included in the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget to acquire the property and begin design work for the renovation. The FY 2025/26 budget allocates an additional $3,250,000 complete the design and renovate the building, with $1,500,000 of the funding expected to be through donations for the project.

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# UTILITIES






EMMA MCCARTHY LEE
75 YEARS
1949-2024






1904-2024
AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY
120 YEARS

OLD TOWN PARK
40 YEARS
1984-2024






CITY OF
ames™

# Utilities Program

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# Utilities Summary

## Description:

The Utilities program provides the Ames community with dependable electricity, drinking water, sewage disposal, stormwater management, and trash and garbage disposal. An effective rate structure for each activity is established to recover the cost of the utilities through customer charges. ***Electric Services*** provides citizens with electric production, electric distribution, electric metering, and programs to reduce electrical demand. ***Water and Pollution Control*** provides the community with clean, fresh water and oversees the treatment of wastewater in compliance with federal and state regulations to ensure public health. The ***Water Distribution System Maintenance*** and ***Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance*** activities are responsible for the maintenance of water distribution and sanitary sewer collection lines throughout the community. ***The Stormwater Management*** activity includes the administration of the City's stormwater permit program and the maintenance of the storm sewer system***. Resource Recovery*** provides citizens with a safe and cost-effective method for disposing of trash and garbage***. Utility Customer Service*** is responsible for the billing and collection of utility charges to utility customers. Utility capital improvements are included in the ***Utilities CIP*** activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Electric Services | 55,681,030 | 65,904,833 | 63,658,856 | 64,408,013 | -2.3% |
| Water and Pollution Control | 9,194,675 | 11,542,474 | 11,590,188 | 11,956,279 | 3.6% |
| Water Distribution System | 1,690,994 | 1,856,246 | 1,853,323 | 1,975,698 | 6.4% |
| Sanitary Sewer System | 1,018,108 | 1,024,972 | 1,017,792 | 1,038,011 | 1.3% |
| Stormwater Management | 806,185 | 948,114 | 932,247 | 980,255 | 3.4% |
| Resource Recovery | 4,559,176 | 4,578,108 | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 9.8% |
| Utility Customer Service | 1,794,196 | 1,876,601 | 1,895,850 | 1,892,349 | 0.8% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 74,744,364 | 87,731,348 | 85,725,112 | 87,275,472 | -0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| Utilities CIP | 27,937,564 | 36,561,000 | 84,494,635 | 49,973,000 | 36.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 102,681,928 | 124,292,348 | 170,219,747 | 137,248,472 | 10.4% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 162.71 | 162.61 | 162.61 | 162.61 | |

# Utilities Summary

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 19,458,096 | 22,266,757 | 20,895,388 | 23,140,062 | 3.9% |
| Internal Services | 7,540,283 | 8,715,713 | 8,002,301 | 8,304,186 | -4.7% |
| Contractual | 39,379,574 | 47,187,759 | 47,615,700 | 46,543,085 | -1.4% |
| Commodities | 6,480,061 | 7,082,158 | 7,301,008 | 7,454,109 | 5.3% |
| Capital | 1,112,224 | 1,248,000 | 834,404 | 741,500 | -40.6% |
| Other Expenditures | 774,126 | 1,230,961 | 1,076,311 | 1,092,530 | -11.3% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 74,744,364 | 87,731,348 | 85,725,112 | 87,275,472 | -0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| Utilities CIP | 27,937,564 | 36,561,000 | 84,494,635 | 49,973,000 | 36.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 102,681,928 | 124,292,348 | 170,219,747 | 137,248,472 | 10.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 56,366,451 | 66,621,163 | 64,382,222 | 65,131,681 | -2.2% |
| SunSmart Fund | 194,377 | 185,587 | 185,587 | 185,602 | 0.0% |
| Water Utility Fund | 7,100,739 | 8,835,010 | 8,923,010 | 9,171,939 | 3.8% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 5,692,187 | 6,540,866 | 6,502,690 | 6,758,628 | 3.3% |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | 809,478 | 955,114 | 939,247 | 987,255 | 3.4% |
| Resource Recovery Fund | 4,559,176 | 4,578,108 | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 9.8% |
| Project Share Donations | 21,956 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Operations Funding*** | 74,744,364 | 87,731,348 | 85,725,112 | 87,275,472 | -0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Utilities CIP Funding:*** | | | | | |
| G.O. Bonds | 44,277 | - | - | 880,000 | |
| Water SRF Loan Program | 6,904,562 | 160,000 | 5,631,508 | - | -100.0% |
| Sewer SRF Loan Program | 6,210,876 | 25,920,000 | 36,010,772 | 26,240,000 | 1.2% |
| American Rescue Plan | 2,555,020 | - | 3,202,557 | - | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 6,673,011 | 4,240,000 | 19,595,236 | 11,790,000 | 178.1% |
| Water Utility Fund | 3,059,545 | 2,636,000 | 7,468,986 | 6,017,000 | 128.3% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 1,481,706 | 1,105,000 | 4,093,243 | 2,087,000 | 88.9% |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | 739,510 | 1,450,000 | 6,264,414 | 2,100,000 | 44.8% |
| Stormwater Grant Funding | - | 400,000 | 1,300,000 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| Resource Recovery Fund | 269,057 | 650,000 | 927,919 | 459,000 | -29.4% |
| ***Total CIP Funding*** | 27,937,564 | 36,561,000 | 84,494,635 | 49,973,000 | 36.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 102,681,928 | 124,292,348 | 170,219,747 | 137,248,472 | 10.4% |

# Electric Services

## Description:

Electric Services provides the community with sufficient electric power for current and projected needs. Electric power is provided for industrial, commercial, and residential users, according to a rate structure adopted by ordinance. Through the City Council, the community exercises control over the Utility and its policies. ***Electric Administration*** is responsible for directing the daily operations of the Utility and for providing the Electric Utility Operations Review and Advisory Board (EUORAB) with information so it can make informed recommendations to the City Council. ***Demand Side Management*** includes programs, designed to reduce peak consumption, and use energy more wisely. ***Electric Production*** is responsible for producing electrical energy and maintaining the associated equipment. Electrical energy is produced in the power plant by burning natural gas and Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) in the plant's boilers, which generate steam for the steam-driven turbine generators. Peaking and emergency electric energy is produced by gas turbine generators (jet engines whose thrust drives the associated electrical generators***). Fuel and Purchased Power*** provides funding for purchasing natural gas and RDF burned in the boilers, fuel oil burned in the gas turbines, and electrical energy purchased from other utilities through the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) energy market. ***Electric Distribution*** is responsible for maintaining and extending the electric transmission and distribution systems which deliver electricity to the community, as well as street lighting installation/maintenance and emergency weather notification system maintenance. ***Electric Technical Services*** is responsible for installing and maintaining the electric meters used for billing the Utility's customers, solving system power quality issues, and substation equipment. ***Electric Engineering*** is responsible for engineering and planning related to and for supervision of the operation of the Utility's transmission and distribution system, substations, and street lighting.

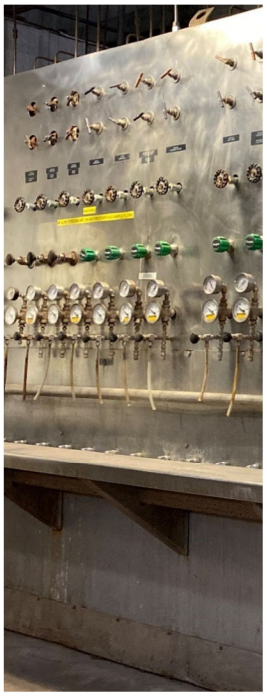
| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Electric Administration | 2,757,156 | 3,090,777 | 3,185,700 | 3,173,497 | 2.7% |
| Demand-Side Management | 591,798 | 1,367,378 | 896,212 | 907,079 | -33.7% |
| Electric Production | 13,258,026 | 14,488,962 | 13,960,571 | 14,420,090 | -0.5% |
| Fuel/Purchased Power | 30,994,643 | 37,744,273 | 36,718,178 | 36,822,533 | -2.4% |
| Distribution/Operations | 5,893,396 | 6,756,709 | 6,280,549 | 6,364,959 | -5.8% |
| Electric Technical Services | 1,325,352 | 1,455,280 | 1,659,056 | 1,675,585 | 15.1% |
| Electric Engineering | 860,659 | 1,001,454 | 958,590 | 1,044,270 | 4.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 55,681,030 | 65,904,833 | 63,658,856 | 64,408,013 | -2.3% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 81.00 | 81.00 | 81.00 | 81.00 | |

# Electric Services

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 10,570,053 | 12,219,913 | 11,441,239 | 12,743,243 | 4.3% |
| Internal Services | 3,623,372 | 4,335,298 | 3,646,242 | 3,887,406 | -10.3% |
| Contractual | 35,390,993 | 42,664,908 | 42,407,522 | 41,478,737 | -2.8% |
| Commodities | 4,390,602 | 4,416,214 | 4,547,830 | 4,674,527 | 5.9% |
| Capital | 1,091,794 | 1,200,000 | 707,923 | 700,000 | -41.7% |
| Other Expenditures | 614,216 | 1,068,500 | 908,100 | 924,100 | -13.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 55,681,030 | 65,904,833 | 63,658,856 | 64,408,013 | -2.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 55,486,653 | 65,719,246 | 63,473,269 | 64,222,411 | -2.3% |
| SunSmart Fund | 194,377 | 185,587 | 185,587 | 185,602 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 55,681,030 | 65,904,833 | 63,658,856 | 64,408,013 | -2.3% |





# Electric Administration

## Description:

Electric Administration is responsible for coordinating the work of electric generation, transmission, distribution, engineering, and technical services to ensure that the City of Ames continues to meet the needs of its electric customers under all conditions. Other responsibilities of this activity include developing the Electric Utility capital improvement plan (CIP), overseeing the Utility's relationship with State and Federal agencies, working with the Electric Utility Operations Review and Advisory Board (EUORAB) in long-range planning for the Utility, and ensuring the financial stability of the Electric Utility fund.

The Electric Administration activity also includes Energy Services, which develops, coordinates, and conducts programs promoting wise, sustainable, and efficient use of electrical resources.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Electric Administration | 2,596,465 | 2,889,761 | 2,980,211 | 2,969,523 | 2.8% |
| Electric Relations / Promotions | 160,691 | 201,016 | 205,489 | 203,974 | 1.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,757,156 | 3,090,777 | 3,185,700 | 3,173,497 | 2.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 854,408 | 913,860 | 901,999 | 960,408 | 5.1% |
| Internal Services | 1,503,195 | 1,760,477 | 1,775,361 | 1,835,699 | 4.3% |
| Contractual | 351,052 | 373,940 | 463,840 | 338,890 | -9.4% |
| Commodities | 23,940 | 23,000 | 25,400 | 19,400 | -15.7% |
| Capital | 24,021 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 540 | 19,500 | 19,100 | 19,100 | -2.1% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,757,156 | 3,090,777 | 3,185,700 | 3,173,497 | 2.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 2,757,156 | 3,090,777 | 3,185,700 | 3,173,497 | 2.7% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 2,757,156 | 3,090,777 | 3,185,700 | 3,173,497 | 2.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | |

# Electric Administration

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable, low-cost energy for customers | Residential rates above (below) rates of other utilities in Ames | (22%) | (23%) | (28%) | (26%) |
| | | Commercial rates above (below) rates of other utilities in Ames | (18%) | (16%) | (20%) | (18%) |
| | | Industrial rates above (below) rates of other utilities in Ames | 5% | 1% | 1% | 3% |
| | | Customers very or somewhat satisfied with electric service | 95% | 95% | 95% | 95% |
| | Maintain peak demand below 138 MW | Peak demand (in MW) | 130.5 | 138.0 | 134.3 | 134.1 |
| | | Energy usage (in MWh) | 619,725 | 607,587 | 613,384 | 621,900 |
| | Maintain a Contingency Reserve fund balance of at least $10,100,000 | Reserve fund balance maintained | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Increase participation in community solar program (11,428 power packs to be created) | Power packs sold | 8,632 (75%) | 8,617 (75.4%) | 8,640 (75.6%) | 8,680 (76%) |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Contractual services are down following the completion of the cost-of-service and integrated resource studies. These were completed in FY 2024/25 at a cost of approximately $130,000. The results of the integrated resource studies will have a large impact on the projects staff will be starting to implement in FY 2025/26.

## In-Progress Activities

- As a result of accepting the Climate Action Plan, Electric Services will play a critical role in the reduction of greenhouse gases. This includes both the reduction of burning fossil fuels and encouraging customers to convert their heating and transportation needs to electricity as their primary fuel source.
- Beginning October 1, 2024, the customer service charge in all rate classifications were increased to more accurately capture fixed costs. The energy rates were decreased to reflect the actual cost of energy. These rate changes were designed to be revenue-neutral.
- A 1.5% rate increase is included in the FY 2025/26 budget to accommodate future investments in renewable energy projects.
- Electric, Water & Pollution Control, and Finance will be updating the utility's current metering system to an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) platform. This new system will bring many advantages, including feeder study information, outage notifications, A/C control, remote disconnect/reconnect, remote reading, and tamper notifications

## Upcoming Activities

- Renewable energy generation is currently very much a "seller's market." It will remain difficult to use traditional Request-for-Proposal methods to secure future projects. Staff is exploring other ways to secure projects to meet our customers' renewable needs.

# Demand Side Management

**Description:**

The goal of Demand Side Management is to promote wise, sustainable, and efficient use of the City's electrical resources. This activity includes load management programs, such as Prime Time Power, which control energy consumption using mechanical or electronic devices. Other ongoing programs include lighting, appliance, and high efficiency air conditioner rebates, solar installation rebates, and commercial and residential energy audits. Controlling the City's peak demand will delay the need for new generation capacity and keep electricity rates lower.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DSM Administration | 30,549 | 36,378 | 40,212 | 37,079 | 1.9% |
| Prime Time Power | 259,556 | 315,000 | 315,000 | 315,000 | 0.0% |
| Energy Audits | 20,959 | 70,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 | -21.4% |
| Rebate Program | 245,964 | 646,000 | 486,000 | 500,000 | -22.6% |
| Geothermal Pilot Program | 34,770 | 300,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 591,798 | 1,367,378 | 896,212 | 907,079 | -33.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 13,951 | 16,899 | 22,533 | 18,533 | 9.7% |
| Internal Services | 128 | 1,179 | 679 | 1,546 | 31.1% |
| Contractual | 68,123 | 93,000 | 76,500 | 76,500 | -17.7% |
| Commodities | 701 | 300 | 500 | 500 | 66.7% |
| Capital | 4,050 | 300,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Other Expenditures | 504,845 | 956,000 | 796,000 | 810,000 | -15.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 591,798 | 1,367,378 | 896,212 | 907,079 | -33.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 591,798 | 1,367,378 | 896,212 | 907,079 | -33.7% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 591,798 | 1,367,378 | 896,212 | 907,079 | -33.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |






# Demand Side Management

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Environmental Sustainability** | Energy efficiency and conservation | Appliance rebates | 343 | 391 | 396 | 400 |
| | | Air conditioner rebates | 316 | 289 | 250 | 250 |
| | | Heat pump rebates | 39 | 85 | 102 | 120 |
| | | Water heater rebates | 4 | 4 | 10 | 20 |
| | | EV charger rebates | 20 | 20 | 26 | 40 |
| | | Residential and commercial solar rebates | 9 | 13 | 11 | 30 |
| | | Thermostat rebates | 23 | 29 | 28 | 40 |
| | | Total rebates | 754 | 831 | 818 | 900 |
| | | Residential energy audits performed | 72 | 26* | 50 | 75 |
| | | Commercial energy audits performed | 6 | 3 | 10 | 25 |

*Actual audits performed during Q1 and Q2 of calendar year 2024 were skewed due to onboarding of a new audit company.

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Staff is focusing on geothermal and air-source heat pumps as the best, most sustainable solution for heating and cooling into the future. Therefore, rebate funding will shift from air conditioners to heat pumps moving forward. The greatest challenge is when a customer needs a new air conditioner/furnace. They often have hours-to-days to make a decision. Electric staff is developing City heat pump programs, providing constant messaging, and educating contractors in an effort to be more proactive.
- Staff continues to review current and proposed rebate programs with an eye towards greater support of the Climate Action Plan initiatives. Dollars are being distributed in different amounts into the various programs to increase effectiveness.
- Electric Services continues to encourage Electric Vehicle (EV) purchases through public charging installations across the city with affordable rates. Presently, the DC fast chargers account for a considerable amount of overall EV charger energy sales. While fast chargers are more expensive to install than slower Level-2 chargers, staff is pursuing grants for additional chargers to facilitate greater public EV charging.

## In-Progress Activities

- The utility's air conditioning control program, Prime Time Power, has reached its end of life. A replacement program will be included in the rollout of a new Advanced Metering Infrastructure system scheduled for release in 2025.
- Staff will conduct a review the demand-side management portfolio to refine and evaluate the impact of the City's utility rebate program.

## Upcoming Activities

- Electric Services is continuing to evaluate methods to better support residential solar installations. Electric Services is evaluating electric rates to more closely align with true cost-of-service. This includes evaluation of existing solar buyback rates and will create a Time-of-Use rate that customers will be able to opt-into once appropriate metering is available.

# Electric Production

## Description:

Electric Production is responsible for the operation of the City's Power Plant, which includes the operation and maintenance of the boilers, turbines, fuel handling systems (natural gas and Refuse Derived Fuel), the remotely operated combustion turbines, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) control equipment in the power plant and substations. The generation production fleet consists of four units:

| Name | In-Service | Fuel | Capacity |
|---|---|---|---|
| Unit #7 | 1967 | Gas/RDF | 38 MW |
| Unit #8 | 1982 | Gas/RDF | 70 MW |
| Gas Turbine #1 | 1972 | Diesel | 18 MW summer/22 MW winter |
| Gas Turbine #2 | 2005 | Diesel | 27 MW summer/29 MW winter |

Electrical operations are continuous and monitored 24 hours per day. The Electric Production activity functions as the dispatch center outside of normal working hours to respond to transmission, distribution, and customer outages. When notified of an electrical outage, Power Plant personnel contact on-call distribution and substation crews to respond and restore power.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 5,563,224 | 6,547,459 | 6,061,452 | 6,997,490 | 6.9% |
| Internal Services | 1,368,140 | 1,773,891 | 1,097,895 | 1,218,700 | -31.3% |
| Contractual | 4,456,574 | 4,473,112 | 5,075,126 | 4,275,900 | -4.4% |
| Commodities | 1,817,596 | 1,694,500 | 1,719,727 | 1,928,000 | 13.8% |
| Capital | 46,818 | - | 6,371 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 5,674 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 13,258,026 | 14,488,962 | 13,960,571 | 14,420,090 | -0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 13,258,026 | 14,488,962 | 13,960,571 | 14,420,090 | -0.5% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 13,258,026 | 14,488,962 | 13,960,571 | 14,420,090 | -0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 44.00 | 44.00 | 44.00 | 44.00 | |



# Electric Production

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable, low-cost energy delivery for our customers in a safe and efficient manner | Annual peak load (MW) | 130.5 | 138.0 | 134.3 | 134.1 |
| | | Annual net system load (MWh) | 619,735 | 607,587 | 613,384 | 621,900 |
| | | Annual net generation (MWh) | 303,305 | 327,600 | 275,715 | 256,700 |
| | | Reportable accidents | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Lost time accidents | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Unit 7 forced outages | 10 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | | Unit 8 forced outages | 8 | 12 | 8 | 4 |
| | | Unit 7 reliability factor | 83.3% | 93.4% | 91.5% | 93.0% |
| | | Unit 8 reliability factor | 70.5% | 89.0% | 88.9% | 90.0% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Internal services decreased significantly due to a reassessment of property values, which lowered the property insurance for both FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.
- GT1 and GT2 run time will be increased throughout the year. This will improve reliability providing better training for staff and more opportunity to find maintenance issues.
- The budget reflects an increase in asbestos mitigation and non-asbestos insulation installation.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Power Plant roof sections above Unit 5, 6, 7, and 8 have been replaced. Final flashing and sealing are expected to be completed by the end of FY 2024/25.
- A feasibility study is in progress for a package boiler to be installed to supply building heat to the Power Plant. This will be needed if the steam power generation units are offline when not burning RDF and the market does not require them to be online.
- The project to properly dispose the coal ash at the Ash Pond started earlier this year. This is expected to be completed in the summer of 2025.
- Combustion Turbine 1 (CT1) suffered an engine failure in July 2024. CT1 is the unit used for “black start” and can start quickly in any weather conditions. Staff has procured a leased engine on a temporary basis while the permanent engine is being repaired.
- Boiler life assessments were performed on Units 7 and 8. This helps staff determine how much longer the utility can expect to reliably operate both units.
- The Combustion Turbine 1 and 2 controls update project included in the CIP will continue into FY 2025/26. These new modern control systems will provide state of the art controls, system monitoring, and easier troubleshooting for Power Plant operations. This will improve the reliability of both CT1 and CT2.

## Upcoming Activities

- The Power Plant is in the process of restructuring several vacant positions. This plan is expected to be implemented in FY 2025/26.
- Electric and Resource Recovery Utilities are evaluating a new model for handling municipal solid waste. Maintenance activities and associated costs for the Power Plant will be impacted by this change.
- New generation is needed to be able to cover the Utility’s capacity shortages. Additional generation sources are being studied to determine what would best fit the City’s operational needs.

# Fuel and Purchased Power

**Description:**

The Fuel and Purchased Power activity is the largest expense in the Electric Service's budget. The total cost of this program can vary greatly from year to year, as it is dependent on both the amount of electricity being used by customers and the market prices of fuel and electricity. When fuel and outside power purchases increase due to demand, revenues from electric customers will increase as well.

The principal types of fuel purchased are natural gas, Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) from the Resource Recovery Plant, and fuel oil. Power (energy) is also purchased from a NextEra-owned wind farm under a 20-year power purchase agreement, from a Forefront-owned solar farm under a 25-year power purchase agreement, and from Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) when the cost of outside power is more economical than self-produced energy. Energy purchased for Iowa State University is a pass-through expense, with offsetting revenue received from the University for the energy purchases.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Transmission/MISO | 803,687 | 1,151,500 | 901,500 | 951,500 | -17.4% |
| Wind | 6,307,562 | 6,120,000 | 6,300,000 | 6,300,000 | 2.9% |
| Fuel | 14,710,564 | 17,126,688 | 18,891,688 | 18,901,688 | 10.4% |
| Purchased Power | 6,186,958 | 9,300,498 | 7,579,403 | 7,623,743 | -18.0% |
| Solar Energy | 194,377 | 185,587 | 185,587 | 185,602 | 0.0% |
| ISU/Energy | 1,370,033 | 2,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | -40.0% |
| ISU/Wind | 1,261,635 | 1,200,000 | 1,200,000 | 1,200,000 | 0.0% |
| ISU/Transmission | 159,827 | 160,000 | 160,000 | 160,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 30,994,643 | 37,744,273 | 36,718,178 | 36,822,533 | -2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 234,123 | 262,543 | 239,598 | 279,448 | 6.4% |
| Internal Services | 6,977 | 6,055 | 6,055 | 6,545 | 8.1% |
| Contractual | 29,453,880 | 36,180,987 | 35,177,837 | 35,239,852 | -2.6% |
| Commodities | 1,196,506 | 1,201,688 | 1,201,688 | 1,201,688 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 103,157 | 93,000 | 93,000 | 95,000 | 2.2% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 30,994,643 | 37,744,273 | 36,718,178 | 36,822,533 | -2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 30,800,266 | 37,558,686 | 36,532,591 | 36,636,931 | -2.5% |
| SunSmart Fund | 194,377 | 185,587 | 185,587 | 185,602 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 30,994,643 | 37,744,273 | 36,718,178 | 36,822,533 | -2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | |

# Fuel and Purchased Power

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable, low-cost energy delivery for our customers in a safe and efficient manner | Natural gas consumed (dekatherms) | 3,369,037 | 3,675,363 | 3,098,369 | 2,883,868 |
| | | Market energy purchased (MWh) | 314,091 | 277,770 | 336,981 | 365,000 |
| | | Fuel cost per MWh of energy produced | $39.17 | $47.70 | $47.70 | $47.70 |
| | | Average purchased power cost ($/MWh) | $42.80 | $29.32 | $31.08 | $32.94 |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Maintain a diversified generation portfolio that contains renewable energy resources | Retail solar energy purchased (MWh) | 589 | 743 | 877 | 1,121 |
| | | SunSmart solar (MWh) | 776 | 756 | 740 | 726 |
| | | Wind renewable energy (MWh) | 79,333 | 70,640 | 70,800 | 70,000 |
| | | RDF consumed (tons) | 27,876 | 28,684 | 28,777 | 28,000 |
| | | Percent of energy provided by renewables | 16.6% | 14.4% | 15.0% | 15.0% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The cost of natural gas remains a critical factor. Beginning in 2024, the natural gas unit price increased by 30% and remains that high for 2025. In response, the utility decreased the consumption of natural gas in the costlier winter months, making the annual expenditure relatively flat. Due to the decreased natural gas purchased, the ability to burn RDF also decreased. To make up for less energy being produced by the Power Plant, the amount of power purchased from the grid increased. However, the unit cost of purchased power decreased, resulting in lower projected costs for purchase power.
- The price of fuel and the cost of purchased power are reflected in the Energy Cost Adjustment (ECA). The ECA is expected to remain negative (a credit to the customer) but is approaching zero.
- Gas transport contracts expire in 2025. Preliminary indications are that the Utility will see significant increases in the cost of delivery of natural gas in 2026.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff continues to explore opportunities to increase renewable energy from wind and solar resources. However, it is unclear whether existing tax credits will be continued, making financial modeling challenging. Utility-scale wind generation remains less costly than smaller local projects. Electric Services is pursuing large-scale projects to capture this advantage but will also pursue smaller solar projects due to their ease of permitting and installation timing. These are projects that will take four to five years of planning, regional studies, and construction before coming online.

## Upcoming Activities

- Electric staff has contracted for natural gas through the end of calendar year 2025 at a price slightly below the 2024 contract price of $3.60/dekatherm. To keep costs lower, future gas contracts will be shorter in duration to better match up with the end of waste-to-energy production and be able to take advantage of cheaper prices in the daily market.

# Electric Distribution

## Description:

Electric Distribution is responsible for the construction and maintenance of the system that brings electric power to Electric Utility customer homes. The Electric Distribution division maintains both the overhead and underground systems, with voltages ranging from 120 volts to 161,000 volts. In addition to the distribution system, this activity is responsible for the maintenance of the transmission system which delivers reliable power to the substations. The transmission system makes up the backbone of the Ames power system and connects the City to the power grid.

Electric Distribution is also responsible for improvements to the distribution system, including overhead and underground line extensions, line relocations, lighting improvements, communication line improvements and storm siren maintenance.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Distribution Operations | 3,748,217 | 3,901,725 | 3,833,437 | 3,924,358 | 0.6% |
| Extensions/Improvements | 2,145,179 | 2,854,984 | 2,447,112 | 2,440,601 | -14.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,893,396 | 6,756,709 | 6,280,549 | 6,364,959 | -5.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 2,219,321 | 2,776,440 | 2,566,070 | 2,702,988 | -2.7% |
| Internal Services | 567,779 | 584,365 | 561,004 | 571,288 | -2.2% |
| Contractual | 919,023 | 1,214,677 | 1,177,997 | 1,180,031 | -2.9% |
| Commodities | 1,178,287 | 1,281,227 | 1,375,478 | 1,310,652 | 2.3% |
| Capital | 1,008,986 | 900,000 | 600,000 | 600,000 | -33.3% |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,893,396 | 6,756,709 | 6,280,549 | 6,364,959 | -5.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 5,893,396 | 6,756,709 | 6,280,549 | 6,364,959 | -5.8% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 5,893,396 | 6,756,709 | 6,280,549 | 6,364,959 | -5.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | |

# Electric Distribution

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable, low-cost energy delivery for our customers in a safe and efficient manner | New Electric Utility customers | 106 | 63 | 34 | 118 |
| | | Service interruptions per year | 225 | 220 | 222 | 225 |
| | | Average minutes of system out/interruption (SAIDI*) | 14.75 | 16.87 | 14.21 | 14.00 |
| | | Wood poles installed/replaced | 119 | 142 | 189 | 192 |
| | | Streetlight poles installed/replaced | 27 | 62 | 50 | 49 |
| | | Miles of primary line installed/ replaced | 8.6 | 10.3 | 11.6 | 11.7 |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Convert streetlights to LED | LED streetlights installed | 382 | 418 | 400 | 400 |
| | | Streetlights converted to LED | 70% | 76% | 81% | 85% |

*SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index): the ratio of the annual duration of interruptions (sustained) to the number of consumers. Electric's SAIDI performance number does not consider major events. By the Iowa Utility Board standard, a major event is not typical of average performance.

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- While supply chain issues are improving, they continue to negatively impact the division's lead times.
- Tree trimming continues to be a major budget item, with the FY 2025/26 contract allocated at $424,250, representing a 4% increase.
- The roll-off dumpster debris contract has increased by 5% due to additional gas usage fees.

## In Progress Activities

- A new overhead distribution line will connect State Street to Knapp Street through Iowa State University property.
- Electric structures and equipment have been relocated for street widening projects, including 16th Street, Lincoln Way (West), Harding, Curtiss, Brookridge, and Parkway.
- New homes are under construction in the Greene Street addition, located northwest of Wilder Street.

## Upcoming Activities

- Distribution is continuing efforts to improve and replace equipment identified through Iowa Utilities Commission inspections. Additionally, staff is implementing preventative maintenance measures, such as installation of animal guarding, replacement of equipment, and structure replacement, to minimize outages.
- Staff continues to replace vehicles that are due for replacement with all electric vehicles. The Distribution management truck will be replaced with an all-electric F150 Lightning.

# Electric Technical Services

**Description:**

Electric Technical Services is responsible for two sub activities: Substation Maintenance and Electric Meter Service. Substation Maintenance is responsible for maintaining all substation equipment used to distribute power throughout the City's electric utility system. This includes testing, troubleshooting, performing maintenance, and tracking data on power transformers, circuit breakers, and switches on 4 kV through 161 kV class equipment.

Electric Meter Service is responsible for the measurement of energy consumed by the City's Electric Utility customers. This includes the specification, installation, maintenance, and testing of all meters and monitors in the system. The staff in this activity is also responsible for the testing of all substation and plant relays.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Substation Maintenance | 678,304 | 737,153 | 939,350 | 817,150 | 10.9% |
| Electric Meter Service | 647,048 | 718,127 | 719,706 | 858,435 | 19.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,325,352 | 1,455,280 | 1,659,056 | 1,675,585 | 15.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 958,017 | 928,007 | 919,978 | 963,351 | 3.8% |
| Internal Services | 93,874 | 107,174 | 107,303 | 155,579 | 45.2% |
| Contractual | 91,970 | 207,050 | 307,186 | 244,368 | 18.0% |
| Commodities | 173,572 | 213,049 | 223,037 | 212,287 | -0.4% |
| Capital | 7,919 | - | 101,552 | 100,000 | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,325,352 | 1,455,280 | 1,659,056 | 1,675,585 | 15.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 1,325,352 | 1,455,280 | 1,659,056 | 1,675,585 | 15.1% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,325,352 | 1,455,280 | 1,659,056 | 1,675,585 | 15.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 7.00 | 7.00 | 7.00 | 7.00 | |



# Electric Technical Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable, low-cost energy delivery for our customers in a safe and efficient manner | Electric meters in service | 27,846 | 27,909 | 27,943 | 28,061 |
| | | Meters tested per year | 4,017 | 4,011 | 4,121 | 4,209 |
| | | Meters tested (goal is 10% tested annually) | 14.43% | 14.37% | 14.75% | 15.00% |
| | | Cost of meter operating budget per meter | $23.93 | $23.18 | $25.69 | $27.76 |
| | | Substation operating budget /replacement asset value (goal 2-5%) | 2.40% | 1.45% | 1.91% | 1.59% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Starting in Spring 2025 and throughout 2025-2026, the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project will introduce new meters with the ability to remotely turn residential services on or off. To ensure this works properly, staff needs to test these features. Funding of $100,000 has been budgeted to purchase new testing equipment and software for this purpose.
- As part of the AMI project, staff expect to replace some sockets and fix any loose connections to ensure everything works smoothly. Additional funds have been planned for these efforts.
- Due to ongoing supply chain problems, there are long delays and higher costs for substation equipment and replacement parts. To address this, staff is planning ahead by stocking up on the parts that might be needed.
- The increase in internal services is due to additional funding needed to upgrade the metering van to a heavy-duty truck.

## In-Progress Activities

- In Spring 2025, the Electric Department will begin the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) conversion. This phase includes installing the software and hardware needed for the AMI system, as well as setting up the first set of meters. This initial installation will allow for system testing before the full rollout.
- In Spring 2025, oil reconditioning and maintenance will be performed on two more large 69,000-volt transformers as part of the ten-year maintenance plan. As this equipment ages, it is imperative to keep on a regular maintenance schedule to extend the life expectancy and reliability.
- In December 2024, staff will install remote racking systems in substations for aging breakers. This system enables personnel to operate these breakers from a safe distance, enhancing their safety in the event of equipment failure.

## Upcoming Activities

- For FY2025/26, our Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project will enter the full deployment stage. During this phase, staff will commence the replacement of approximately 28,000 meters with new AMI meters.

# Electric Engineering

**Description:**

Electric Engineering is responsible for developing plans and construction packages for electric service to residential, commercial, and industrial customers, as well as the planning and design of electric system improvements to support load growth, maintain/improve reliability, and support maintenance and relocation work. Other support functions include the development of material specifications and construction standards, contract administration for inspection, design, construction, and testing services, and the review and approval of interconnection agreements for renewable energy generation.

Electric Engineering provides Geographic Information System (GIS) services and support and maintains the Outage Management System and other electronic data records for Electric Services. Electric Engineering also participates in a portion of the Public Works GIS system.

Administration and engineering activities must comply with Iowa Utility Commission safety requirements and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards in addition to good utility practices. Midwest Reliability Organization and NERC standards have increasingly required additional engineering staff time to review and communicate NERC standards and facilitate the alignment of practices across the utility to comply with audit requirements.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 727,009 | 774,705 | 729,609 | 821,025 | 6.0% |
| Internal Services | 47,839 | 48,339 | 48,941 | 43,475 | -10.1% |
| Contractual | 50,371 | 122,142 | 129,036 | 123,196 | 0.9% |
| Commodities | - | 2,450 | 2,000 | 2,000 | -18.4% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenditures Subtotal*** | 825,219 | 947,636 | 909,586 | 989,696 | 4.4% |
| *Plus: Expenditures allocated from another program/activity:* | | | | | |
| Public Works GIS | 35,440 | 53,818 | 49,004 | 54,574 | 1.4% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 860,659 | 1,001,454 | 958,590 | 1,044,270 | 4.3% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 860,659 | 1,001,454 | 958,590 | 1,044,270 | 4.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 860,659 | 1,001,454 | 958,590 | 1,044,270 | 4.3% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | |

# Electric Engineering

| City Mission/ Council Goal | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable, low-cost energy for customers | Job orders prepared | 125 | 126 | 125 | 126 |
| | | Line inspections (poles) | 700 | 524 | 600 | 600 |
| | | New overhead distribution line* | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| | | Overhead distribution line replaced* | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| | | New underground distribution line* | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| | | Replaced underground line* | 1.9 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| | | New, replaced, or relocated overhead transmission line* | 1.3 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 1.0 |
| | | Interconnection applicants (customer owned solar systems) | 20 | 26 | 20 | 20 |

*In miles

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- System improvements and maintenance are a priority, as much of Ames' electrical system is over 30 years old. This includes replacing failing underground cables, ducts, and deteriorating overhead facilities in older neighborhoods.
- Efforts are underway to reconstruct the aging 69 kV transmission lines for continued reliability.
- ITC is planning a new 161 kV interconnection to connect their future Prairie View Industrial Complex Substation with Ames' existing 161 kV transmission line between Ames and Northeast Ankeny. City staff will review the design and work with ITC on the interconnection agreement. The Utility will also be upgrading its metering, protection, and communications accordingly to support this effort. A portion of the substation will be owned by the City.

## In-Progress Activities

- Overhead reliability improvements continue, including retrofitting with animal guarding, replacing outdated lightning arrestors and switches, and upgrading poles and conductors.
- Staff has engaged DeWild Grant and Reckert for design of the 69 kV transmission circuit reconstruction, with bids expected for the first segment in 2025.
- The relocation of the 161 kV line along Interstate 35 north of Ankeny has been completed to support the Iowa Department of Transportation's (IDOT) expansion efforts. The only remaining temporary structures are at the North East 142nd Avenue bridge, which will be restored once IDOT has completed its work in 2025.

## Upcoming Activities

- Three 480-volt services will be installed to support new EV chargers at George White Chevrolet, The Filling Station (University Boulevard south of Highway 30) and Quality Inn & Suites (at 13th Street & Dayton Avenue).
- A one-half mile underground distribution line will be installed to provide service to a new rock quarry operation on South Dayton Avenue south of Highway 30.
- A one-quarter mile buried distribution line will be relocated to clear for the widening of South 16th Street, east of University Boulevard.

# Water and Pollution Control

## Description:

This activity involves all operations of the water and sewer utilities, except for the collection and distribution systems and customer services/billing functions. It includes the five functional divisions of the department.

- ***Administration*** provides the overall management of the two utilities, as well as related engineering functions, the industrial pretreatment program, and the management of the flood warning system.
- ***Water Treatment*** includes the procurement of untreated groundwater, treatment of that water to make it suitable for human consumption, pumping of the water into the distribution system, and the management of the residual solids generated by the treatment process. It also includes the Smart Water Conservation Program.
- ***WPC Operations*** includes the operation and maintenance of the Water Pollution Control Facility, including lift stations and management of the residual solids generated by the treatment process. It also includes the maintenance of the flood warning program.
- ***Laboratory Services*** provides the majority of the regulatory compliance monitoring for both the drinking water and wastewater utilities.
- ***Metering and Cross-Connection Control*** serves as the cash register for both utilities, providing the basis for billing the majority of all water and sewer services provided by the City.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W & PC Administration | 1,389,352 | 1,905,849 | 1,742,393 | 1,995,233 | 4.7% |
| Water Plant Operations | 3,409,164 | 4,554,637 | 4,695,861 | 4,705,904 | 3.3% |
| WPC Facility Operations | 2,685,044 | 3,105,591 | 3,152,048 | 3,253,851 | 4.8% |
| W & PC Laboratory | 676,270 | 753,828 | 685,198 | 741,878 | -1.6% |
| W & PC Metering Services | 1,034,845 | 1,222,569 | 1,314,688 | 1,259,413 | 3.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 9,194,675 | 11,542,474 | 11,590,188 | 11,956,279 | 3.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 39.00 | 39.00 | 39.00 | 39.00 | |

# Water and Pollution Control

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 4,211,871 | 5,042,548 | 4,688,543 | 5,238,090 | 3.9% |
| Internal Services | 1,571,903 | 1,832,481 | 1,835,801 | 1,950,934 | 6.5% |
| Contractual | 1,849,223 | 2,638,901 | 2,901,230 | 2,622,413 | -0.6% |
| Commodities | 1,539,829 | 1,991,083 | 2,067,922 | 2,112,912 | 6.1% |
| Capital | 7,180 | 23,000 | 81,481 | 16,500 | -28.3% |
| Other Expenditures | 14,669 | 14,461 | 15,211 | 15,430 | 6.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 9,194,675 | 11,542,474 | 11,590,188 | 11,956,279 | 3.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Water Utility Fund | 4,952,317 | 6,489,218 | 6,573,797 | 6,701,877 | 3.3% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 4,242,358 | 5,053,256 | 5,016,391 | 5,254,402 | 4.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 9,194,675 | 11,542,474 | 11,590,188 | 11,956,279 | 3.6% |

# W&PC Administration

## Description:

This activity involves the overall management of the Water and Sewer Utilities (except for the distribution/collection systems and customer service/billing functions), including the development and implementation of all plans, policies, and procedures necessary for the efficient functioning of the utilities. Tasks undertaken as part of this activity include budgeting and rate setting, legislative and regulatory coordination and compliance, in-house engineering design services and project management activities, managing the industrial pretreatment and Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) programs, and cross-departmental coordination with other City work groups.

The cost of Water and Pollution Control Administration is split evenly between the Water Utility Fund and the Sewer Utility Fund.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 643,924 | 1,004,062 | 812,505 | 1,060,055 | 5.6% |
| Internal Services | 637,348 | 789,667 | 777,031 | 818,959 | 3.7% |
| Contractual | 96,913 | 103,520 | 142,657 | 106,369 | 2.8% |
| Commodities | 10,502 | 8,600 | 10,200 | 9,850 | 14.5% |
| Capital | 665 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,389,352 | 1,905,849 | 1,742,393 | 1,995,233 | 4.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Water Utility Fund | 694,676 | 952,924 | 871,196 | 997,616 | 4.7% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 694,676 | 952,925 | 871,197 | 997,617 | 4.7% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,389,352 | 1,905,849 | 1,742,393 | 1,995,233 | 4.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 7.00 | 7.00 | 7.00 | 7.00 | |

# W&PC Administration

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide safe, good tasting water to Ames residents at a reasonable price | Typical monthly water/sewer bill: | | | | |
| | | Iowa – median residential (600 cf/month) | $74.69 | $78.45 | $82.45 | $85.99 |
| | | Ames residential | $59.39 | $61.70 | $63.87 | $66.76 |
| | | Iowa – median commercial (10,000 cf/month) | $909.61 | $936.40 | $967.39 | $1,009.51 |
| | | Ames commercial | $659.43 | $694.64 | $709.49 | $741.24 |
| | | Residents very/ somewhat satisfied with water service | 91% | 93% | >90% | >90% |
| | | Residents very/ somewhat satisfied with sewer service | 96% | 96% | >90% | >90% |
| | Meet fund balance designations and reserves | Water Utility Fund | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Sewer Utility Fund | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- At the start of the FY 2024/25 budget year, the staffing for the Administration Division was less than half full. A new Assistant Director, and Principal Clerk, have since joined the division. Recruitments are expected to launch for a new Environmental Engineer, a new Control System Specialist, and a part-time Public Outreach Coordinator prior to the end of FY 2024/25. As a result, the FY 2025/26 budget reflects a return to full staff.

## In-Progress Activities

- Capital construction projects consume a considerable amount of staff time. Administering the North River Valley Well Field project and the WPC Nutrient Modifications Phase 1 project requires a full-time staff member. Other capital projects underway include: the addition of new emergency standby generators at the State and Mortensen (SAM) booster pump station and the Youth Sports Complex well field; modifications to the lime lagoons; and the watershed-based nutrient reduction activities.
- The Industrial Pretreatment Program managed by the Administration Division protects the Water Pollution Control Facility from industrial pollutants that could interfere with the performance of the facility and pass through the facility untreated into the South Skunk River. The Administration Division also administers the Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) program which helps limit grease blockages from the sanitary sewer caused by food service establishments.
- Considerable staff time is also being spent evaluating requests from potential new industrial customers interested in moving into the Prairie View Industrial Center.

## Upcoming Activities

- A number of new capital projects will begin in FY 2025/26, including the addition of a third lime slaker at the water plant, a renovation of the Technical Services Complex, and the design of a new receiving station for FOG and other high strength wastes.

# Water Treatment Plant Operations

## Description:

This activity involves the pumping of untreated water from wells, treatment of the well water to potable standards for human consumption, and the pumping of the treated water from the plant site to the water distribution system. It also includes the management of booster pump stations and elevated tanks, and the recycling of softening residuals as an agricultural lime material.

The Smart Water Program, which uses various marketing approaches to encourage water conservation, is also included in this activity.

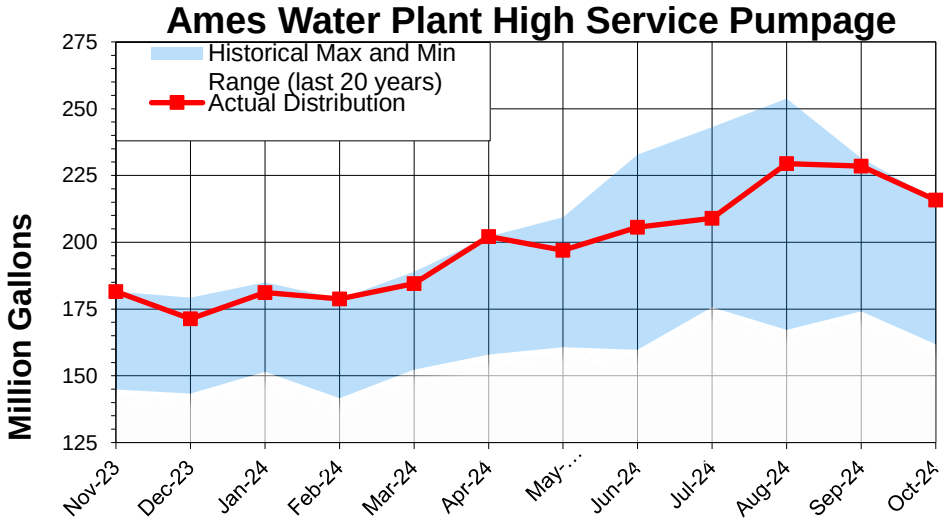
| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Water Plant Administration | 517,090 | 588,842 | 616,691 | 620,509 | 5.4% |
| Water Conservation/Marketing | 9,033 | 55,492 | 26,287 | 49,688 | -10.5% |
| Water Production | 382,486 | 607,999 | 583,567 | 592,417 | -2.6% |
| Water Treatment | 2,004,018 | 2,455,620 | 2,419,967 | 2,544,282 | 3.6% |
| Lime Sludge Disposal | 200,960 | 408,984 | 557,884 | 411,127 | 0.5% |
| Water Pumping | 295,577 | 437,700 | 491,465 | 487,881 | 11.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 3,409,164 | 4,554,637 | 4,695,861 | 4,705,904 | 3.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,003,291 | 1,254,329 | 1,197,437 | 1,301,402 | 3.8% |
| Internal Services | 404,870 | 450,563 | 468,953 | 499,428 | 10.9% |
| Contractual | 1,030,284 | 1,589,989 | 1,815,280 | 1,569,739 | -1.3% |
| Commodities | 966,440 | 1,239,576 | 1,191,811 | 1,330,905 | 7.4% |
| Capital | - | 16,500 | 17,950 | - | -100.0% |
| Other Expenditures | 4,279 | 3,680 | 4,430 | 4,430 | 20.4% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 3,409,164 | 4,554,637 | 4,695,861 | 4,705,904 | 3.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Water Utility Fund | 3,409,164 | 4,554,637 | 4,695,861 | 4,705,904 | 3.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 3,409,164 | 4,554,637 | 4,695,861 | 4,705,904 | 3.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 9.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 | |

# Water Treatment Plant Operations

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Maintain a treatment plant capacity capable of meeting the peak three-day average demand | Billions of gallons per year pumped from wells | 2.33 | 2.25 | 2.36 | 2.36 |
| | | Average day pumpage to system, MGD (15MGD capacity) | 6.69 | 6.58 | 6.83 | 6.83 |
| | | Peak day pumpage to system, MGD | 9.22 | 9.49 | 9.64 | 9.64 |
| | | Cost per MG pumped | $1,511 | $1,515 | $1,978 | $1,993 |
| | Provide drinking water that meets all federal and state standards | Months in compliance with water quality standards | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| | | Months in compliance with reporting standards | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| | Rehabilitate wells on a regular schedule to maintain capacity | Number of wells rehabilitated per total number of wells | 4/22 | 4/22 | 4/22 | 4/22 |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Maximize energy efficiency throughout the operation | Overall energy efficiency (kW-hr/MG treated) | 2,546 | 3,028 | 2,871 | 2,950 |
| | Sustainably recycle lime solids | Wet tons/year recycled | 49,445 | 13,099 | 36,000 | 26,000 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The abnormally dry conditions and the need to irrigate continue to drive the demand for water. Four of the historical monthly peak demands over the last twenty years occurred in the last twelve-month period as reflected in the graph below. The red line trends the production over this period. It overlays the twenty-year historical maximum and minimum demand (in blue) over the twenty-year period 2005 to 2024. The dry conditions also affect the groundwater table level. Some of the wells are throttled during these periods so that the rate of pumping out of the wells does not exceed the rate of the aquifer recharge in the area. Throttling of the wells leads to an increase in energy use and cost. Additionally, an increase in water demand leads to an increase in the chemical costs. These two scenarios lead to an increase in commodity expenses, with corresponding increases in revenue.




- Preventive and predictive maintenance needs in the FY 2024/25 budget include: upgrading the controls at Ada Hayden control gate, the rehabilitation of four wells, and the replacement of flow meters and the associated spools and couplings at six wells.

# Water Treatment Plant Operations

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets, continued

- Fluctuation in the availability and the price of raw materials used to produce water treatment chemicals, global economic factors and the rise in energy costs, in addition to stricter regulations in water treatment and cybersecurity continue to affect the treatment budget. The cost of lime is expected to rise at 6.5%, sodium hypochlorite by 6.0%, carbon dioxide by 5.5%, phosphate by 4.0%, fluoride by 8.73%, and ammonia by 4.62% based on 4 to 20-year aggregates in these chemicals. Updates to SCADA software, human machine interfaces for operational control, and the urgent need to replace the backwash recovery tank valve impact the treatment activities.
- Maintenance costs to service equipment and the costs for replacement parts for ancillary equipment used in treatment continue to rise and impact the treatment budget.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Derecho that hit Ames on August 10, 2020, demonstrated the necessity to have dedicated emergency standby power available for key infrastructure. Projects are underway to provide emergency power to the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex Well Field, the State and Mortensen (SAM) Booster Station, and the North River Valley (NRV) Well Field.
- The Hunziker Youth Sports Complex Well Field Project is utilizing a Hazard Mitigation Grant from FEMA. Eighty-six percent of the total cost of the project will be covered by the grant and the balance 14% will be covered by the Utility (City of Ames). This project is currently in the design phase. The estimated cost is $1.957 million.
- The construction contract for the SAM Booster Station Standby Power Project has been completed. This project will impact FY 2025/26 costs for fuel and maintenance.
- The NRV Well Field Project will have two new wells connected to the backup generator at the Water Plant. The third well location is not a viable option due to inadequate flow capacity at this site; hence, it has been dropped. These two new wells will be added to the well rehabilitation maintenance schedule and will appear in the operating budget in FY 2029/30.



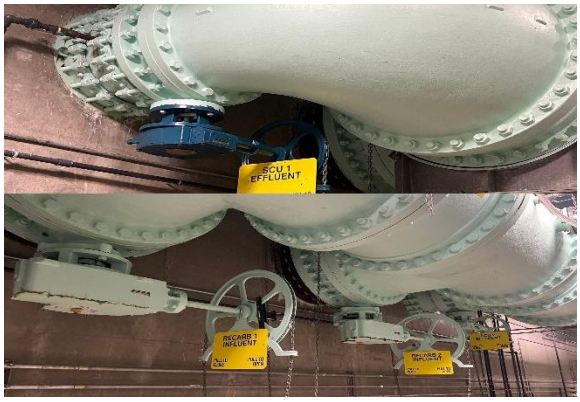
A well in the Southeast Well Field. The new security fencing installed during the summer of 2024 is visible.

- A new variable frequency drive is being installed on High Service Pump D at the New Water Plant Pumping Station, located at 1300 East 13th Street, to adequately control the speed of the motor and pump, regulate flow rate and discharge pressure, and reduce mechanical stress on connecting equipment and piping.
- Online chlorine analyzers will be installed at specific sites in the distribution system to provide continuous monitoring of the total chlorine levels in multiple locations throughout the distribution network.
- Piping at the Old High Service Pumping Station will be cleaned along with some of the associated appurtenances and repainted to curtail corrosion. This was last addressed in 1995.

# Water Treatment Plant Operations

### In-Progress Activities, continued

- The Lime Lagoon Improvement Project will revitalize the underdrain in two of the older lime pond dewatering cells. This will help to curtail the costs in future operating budgets for the disposal of the sludge by enhancing the rate of dewatering and drying of sludge for hauling.
- The supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) upgrade, the security cameras update, and the upgrades to the door access system into the water plant, will improve cybersecurity and risk management at the facility.
- The Solids Contact Unit and the Recarbonation Valve Actuators Project will install actuated controls on these valves.
- The Split Treatment Project will achieve savings in lime, carbon dioxide, and lime sludge hauling.




Solids Contact Unit and Recarbonation Valves. The manual chain wheel operators will be replaced with new mechanically actuated controls.

### Upcoming Activities

- Major projects planned in FY 2025/26 include the following:
  - Installing a third lime slaking unit at the water plant will allow for the withdrawal of lime from either bin into the new unit. This addition allows the plant to have a backup lime system with improved operational flexibility and redundancy.
  - Installing additional pressure monitoring devices in the distribution system to monitor the pressure will help to identify leaks, prevent infrastructure failures, and more accurately model the system.
  - Installing security fencing around the SAM Pumping Station to secure the facility.

# Water Pollution Control Facility Operation

## Description:

This activity involves both the operation and maintenance of the Water Pollution Control (WPC) facility. The overall goal of this activity is to provide treatment of wastewater and solids to allow their return to the environment in a sound, sustainable fashion. A closely related goal is to meet all applicable State and Federal Clean Water Act standards. More than 90% of the conventional pollutants (i.e., biochemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, ammonia) are removed during treatment and nonconventional parameters (i.e., heavy metals, other toxins) are reduced at the source or treated to levels below any adverse effect.

The WPC Facility Operations activity also includes the operation of the WPC farm. The land is owned by the City and used for application of the treated biosolids. A long-standing farm management agreement is in place with a neighboring farmer whose ground is also used for biosolids application. This activity also includes the maintenance of the early flood warning system.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WPC Plant Administration | 553,091 | 596,301 | 595,369 | 624,732 | 4.8% |
| Flood Warning System | 22,356 | 20,120 | 18,235 | 15,415 | -23.4% |
| Plant Maintenance | 633,962 | 793,914 | 780,055 | 811,146 | 2.2% |
| Plant Operations | 1,419,873 | 1,634,475 | 1,681,608 | 1,722,558 | 5.4% |
| WPC Farm Operations | 55,762 | 60,781 | 76,781 | 80,000 | 31.6% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,685,044 | 3,105,591 | 3,152,048 | 3,253,851 | 4.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,379,717 | 1,514,860 | 1,490,272 | 1,589,171 | 4.9% |
| Internal Services | 448,183 | 492,487 | 500,273 | 539,674 | 9.6% |
| Contractual | 610,939 | 798,963 | 788,758 | 798,606 | 0.0% |
| Commodities | 235,815 | 288,500 | 311,964 | 315,400 | 9.3% |
| Capital | - | - | 50,000 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 10,390 | 10,781 | 10,781 | 11,000 | 2.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,685,044 | 3,105,591 | 3,152,048 | 3,253,851 | 4.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 2,685,044 | 3,105,591 | 3,152,048 | 3,253,851 | 4.8% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 2,685,044 | 3,105,591 | 3,152,048 | 3,253,851 | 4.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 12.00 | 12.00 | 12.00 | 12.00 | |

# Water Pollution Control Facility Operations

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Protect the environment and public health by treating wastewater from the Ames community | Daily average flow (MGD) | 5.75 | 5.75 | 6.00 | 6.25 |
| | | Design capacity (8.6 MGD) | 67% | 67% | 70% | 73% |
| | | Cost per MG treated | $1,240 | $1,276 | $1,445 | $1,425 |
| | Meet the discharge limits set by the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit | Compliance (out of 2,346 numeric limits) | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | Consecutive years with 100% permit compliance | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| | | $BOD_5$ % removal efficiency (minimum 85% required)* | 95% | 95% | 95% | 95% |
| | | TSS % removal efficiency (minimum 85% required)** | 97% | 97% | 95% | 95% |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Operate and maintain the plant and administer the land application program in an environmentally sustainable manner | Biosolids recycled (tons/year) | 704 | 574 | 625 | 650 |
| | | Methane gas production (million cubic feet/year - estimated) | 22.8 | 22.4 | 25.0 | 26.0 |
| | | On-site electricity production, as % of total plant demand | 0% | 3% | 16% | 20% |
| | | Energy efficiency - total (kW-hr/MG treated) | 2,500 | 2,554 | 2,450 | 2,450 |

* $BOD_5$ (Biochemical Oxygen Demand)
**TSS (Total Suspended Solids)

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- A portion of the increase in FY 2025/26 internal services is attributed to risk insurance costs increasing over $39,000, a 24% increase over FY 2024/25.
- The UV (Ultraviolet) disinfection system requires upgrades to its system control center and hydraulic system center due to phasing out of components by manufacturers. These upgrades ensure the system will continue to efficiently function and can be properly serviced. These upgrades also ensure compliance with our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit. The capital expense of $50,000 shown in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget.
- The City took possession of an additional 120 acres of farmland for biosolids disposal. The additional acres lead to increased seed costs as well as fertilizer costs depending on the crop rotation. These acres help ensure the City can continue to land apply biosolids from its liquid storage lagoon at a lower cost rather than drying the biosolids for offsite disposal. A corresponding increase in farm income will offset these costs.
- In FY 2024/25, a primary digester was cleaned as part of regular maintenance. This cleaning leads to additional hauling costs for biosolids disposal. Regular cleaning of the digesters ensures optimal performance and breakdown of volatile solids, which helps produce more biogas and ensure the biosolids that are applied meet EPA standards for land application.
- The plant continues to see low flows due to the ongoing drought. At times, this leads to increased ammonia concentrations that are difficult to treat in the normal operating mode. While the plant continues to meet its ammonia limits, doing so makes it a complex challenge to meet the pH limits. Plant staff has found that running an additional pump to increase the recycle flow allows the plant to use the natural alkalinity more effectively. This increases electricity usage for pumping, but it has been found to be more cost effective than feeding sodium bicarbonate to increase the plant alkalinity.
- Staff will be evaluating wireless lift station and sewer flow monitoring systems to give operators more information on alarms and station performance that can be tied in with the current distribution monitoring system. The FY 2025/26 CIP will include $100,000 to upgrade the system.

# Water Pollution Control Facility Operations

**In-Progress Activities**

- Phase 1 of the Nutrient Reduction Modifications project construction has begun. This phase includes two new aeration basins, an electrical building, a sludge pumping building, headworks modifications, and an administrative building. Staff has selected the treatment technology for the facility that will be in place for decades to come. The process will utilize a biological nutrient removal activated sludge system with a low dissolved oxygen swing zone. The swing zone will allow the facility the ability to function as a simultaneous nitrification-denitrification (SNDN) system. SNDN is a technology that has been shown to have significant energy savings due to its lower air usage, but its use is relatively new this far north.
- The Ames Water Pollution Control Facility received the Platinum 34 *Peak Performance Award* in 2024 from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. The award recognizes 34 years of perfect compliance with the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). 34 years represents the second longest compliance record in the nation. The facility completed calendar year 2024 with perfect compliance once again, and receipt of a Platinum 35 award next year is expected.




**Upcoming Activities**

- Improvements to the Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Receiving Station are planned in FY 2025/26. This will include paving the unloading areas, changing to more appropriate pumping capabilities, and better incorporating the ability to accept hauled food waste that has been diverted away from the Resource Recovery Plant. The funds were originally authorized in FY 2023/24, but the majority of the expense is now shown as delayed to allow time to better coordinate with any new food waste diversion programs. $225,000 is planned in FY 2025/26 for initial design work as needed, with the remaining $1,500,000 deferred to FY 2026/27. This project helps achieve the "reduction in waste emissions" action step in the City's Climate Action Plan. The diverted food waste will be anaerobically digested to produce additional methane that can be used for on-site electricity generation at the WPC Facility.
- Clarifier maintenance is slated to occur in FY 2026/27 and FY 2027/28. Routine inspections and recoating of surfaces keep the structures from deteriorating and requiring full replacement of components.
- Freel Drive Lift Station pumps and controls have reached their end of useful life and are due for replacement. The reliability of the components prevents water from backing up in basements and limits call outs by staff to address broken down equipment. FY 2026/27 has $365,000 allocated for the work.





Nutrient Reduction Phase 1 progress. Addition to the Sludge Pumping Building (left) and construction of the new Administration Building (right).



Interior of a primary digester during cleaning to improve performance and increase capacity.



Clarifier being refilled after inspection



Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection System

# W&PC Laboratory

## Description:

This activity involves overall laboratory services for the Water Treatment Plant and Water Pollution Control Plant, including lime sludge recycling operations, all safe drinking water analysis required by state and federal regulatory agencies, the Industrial Pretreatment Program, and biosolids recycling activities. Analytical capabilities also allow for routine sampling to screen for the potential presence of unregulated constituents, developing trend information, and identifying constituents which may become regulated in the future.

Laboratory services for other departments (i.e., Public Works, Electric Services, and Parks and Recreation) are provided within the Laboratory's existing analytical capabilities and workload. The Laboratory expenses are split between the Water Utility Fund (35%) and the Sewer Utility Fund (65%), based on the proportionate workload.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 538,006 | 591,401 | 513,085 | 578,177 | -2.2% |
| Internal Services | 30,770 | 39,248 | 33,463 | 36,337 | -7.4% |
| Contractual | 54,820 | 74,922 | 82,612 | 78,957 | 5.4% |
| Commodities | 46,159 | 41,757 | 42,507 | 41,907 | 0.4% |
| Capital | 6,515 | 6,500 | 13,531 | 6,500 | 0.0% |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 676,270 | 753,828 | 685,198 | 741,878 | -1.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Water Utility Fund | 236,695 | 263,840 | 239,819 | 259,657 | -1.6% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 439,575 | 489,988 | 445,379 | 482,221 | -1.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 676,270 | 753,828 | 685,198 | 741,878 | -1.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | |

# W&PC Laboratory

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Maintain Environmental Laboratory Certification | Consecutive years Lab Certified | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | | Drinking water quality samples collected | 1,203 | 1,274 | 1,150 | 1,150 |
| | | River water quality samples collected | 294 | 290 | 280 | 280 |
| | Perform sampling and analysis in support of City facilities/programs | Industrial pretreatment samples collected | 98 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | | WPC Plant samples collected | 1,742 | 1,883 | 1,800 | 1,800 |
| | | Total samples processed | 3,437 | 3,590 | 3,150 | 3,150 |
| | | Total analyses | 12,289 | 12,235 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| | | Analyses completed in-house | 90% | 92% | 92% | 92% |
| | | Average cost per analysis | $52.74 | $55.27 | $57.10 | $61.82 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Staffing changes in FY 2024/25 included the retirement of the Laboratory Supervisor and a Lab Analyst vacancy that resulted from an internal promotion. These changes decreased the overall salaries and temporarily increased the cost for analysis by outside commercial labs.
- The construction of the new North River Valley raw well water line for the Water Treatment Plant alone has generated 193 samples in 2024, for a cost of approximately $2,772 in supplies and labor. This project is ongoing.

## In-Progress Activities

- In partnership with Prairie Rivers of Iowa, the lab continues to analyze stream samples from 15 locations in Story County each month for concentrations of nitrate, total phosphorous, total suspended solids, and *E. coli* bacteria.
- The lead service line inventory has been completed, and approximately 250 Ames residents received letters identifying their homes as currently or formerly containing some lead plumbing. The lab is preparing for additional lead testing in response to customers who may be concerned.



Sample collection bottles are prepared weekly for delivery to the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF). Samples are collected daily by WPCF Operators and brought to the lab every weekday morning.

## Upcoming Activities

- With staffing changes including recruitment for a Lab Analyst and a Lab Aide, there will be increased focus on professional development opportunities for new staff members. These may include short courses, webinars, certificates, or even continuing education at the university level.
- As the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) moves forward with renovations for the nutrient reduction plan, the lab will be receiving a larger number of samples from WPCF. Before the switch from the current system is complete, the two systems will be running in parallel, likely resulting in twice the number of lab samples.

# W&PC Metering Services

## Description:

Because the water and wastewater utilities operate as self-sustaining enterprises, water usage by all customers must be metered as accurately as possible. For nearly all customers, both their water and wastewater bills are based on their water meter readings. Program activities include installing meters on new services/irrigation systems, replacing existing meters on a routine change schedule, and responding to a wide variety of service calls. Through the meter service and leak detection activities, the goal is to maintain unaccounted for water below 10% of total delivery to the mains. Expenses for metering are shared between the Water Utility Fund (55%) and the Sewer Utility Fund (45%) based on the proportionate number of utility accounts.

Beginning on January 1, 1996, state and federal mandates required the City to implement a Cross-Connection Control Program (i.e., backflow prevention) to further protect the water supply from potential contamination sources. Cross Connection Control expenses are paid for through the Water Utility Fund (90%) and the Sewer Utility Fund (10%).

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Meter Services | 913,082 | 1,092,887 | 1,189,424 | 1,127,920 | 3.2% |
| Cross Connection Control | 121,763 | 129,682 | 125,264 | 131,493 | 1.4% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,034,845 | 1,222,569 | 1,314,688 | 1,259,413 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 646,933 | 677,896 | 675,244 | 709,285 | 4.6% |
| Internal Services | 50,732 | 60,516 | 56,081 | 56,536 | -6.6% |
| Contractual | 56,267 | 71,507 | 71,923 | 68,742 | -3.9% |
| Commodities | 280,913 | 412,650 | 511,440 | 414,850 | 0.5% |
| Capital | - | - | - | 10,000 | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,034,845 | 1,222,569 | 1,314,688 | 1,259,413 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Water Utility Fund | 611,782 | 717,817 | 766,921 | 738,700 | 2.9% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 423,063 | 504,752 | 547,767 | 520,713 | 3.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,034,845 | 1,222,569 | 1,314,688 | 1,259,413 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | |

# W&PC Metering Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide accurate metering for fiscal accountability at the best price | Primary meters in service | 19,431 | 19,519 | 19,675 | 19,875 |
| | | Deduct meters in service | 1,264 | 1,247 | 1,200 | 1,220 |
| | | Meters converted to Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) | 72% | 78% | 85% | 90% |
| | | Average operating cost per meter in service | $44.85 | $49.80 | $58.44 | $59.51 |
| | | Meter installations from new construction per year | 207 | 107 | 150 | 200 |
| | | Non-routine meter changes | 52 | 21 | 50 | 50 |
| | Maintain unaccounted for water below 10% | Water loss as a % of total water pumped to mains | 9.1% | 9.8% | 9.5% | 9.5% |
| | Reduce the potential for contamination of drinking water from cross-connections | Backflow devices in service | 3,206 | 3,221 | 3,240 | 3,260 |

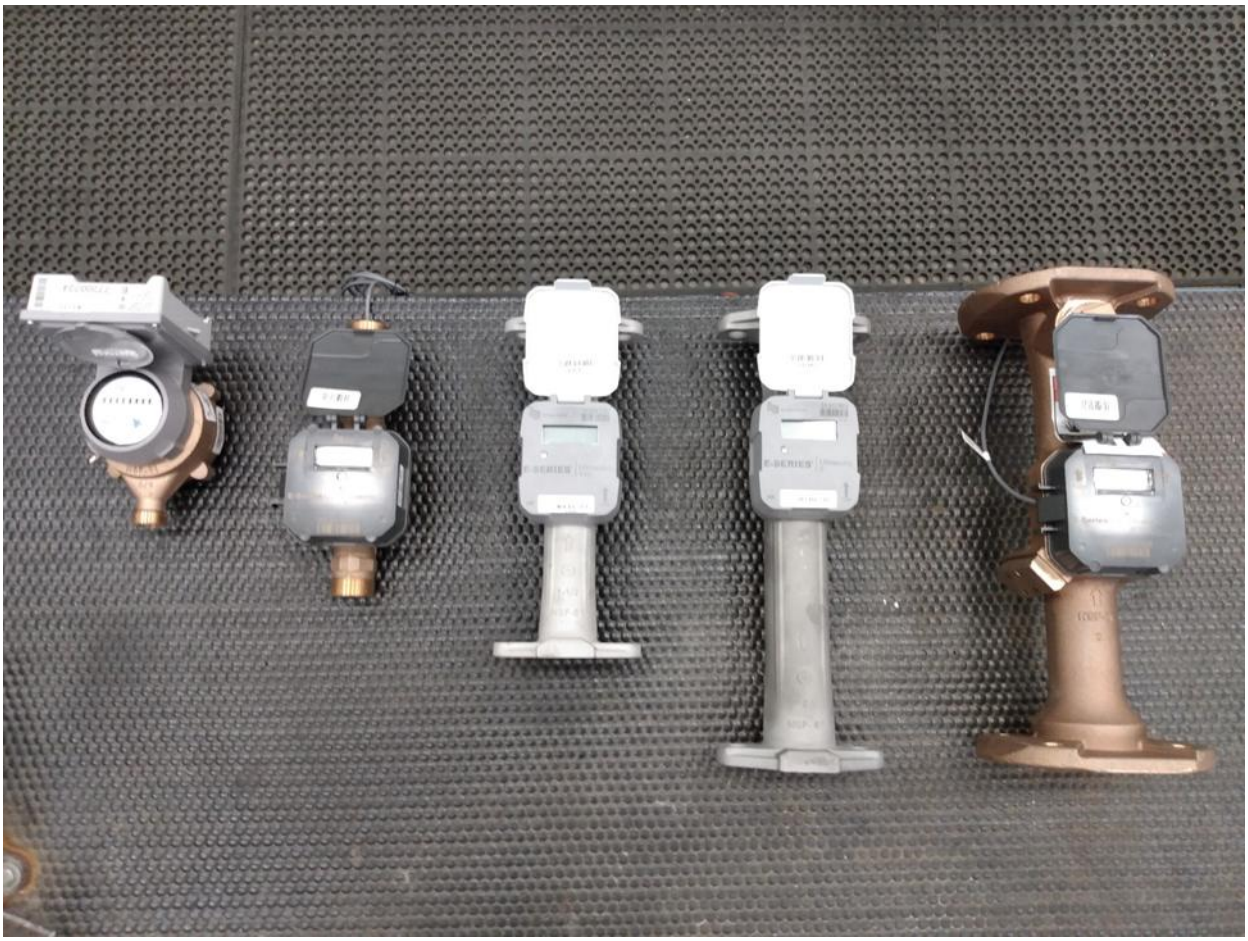
## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The availability of water meters and parts, which includes encoder receiver transmitters, (or ERTs, the radio component) has improved over this past year. Staff is working with distributors and vendors to procure some of the meters and reading components separately, as this accelerates delivery times. Inventory in the meter shop has somewhat stabilized, but staff continues to defer performing routine changes on large apartment buildings as this could deplete the inventory quickly and lead times to replenish the inventory are still uncertain.
- New residential construction is continuing to slow down, and the numbers above reflect this trend. However, there are three new residential development sites. With interest rates declining, staff should see more new housing development. The new industrial zones and the research park have increased the number of larger meters staff is installing.
- The current year is the last year that the conversion to Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) will be budgeted in the Capital Improvements Plan. Any remaining meters will be handled through the routine operating budget.
- The Cross-Connection Control Program (sometimes referred to as the backflow prevention program) continues to run smoothly. Staff is looking into new ways to assist customers in complying with the program requirements. The Cross-Connection Control Coordinator is making door hangers and will make stops at customers' residences and businesses to inform them of the importance of the backflow device to public health and safety.
- The water loss percentage is slightly higher in FY 2023/24 due to improved recordkeeping that provides a more accurate accounting than before. Staff has been working closely with homeowners to get privately owned leaking service lines replaced. FY 2024/25 began with thirteen leaking services and is down to six.
- As the Technical Services Complex building ages there is a need for more repairs and maintenance to be performed. The boiler needs a new flu pipe installed and the drinking fountain needs replacement. Staff has added an additional $3,850 for equipment replacement and $2,000 to the structural repairs budget for expected future needs, both in FY 2024/25.
- The sandblasting cabinet at the Meter Shop is worn out and needs replacement. Staff has budgeted $10,000 for this capital expense in FY 2025/26.

# W&PC Metering Services

**In-Progress Activities**

- The Water Meter Division is currently 78% complete with installation of the AMR (Automated Meter Reading) project.



This photo shows the most common meter sizes from a 5/8”x3/4” mechanical residential meter up to a 3” commercial ultrasonic meter. They range in flow rates from .25 gpm up to 550 gpm.

- The Water Meter Division is in the process of converting all 1” and 1-½" positive displacement (mechanical) style meters to ultrasonic meters, which require no maintenance and offer an expected service life of 20 years; far longer than the old-style meters which had to be changed out every two to three years.
- The Water Meter Division is installing ultrasonic meters in all 2” and 3” settings now instead of using magnetic (mag) meters for these locations. They are a very accurate meter, and more cost effective than mag meters. They still offer a 20-year life, the same as a mag meter.
- The three Water Meter Technicians have been very busy rebuilding all “low lead” meters that come back into the shop. They test every meter coming out of service. Where possible, the meters are rebuilt and tested again to confirm their accuracy before being reinstalled in a new location. The technicians performed 1,484 meter tests and rebuilt 242 meters last year, and will test and rebuild even more in FY 2025/26. This saves the division money by not having to replace the meters with new units.

# W&PC Metering Services

- The Water Meter Division is working with Customer Service to remove no or low use deduct (yard) meters. This saves the customer a monthly fee and makes the billing system less confusing for Customer Service. The number of deduct meters in the performance measurers table reflects this.



This photo shows a typical house and yard meter installation in an Ames home. The water flows through the house (lower meter) first, then any water that is used for outside purposes flows through the yard (upper meter).

**Upcoming Activities**

- The Water Meter Division is working with a team from multiple departments and a consultant to find an Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) solution to support the City's growing needs of electric and water meter reading capabilities. This new system will enable a much more detailed view of our water and electric reads and allow customers a portal to see real-time usage.

# Water Distribution System Maintenance

## Description:

The Water Distribution activity is responsible for the maintenance of the City's water distribution system. This includes repairing water main breaks as quickly and efficiently as possible, maintaining fire hydrants to ensure workability when needed for emergency purposes, and constructing minor improvements to the water distribution system as needed. Other responsibilities of the activity include the annual hydrant flushing program and utility locating for the Iowa One Call program.

Most of the expenses of this activity are incurred in the Utility Maintenance division of the Public Works department. Public Works administrative and engineering costs associated with the water distribution system are also allocated to this activity.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 911,942 | 1,038,775 | 992,190 | 1,086,058 | 4.6% |
| Internal Services | 236,674 | 248,301 | 282,213 | 283,064 | 14.0% |
| Contractual | 68,363 | 43,909 | 49,781 | 49,290 | 12.3% |
| Commodities | 194,055 | 194,500 | 209,500 | 214,500 | 10.3% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenditure Subtotal*** | 1,411,034 | 1,525,485 | 1,533,684 | 1,632,912 | 7.0% |
| *Plus: Expenditures allocated from another program/activity:* | | | | | |
| Public Works Administration | 142,415 | 155,990 | 156,398 | 164,198 | 5.3% |
| Public Works Engineering | 59,576 | 56,372 | 55,432 | 58,526 | 3.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 77,969 | 118,399 | 107,809 | 120,062 | 1.4% |
| *Total Allocations* | 279,960 | 330,761 | 319,639 | 342,786 | 3.6% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,690,994 | 1,856,246 | 1,853,323 | 1,975,698 | 6.4% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Water Utility Fund | 1,690,994 | 1,856,246 | 1,853,323 | 1,975,698 | 6.4% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,690,994 | 1,856,246 | 1,853,323 | 1,975,698 | 6.4% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 9.39 | 9.34 | 9.34 | 9.34 | |

# Water Distribution System Maintenance

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Maintain and repair the water distribution system to ensure safe and continuous distribution of water | Miles of water main in system | 254 | 257 | 257 | 258 |
| | | Cost per mile to maintain | $5,656 | $5,492 | $5,968 | $6,329 |
| | | Water main breaks | 24 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| | | City water main breaks per mile* | 0.094 | 0.097 | 0.097 | 0.097 |
| | | Rusty water complaints | 8 | 5 | 10 | 10 |
| | | Ames on the Go issues reported | 45 | 14 | 25 | 25 |
| | | Days to resolve Ames on the Go issues | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| | Maintain fire hydrants in good working order for emergency situations | Fire hydrants in system | 3,078 | 3,140 | 3,150 | 3,160 |
| | | Valves in system | 3,762 | 3,825 | 3,840 | 3,855 |
| | | Valves tested | 968 | 1,072 | 900 | 900 |
| | | Hydrants repaired | 19 | 19 | 20 | 20 |
| | Perform utility locates to ensure safety | Locates performed | 8,019 | 8,716 | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| | | Cost per locate performed | $14.67 | $16.20 | $18.67 | $20.60 |

*2024 Utah State University Region 4 Watermain Break Average (0.134 breaks per mile)

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Fleet equipment replacement and maintenance costs have increased rapidly in recent years due to post-pandemic supply chain constraints. Fleet replacement escrow costs are being impacted by increased costs of replacement equipment. Maintenance costs are being impacted by increases in costs for parts. This amounts to an increase of $31,000 in FY 2024/25 and $35,000 in FY 2025/26.
- Upfitting cost for a utility response truck is expected to be $15,000 more than what is currently in the fleet escrow account. The chassis is already purchased, and delivery is expected in early 2025. This truck is necessary when responding to watermain breaks and sanitary sewer overflows as it carries the equipment and tools to perform repairs during emergency response events. Half of the required amount ($7,500) is included in Water Distribution in FY 2024/25 and the other half in Sanitary Sewer Maintenance.

## In-Progress Activities

- Water valves that have deteriorated bolts will continue to be repaired in FY 2024/25. This proactive maintenance activity allows staff to ensure valves work properly during planned shutdowns and emergency repairs. 638 valves have been repaired and an estimated 152 remain to be addressed in the next three years.
- A study by Utah State University in 2024 provided updated data on watermain breaks across the United States. The average frequency of watermain breaks in the region where the City of Ames is located equates to 0.134 breaks per mile of watermain. This figure is roughly 40% lower than previous estimates of watermain break frequencies. Over the past decade, the City's frequency has been around 0.100 breaks per mile of watermain. Staff will continue to pursue maintenance activities that will help minimize the frequency of watermain breaks.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff proactively operates and exercises water valves and hydrants, including through the spring flushing program. This activity aids in identifying issues that can then be repaired. This increases the reliability of the water distribution system.

# Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance

## Description:

The Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance activity is responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the City's sanitary sewer collection system. This includes flushing the lines on a regular basis, as well as repairing damaged lines and manholes. Manhole covers are changed to prevent infiltration by storm water during heavy rains.

Most of the expenses of this activity are incurred in the Utility Maintenance division of the Public Works department. Public Works administrative and engineering costs associated with the sanitary sewer system are also allocated to this activity.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 487,021 | 401,627 | 392,155 | 418,997 | 4.3% |
| Internal Services | 123,119 | 160,148 | 165,796 | 135,511 | -15.4% |
| Contractual | 42,440 | 55,191 | 57,613 | 57,613 | 4.4% |
| Commodities | 70,371 | 42,850 | 48,350 | 48,350 | 12.8% |
| Capital | 6,625 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 0.0% |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenditure Subtotal*** | 729,576 | 684,816 | 688,914 | 685,471 | 0.1% |
| *Plus: Expenditures allocated from another program/activity:* | | | | | |
| Public Works Administration | 142,415 | 155,990 | 156,398 | 164,198 | 5.3% |
| Public Works Engineering | 68,148 | 65,767 | 64,671 | 68,280 | 3.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 77,969 | 118,399 | 107,809 | 120,062 | 1.4% |
| *Total Allocations* | 288,532 | 340,156 | 328,878 | 352,540 | 3.6% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,018,108 | 1,024,972 | 1,017,792 | 1,038,011 | 1.3% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 1,018,108 | 1,024,972 | 1,017,792 | 1,038,011 | 1.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,018,108 | 1,024,972 | 1,017,792 | 1,038,011 | 1.3% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 3.38 | 3.33 | 3.33 | 3.33 | |

# Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Maintain and repair the sanitary sewer collection system | Miles of sanitary sewer in collection system | 215 | 218 | 218 | 218 |
| | | Cost per mile to maintain | $2,412 | $3,347 | $3,160 | $3,145 |
| | | Manholes in collection system | 4,366 | 4,427 | 4,430 | 4,440 |
| | | Lineal feet of sewer cleaned | 176,300 | 186,058 | 180,000 | 180,000 |
| | | Sanitary sewer collection system cleaned | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% |
| | | Lineal feet of sewer acoustically tested (SL-RAT) | 77,313 | 23,779 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| | | Acoustically tested sewer rated good/fair condition | 92% | 74% | 85% | 85% |
| | | Ames on the Go reports | 11 | 5 | 10 | 10 |
| | | Average days to resolve Ames on the Go reports | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| | Perform utility locates to ensure safety | Locates performed | 8,019 | 8,716 | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| | | Cost per locate performed | $14.67 | $16.20 | $18.67 | $20.60 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Upfitting cost for a utility response truck is expected to be $15,000 more than what is currently in the fleet escrow account. The chassis is already purchased, and delivery is expected in early 2025. This truck is necessary when responding to watermain breaks and sanitary sewer overflows as it carries the equipment and tools to perform repairs during emergency response events. Half of the required amount ($7,500) is included in Water Distribution in FY 2024/25 and the other half in Sanitary Sewer Maintenance.
- Replacement of the video capture hardware equipment ($25,000) is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget. The frequency and extent of the repairs to the equipment is escalating to the point that replacing the equipment is necessary. Repair time frames are taking months as the only repair center is in Wisconsin and the parts necessary to repair are not readily available. As a result, the cost of the repairs is also increasing. This video capture unit is a critical tool in diagnosing necessary repairs within the sanitary sewer system.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff continues to provide preventative maintenance through cleaning and jetting sewers, which aids in eliminating potential sewer blockages.
- Staff will be working to replace all of the aging sewer flow monitors, an initiative which began in FY 2023/24. These flow monitors provide real-time data on the sanitary sewer system and are important parts of the modeling that is done to verify capacity for future growth scenarios across the City.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will continue the use of acoustic testing technology in sanitary sewer segments to determine which segments need cleaning. This technology is significantly more accurate, efficient, and cost-effective than simply jetting and cleaning a segment of pipe. The increase in data aids in guiding the cleaning and repair activities to the highest priority areas.

# Stormwater Permit Program

**Description:**

The Stormwater Permit Program is the activity responsible for the management of the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. This activity, which is managed by Public Works Engineering, reviews and enforces stormwater management plans and stormwater pollution prevention plans and ordinances including Illicit Discharge, Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control, and Post-Construction Stormwater Management. Another key component of this activity is public outreach and education on stormwater issues.

The Stormwater specialists working in this activity also assist the Engineering division with capital improvement projects. Expenses related to those projects are charged directly to the CIP projects.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 284,762 | 314,443 | 292,393 | 308,432 | -1.9% |
| Internal Services | 43,241 | 37,180 | 38,380 | 38,426 | 3.4% |
| Contractual | 79,483 | 104,990 | 105,570 | 127,753 | 21.7% |
| Commodities | 10,535 | 19,850 | 10,850 | 7,350 | -63.0% |
| Capital | - | - | 20,000 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 15,811 | 10,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 50.0% |
| ***Expenditure Subtotal*** | 433,832 | 486,463 | 482,193 | 496,961 | 2.2% |
| *Less: Expenditures allocated to other programs/activities:* | | | | | |
| CIP Projects | (56,263) | (40,000) | (50,000) | (50,000) | 25.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 377,569 | 446,463 | 432,193 | 446,961 | 0.1% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | 377,569 | 446,463 | 432,193 | 446,961 | 0.1% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 377,569 | 446,463 | 432,193 | 446,961 | 0.1% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.90 | 1.90 | 1.90 | 1.90 | |

# Stormwater Permit Program

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Review and monitor stormwater management plans and ordinances | Construction site erosion and sediment control site inspections (private development) | 202 | 150 | 200 | 210 |
| | | Stormwater management (SWM) plans reviewed | 9 | 10 | 15 | 15 |
| | | SWM as-built records completed | 0 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Public education and outreach for community stormwater initiatives | Participation in sustainability events | 26 | 20 | 20 | 15 |
| | | Rain barrel rebates | 27 | 33 | 40 | 45 |
| | | Composter rebates | 9 | 11 | 10 | 12 |
| | | Rain garden rebates | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | | Native landscape rebates | 9 | 6 | 15 | 10 |
| | | Soil quality restoration rebates | 3 | 8 | 6 | 10 |
| | | Native tree rebates | 42 | 23 | 25 | 30 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Stormwater asset software will be acquired in FY 2025/26 ($13,395).
- Due to increased participation in the Smart Watersheds Rebate Program, funding for rebates will increase from $10,000 to $15,000 starting in FY 2024/25.
- The Eco Fair, previously an annual event, will now occur biennially with no event scheduled for FY 2025/26.
- Funding of $20,000 for a remote-control sonar survey boat is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget. This resource will provide stormwater detention and retention basin depth data in a safer and more accurate manner.

## In-Progress Activities

- Stormwater staff are conducting a native landscaping inventory, which will be regularly updated as pollinator-friendly plantings are installed on public and private lands. This inventory supports the goals set forth in the Ames Community Pollinator Plan.

## Upcoming Activities

- Implementation of stormwater asset software will establish a centralized database for managing best management practices (BMPs) both during and post-construction. This tool will support staff in BMP compliance and regulatory MS4 reporting.
- Staff is identifying City and homeowner association owned stormwater basins in need of dredging due to sedimentation.
- Staff will explore the feasibility of performing right-of-way restoration work in-house to improve service quality for the community.

# Stormwater System Maintenance

## Description:

The Stormwater System Maintenance activity is responsible for the inspection and repair of storm sewer outlets, manholes, and outfalls to provide uninterrupted storm water drainage. Street crews perform this activity, along with Street Maintenance, Street Cleaning, and Snow and Ice Control activities. As such, actual expenditures in each activity may vary greatly from year to year depending on the weather and where Street resources need to be allocated.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 187,980 | 232,480 | 226,157 | 237,744 | 2.3% |
| Internal Services | 79,937 | 95,972 | 95,675 | 99,041 | 3.2% |
| Contractual | 29,837 | 33,550 | 40,300 | 44,800 | 33.5% |
| Commodities | 45,002 | 41,500 | 46,500 | 51,500 | 24.1% |
| Capital | 6,625 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenditure Subtotal*** | 349,381 | 403,502 | 408,632 | 433,085 | 7.3% |
| *Plus: Expenditures allocated from another program/activity:* | | | | | |
| Public Works Engineering | 33,163 | 28,186 | 27,716 | 29,263 | 3.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 46,072 | 69,963 | 63,706 | 70,946 | 1.4% |
| *Total Allocations* | 79,235 | 98,149 | 91,422 | 100,209 | 2.1% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 428,616 | 501,651 | 500,054 | 533,294 | 6.3% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | 428,616 | 501,651 | 500,054 | 533,294 | 6.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 428,616 | 501,651 | 500,054 | 533,294 | 6.3% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 2.09 | 2.09 | 2.09 | 2.09 | |

# Stormwater System Maintenance

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide uninterrupted stormwater drainage | Miles of storm sewer in system | 284 | 294 | 294 | 295 |
| | | Cost per mile to maintain | $1,008 | $1,188 | $1,388 | $1,473 |
| | | Lineal footage cleaned and/or televised | 21,545 | 22,698 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| | | Percentage of system televised | 1.4% | 1.5% | 1.6% | 1.6% |
| | | System blockages cleaned | 43 | 48 | 50 | 50 |
| | | Intakes inspected and cleaned | 1,598 | 1,357 | 1,200 | 1,200 |
| | | Intakes/manholes repaired by City crews | 32 | 32 | 30 | 30 |
| | | Average Ames on the Go issues reported | 55 | 43 | 50 | 50 |
| | | Average days to resolve Ames on the Go issues | 4.5 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 5.0 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Contractual costs for repairs to the system that require a contractor are increasing $5,000 in FY 2024/25 and $10,000 in FY 2025/26. These costs are reflective of the increases in labor and materials by contractors.
- Commodity costs are increasing $5,000 in FY 2024/25 and $10,000 in FY 2025/26. These cost increases are tied to the increases in raw materials such as pipe, concrete, and asphalt that are necessary in order to perform repairs in the storm sewer system.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff continues to investigate and selectively clear stormwater easements of debris and downed trees continues as time permits.
- This program enables the City to be highly responsive to citizen requests for service as evidenced by the number of Ames on the Go requests.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff continues to inspect and repair storm sewer intakes and pipes to ensure stormwater flows as efficiently as possible during rain events.

# Resource Recovery

## Description:

Resource Recovery is the program responsible for the operation of the Arnold O. Chantland Resource Recovery Plant. The plant, which started operation in 1975, was the first municipally operated waste-to-energy facility in the nation. Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) is delivered to the facility by private haulers or citizens from participating Story County communities and is disposed through responsible, sustainable, and local solutions. Glass is collected at recycling bins throughout the county. During processing, ferrous, and non-ferrous metals are removed for recycling. The MSW is shredded and separated into two categories. The burnable portion of the MSW becomes Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) and is conveyed to the City's power plant for use as a supplemental fuel with natural gas for generating electricity. The non-burnable MSW is transported to an area landfill. Since it has been shredded during processing, it takes up significantly less volume in the landfill than if it was sent there directly.

The Resource Recovery program also provides for the safe and proper disposal of household hazardous materials (batteries, fireworks, propane tanks, oil, antifreeze, lawn chemicals, and fluorescent bulbs), tires, American flags, sharps, and appliances, coordinates the yard waste program, and is a founding sponsor in the annual Rummage Rampage.

Partners in the program include Ames, Iowa State University, unincorporated Story County, and the communities of Cambridge, Gilbert, Huxley, Kelley, Maxwell, McCallsburg, Nevada, Roland, Slater, Story City, and Zearing.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Resource Recovery Operations | 3,303,783 | 3,653,645 | 3,476,395 | 3,658,539 | 0.1% |
| Reject Disposal | 1,064,874 | 712,663 | 1,090,363 | 1,144,630 | 60.6% |
| Yard Waste Management | 42,965 | 48,010 | 48,000 | 52,000 | 8.3% |
| Landfill Monitoring | 5,139 | 7,800 | 5,700 | 5,500 | -29.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 4,416,761 | 4,422,118 | 4,620,458 | 4,860,669 | 9.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,776,754 | 1,895,981 | 1,739,979 | 1,922,856 | 1.4% |
| Internal Services | 761,964 | 761,462 | 733,366 | 747,233 | -1.9% |
| Contractual | 1,657,579 | 1,398,825 | 1,787,263 | 1,862,930 | 33.2% |
| Commodities | 220,464 | 365,850 | 359,850 | 327,650 | -10.4% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenditure Subtotal*** | 4,416,761 | 4,422,118 | 4,620,458 | 4,860,669 | 9.9% |
| | | | | | |
| *Plus: Expenditures allocated from another program/activity:* | | | | | |
| Public Works Administration | 142,415 | 155,990 | 156,398 | 164,198 | 5.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 4,559,176 | 4,578,108 | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 9.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Resource Recovery Fund | 4,559,176 | 4,578,108 | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 9.8% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 4,559,176 | 4,578,108 | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 9.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 15.00 | 15.00 | 15.00 | 15.00 | |

# Resource Recovery

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide a reliable and efficient means to dispose of municipal solid waste (MSW) | Available system tonnage | 52,377 | 54,147 | 53,500 | 53,500 |
| | | Tons of MSW to landfill | 7,438 | 9,928 | 13,559 | 14,359 |
| | | Tons of MSW processed | 43,847 | 44,219 | 39,441 | 38,641 |
| | | MSW processed | 83.71% | 81.66% | 73.72% | 72.23% |
| | | Landfill disposal cost/ton | $67.15 | $73.23 | $76.50 | $80.00 |
| | | Tons of construction debris to landfill | 32,770 | 24,342 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| | | Tons RDF sold to Electric Utility | 27,930 | 28,109 | 27,500 | 25,000 |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Provide responsible, sustainable, local solutions for solid waste disposal | Pounds of glass recycled | 500,000 | 498,000 | 520,000 | 540,000 |
| | | Pounds of metal recycled | 2,910,000 | 2,913,000 | 2,750,000 | 2,500,000 |
| | | Pounds of cardboard recycled* | 0 | 84,000 | 240,000 | 300,000 |
| | | Pounds of household hazardous materials collected | 28,143 | 31,815 | 32,000 | 32,000 |
| | | Pounds diverted by Rummage RAMPage | 143,838 | 154,843 | 132,782 | 150,000 |
| | | Pounds collected in Food Waste Diversion Program (FWD) | 76,840 | 81,000 | 90,000 | 100,000 |

*excludes carboard recycled directly by Metro Waste Authority

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Continued, unplanned maintenance at the Power Plant reduces tipping fee and recycled metal revenue. This also causes an increase in waste disposal and transportation expenses in FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.
- Revenues for public drop-off and over the scale fees are trending higher in FY 2024/25.
- The recycling drop-off for cardboard, plastics, metal, and mixed paper has experienced increased participation throughout the year and citizen feedback has been very good.
- The recycling commodity markets have been trending downward which will reduce the revenues for the rest of FY 2024/25.
- The contract tipping fee with the Boone County Landfill is expected to increase by $3/ton to $60/ton in FY 2025/26 (additional cost of $307,745). Additionally, the transportation costs have gone from $16.23/ton to $20/ton (additional cost of $124,230).

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff continues to analyze changes to the solid waste system including negotiations to select a new landfill for Municipal Solid Waste and Construction/Demolition Waste.
- A recycling drop-off program was implemented in December of 2023. Since that time, an additional location for clean cardboard drop-off was added at Gateway Hills Park. Staff is currently working to expand the number of drop-off locations, including North Ames and a pilot location in Gilbert.
- Programs for landfill diversion will continue such as Rummage Rampage, Household Hazardous Materials, Great Pumpkin Disposal, along with appliance and tire drop-off.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will work to implement curbside single stream recycling services, institute electronics recycling, and expand drop-off locations. These efforts will reduce waste emissions and increase landfill diversion.
- FY 2025/26 is the last year of the current Yard Waste contract. Staff is analyzing possibilities to provide this as an in-house service.
- Locations for a Solid Waste Transfer Station are being researched. Permitting, design, and construction is planned to begin in FY 2025/26.

# Utility Customer Service

## Description:

The purpose of the Utility Customer Service activity is to provide customer service assistance, meter reading, utility billing, and collection services for the Electric, Water, Sewer, and Storm Water utilities. Additional responsibilities include the maintenance of customer accounts and usage records, as well assisting with the Park Violation Collection activity which also takes place in the Customer Service office area, and the selling of CyRide passes.

Utility Customer Service also administers Electric Service's Project Share program, which collects donations from utility customers that are then applied to the utility bills of customers needing assistance with their accounts.

The Utility Customer Service activity is allocated to the Electric, Water, Sewer, and Storm Water Utility funds based on the percentage of customers and meter readings attributed to each utility.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Utility Customer Service | 1,296,225 | 1,392,893 | 1,416,682 | 1,391,468 | -0.1% |
| Meter Reading | 428,773 | 463,949 | 461,009 | 482,570 | 4.0% |
| Project Share | 22,932 | 19,759 | 18,159 | 18,311 | -7.3% |
| Utility Deposit Interest | 46,266 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,794,196 | 1,876,601 | 1,895,850 | 1,892,349 | 0.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,027,713 | 1,120,990 | 1,122,732 | 1,184,642 | 5.7% |
| Internal Services | 366,194 | 359,815 | 358,491 | 252,838 | -29.7% |
| Contractual | 261,656 | 247,485 | 266,421 | 299,549 | 21.0% |
| Commodities | 9,203 | 10,311 | 10,206 | 17,320 | 68.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 129,430 | 138,000 | 138,000 | 138,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,794,196 | 1,876,601 | 1,895,850 | 1,892,349 | 0.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 879,798 | 901,917 | 908,953 | 909,270 | 0.8% |
| Water Utility Fund | 457,428 | 489,546 | 495,890 | 494,364 | 1.0% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 431,721 | 462,638 | 468,507 | 466,215 | 0.8% |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | 3,293 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 0.0% |
| Project Share Donations | 21,956 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,794,196 | 1,876,601 | 1,895,850 | 1,892,349 | 0.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 10.95 | 10.95 | 10.95 | 10.95 | |

# Utility Customer Service

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Accurately record parking ticket payments and maintain payment records | Customer service requests received over the internet | 10,480 | 11,545 | 13,500 | 14,000 |
| | | Average daily payments processed | 1,346 | 1,381 | 1,390 | 1,400 |
| | | Utility payments received electronically | 68.1% | 70.4% | 71.0% | 71.5% |
| | | Maintain an accuracy rate of no more than 1 billing error per 1,000 bills generated | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Average cost per bill generated | $4.55 | $4.63 | $4.89 | $4.87 |
| | Provide accurate and efficient customer meter reading services | Maintain the number of days accounts are receivable to less than 21 days | 17.25 | 17.39 | 17.50 | 17.50 |
| | | Average daily meter readings | 2,525 | 2,551 | 2,560 | 2,579 |
| | | Accounts with billing periods equal to or less than 34 days | 98.9% | 99.6% | 99.5% | 99.5% |
| | | Maintain accuracy rate of no more than 5 misread meters per 1,000 reads | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Average cost per meter reading | $0.65 | $0.68 | $0.74 | $0.77 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Postage has increased significantly over the past two years and is expected to continue to increase in FY 2025/26.
- Allocation of internal services, specifically computer services, has been adjusted across divisions. Utility Customer Service now has a more appropriate allocation which shows a significant decrease in expenses.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff successfully implemented phone calls to customers as reminders for those who would be posted for non-payment. This practice led to a 25% reduction in postings, and a 6% reduction in disconnections. Staff will work to implement the same process for first notices to reduce postage and help keep accounts current.
- The City is in the process of awarding a vendor for an Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) system. Staff will evaluate current processes to better align with the new capabilities provided by this system.
- Utility Customer Service has adjusted their office hours to provide additional availability to customers outside of the 8:00am-5:00pm timeframe. With the schedule change, additional training opportunities will be provided to staff. This change will be reevaluated in January 2025.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will work with their print vendor to provide a better e-notification option for customers. This pdf option will resemble the mailed bill and will be a major upgrade to the current format. There will be an initial set up cost of $5,500 and $.11 per e-notification.
- Staff will review bill print vendor options. As postal delays continue, staff will identify options for vendors in closer proximity, additional bill print amenities, and efficiencies with the mailing process.
- Staff has operated within the current billing system for the past 20 years. With the new time-of-use rates implemented by Electric, there is a greater need to present customer information in a more detailed manner with current technology to allow customers more transparency and the ability to make effective decisions regarding their rate class. Staff will begin the evaluation process as part of the course of implementing a new AMI system.

# Utilities CIP

**Description:**

This is a summary of the Utilities program capital improvements which are detailed in the City of Ames five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Electric Services:*** | | | | | |
| Advanced Metering Infrastructure | 58,922 | 700,000 | 1,441,078 | 2,000,000 | 185.7% |
| Waste to Energy Study | 12,500 | - | - | - | |
| Electric Vehicle Infrastructure | 31,228 | 200,000 | 461,611 | 100,000 | -50.0% |
| 69kV Transmission Reconstruction | 82,540 | 525,000 | 1,130,781 | 2,000,000 | 281.0% |
| 161 kV Line Relocation | 1,164,830 | - | 341,725 | - | |
| Mortensen Road Underground | 3,283 | - | 153,008 | - | |
| Ontario Substation | 203,535 | - | 1,371,465 | - | |
| Prairie View 161 kV Substation | - | - | 100,000 | 4,000,000 | |
| Priaire View 161kV Line | - | - | - | 250,000 | |
| Mortensen Substation Transformer | 67,845 | 200,000 | 282,155 | - | -100.0% |
| Electric Svcs Storage Building | 4,728 | - | 340,758 | - | |
| Streetlight LED Retrofits | 37,008 | - | 40,000 | - | |
| Streetlight/Line Relocations | 158,099 | 250,000 | 508,771 | 100,000 | -60.0% |
| Fiberoptic Hardware | - | 100,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Electric Distribution Locker Room | 2,700 | - | 107,300 | - | |
| New Thermal Generation | - | - | - | 2,000,000 | |
| Unit 7 Condenser Tubes | - | - | 400,000 | - | |
| Unit 7 Precipitator Enclosure | 64,500 | - | - | - | |
| Unit 7 Air Heater Basket | 339,200 | - | - | - | |
| Unit & Turbine Minor Overhaul | - | 150,000 | 150,000 | - | -100.0% |
| Unit 8 Precipitator Reconstruction | 677,836 | - | - | - | |
| CT Generation Improvements | 66,058 | 740,000 | 2,914,792 | - | -100.0% |
| CT 1 Inspection/Overhaul | (61,990) | - | - | - | |
| CT 1 Failure | - | - | 1,559,770 | | |
| DCS Hardware Upgrade | 1,231 | - | - | - | |
| RDF Bin Renovation | 1,616,333 | - | 57,240 | - | |
| Ash Pond Modifications | 495,470 | - | 3,352,144 | - | |
| Waste Water Treatment | 82,375 | - | - | - | |
| Fuel Oil Piping Replacement | 459,054 | - | - | - | |
| Power Plant Relay/Control | - | 125,000 | - | 200,000 | 60.0% |
| Load Centers/Breakers | 71,693 | 500,000 | 451,130 | 850,000 | 70.0% |
| Critical Generators | 57,377 | 600,000 | 1,150,980 | - | -100.0% |
| Power Plant Fire Protection | 72,178 | - | 925,665 | - | |
| Power Plant Building Modifications | 904,478 | 150,000 | 1,969,869 | - | -100.0% |
| Power Plant Building Heat | - | - | 84,894 | 40,000 | |
| Coal Yard Reclamation | - | - | 300,100 | 250,000 | |
| *Total Electric Services CIP* | 6,673,011 | 4,240,000 | 19,595,236 | 11,790,000 | 178.1% |

# Utilities CIP

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Water Production/Treatment:*** | | | | | |
| New Water Treatment Plant | 12,183 | - | 60,000 | - | |
| Old Water Plant Demolition | 385,621 | - | 75,449 | - | |
| Water Plant Facility Improvements | 11,412 | 181,000 | 1,317,848 | 1,128,000 | 523.2% |
| Lime Lagoon Improvements | - | 283,000 | 283,000 | - | -100.0% |
| Technical Svcs Complex Boilers | 48,882 | - | - | - | |
| Technical Svcs Complex Renovation | - | 320,000 | 320,000 | 1,680,000 | 425.0% |
| AMR/AMI Meter Conversion | - | 99,000 | 99,000 | - | -100.0% |
| NRV Well Field | 6,518,941 | - | 5,581,059 | - | |
| South Skunk Well Field | 424,763 | - | 80,000 | - | |
| Wellfield Standby Power | - | - | 200,000 | 1,757,000 | |
| SAM Pump Station Improvements | - | - | 200,673 | 149,000 | |
| Security Improvements | 14,671 | - | 65,493 | 46,000 | |
| Ada Hayden Water Quality | 39,959 | 23,000 | 40,954 | - | -100.0% |
| *Total Water Production/Treatment CIP* | 7,456,432 | 906,000 | 8,323,476 | 4,760,000 | 425.4% |
| ***Water Pollution Control:*** | | | | | |
| Nutrient Reduction Modifications | 1,438,643 | 25,760,000 | 26,610,884 | 26,240,000 | 1.9% |
| Residuals Handling | - | - | 1,197,000 | - | |
| Watershed Nutrient Reduction | 143,916 | 525,000 | 818,812 | 425,000 | -19.1% |
| Cogeneration System | 180,480 | 180,000 | 12,210 | 225,000 | 25.0% |
| Plant Facility Improvements | - | - | - | 144,000 | |
| Electrical System Improvements | - | - | 57,754 | - | |
| Lift Station Improvements | - | - | - | 100,000 | |
| *Total Water Pollution Control CIP* | 1,763,039 | 26,465,000 | 28,696,660 | 27,134,000 | 2.5% |
| ***Water Distribution:*** | | | | | |
| Water System Improvements | 2,386,688 | 2,050,000 | 4,464,863 | 2,050,000 | 0.0% |
| Prairie View Utility Extension | 145,228 | - | 72,355 | - | |
| Campustown Public Improvements | 200 | - | 399,800 | - | |
| Ames 2040 Utility Extensions | 214,152 | - | - | - | |
| *Total Water Distribution CIP* | 2,746,268 | 2,050,000 | 4,937,018 | 2,050,000 | 0.0% |

# Utilities CIP

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Sanitary Sewer System:*** | | | | | |
| Sanitary Sewer Improvements | 5,244,554 | 350,000 | 10,632,107 | 350,000 | 0.0% |
| Prairie View Utility Extension | 352,112 | - | 375,070 | - | |
| Campustown Public Improvements | - | - | 200,000 | - | |
| Ames 2040 Utility Extensions | 2,630,391 | - | 3,116,900 | - | |
| Clear Water Diversion | 18,913 | 50,000 | 125,835 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| *Total Sanitary Sewer System CIP* | 8,245,970 | 400,000 | 14,449,912 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Stormwater:*** | | | | | |
| Ioway Creek Restoration | 170,050 | - | - | - | |
| Stormwater Erosion Control | 307,465 | 750,000 | 4,592,936 | 1,250,000 | 66.7% |
| Low Point Drainage Improvements | 82,594 | 350,000 | 1,063,169 | 500,000 | 42.9% |
| Stormwater Improvement Program | 195,505 | 650,000 | 950,000 | 650,000 | 0.0% |
| Stormwater Detention/Retention | 20,977 | - | 125,091 | - | |
| Gateway Hotel Pond Rehab | - | - | - | - | |
| Stormwater Quality Improvements | 6,905 | 100,000 | 190,961 | 100,000 | 0.0% |
| Stormwater System Analysis | 291 | - | 642,257 | - | |
| *Total Stormwater CIP* | 783,787 | 1,850,000 | 7,564,414 | 2,500,000 | 35.1% |
| ***Resource Recovery:*** | | | | | |
| System Improvements | 217,503 | 650,000 | 915,529 | 459,000 | -29.4% |
| Waste Diversion Enhancements | 35,644 | - | - | - | |
| Resource Recovery Roof | 15,910 | - | 12,390 | - | |
| Resource Recovery Transfer Station | - | - | - | 880,000 | |
| *Total Resource Recovery CIP* | 269,057 | 650,000 | 927,919 | 1,339,000 | 106.0% |
| ***Total Utilities CIP*** | 27,937,564 | 36,561,000 | 84,494,635 | 49,973,000 | 36.7% |

**Electric Services ($11,790,000)**

The Electric Utility's current electric metering system does not have the functional capability to allow for modern utility activities. These include load management for energy peak reductions, outage identifications, real-time feeder and transformer information, remote disconnection of services, and time-of-use rate design. The ***Advanced Metering Infrastructure*** project will select a new system with these capabilities and will provide funding for a multi-year program to systematically replace customers' meters as these new services are implemented. Funding of $2,000,000 is included in FY 2025/26, with an additional $2,000,000 projected in both FY 2026/27 and FY 2027/28.

As the adoption of electric vehicles (EV) continues to grow, additional EV charging infrastructure will become necessary throughout the community. The ***Electric Vehicle Infrastructure*** program is a multi-year plan to add one DC fast charger and at least two Level 2 chargers each year. Funding of $200,000 per year for this program began in FY 2022/23. The level of funding has been reduced to $100,000 in FY 2025/26 due to the anticipation of private infrastructure development. This lower level of funding is expected to continue annually through FY 2028/29.

The ***69 kV Transmission Reconstruction*** program will reconstruct deteriorated portions of 69 kV transmission pole lines. The project will replace between one and two line-miles of 69 kV transmission line each year the program receives funding. The actual length and cost per mile will vary by terrain, accessibility, and attachments. For FY 2025/26, $2,000,000 has been allocated for this program.

ITC (an independent transmission company) is building a new 161 kV substation in the Prairie View Industrial Center adjacent to Ames' 161 kV line. The ***Prairie View 161 kV Substation*** project will allocate funding of $4,000,000 in FY 2025/26 to fund a 1/3 share of the substation in order for Ames to secure capacity and transmission path rights as a joint owner of the substation.

The ***Prairie View 161 kV Line Expansion*** project will construct a second 161 kV line between the Ames Plant and the new Prairie View Substation. This will improve system reliability by providing an additional contingency source to Ames in case of the concurrent loss of two transmission lines, a required MISO contingency planning condition. Funding of $250,000 is allocated in FY 2025/26 to begin engineering for the project, with $4,750,000 projected for FY 2026/27 for construction of the line.

The ***Street Light and Line Relocations*** program allocates funding each year for streetlight, service line, and transmission line relocations that need to be made in conjunction with Public Works street construction projects. Funding of $100,000 has been set aside for these relocations in FY 2025/26.

A new project in the 2025 - 2030 CIP is ***New Thermal Generation***. Funding of $2,000,000 is included in FY 2025/26 to begin engineering for the $84,000,000 project, which will construct three Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines, which each have a roughly 20 MW rating. These engines can start and produce full load with 15 minutes, are highly efficient, operate on multiple fuels, and have a straightforward design that allows for easy maintenance. This new capacity will replace Unit 7, which staff estimate will need to be retired within five years. The system will also provide additional capacity to cover anticipated growth in the community.

The ***Power Plant Relay/Control Replacement*** program is a three-year project to replace the existing obsolete electro-mechanical relays which are becoming difficult to maintain and repair since replacement parts are no longer manufactured. The installation of modern programmable relays and updated controls will improve the reliability of the relay system. Funding of $200,000 has been allocated to this program in FY 2025/26, with an additional $125,000 projected for FY 2026/27, and $100,000 for FY 2027/28.

The six load centers in the Power Plant are used to take power from the generators and distribute it to equipment in the plant. The current load centers are original and were built for old, outdated breakers. The ***Power Plant Load Centers and Breaker Replacement*** project will replace the six load centers over a three-year period. Funding of $850,000 is budgeted in FY 2025/26 for the third and final year of this project.

The Power Plant uses natural gas fired boilers to generate steam for power production. When the boilers are operating, some of the steam created in the boiler is used to heat the building. This ensures that interior spaces, piping, and equipment are kept above freezing temperatures. When the City discontinues burning Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF), the Power Plant boilers may no longer be operated on same near-continuous basis. The ***Power Plant Building Heat*** project will create a separate boiler heating system that will be used to heat the Power Plant when the plant is not producing electricity. Funding of $40,000 is allocated for this project in FY 2025/26 to begin engineering, with $1,200,000 projected for construction in FY 2026/27.

The Power Plant was converted from a coal to a natural gas facility in 2016. The ***Coal Yard Reclamation*** project allocates funding to begin the process to reclaim the old coal year. This includes demolishing the existing equipment and buildings, removing the residual coal that is still on the site, and filling the retention basins. In FY 2025/26, funding of $250,000 is budgeted to begin the earthwork to remove the coal and fill the retention basins. The demolition of the equipment and buildings is currently projected in FY 2028/29 at a cost of $1,000,000.

**Water Production and Treatment ($4,760,000)**

The ***Water Plant Facility Improvements*** program allocates funding to major maintenance activities, equipment replacement, and upgrades at the Water Treatment Plant, Technical Services Complex, and associated Water Utility sites such as wells, elevated tanks, and booster pump stations. For FY 2025/26, $1,128,000 is allocated in this program to replace a pump at Ada Hayden ($60,000), add a third slaker ($873,000), upgrade the Water Treatment Plant HVAC controls ($90,000), expand the Distribution System Monitoring Network ($80,000), and perform an arc flash study ($25,000).

Funding of $1,680,000 is budgeted in FY 2025/26 for the ***Technical Services Complex Renovation*** project. This project, with engineering budgeted at $320,000 in FY 2024/25, will renovate the interior of the Technical Services Complex (TSC) building, which houses the W&PC Laboratory Services and Metering divisions. The renovation will include replacing the failing HVAC system, replacing damaged and stained ceiling tiles, replacing light fixtures, replacing select windows, and refreshing flooring and wall coverings throughout the building.

The ***Well Field Standby Power*** project allocates $1,757,000 in funding in FY 2025/26 to provide standby electrical power to select wells in the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex well field. Iowa's Water Supply Design Standards require that a water system have redundant electrical

power available. Installing standby power for critical remote sites was one of the recommendations contained in the utility's 2020 Physical Security Assessment conducted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Having emergency power will allow well water to continue to be delivered to the treatment plant in the event of a wide-spread power outage, such as the 2020 derecho.

When pumps at a pump station are suddenly started or stopped, the change affects the water distribution system pressure. The rapid pressure swings contribute to rusty water, and, if severe enough, can cause water main breaks. The ***State and Mortensen Pump Station Improvements*** project allocates $149,000 in funding in FY 2025/26 to install variable frequency drives (VFDs) at the pump station. These allow pump speeds to be slowly ramped up or slowed down, thereby minimizing extreme pressure swings. The VFDs also allow the pumps to be run at less than their full speed, allowing the operators to more closely match the demand from customers.

Maintaining the security of the water system is an extremely high priority. The ***Physical and Cyber Security Improvements*** program provides funding for security projects identified by Water & Pollution Control staff in coordination with the City's Information Technology department. In FY 2025/26, funding of $46,000 is allocated in this program for security fencing at the State and Mortensen pump station and elevated tank.

**Water Pollution Control ($27,134,000)**

In early 2013, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) released the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy. This strategy requires the largest municipal wastewater facilities in Iowa to install process changes to meet nutrient removal targets. A feasibility study for the Ames Water Pollution Control Facility was conducted in 2019. That study recommended a phased conversion of the facility to biological nutrient removal over a 20-year period. A design contract for the ***Nutrient Reduction Modifications*** project was awarded in the spring of 2022 for the first phase of the project. The phasing strategy will initially construct half of the ultimate aeration basin capacity along with new bar screens, grit removal equipment, a relocated administration building, and other associated components. The second phase of the project will include the remaining aeration basin capacity and a waste sludge thickening facility and is scheduled for design starting in FY 2035/36. Funding of $2,030,000 for beginning the engineering for the first phase of the project was budgeted in FY 2023/24. The construction of Phase 1 began in FY 2024/25 with a budget of $25,760,000. In FY 2025/26, an additional $26,240,000 is budgeted for the continued construction of Phase 1.

Separate from the work that will take place inside the treatment plant, watershed-based improvements performed by the City can be included in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Exchange. Staff is currently working with the Iowa League of Cities and other large utilities to encourage the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to allow these off-site nutrient reductions to be "banked" as credit towards any future, more stringent nutrient reduction requirements imposed on the WPC facility. The ***Watershed-Based Nutrient Reduction*** program, which began in FY 2019/20, allocates $100,000 of City funding annually for urban watershed improvements that have a nutrient reduction component. For FY 2025/26, grants and partnerships received from other organizations such as Ducks Unlimited, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and Story County Conservation have increased the funding available for this project to $425,000.

The ***Cogeneration System Maintenance*** program provides funding for major maintenance projects for the facility's cogeneration system and hauled waste receiving infrastructure. For FY 2025/26, $225,000 is allocated in this program for the design phase of a new fats, oils, and grease (FOG) receiving station. The new station will improve the facility's receiving capabilities by paving the unloading areas, changing to more appropriate pumping capabilities, and better incorporating the ability to accept hauled food waste. The diverted food waste will be anaerobically digested to produce additional methane that can be used for on-site electricity generation at the WPC facility. Construction of the new FOG receiving station is scheduled for FY 2026/27 at a projected cost of $1,500,000.

The ***WPC Plant Facility Improvements*** program is the annual program to repair, replace, and upgrade facilities and equipment at the Water Pollution Control (WPC) Plant. For FY 2025/26, $144,000 is allocated in the program for remote storage building and grain bin controls ($50,000) and to replace the atomic absorption spectrophotometer ($94,000).

The ***Lift Station Improvements*** program provides funding for the periodic maintenance and repair of the City's wastewater lift stations. In FY 2025/26, funding of $100,000 is allocated in this program to create a cellular connection between all five of the City's wastewater lift stations and the Water Pollution Control Facility. This connection will provide data such as wet well level, alarm status, pump run times, and other information that is important to the plant operators. The existing system uses land lines and only relays alarms via voice message to the plant's main telephone number. The proposed system will transmit data every 15 minutes and connect into the plant SCADA system, giving the operators a better picture of what is happening in the stations and preventing unnecessary callouts during off-shift hours.

**Water Distribution System ($2,050,000)**

***Water System Improvements*** is the annual program for installing larger distribution mains in areas that have a large concentration of 4" supply lines, transferring water services from 4" water mains in streets where larger water mains exist, and abandoning 4" water mains. Eliminating duplicate water mains and installing larger distribution lines improves water flow and helps eliminate rusty water. Funding of $2,050,000 is budgeted under this program for FY 2025/26.

**Sanitary Sewer System ($400,000)**

***Sanitary Sewer System Improvements*** is the annual program for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of deficient sanitary sewers and deteriorated manholes at various locations throughout the City. System improvement locations have been identified through the Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation (SSSE) over the last several years. Through manhole inspections, smoke testing, and televising, severe structural defects have been identified as priorities within this program. Due to a backlog of carryover projects in this program, funding for FY 2025/26 has been reduced to $350,000 to address these structural deficiencies.

***Clear Water Diversion*** is the annual program providing for the diversion of footing drain discharge from sanitary sewers to storm sewers. Clear water from footing drains causes overloading and backups in the sanitary sewer system, as well as increasing the volume of clean water that is treated at the sewage treatment facility. Funding of $50,000 has been allocated to this program for FY 2025/26.

**Stormwater Management ($2,500,000)**

The ***Stormwater Erosion Control*** program provides funding for the stabilization of areas that have become eroded in streams, channels, swales, gullies, or drainage ways that are a part of the storm sewer system. This program provides a more permanent control of the erosion and will reduce recurring maintenance costs in the affected areas. For FY 2025/26, $1,250,000 has been earmarked in this program for the waterways near Canterbury Court and the intersection of Mortensen Parkway and University Boulevard (Gateway Hills Park).

***Low Point Drainage*** is the annual program for drainage improvements to decrease flooding at low points throughout the community. For FY 2025/26, $500,000 is allocated in this program to address drainage issues at the Sixth Street and Duff Avenue intersection, the 20th Street and Northwestern Avenue intersection, the South Bell Avenue and Southeast 16th Street intersection, and the Grove Avenue and River Oak Drive intersection.

The ***Stormwater Improvement*** program is the annual program to replace deteriorated storm sewer pipes and intakes. The budget includes $650,000 for this program in FY 2025/26 to address issues on Sunset Drive (from Ash Avenue to Beach Avenue), as well as various other locations.

***Stormwater Quality Improvements*** is a program to address the removal of sediment and nutrients before they enter waterways such as Ioway Creek or the Skunk River. The program includes the installation of such features as bioretention cells, vegetated swales, native landscape, and rain gardens. Installations are located throughout the community and will often be incorporated into street projects. In FY 2025/26, funding of $100,000 has been budgeted in this program.

**Resource Recovery ($1,339,000)**

***Resource Recovery System Improvements*** is an annual program to purchase new and replacement components at the Resource Recovery Plant. In FY 2025/26, $459,000 will be used for various large maintenance projects including replacing the RDS rollers and chains, cleaning and performing maintenance on switchgear, and purchasing a mobile trailer, roll offs, and bins for recycling.

The City's partnership with Boone County Landfill will expire at the end of June 2025. As the City transitions from a waste-to-energy based system to one focused on recycling and consolidation, a new partnership will be developed with a landfill in another comprehensive planning area. To move forward with this new solid waste management approach, a ***Resource Recovery and Recycling Campus*** will be needed to receive and consolidate municipal solid waste and recycling for transportation to a landfill or recycling center. The campus may also involve minimal processing of municipal solid waste for volume reduction and/or capture of recyclable materials. The land acquired to create the campus may also provide space for a yard waste management and composting operation. Funding of $880,000 is included in FY 2025/26 for land acquisition and engineering and design of the facility. An additional $6,000,0000 is projected for FY 2026/27 for the facility's construction.

# TRANSPORTATION





INIS GROVE
75
YEARS
1949-2024







1974-2024
AMES HUMAN
RELATIONS
COMMISSION
50
YEARS

MOORE PARK
60
YEARS
1964-2024






CITY OF
Ames™

# Transportation Program

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# Transportation Summary

## Description:

The Transportation Program serves the community by providing facilities to enhance the movement of people within the City. The system aids residential, commercial, and industrial users through the orderly flow of vehicles and passengers for both business and leisure activities. The ***Street System*** activity includes Public Works Administration, Public Works Engineering, Public Works GIS, Traffic Engineering, Traffic Operations, the Streetlight System, and Street Maintenance. This activity is responsible for all street, shared use path, and traffic system maintenance throughout the community, including snow and ice control, street cleaning, and right-of-way maintenance. The ***Transit System*** provides efficient and economical transportation to the community. A fixed route service is available daily, and Dial-a-Ride service is available as a contracted service for elderly or disabled residents. The ***Parking System*** activity maintains City parking lots and enforces parking regulations for both parking lots and on-street parking throughout the community. Meter revenue and fines are used to maintain and operate the parking system. ***Airport Operations*** provides general aviation services at the Ames Municipal Airport, which includes two hard surface runways. ***Transportation CIP*** includes capital improvement projects related to the Transportation Program.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Works Administration | 326,446 | 359,197 | 375,375 | 385,167 | 7.2% |
| Public Works Engineering | 42,856 | 37,581 | 36,954 | 39,017 | 3.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 126,218 | 177,600 | 161,715 | 180,092 | 1.4% |
| Traffic Engineering | 394,183 | 405,226 | 432,640 | 480,920 | 18.7% |
| Traffic Operations | 1,214,713 | 1,405,817 | 1,414,471 | 1,475,522 | 5.0% |
| Streetlight System | 887,613 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 0.0% |
| Street Maintenance | 5,047,008 | 5,600,000 | 5,676,430 | 5,961,698 | 6.5% |
| Transit System | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |
| Parking System | 889,471 | 1,041,680 | 953,377 | 1,031,607 | -1.0% |
| Airport Operations | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 22,889,468 | 25,667,292 | 25,670,059 | 26,314,954 | 2.5% |
| | | | | | |
| Transportation CIP | 18,937,160 | 12,804,268 | 58,918,352 | 37,840,563 | 195.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 41,826,628 | 38,471,560 | 84,588,411 | 64,155,517 | 66.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 139.99 | 140.89 | 140.89 | 140.89 | |

# Transportation Summary

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 16,308,827 | 17,994,594 | 17,650,700 | 18,510,646 | 2.9% |
| Internal Services | 3,125,239 | 3,399,815 | 3,481,084 | 3,788,333 | 11.4% |
| Contractual | 3,076,354 | 3,462,098 | 3,511,089 | 3,532,701 | 2.0% |
| Commodities | 2,684,896 | 3,456,626 | 3,572,372 | 3,245,373 | -6.1% |
| Capital | 33,735 | 10,000 | 64,500 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| Other Expenditures | 310 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 0.0% |
| Allocations to Other Programs | (2,339,893) | (2,656,441) | (2,610,286) | (2,772,699) | 4.4% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 22,889,468 | 25,667,292 | 25,670,059 | 26,314,954 | 2.5% |
| Transportation CIP | 18,937,160 | 12,804,268 | 58,918,352 | 37,840,563 | 195.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 41,826,628 | 38,471,560 | 84,588,411 | 64,155,517 | 66.8% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 1,177,531 | 1,106,546 | 1,117,274 | 1,176,129 | 6.3% |
| Road Use Tax Fund | 6,861,506 | 7,778,875 | 7,880,311 | 8,246,287 | 6.0% |
| Transit Fund | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |
| Parking Fund | 889,471 | 1,041,680 | 953,377 | 1,031,607 | -1.0% |
| Airport Operations Fund | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| ***Total Operations Funding*** | 22,889,468 | 25,667,292 | 25,670,059 | 26,314,954 | 2.5% |
| ***Transportation CIP Funding:*** | | | | | |
| G.O. Bonds | 10,229,717 | 2,647,100 | 18,316,900 | 12,698,290 | 379.7% |
| General Fund | 28,472 | - | 159,233 | - | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 847,984 | 775,000 | 3,474,687 | 910,000 | 17.4% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,500 | - | 12,888 | - | |
| Road Use Tax | 2,064,179 | 2,641,900 | 6,844,433 | 2,951,460 | 11.7% |
| Bike License Fund | - | - | 10,026 | - | |
| Street Construction Fund | 2,888,367 | 4,455,000 | 11,272,088 | 3,786,000 | -15.0% |
| Water Utility Fund | 59,256 | - | 385,667 | 75,000 | |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 2,374 | - | 392,826 | 75,000 | |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | 5,601 | - | 310,795 | 50,000 | |
| Transit Capital Reserve | 1,994,725 | 1,170,268 | 13,024,504 | 6,510,563 | 456.3% |
| Airport Improvements Fund | 813,985 | 1,115,000 | 4,714,305 | 10,784,250 | 867.2% |
| ***Total CIP Funding*** | 18,937,160 | 12,804,268 | 58,918,352 | 37,840,563 | 195.5% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 41,826,628 | 38,471,560 | 84,588,411 | 64,155,517 | 66.8% |

# Public Works Administration

## Description:

The Public Works Administration activity is responsible for the overall coordination and support of all Public Works operational activities and capital improvement projects. These responsibilities include oversight of the operating budgets for all Public Works activities, preparation of Public Works' portion of the City's 5-year capital improvement (CIP) plan, responding to City Council directives, and project outreach.

Many of the activities overseen by Public Works Administration are included in the Transportation Program. These include Public Works Engineering, Traffic Engineering, Traffic Maintenance, Street Maintenance, Street Cleaning, Snow and Ice Control, Parking Maintenance, and Airport Operations. Public Works is also, however, responsible for activities included in the Utilities Program, including Water Distribution System Maintenance, Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance, the Stormwater Permit Program, Storm Sewer Maintenance, and Resource Recovery. Accordingly, a portion of the Public Works Administration activity is allocated to the utility activities and paid for by the utility funds.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Works Administration | 753,691 | 827,167 | 844,569 | 877,761 | 6.1% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 753,691 | 827,167 | 844,569 | 877,761 | 6.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 351,459 | 368,177 | 363,535 | 384,495 | 4.4% |
| Internal Services | 385,934 | 434,185 | 450,635 | 465,767 | 7.3% |
| Contractual | 15,788 | 22,555 | 25,549 | 25,199 | 11.7% |
| Commodities | 510 | 2,250 | 4,850 | 2,300 | 2.2% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 753,691 | 827,167 | 844,569 | 877,761 | 6.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Less: Expenditures Allocated to Utilities Program:* | | | | | |
| Water Distribution System | (142,415) | (155,990) | (156,398) | (164,198) | 5.3% |
| Sanitary Sewer System | (142,415) | (155,990) | (156,398) | (164,198) | 5.3% |
| Resource Recovery | (142,415) | (155,990) | (156,398) | (164,198) | 5.3% |
| *Total Allocation* | (427,245) | (467,970) | (469,194) | (492,594) | 5.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Public Works Administration Expenditures*** | 326,446 | 359,197 | 375,375 | 385,167 | 7.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Source for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Road Use Tax | 326,446 | 359,197 | 375,375 | 385,167 | 7.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 326,446 | 359,197 | 375,375 | 385,167 | 7.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | |

# Public Works Administration

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Oversee and coordinate Public Works activities | Public Works employees | 76.75 | 76.75 | 76.75 | 76.75 |
| | | CIP projects budget* | $27.68 | $28.99 | $73.77 | $37.62 |
| | Develop and manage Public Works capital improvement projects | Outside funding* | $10.63 | $6.26 | $20.49 | $14.97 |
| | | Percentage of CIP outside funding | 38.4% | 21.6% | 27.8% | 39.8% |
| | Coordinate outreach efforts and act as a centralized point of contact for customer service | Ames on the Go service requests resolved | 2,493 | 2,872 | 2,600 | 2,700 |
| | | Average days to acknowledge requests | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| | | Average days to resolve requests | 2.5 | 7.8 | 2.1 | 2.0 |

*In millions

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- In FY 2024/25, the Public Works Director will retire, leaving a vacancy that is expected to be filled in the spring of 2025. The adjusted FY 2024/25 budget contains anticipated recruiting and related costs.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff is working to develop a Solid Waste Management partnership agreement and establish a new Solid Waste Master Plan.
- Staff provides consultation services for economic development prospects and major development as it relates to transportation and utility networks. In FY 2024/25, staff is working on developments such as CY-Town and the Prairie View Industrial project.
- Grant writing and administration for various state and federal grants is a focus area for Public Works Administration. In FY 2024/25, staff is providing administration for Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT), Economic Development Administration (EDA), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) audits for grant closure, progress reporting for open EDA grants and change orders, and American Rescue Plan Act administration. Additionally, staff assists in grant writing for various grants for the department.
- Public outreach regarding transportation and utility projects is a priority for Public Works Administration staff to promote citizen education and engagement. The new City website development will be in progress in the spring of FY 2024/25 to further enhance citizen engagement and information related to construction projects and public works efforts.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Connect 2050, continues in progress with anticipated completion in the of fall of 2025.

## Upcoming Activities

- As part of the new Solid Waste Master Plan, staff will be working on development of a site for solid waste transfer, recycling, and yard waste management.

# Public Works Engineering

## Description:

The Public Works Engineering activity has primary responsibility for the design and construction of all roadways, shared use path, water main, sanitary sewer, flood mitigation, drainage, and storm water capital improvement projects. This includes the long-range planning of projects to ensure that the development of the street and shared use path system, water distribution system, sanitary sewer collection system, and stormwater system meet current and future needs of the community. Public Works Engineering staff provides technical designs and construction inspection services to ensure reliability and quality control for these projects. Engineering also provides design review/inspection services for site and subdivision public infrastructure construction, and is responsible for maintaining public infrastructure records, including an electronic Geographic Information System (GIS) of the City's infrastructure.
A large portion of Public Works Engineering expenditures are allocated directly to CIP projects to which the expenditures are related. A portion of the remaining Engineering expenditures are allocated to utility operating activities that require engineering support. The portion of Engineering activities reimbursed by public fees is charged to the General Fund. The remainder of this activity is funded through state road use tax revenue.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 1,308,128 | 1,438,032 | 1,337,565 | 1,506,586 | 4.8% |
| Internal Services | 115,956 | 158,701 | 161,451 | 151,525 | -4.5% |
| Contractual | 77,224 | 90,855 | 113,986 | 98,151 | 8.0% |
| Commodities | 9,776 | 20,650 | 17,250 | 17,250 | -16.5% |
| Capital | 29,735 | - | 49,500 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,540,819 | 1,708,238 | 1,679,752 | 1,773,512 | 3.8% |
| *Less: Expenditures Allocated to Utilities Program and CIP:* | | | | | |
| CIP Projects | (1,337,076) | (1,520,332) | (1,494,979) | (1,578,426) | 3.8% |
| Water Distribution System | (59,576) | (56,372) | (55,432) | (58,526) | 3.8% |
| Sanitary Sewer System | (68,148) | (65,767) | (64,671) | (68,280) | 3.8% |
| Stormwater System | (33,163) | (28,186) | (27,716) | (29,263) | 3.8% |
| *Total Allocation* | (1,497,963) | (1,670,657) | (1,642,798) | (1,734,495) | 3.8% |
| ***Total Unallocated Public Works Engineering Expenditures*** | 42,856 | 37,581 | 36,954 | 39,017 | 3.8% |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 25,669 | 28,000 | 28,000 | 28,000 | 0.0% |
| Road Use Tax | 17,187 | 9,581 | 8,954 | 11,017 | 15.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 42,856 | 37,581 | 36,954 | 39,017 | 3.8% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 9.80 | 9.80 | 9.80 | 9.80 | |

# Public Works Engineering

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Plan, design, and implement public infrastructure projects | Projects inspected/ administered* | 37 | 22 | 18 | 23 |
| | | Plans and specifications finalized for projects* | 14 | 13 | 18 | 20 |
| | | Projects bid under engineer's estimate | 50% | 57% | 65% | 65% |
| | | Projects bid over 10% of engineer's estimate | 25% | 14% | 15% | 15% |
| | | Projects completed within 10% of original bid | 69% | 92% | 85% | 85% |
| | | Projects completed on time | 92% | 83% | 83% | 90% |
| | | Public infrastructure inspected for private development projects | 21 | 20 | 17 | 20 |
| | | Construction site erosion and sediment control inspections* | 325 | 390 | 325 | 300 |

*Capital Improvement Projects

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Civil Engineer I/II position is expected to be filled in 2025. The Municipal Engineer position was also vacant from June to September 2024. The vacancies in these two positions contributed to decreased personnel and conference costs but increased recruiting costs in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget.
- The City's current roadway design software is no longer supported and requires an upgrade at a cost of $20,000 in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget. This software will allow collaborative data sharing between the City of Ames and the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT).
- Funding is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget for the phased replacement of message boards. The first replacement will take place in FY 2024/25, with one board scheduled for replacement biannually in the future.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff will begin using an electronic plan review process that enables internal and external reviewers to simultaneously comment and coordinate on CIP plan sets. This process will significantly reduce review time, record individual markups, and allow the designer to track when comments are addressed.

## Upcoming Activities

- A 3D scanner survey tool, included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget, will be utilized for future projects to enhance Staff's data collection capabilities. This tool will be particularly helpful in heavy traffic conditions, confined spaces like manholes, and to survey vertical structures and embankments. Benefits include increased safety, more precise documentation, reduced field time, and expanded in-house surveying.

# Public Works GIS

## Description:

The Geographic Information System (GIS) group works within the Public Works Engineering Division. The work group is tasked with providing geospatial information systems and services to all City departments. This includes providing GIS infrastructure, databases, software, web applications, mobile applications, and technical expertise to support the business needs of City Departments.

The GIS is used extensively to manage City assets, perform inspections and maintenance, analyze policies/services and plan for future growth with geospatial models that provide data to decisionmakers. The power of the system is its ability to integrate departmental data, external data, real-time sensors to provide advanced visualizations and analysis. (i.e., SCADA, automated vehicle locating (AVL) feeds)

GIS also plays a key role in the City's emergency response operations including providing services for disaster response, maintaining information for the E911 Computer Aided Dispatch System, and performing analysis on emergency response coverage.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 298,056 | 450,787 | 388,186 | 439,901 | -2.4% |
| Internal Services | 33,854 | 41,077 | 40,977 | 42,805 | 4.2% |
| Contractual | 84,398 | 102,350 | 116,846 | 121,096 | 18.3% |
| Commodities | 4,595 | 1,200 | 4,000 | 1,900 | 58.3% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 420,903 | 595,414 | 550,009 | 605,702 | 1.7% |
| *Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities:* | | | | | |
| Departmental Charges | (57,235) | (57,235) | (59,966) | (59,966) | 4.8% |
| Water Distribution System | (77,969) | (118,399) | (107,809) | (120,062) | 1.4% |
| Sanitary Sewer System | (77,969) | (118,399) | (107,809) | (120,062) | 1.4% |
| Stormwater System | (46,072) | (69,963) | (63,706) | (70,946) | 1.4% |
| Electric Services | (35,440) | (53,818) | (49,004) | (54,574) | 1.4% |
| *Total Allocation* | (294,685) | (417,814) | (388,294) | (425,610) | 1.9% |
| ***Total Unallocated Public Works GIS Expenditures*** | 126,218 | 177,600 | 161,715 | 180,092 | 1.4% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| City Assessor | 3,815 | 3,815 | 4,055 | 4,055 | 6.3% |
| Road Use Tax | 122,403 | 173,785 | 157,660 | 176,037 | 1.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 126,218 | 177,600 | 161,715 | 180,092 | 1.4% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 3.05 | 3.05 | 3.05 | 3.05 | |

# Public Works GIS

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide Geospatial tools, data, and technical expertise to support internal and external customers. | Total GIS users supported | 354 | 327 | 331 | 345 |
| | | Utility data requests | 104 | 115 | 144 | 145 |
| | | Contractors registered for online utility information access | 238 | 278 | 332 | 350 |
| | | Field/mobile GIS users supported | 105 | 116 | 143 | 150 |
| | | Web mapping applications supported | 111 | 123 | 142 | 161 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- A GIS Specialist position has been vacant since December 2023. This vacancy has resulted in a decrease in personnel costs in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget.
- A new Eagle View contract was signed for aerial imagery to be flown annually ($14,464/year).
- A new 3-year enterprise license agreement for the GIS backbone software was signed ($69,800/year) for FY 2024/25 through FY 2026/27.

## In-Progress Activities

- Testing of the new water utility system network mapping is complete. Staff is in the process of converting web maps, applications, and dashboards to use with the new system.
- A conversion of sanitary and storm sewer network data is in progress. This system will allow for improved data management capabilities and functionality. The system is being tested to make sure it fits the needs of Public Works staff.

## Upcoming Activities

- New City initiative and citizen engagement tools will be developed and implemented. A City of Ames hub site will allow customers to easily access GIS information. This landing page will direct customers to department-specific information such as snow removal status, hydrant flushing projections, electric outages, construction information, and recycling locations.
- Upgrades to the utility network for water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer systems will be completed in FY 2025/26. The system update will increase the capacity for interdepartmental collaboration, making maintenance activities more efficient. It will also provide better infrastructure inventory and improved customer notifications.

# Traffic Engineering

## Description:

Traffic Engineering aims to provide a safe and efficient transportation system within the City of Ames. This activity provides traffic engineering analysis for the development of the City's multi-modal transportation system. This includes long and short-range transportation planning, facility planning and operations, construction and inspection of Long-Range Transportation Plan projects, and the design of traffic signal coordination systems.

A total of 80% of the Transportation Planning sub-activity is reimbursed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Traffic engineering expenses that relate directly to Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects are charged directly to the projects.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Traffic Engineering | 309,755 | 320,112 | 332,618 | 321,757 | 0.5% |
| Transportation Planning | 204,428 | 185,114 | 210,022 | 279,163 | 50.8% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 514,183 | 505,226 | 542,640 | 600,920 | 18.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 331,684 | 347,527 | 361,339 | 382,382 | 10.0% |
| Internal Services | 39,409 | 34,438 | 31,253 | 27,481 | -20.2% |
| Contractual | 141,378 | 120,461 | 148,148 | 189,157 | 57.0% |
| Commodities | 1,712 | 2,800 | 1,900 | 1,900 | -32.1% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 514,183 | 505,226 | 542,640 | 600,920 | 18.9% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to CIP Projects | (120,000) | (100,000) | (110,000) | (120,000) | 20.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Traffic Engineering Expenditures*** | 394,183 | 405,226 | 432,640 | 480,920 | 18.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures*** | | | | | |
| MPO Reimbursement | 172,834 | 148,091 | 168,018 | 223,330 | 50.8% |
| Road Use Tax Fund | 221,349 | 257,135 | 264,622 | 257,590 | 0.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 394,183 | 405,226 | 432,640 | 480,920 | 18.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 2.45 | 2.45 | 2.45 | 2.45 | |

# Traffic Engineering

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Design a safe and efficient transportation system to meet the needs of all users of the Ames community | Adaptive signal network (percent complete) | 25% | 37% | 48% | 68% |
| | | Crash rate per million* (5-year average) | 399.4 (384.9) | 364.8 (377.6) | 340.6 (374.6) | 326.9 (365.5) |
| | | Bike/pedestrian crash rate per million* (5-year average) | 13.2 (10.4) | 10.6 (11.0) | 8.6 (10.2) | 8.2 (10.0) |
| | | Mean travel time to work in minutes (5-year average) | 14.9 (16.3) | 14.8 (16.6) | 14.5 (16.6) | 14.3 (16.7) |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Build energy efficiency strategies into transportation planning | 5-year average of mode share of non-vehicle trips: bike / pedestrian (total) | 2.5% / 8.6% (11.1%) | 2.5% / 8.5% (10.9%) | 2.5% / 8.3% (10.8%) | 2.5% / 8.2% (10.6%) |
| **A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people** | Implement the Complete Streets plan, including expansion of a greenbelt trail system | Bike facility CIP projects completed (on and off street) | $1,366,200 | $989,300 | $1,203,200 | $1,845,000 |
| | | Miles of bike/pedestrian infrastructure | 84.2 | 84.5 | 85.8 | 87.7 |
| | | City Council referrals and studies | 28 | 22 | 25 | 25 |

*Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Local funds from the FY 2024/25 budget will be used as matching funds for the Safe Streets 4 All grant. This grant focuses on identifying and prioritizing safety improvements for multimodal transportation across Ames. The initiative will enhance the City's ability to secure future state and federal safety grants, expanding resources to implement city-wide safety projects.
- Costs to implement a pavement asset management software will begin in the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget. The initial four months of expenses will be entirely funded by the City. In future fiscal years the expenses will be eligible for reimbursement from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) at 80% funding. City vehicles will be outfitted with hardware to assess pavement conditions and maintenance performance. Implementing this software ahead of the construction season will enable baseline data collection, allowing for a data-driven approach in identifying future CIP projects.

## In-Progress Activities

- Traffic Engineering staff has a preliminary design for addition of left turn lanes in all directions for the intersection of 13$^{th}$ Street and Grand Avenue. The project is expected to need several easement areas along the affected properties for sidewalk and trails. The process of acquiring these easements will begin in late FY 2024/25.
- The Traffic Division continues addressing numerous community requests, including parking adjustments, speed management, stop sign evaluations, and smaller studies. These require significant data collection and staff time, adding to operational costs.
- Work on the mandatory 5-year update to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) includes calibrating the regional transportation model and comprehensive data collection, supporting long-term planning and investment decisions.

## Upcoming Activities

- Starting in 2025, the MPO will initiate public outreach for the MTP update, engaging stakeholders to inform transportation priorities. The plan, due in October 2025, aligns with regional goals and complies with federal requirements.
- Staff will develop a Transportation Systems Management and Operations plan to optimize Ames' traffic systems, enhancing efficiency, safety, and reliability. This plan will guide future infrastructure investments and operational strategies.

# Traffic Operations

## Description:

The Traffic Operations activity is responsible for the installation and maintenance of traffic signals, signage, and pavement markings throughout the traffic network. Traffic Operations provides system updates to keep pace with technology, citizen requests, and alternative transportation demands, including pedestrian. Temporary, part-time employees supplement City crews in this activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Traffic Signal Maintenance | 672,139 | 708,251 | 690,709 | 717,217 | 1.3% |
| Traffic Sign Maintenance | 304,802 | 395,646 | 417,845 | 404,446 | 2.2% |
| Pavement Markings | 212,148 | 275,280 | 284,661 | 329,060 | 19.5% |
| Outside Traffic Control | 25,624 | 26,640 | 21,256 | 24,799 | -6.9% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,214,713 | 1,405,817 | 1,414,471 | 1,475,522 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 860,163 | 912,568 | 906,766 | 948,835 | 4.0% |
| Internal Services | 181,482 | 207,557 | 206,831 | 219,145 | 5.6% |
| Contractual | 107,130 | 117,542 | 111,224 | 107,892 | -8.2% |
| Commodities | 61,938 | 158,150 | 174,650 | 189,650 | 19.9% |
| Capital | 4,000 | 10,000 | 15,000 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,214,713 | 1,405,817 | 1,414,471 | 1,475,522 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 25,624 | 26,640 | 21,256 | 24,799 | -6.9% |
| Road Use Tax Fund | 1,189,089 | 1,379,177 | 1,393,215 | 1,450,723 | 5.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,214,713 | 1,405,817 | 1,414,471 | 1,475,522 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.40 | 5.35 | 5.35 | 5.35 | |

# Traffic Operations

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Install and maintain traffic signals and signs to provide safe and efficient transportation movement consistent with community goals and national standards<br><br>Enhance roadway markings on pavement with an emphasis on bike lane, detection, and shared use markings | Signalized intersections | 78 | 78 | 78 | 78 |
| | | Average service calls per signalized intersection (year) | 5.2 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| | | City signs | 11,000 | 11,300 | 11,345 | 11,500 |
| | | Signs installed (new & replacement) | 380 | 317 | 400 | 400 |
| | | Signs serviced | 2,750 | 2,900 | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| | | Average sign repairs/week | 53 | 56 | 48 | 48 |
| | | Lane miles painted | 80 | 82 | 85 | 85 |
| | | Crosswalks painted | 790 | 720 | 790 | 800 |
| | | Gallons of traffic paint used | 3,220 | 3,380 | 4,000 | 4,200 |
| | | Pounds of reflective beads used | 18,000 | 20,000 | 22,000 | 23,300 |

### Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The FY 2024/25 budget includes $10,000 and $15,000 to equip two new sign trucks with hydraulic post pounders and one with a post puller. These upgrades support the City's growth, enabling staff to meet community needs and maintain service levels efficiently without increasing staffing.
- The City's paint truck required a scheduled five-year pump overhaul in FY 2024/25 to maintain operational reliability and performance.
- The budget includes pavement marking grinders ($15,000 in FY 2025/26) for selected paint buggies, which would significantly improve efficiency in removing outdated markings and ensure high-quality, visible markings for city roadways.
- In FY 2025/26, the City will implement six-inch longitudinal lane markings as per updated guidance from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The increased width of the markings requires additional paint, resulting in a $31,500 increase. This change aims to enhance lane visibility and road safety.

### In-Progress Activities

- The sign shop is being retrofitted to accommodate new equipment, including a sign plotter, laminator, and cutter. These upgrades will support full-color sign production, including new bike wayfinding signage, enhancing both the quality and range of signs available.
- Phases 1 and 2 of the adaptive signal network project are nearing completion, with Phase 3 scheduled to commence in Fall 2025.
- Staff is completing various accessibility projects. This includes the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) at intersections like 24th Street and Hoover Avenue and George Washington Carver Avenue and Northridge Parkway, prioritizing pedestrian safety.

## Upcoming Activities

- Ongoing training is planned for the adaptive signal network components to ensure staff is equipped for effective maintenance and repair as the system continues to expand.
- New RRFB installations are planned for George Washington Carver Avenue and Weston Drive, George Washington Carver Avenue and Aspen Road, and midblock on Mortensen Road between Dickinson Avenue and Poe Avenue. These improvements will further enhance pedestrian visibility and safety in high-traffic areas.

# Streetlight System

## Description:

This activity accounts for the electricity used to operate the City's streetlights (electricity for traffic signals is accounted for in the Traffic Operations activity).

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | - | - | - | - | |
| Internal Services | - | - | - | - | |
| Contractual | 887,613 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 0.0% |
| Commodities | - | - | - | - | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 887,613 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 887,613 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 887,613 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |

# Streetlight System

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide streetlights for public safety at the most efficient cost | City-owned streetlights | 8,123 | 8,128 | 8,137 | 8,147 |
| | | Alliant owned streetlights | 115 | 115 | 119 | 125 |
| | | Midland owned streetlights | 215 | 215 | 222 | 229 |
| | | City-owned streetlights converted to LED | 70% | 76% | 81% | 85% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

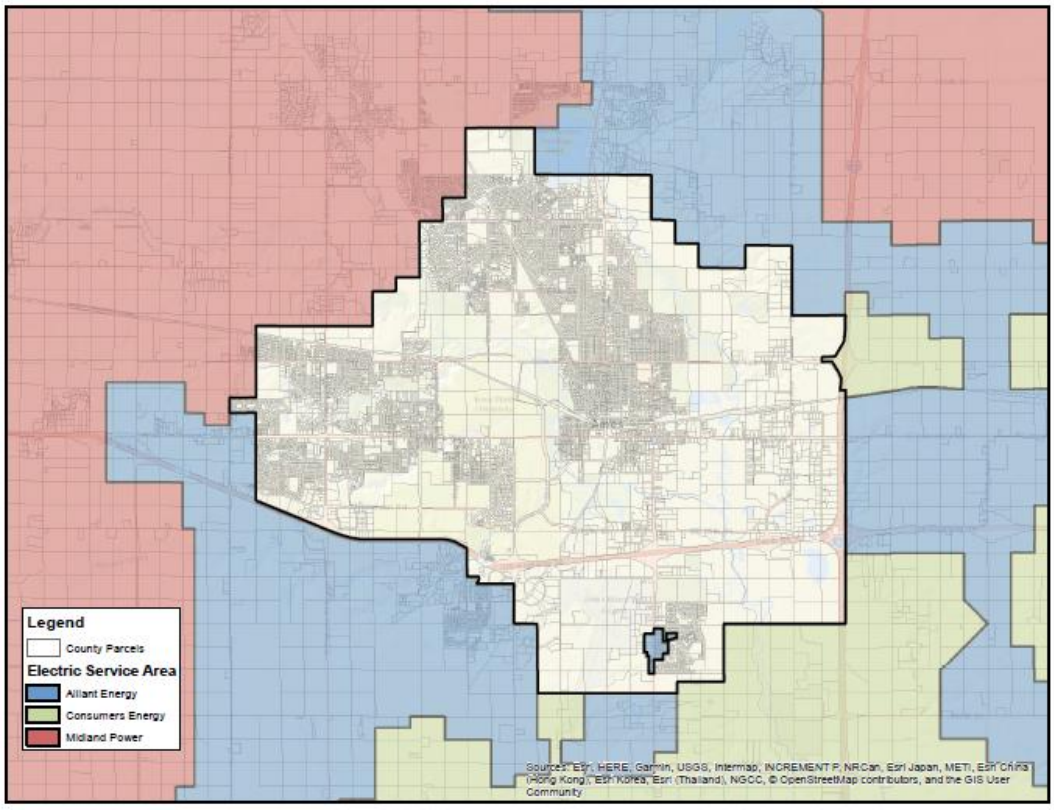
- In 2024, an inventory of all City streetlights was made to obtain an accurate count of the equipment in service.
- Since the utility continues to use carryover funds to purchase replacement lights, no new capital funds are anticipated for this replacement work. New LED lights will be purchased through the operating budget.

## In-Progress Activities

- The conversion of streetlights to LED is completed as maintenance work is accomplished on a particular light. It will take several more years until the utility has substantially completed the conversion of remaining lights to LED.

## Upcoming Activities

- Street lighting will be installed to support S. 16th Street widening, east of University Blvd.
- Street lighting in the 200 block of Welch Avenue will be replaced in spring/summer 2025 in coordination with a Public Works Street replacement project.



# Street System Maintenance

## Description:

The City's streets are composed of several different materials which require different techniques to repair the cracked, broken, or distorted surfaces or bases. It is the responsibility of the Street Maintenance activity to provide smooth and safe streets which are stable, and which drain precipitation to the storm water system without allowing the moisture to penetrate the surface and saturate the street base. This maintenance includes patching, resurfacing, seal coating, slurry seal, and grading of gravel streets as needed. In addition to regular maintenance, shared use paths are also repaired as needed.

There are occasional charges to the General Fund for this activity when an outside reimbursement is involved. The balance of the activity is funded through state road use tax revenue.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 1,298,559 | 1,399,377 | 1,364,312 | 1,425,713 | 1.9% |
| Internal Services | 600,810 | 632,738 | 645,926 | 787,490 | 24.5% |
| Contractual | 211,458 | 143,510 | 149,742 | 148,902 | 3.8% |
| Commodities | 397,609 | 424,250 | 431,350 | 441,350 | 4.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,508,436 | 2,599,875 | 2,591,330 | 2,803,455 | 7.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 65,791 | - | - | - | |
| Road Use Tax Fund | 2,442,645 | 2,599,875 | 2,591,330 | 2,803,455 | 7.8% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 2,508,436 | 2,599,875 | 2,591,330 | 2,803,455 | 7.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 12.90 | 12.85 | 12.85 | 12.85 | |

# Street System Maintenance

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Maintain the City's network of streets, alleys, and shared used paths in a safe and useable condition | Lane miles of streets maintained | 524 | 525 | 525 | 525 |
| | | Cost per lane mile street maintenance | $4,663 | $4,778 | $4,909 | $5,299 |
| | | Citizens rating major street surfaces as good or very good | 79% | 80% | 80% | 80% |
| | | Citizens rating neighborhood streets as good or very good | 84% | 86% | 85% | 85% |
| | | Miles of off-street bike paths maintained | 43.4 | 45.9 | 46.0 | 46.5 |
| | | Citizens rating bike path maintenance as good or very good | 87% | 88% | 90% | 90% |
| | | Sidewalk repair letters issued | 377 | 325 | 300 | 300 |
| | | Ames on the Go issues reported | 633 | 947 | 500 | 500 |
| | | Average days to resolve Ames on the Go issues | 3.4 | 17.5 | 5.0 | 5.0 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Fleet equipment replacement costs have increased rapidly in recent years due to post-pandemic supply chain constraints. Four new tandem axle dump trucks are scheduled to be upfitted into snowplows in FY 2025/26. The chassis have been purchased and were delivered in June of 2025. The upfitting cost is expected to be $250,000 more than what is currently in the fleet escrow account. Half of the required amount ($125,000) is included in Snow and Ice Control in the FY 2025/26 budget and the other half in Street Maintenance.
- A skid loader mounted broom ($10,000) is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget. This broom will help in cleaning asphalt patches prior to new asphalt being placed. It will also function as a method to clean up debris on the street during the winter when the City's street sweeper does not operate due to low temperatures.

## In-Progress Activities

- Reports of sidewalks that need repair increased dramatically in FY 2023/24. In response to the increase, City Council adopted a revised sidewalk safety policy, which provides additional low-cost options for repair in lieu of total replacement.
- Responsiveness to Ames on the Go requests continues to be a priority. A large increase in the number of days to resolve issues was seen in FY 2023/24. This increase was due to staff pausing sidewalk inspections while City Council considered updated standards. Staff believes the number of days to resolve issues will return to typical levels in future years.
- Staff prioritizes concrete and asphalt patching across the City to ensure streets are in a good state of repair for the traveling public.

## Upcoming Activities

- At Council's direction, staff plans to begin proactive inspections of sidewalks in the winter of FY 2024/25, which will require property owners to complete repairs in the spring/summer of 2025. Staff anticipates 5 to 10 percent of the sidewalk system will be inspected annually.

# Street Surface Cleaning

## Description:

Streets in the business districts, arterial and collector streets, and some residential streets are regularly cleaned by City crews. In addition, City crews respond to clean-up activities that arise from emergency situations (accidents, spills, floods, etc.) and clean-up of mud and debris that is tracked onto the streets at City construction sites. Crews also clean streets affected by maintenance activities of other City crews. Timely response is essential to these types of incidents.

Under this activity, arterial and collector streets are cleaned ten times per year by City crews. Residential streets are swept an average of eight times per year by both City crews and outside contractors. Business district streets are cleaned twenty-four times per year by City crews.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 139,623 | 205,964 | 201,955 | 209,119 | 1.5% |
| Internal Services | 148,599 | 143,877 | 143,368 | 148,418 | 3.2% |
| Contractual | 46,550 | 55,150 | 55,150 | 57,150 | 3.6% |
| Commodities | 878 | 800 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 25.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 335,650 | 405,791 | 401,473 | 415,687 | 2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Road Use Tax Fund | 335,650 | 405,791 | 401,473 | 415,687 | 2.4% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 335,650 | 405,791 | 401,473 | 415,687 | 2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.91 | 1.91 | 1.91 | 1.91 | |

# Street Surface Cleaning

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Clean arterial/ collector (10/year), residential (8/year), and business district streets (24/year) to enhance the cleanliness and appearance of the community | Curb-miles of streets cleaned: | 7,402 | 4,080 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| | | Arterial/collector | 2,073 | 1,239 | 1,600 | 1,600 |
| | | Residential | 4,811 | 2,841 | 3,250 | 3,250 |
| | | Business District | 518 | 117 | 150 | 150 |
| | | By City crews | 75% | 61% | 70% | 70% |
| | | Citizens rating Business District street cleaning as good or very good | 94% | 94% | 95% | 95% |
| | | Citizens rating neighborhood street cleaning as good or very good | 84% | 89% | 90% | 90% |
| | | Ames on the Go issues reported | 97 | 168 | 150 | 150 |
| | | Average days to resolve Ames on the Go issues | 1.5 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Fleet equipment replacement and maintenance costs have increased rapidly in recent years due to post-pandemic supply chain constraints. Fleet replacement escrow costs are being impacted by increased costs of replacement equipment. Maintenance costs are being impacted by increases in costs for parts. This amounts to an increase of $4,000 in the FY 2025/26 budget.
- Rates for contracted street sweeping are expected to increase between 2% and 3% annually. The budgeted amount for contract sweeping shows an increase of $2,000 in FY 2025/26.

## In-Progress Activities

- The number of curb-miles swept for FY 2023/24 is lower when compared to FY 2022/23. This is due to a change in how the miles are tracked and due to unforeseen downtime for the street sweeper. The change in tracking is because real time data is being reported through the City's automatic vehicle locating (AVL) system. This data is being collected when the brooms are down and operating and does not include any miles where the sweeper may only be traveling and not actively sweeping. Previously data collected measured the miles operated, regardless of broom operations.
- This activity continues to be highly responsive to citizen requests for service as evidenced by the short time to resolve Ames on the Go requests.
- Staff is utilizing a rented trommel to remove garbage and debris from street sweeper tailings. The cleaned material is then mixed with compost to make an amended soil that can be used to backfill projects and sustain plant and grass growth.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will work with contract partners to supplement the City's operations in residential areas. The work primarily occurs in the spring and fall to maximize the volume of debris and leaves picked up by contract sweepers.

# Snow and Ice Control

## Description:

The Snow and Ice Control activity provides passable streets for moving vehicles during and after snow events, following snow removal standards established by the City Council. The snow ordinance typically becomes effective after 2” of snowfall, with arterial and collector streets being plowed. Residential streets are typically plowed after 3" of snow have fallen. Following typical snowstorms, all City streets are cleared within 16 hours. Under slippery road conditions, sand and/or de-icing materials are spread on curves, hills, and intersections of highways and thoroughfares.

Snow removal in the City is performed by both City crews and private contractors. Snow and ice storms are citywide emergencies that require the cooperation of many City departments to provide the quality of services desired for Ames citizens. Parks and Recreation maintenance workers clear designated winter bike paths, and employees from many departments are added to snow and ice operations activities.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 559,878 | 628,330 | 622,846 | 635,484 | 1.1% |
| Internal Services | 461,300 | 489,791 | 495,918 | 644,895 | 31.7% |
| Contractual | 103,685 | 218,365 | 217,610 | 217,610 | -0.4% |
| Commodities | 222,616 | 265,100 | 267,025 | 272,750 | 2.9% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,347,479 | 1,601,586 | 1,603,399 | 1,770,739 | 10.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Road Use Tax Fund | 1,347,479 | 1,601,586 | 1,603,399 | 1,770,739 | 10.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,347,479 | 1,601,586 | 1,603,399 | 1,770,739 | 10.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.08 | 5.08 | 5.08 | 5.08 | |

# Snow and Ice Control

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Remove snow and provide ice control according to standards established by City Council | Annual inches of snowfall | 41.5 | 28.5 | 36.0 | 36.0 |
| | | Lane miles of streets maintained | 524 | 525 | 525 | 525 |
| | | Snow/ice control operations | 16 | 13 | 19 | 19 |
| | | Cost of snow/ice removal per inch of accumulation per lane mile of street | $73.41 | $90.05 | $84.84 | $92.93 |
| | | Gallons of salt brine used | 41,272 | 8,406 | 35,000 | 35,000 |
| | | Tons of salt applied | 2,727 | 1,838 | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| | Crews plow snow at 2" for arterial, collector, and business areas | Gallons of calcium chloride applied during extreme temperature events | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| | | Citizens' rating snow plowing on major city streets as good or very good | 89% | 86% | 85% | 85% |
| | | Citizens' rating snow plowing in neighborhoods as good or very good | 72% | 66% | 70% | 70% |
| | 3" of snow to clear residential streets | Citizens' rating ice control at intersections as good or very good | 79% | 80% | 80% | 80% |
| | | Ames on the Go issues reported | 403 | 393 | 400 | 400 |
| | 4" of snow to clear alleys | Average days to resolve Ames on the Go issues | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| | | Sidewalk snow violation notices | 696 | 201 | 300 | 300 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Fleet equipment replacement costs have increased rapidly in recent years due to post-pandemic supply chain constraints. Four new tandem axle dump trucks are scheduled to be upfitted into snowplows in FY 2025/26. The chassis have been purchased and were delivered in June of 2025. The upfitting cost is expected to be $250,000 more than what is currently in the fleet escrow account. Half of the required amount ($125,000) is included in Snow and Ice Control in the FY 2025/26 budget and the other half in Street Maintenance.
- Funding for a plow ($8,000) is included for use at the Resource Recovery Plant (RRP) in FY 2024/25. Staff at RRP frequently assist with plowing around the plant and downtown areas which helps with response time during snow and ice control events.
- The City is now having to pay to obtain salt brine from the Iowa Department of Transportation in FY 2024/25 ($9,800) and FY 2025/26 ($10,150). Salt brine is used to provide anti-icing before certain winter events and to prewet granular salt, increasing its effectiveness.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff responds to events consistent with the City Council approved Snow and Ice Control Policy and proactively works with residents to keep sidewalks clear after snow events.
- This activity has been successful in being highly responsive to citizen requests for service as evidenced by the short time to resolve Ames on the Go requests.
- The budget includes the rental of a motor grader in both FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26. The motor grader is utilized to push back windrows of snow along the edge of various roadways and mechanically remove hard packed snow and ice. Vendors have not been able to fulfill the rental requests for the past two winter seasons. Staff is evaluating other options to perform these actions in lieu of the rented equipment.

## Upcoming Activities

- In FY 2025/26, City crews will utilize up to 26 units (pickups, trucks, loaders, skid loaders, backhoes, etc.) for snow and ice control activities. In addition, $114,710 is budgeted for contractors that utilize eight tractors with plows and four skid loaders/pickups to supplement City crews in snow and ice control activities.

# Right-of-Way Maintenance

## Description:

The Right-of-Way (ROW) Maintenance activity is responsible for the maintenance of all turf, trees, and bio-swales on City-owned property and right-of-way along the City's roadways and parking lots. Turf maintenance includes mowing, trimming, seeding, and chemical applications to prevent weeds and pests. Tree maintenance includes trimming, disease diagnosis, tree removal, and the planting of new trees. Bio-swale management includes mowing, trimming, and removing sediment from the bio-swales. All these activities may be performed by either City crews or private contractors under the supervision of City staff.

Right-of-Way Maintenance is the responsibility of the Parks Maintenance division of the Parks and Recreation department. Many turf and tree maintenance activities are coordinated with and performed in conjunction with turf and tree maintenance in the City's park system.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Turf Maintenance | 270,568 | 362,982 | 319,668 | 347,355 | -4.3% |
| Tree Maintenance | 408,703 | 460,105 | 491,006 | 455,650 | -1.0% |
| ROW Snow Removal | 58,766 | 60,891 | 65,491 | 60,192 | -1.2% |
| EAB Program | 117,406 | 108,770 | 204,063 | 108,620 | -0.1% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 855,443 | 992,748 | 1,080,228 | 971,817 | -2.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 384,795 | 502,318 | 451,771 | 492,486 | -2.0% |
| Internal Services | 183,524 | 200,940 | 253,430 | 196,237 | -2.3% |
| Contractual | 238,659 | 239,890 | 325,427 | 230,994 | -3.7% |
| Commodities | 48,465 | 49,600 | 49,600 | 52,100 | 5.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 855,443 | 992,748 | 1,080,228 | 971,817 | -2.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Road Use Tax Fund | 855,443 | 992,748 | 1,080,228 | 971,817 | -2.1% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 855,443 | 992,748 | 1,080,228 | 971,817 | -2.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 4.30 | 4.30 | 4.30 | 4.30 | |

# Right-of-Way Maintenance

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide attractive rights-of-way along the city's roadways | Acres of right-of-way maintained | 784 | 784 | 789 | 789 |
| | | Acres of right-of-way mowed | 120 | 120 | 125 | 125 |
| | | Days between ROW mowing* | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| | | Trees planted | 266 | 256 | 269 | 350 |
| | | Trees removed under EAB program | 53 | 43 | 91 | 100 |
| | | Trees planted under EAB program | 45 | 75 | 91 | 100 |
| | | Ratings of appearance of medians and parkways as good/very good | 91% | 92% | 92% | 92% |

*Mowing goal is every 7 to 10 days

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Approximately $95,443 was carried over from FY 2023/24 into FY 2024/25 for the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Program.
- Funding of $70,000 is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget for an additional watering truck to water the many new right-of way trees being planted throughout the City through the EAB program. The funding is included in the internal services budget and will be transferred to Fleet Services to purchase the vehicle.
- Funding of $6,000 is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget for a tractor-mounted snow blower that will be used along shared-use-paths and areas that are difficult to clear with a snowplow.
- The City is contracting with a different right-of-way tree trimming and removal contractor. This is the first year of the contract with the potential for four additional years. Fortunately, costs for tree removal and trimming are lower than previous years. Staff has reduced the budget for tree trimming/removal by $10,000 in FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.
- The City continues to receive grant funds from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for tree planting activities that are completed in the spring and fall. As of December 2024, the City has received $10,000 which was used for planting trees in the right-of-way. Staff is applying for additional grants from the IDNR to be used in the spring of FY 2024/25.

## In-Progress Activities

- In the fall of FY 2024/25, 119 trees were planted in the right-of-way. Of this amount, 45 were planted by a contractor and the other 74 were planted by staff and volunteers.

## Upcoming Activities

- Funds are budgeted in FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 to update the current tree inventory, construct a gravel bed nursery, remove invasive vegetation in woodlands, and plant trees as part of the $810,000 U.S. Forest Service Grant the City received in FY 2023/24. Some of the grant funds will be used for work in the right-of-way. The funds will be spread out over a five-year period.

# Transit System

**Description:**

The Ames Transit system provides those who live in and visit the City with a safe, economical, and energy saving mass transit system.

Transit ***Administration*** oversees the operations of the total transit system. Statistical data and record keeping functions are also performed. Transit system administration reports to federal, state, university, and local authorities, and derives its funds from the same.

The system operates ***Fixed Route Service*** (CyRide) every day of the year except Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day.

The Transit System further serves the community by contracting for ***Dial-A-Ride*** service. This service benefits the community by making transit service available to the disabled and other citizens with special needs.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administration/Support | 2,631,094 | 2,699,548 | 2,723,268 | 2,814,082 | 4.2% |
| Fixed Route Service | 10,793,553 | 12,500,598 | 12,544,337 | 12,585,715 | 0.7% |
| Dial-A-Ride Service | 281,698 | 285,728 | 285,618 | 292,333 | 2.3% |
| ***Transit Operations*** | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 88.25 | 89.25 | 89.25 | 89.25 | |



# Transit System

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 10,170,020 | 10,994,516 | 10,994,516 | 11,325,041 | 3.0% |
| Internal Services | 734,382 | 820,091 | 815,494 | 872,138 | 6.4% |
| Contractual | 908,513 | 1,197,441 | 1,197,441 | 1,290,878 | 7.8% |
| Commodities | 1,893,120 | 2,473,226 | 2,545,172 | 2,203,473 | -10.9% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 310 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |

| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Transit Fund | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |



# Transit Administration and Support

## Description:

The Transit Administration and Support activity is responsible for the management of CyRide through a governance structure as an agency of City; thereby, providing transit services within the city, as well as service to Iowa State University. This activity is responsible for the financial operation of the system, including the preparation of the budget, applying for and monitoring grant funding, and preparing reports for various oversight agencies and the Transit Board of Trustees. CyRide receives significant funds from federal and state sources to support its operations and capital needs. Other responsibilities of this activity include all marketing efforts, maintenance of transit facilities, and the training and development of employees who will operate transit vehicles in a safe, responsible, and courteous manner.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Transit Administration | 1,515,494 | 1,540,496 | 1,575,470 | 1,622,894 | 5.4% |
| Transit Safety/Training | 664,841 | 636,971 | 636,071 | 661,915 | 3.9% |
| Transit Promotion | 1,600 | 4,600 | 4,600 | 4,600 | 0.0% |
| Transit Building/Grounds | 449,159 | 517,481 | 507,127 | 524,673 | 1.4% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,631,094 | 2,699,548 | 2,723,268 | 2,814,082 | 4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,725,603 | 1,690,302 | 1,690,302 | 1,761,728 | 4.2% |
| Internal Services | 461,435 | 505,980 | 529,700 | 541,701 | 7.1% |
| Contractual | 347,760 | 409,441 | 409,441 | 416,678 | 1.8% |
| Commodities | 95,986 | 93,825 | 93,825 | 93,975 | 0.2% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 310 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,631,094 | 2,699,548 | 2,723,268 | 2,814,082 | 4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Fund | 2,631,094 | 2,699,548 | 2,723,268 | 2,814,082 | 4.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 2,631,094 | 2,699,548 | 2,723,268 | 2,814,082 | 4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 11.80 | 11.80 | 11.80 | 11.80 | |



# Transit Administration and Support

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Connecting people to their community with safe and efficient transit service that exceeds expectations | CyRide annual ridership | 4,142,196 | 4,715,514 | 5,187,065 | 5,394,548 |
| | | Passenger trips per capita | 61.9 | 70.5 | 77.5 | 80.6 |
| | | Passenger trips per revenue hour | 32.2 | 35.6 | 38.0 | 39.6 |
| | | Operating expenses per passenger | $2.48 | $2.35 | $2.25 | $2.15 |
| | | Average fleet age in years | 10.5 | 11.4 | 12.4 | 11.6 |
| | | Citizens rating CyRide service as good or very good | 93.4% | 95.2% | 90.0% | 90.0% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Nationwide supply chain issues, compounded by the shrinking number of bus manufacturers, have created disruptions with bus availability. This has increased the cost of purchases and extended delivery timelines. These challenges are expected to continue in the coming budget year.
- The volatile bidding environment has also impacted facility improvement projects, driving up costs and complicating project timelines. CyRide continues to pursue supplemental funding sources to offset these rising expenses.

## In-Progress Activities

- CyRide received two federal grants from the Federal Transit Administration and one Surface Transportation Block Grant to replace seven 40’ diesel buses with five battery electric buses (BEBs) and two 60’ articulated buses, increasing the BEB fleet to seven and the articulated fleet to ten. These vehicles are expected for delivery in FY 2025/26.
- CyRide received an Iowa Department of Transportation Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) to complete a much-needed rehabilitation of its 40-year-old shop facility. This project improves safety, air quality, and expands workspace within the facility. Completion is expected in December.

## Upcoming Activities

- The role of technology will continue to be critical this next budget year. CyRide is improving the riding experience by offering multiple options for real-time bus data and alerts through the Transit app, MyState app, and Ames Ride app, providing passengers with greater access to bus schedules and updates.
- CyRide received an additional PTIG to complete fire safety improvements in portions of the facility. The project includes upgrading the sprinkler system, increasing the water supply capacity, and installing fire-rated doors to better contain and manage potential hazards from battery electric buses.
- CyRide received funding through discretionary and formula grants for seven new 40’ diesel buses. These vehicles will produce cleaner emissions and cost less to operate than the 22-year-old buses they are replacing. Additionally, they will help keep the fleet in a state of good repair, as required by the Federal Transit Administration. The expected delivery date for these buses is FY 2026/27.
- CyRide will monitor the B100 pilot project’s performance, focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting climate action goals. Additionally, CyRide is exploring opportunities to utilize "low emissions" federal funding sources for B100 buses, though this process is still in its early stages.
- CyRide will continue to submit state and federal discretionary grant applications to support operations, fleet, and facility needs following Transit Board direction.

# Fixed Route Service

**Description:**

The Fixed Route activity provides regularly scheduled public transit service seven days a week to the City of Ames, including Iowa State University, with a workforce of approximately 190 employees.

This activity also includes the maintenance of the bus fleet and CyRide facility to ensure a smooth and efficient operation of services daily.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fixed Route | 7,562,534 | 8,646,437 | 8,621,530 | 8,945,952 | 3.5% |
| Fixed Route Maintenance | 3,231,019 | 3,854,161 | 3,922,807 | 3,639,763 | -5.6% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 10,793,553 | 12,500,598 | 12,544,337 | 12,585,715 | 0.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 8,432,668 | 9,293,793 | 9,293,793 | 9,551,218 | 2.8% |
| Internal Services | 272,896 | 313,904 | 285,697 | 330,299 | 5.2% |
| Contractual | 290,855 | 512,900 | 512,900 | 594,100 | 15.8% |
| Commodities | 1,797,134 | 2,379,401 | 2,451,347 | 2,109,498 | -11.3% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | 600 | 600 | 600 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 10,793,553 | 12,500,598 | 12,544,337 | 12,585,715 | 0.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Fund | 10,793,553 | 12,500,598 | 12,544,337 | 12,585,715 | 0.7% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 10,793,553 | 12,500,598 | 12,544,337 | 12,585,715 | 0.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 76.35 | 77.35 | 77.35 | 77.35 | |






# Fixed Route Service

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Connecting people to their community with safe and efficient transit service that exceeds expectations | Passengers per complaint | 133,619 | 127,446 | 130,000 | 130,000 |
| | | Miles per preventable accident | 25,611 | 19,969 | 27,000 | 29,000 |
| | | Average drivers employed per month | 123.6 | 142.4 | 150.0 | 160.0 |
| | | Passengers transferring buses | 32,770 | 36,426 | 37,000 | 37,000 |
| | | Major mechanical failures | 50 | 54 | 50 | 50 |
| | | Miles per shop road call | 40,147 | 40,963 | 40,000 | 40,000 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The diesel fuel market continues to experience volatility, but the FY 2025/26 budget has been adjusted to reflect a lower projected fuel price. Fluctuations in the market may still require future adjustments.
- CyRide maintenance personnel have determined that the useful life of engines and transmissions on newer 40’ heavy-duty buses are between 250,000 and 300,000 miles. After this point, both components require rebuilding or replacement. The parts budget has been adjusted to accommodate these long-term impacts, ensuring fleet reliability and continued service quality.
- The maintenance division continues to experience significant cost increases for parts, lubricants, and fluids. Ongoing supply chain disruptions and rising production costs are expected to impact future budgets.
- Property insurance rates have risen due to updated appraisals and a limited number of carriers willing to provide coverage for vehicles parked outside the CyRide facility, a result of insufficient interior space. CyRide will pursue discretionary grant funding to expand the facility and accommodate all vehicles indoors, helping to mitigate future cost increases.

## In-Progress Activities

- Ongoing hiring and retention efforts have allowed CyRide to reintroduce “extra” buses on routes with capacity issues, helping to reduce overcrowding and improve service on heavily used trips, which has led to increased ridership.
- Real-time information displays are being installed at key campus locations to improve accessibility and provide passengers with easy access to bus arrival times, helping them navigate the system more effectively.
- CyRide is installing additional infotainment systems on buses to enhance accessibility by displaying upcoming stops and real-time information, improving ease of use for passengers while also providing potential revenue opportunities.
- Plans to upgrade five bus shelters are underway to ensure enhancements improve the passenger experience for the greatest number of riders.

## Upcoming Activities

- CyRide will replace two 40’ diesel buses with articulated buses in FY 2025/26, bring the fleet of 60’ vehicles to ten. This change will allow the #23 Orange route to operate exclusively with 60’ buses, increasing route capacity without the need for additional drivers.
- Five buses are now running on B100 fuel, offering reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. CyRide is actively evaluating the performance of these buses and may expand equipment to additional vehicles if the pilot continues to be successful.
- CyRide will continue seeking discretionary grant opportunities to expand its battery electric bus fleet, supporting efforts to reduce emissions and improve sustainability.

# Dial-A-Ride

## Description:

CyRide is required under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide complementary paratransit service for persons unable to use fixed route services. If this service is contracted to another agency, Federal funding is available through a grant with the State of Iowa to fund up to 80% of the program's operating expenses. This funding is not available if CyRide directly operates the service. As a result, CyRide typically contracts with another agency to provide Dial-a-Ride service.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 11,749 | 10,421 | 10,421 | 12,095 | 16.1% |
| Internal Services | 51 | 207 | 97 | 138 | -33.3% |
| Contractual | 269,898 | 275,100 | 275,100 | 280,100 | 1.8% |
| Commodities | - | - | - | - | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 281,698 | 285,728 | 285,618 | 292,333 | 2.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Fund | 281,698 | 285,728 | 285,618 | 292,333 | 2.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 281,698 | 285,728 | 285,618 | 292,333 | 2.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.10 | |



# Dial-A-Ride

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Connecting people to their community with safe and efficient transit service that exceeds expectations | Dial-A-Ride ridership | 13,783 | 14,608 | 15,500 | 15,000 |
| | | Passengers per revenue hour | 2.9 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| | | Farebox revenue as percentage of program expenses | 5.8% | 7.7% | 6.5% | 6.5% |
| | | Program cost per passenger | $18.43 | $20.88 | $20.93 | $21.97 |
| | | Rides before or after 10-minute pickup window | 1,017 | 1,168 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| | | Passengers per comment | 13,783 | 14,608 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| | | On-time performance | 92.6% | 92.0% | 91.0% | 91.0% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Dial-A-Ride (DAR) provides essential specialized transportation for individuals with disabilities, complementing CyRide's fixed routes and meeting requirements for paratransit services under federal law. Due to the nature of this service, its cost per passenger is higher than for other modes. In FY 2023/24, DAR averaged 3.5 passengers per hour, compared to 37.1 passengers per hour on CyRide's fixed routes.
- CyRide contracts with the Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency (HIRTA) to operate DAR services. For FY2024/25 HIRTA has increased rates by 4.5% for weekday trips and 0.5% for weeknights and weekends, which remains more cost effective than if CyRide directly operated the service.
- Collaborative efforts between CyRide and HIRTA have raised awareness of DAR, resulting in increased ridership as more eligible users shift to this service. Section 5310 federal funding helps support the cost of operating this service.

## In-Progress Activities

- CyRide has partnered with HIRTA for over a decade to provide DAR services. This long-standing collaboration continues to be a practical solution for addressing the specialized transportation needs of Ames residents. A new five-year contract began in 2023.
- HIRTA offers online reservation capabilities and a mobile app for DAR passengers, enabling users to independently schedule rides, manage reservations, and pay fares through a smartphone app. These technologies provide more opportunities to improve service delivery and decrease administrative costs.

## Upcoming Activities

- HIRTA will lease a 2023 New England Wheels Frontrunner low-floor cutaway bus from CyRide, replacing the 2017 Glavel high-floor cutaway currently used to support DAR operations.

# Parking Operations

## Description:

The Parking Operations activity provides safe, available, and well-maintained parking opportunities for the public in metered spaces and City parking lots. The parking system includes parking activities in Downtown, Campustown, and residential neighborhoods. These areas all contain metered and non-metered spaces. Staff utilizes an expansive database to manage parking meter locations, equipment, and review parking lot data in the Downtown and Campustown areas. Secure daily money collection from meters is provided as part of this activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parking Operations | 243,846 | 249,813 | 249,760 | 257,977 | 3.3% |
| Parking Lot Maintenance | 6,070 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 249,916 | 254,813 | 254,760 | 262,977 | 3.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 136,728 | 146,515 | 147,613 | 154,461 | 5.4% |
| Internal Services | 41,626 | 27,148 | 25,497 | 25,966 | -4.4% |
| Contractual | 43,940 | 38,800 | 38,800 | 40,200 | 3.6% |
| Commodities | 27,622 | 42,350 | 42,850 | 42,350 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 249,916 | 254,813 | 254,760 | 262,977 | 3.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Parking Fund | 249,916 | 254,813 | 254,760 | 262,977 | 3.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 249,916 | 254,813 | 254,760 | 262,977 | 3.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 2.15 | 2.15 | 2.15 | 2.15 | |

# Parking Operations

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide safe, available, and well-maintained parking opportunities for the public | Parking stalls | 2,956 | 2,956 | 2,956 | 2,956 |
| | | Parking stalls painted | 2,956 | 2,956 | 2,956 | 2,956 |
| | | Reserved parking stalls rented | 97% | 96% | 97% | 97% |
| | | Total parking meters installed | 942 | 942 | 942 | 942 |
| | | Percent of credit card capable meters | 4.8% | 4.8% | 7.0% | 9.1% |
| | | Average revenue per meter per year | $406.30 | $404.28 | $435.77 | $440.02 |
| | | Meter system receiving preventative maintenance checks | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | Parking meter operational complaints | 140 | 181 | 150 | 150 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Parking Operations budget sees ongoing increases in expenses due to the rising costs of equipment and replacement parts. These cost pressures may impact the ability to maintain and update parking infrastructure effectively.

## In-Progress Activities

- To improve meter visibility and usability, staff is in the process of replacing the plastic domes and rate plates on parking meters. Many of these have become weathered, making them difficult for users to read. This replacement effort will enhance the user experience and extend the functional life of the parking meters.
- A multi-departmental team continues to review the Parking Fund with the aim of developing a sustainable financing plan. This plan will address both operational and capital expenses, focusing on self-sustaining solutions to secure the financial health of the citywide parking activities.

## Upcoming Activities

- Approximately 20 new credit card capable meters are slated for installation each year. These meters will also accept coins, smart cards, and payments via the Park Mobile app. The integration of the new meters will enable valuable data collection on parking utilization trends, supporting data-informed decisions for parking management across Ames.

# Parking Violation Collection

## Description:

The purpose of the Parking Violation Collection activity is to accept and record payments for parking violations. Responsibilities of this activity include collecting and recording payments received through the mail, electronically, or at the Customer Service counter or drop box in City Hall, maintaining payment records, responding to citizens' questions, mailing reminder notices on unpaid tickets, and working with other collection processes, including collection agencies and City of Ames Legal Services. The Parking Violation Collection activity is in the Finance Customer Service division in City Hall, so staff also assists with processing utility payments and selling CyRide passes as needed.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 84,036 | 95,200 | 96,648 | 102,384 | 7.6% |
| Internal Services | 23,618 | 22,764 | 22,744 | 11,793 | -48.2% |
| Contractual | 46,685 | 42,735 | 32,735 | 27,735 | -35.1% |
| Commodities | - | 300 | 275 | 300 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 154,339 | 160,999 | 152,402 | 142,212 | -11.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Parking Fund | 154,339 | 160,999 | 152,402 | 142,212 | -11.7% |
| Total Funding Sources | 154,339 | 160,999 | 152,402 | 142,212 | -11.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | |

# Parking Violation Collection

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Accurately record parking ticket payments and maintain payment records | Parking violation payments processed | 17,605 | 23,557 | 25,000 | 26,500 |
| | | Overpayments processed | 46 | 47 | 50 | 58 |
| | | Payments made by credit card | 76.0% | 75.2% | 76.0% | 77.0% |
| | | Maintain an accuracy rate of no more than 1 misapplied payment per 1,000 processed | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Average cost per payment processed | $8.45 | $6.55 | $6.09 | $5.37 |
| | | Reminder notices mailed | 8,105 | 10,318 | 10,000 | 10,500 |
| | | Tickets outstanding for 35 days or more referred to IDOT | 6,316 | 8,724 | 9,000 | 8,000 |
| | | Payments reported to IDOT due to registration stops (91+ days) | N/A | N/A | 6,500 | 5,000 |
| | | Customer inquiries responded to within one working day | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Parking Enforcement filled vacancies of Community Service Officers (CSO) in FY 2024/25. Tickets issued in FY 2024/25 are trending toward typical levels.
- The City initiated the use of auto registration stops through a partnership with the Story County Treasurer and Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT). This prevents Story County residents with outstanding City parking tickets from renewing their annual vehicle registration. The use of the registration stops program has gotten off to an effective start. This program has limited the need for a collection agency and allowed the retention of all proceeds for a paid ticket.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff has begun e-mailing notices to customer accounts when possible. This process will help to limit postage and supply costs. Staff will continue to identify ways to provide electronic notification.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will work to identify a collection provider for tickets issued to out-of-state residents. Tickets cannot be collected through current practices. Staff will look to leverage existing relationships to meet this demand.
- Staff was received approval to utilize the Iowa Setoff Program through the state. This program will allow the State of Iowa to collect outstanding fees and fines to be collected by the State of Iowa and paid to the City. The program redirects payments from the State, including tax returns, gambling winnings, etc. and redirects the outstanding amount to the City for outstanding obligations. This program is newly established in the Department of Revenue resulting in a delay in new customer setup, including the City of Ames.

# Parking Enforcement

## Description:

The Parking Law Enforcement activity has the responsibility of enforcing parking regulations in the Downtown and Campustown business areas, as well as other locations around the community. Citations are issued for both overtime and illegal parking, with the goal of supporting compliance with all parking system regulations. Community Safety Officers (CSO) duties include enforcing illegal and overtime parking regulations and managing parking response during snow emergencies (83.7% of their effort this year). They also assist the Patrol Division with funeral escorts, motorist assistance, special events (parades, Iowa State University football games, etc.), prisoner transports, delivering and picking up the community's block party trailer, and transporting evidence (16.3% of their effort this year). Parking law enforcement is also performed by police officers and is included in the Police Services activity in the Public Safety Program.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 341,233 | 461,077 | 367,889 | 455,418 | -1.2% |
| Internal Services | 129,110 | 140,118 | 140,289 | 146,163 | 4.3% |
| Contractual | 13,755 | 23,223 | 21,587 | 20,787 | -10.5% |
| Commodities | 1,118 | 1,450 | 16,450 | 4,050 | 179.3% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| **Total Expenditures** | 485,216 | 625,868 | 546,215 | 626,418 | 0.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Parking Fund | 485,216 | 625,868 | 546,215 | 626,418 | 0.1% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 485,216 | 625,868 | 546,215 | 626,418 | 0.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.40 | |



# Parking Enforcement

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Promote compliance with parking regulations and address parking issues proactively | Illegal parking citations issued | 14,479 | 15,194 | 15,500 | 15,000 |
| | | Overtime parking citations issued | 9,692 | 13,665 | 14,000 | 14,000 |
| | | Total parking citations issued | 24,171 | 32,993 | 33,300 | 33,000 |
| | | Cost per citation | $25.00 | $19.39 | $20.98 | $23.29 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Funding of $15,000 has been added to the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget for the purchase of new ticket writers.
- Increased fines and towing efforts during Cyclone Welcome Weekend reduced the number of illegally parked vehicles during this weekend. Additionally, very few vehicles were towed, a total of 26 for this weekend in 2024.
- Football game day tickets continue to average approximately 200 per game. The increased parking fines during football game days have not decreased the parking congestion in the neighborhoods.

## In-Progress Activities

- Department staff continues to clean up confusing and outdated parking codes to correct discrepancies and improve compliance.
- Two new efforts are in effect to increase the rate of collections for parking violations. Through an agreement with the state of Iowa, individuals who are owed tax refunds and lottery or gambling winnings will be required to pay outstanding fines before receiving their funds. A separate agreement with Story County would require fines to be paid before a vehicle registration can be renewed. As of January 2025, an increase of $16,920 in outstanding fines has been collected through this process.
- In FY 2024/25 Council approved an ordinance to add special events to football game day special event parking. While this new tool has not been used, staff is evaluating when it may be appropriate for Council to consider.
- Staff has developed a new scheduling structure for the CSO program to ensure more consistent coverage, including overnight shifts. Like in many other areas, there are fewer qualified candidates to fill current vacancies.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff continues to provide education with the Downtown community by working with the Downtown Committee and Campus Greek Council.
- The expansion of the parking permit program with Downtown employee permits and potentially residential permits will be explored.



# Airport Operations

## Description:

The Ames Municipal Airport is the second busiest non-controlled General Aviation airport in the state, with over 45,000 operations occurring annually. Approximately ninety-five aircraft can be housed in public and private hangars at the airport, and an additional fifty-four aircraft can be temporarily located in designated tie-down areas. A fixed base operator (FBO) is under contract to provide for daily airport operations. The FBO is responsible for routine summer and winter maintenance services at the airport. Major maintenance, such as repairs to infrastructure, is administered by the Public Works Department through outside contracts or using City staff.
City-owned land adjacent to the airport surfaces is utilized for agricultural purposes. The profit from the farmland is transferred to the Airport Improvements Fund each year and is used as the local match for airport capital improvement projects funded by federal grants through the Federal Aviation Administration.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Airport Operations | 146,865 | 154,840 | 159,874 | 162,801 | 5.1% |
| Airport Farm | 107,750 | 99,477 | 6,000 | 6,000 | -94.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 44,465 | 44,206 | 45,759 | 48,341 | 9.4% |
| Internal Services | 45,635 | 46,390 | 47,271 | 48,510 | 4.6% |
| Contractual | 149,578 | 149,221 | 56,844 | 56,950 | -61.8% |
| Commodities | 14,937 | 14,500 | 16,000 | 15,000 | 3.5% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Operations Fund | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | |

# Airport Operations

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable aviation services to Ames and to the surrounding central Iowa region | General aviation operations | 39,300 | 39,690 | 40,100 | 40,500 |
| | | Based single engine aircraft* | 52 | 52 | 52 | 52 |
| | | Based multi-engine aircraft | 4 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| | | Based jets | 5 | 5 | 5 | 7 |
| | | Based gliders | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| | | Gallons of aviation gas sold | 55,300 | 54,900 | 56,500 | 57,000 |
| | | Gallons of jet fuel sold | 219,500 | 200,400 | 205,000 | 210,000 |

*City owned T-Hangar storage is full; max storage = 52 aircraft

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Airport's fuel farm is reaching the end of its operational life, leading to increased costs for both maintenance and repairs. Additionally, new inspection mandates from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for underground storage have elevated the annual inspection expenses. These new costs are included in the budget to ensure uninterrupted and compliant fuel services.
- The Airport's T-Hangars are showing signs of structural wear, necessitating frequent repairs. The Airport Master Plan outlines the replacement of these facilities, but rebuilding will only proceed once capital funding becomes available. This long-term replacement is crucial for sustaining hangar rental revenue and providing safe, updated facilities for airport users.
- The adopted FY 2024/25 budget included an anticipated shift from cash rent to a custom farming agreement. However, adequate funding was not available to move forward with the custom farming model. Therefore, the adjusted FY 2024/25 and requested FY 2025/26 budgets reflect a return to cash rent, securing an estimated $285 per acre in stable annual revenue. This reliable funding stream will support further airport improvement projects, directly enhancing airport infrastructure without dependency on fluctuating lease income.

## In-Progress Activities

- Efforts are underway to improve the visual appeal of the airport grounds, particularly around the entry terminal. Enhanced landscaping and targeted turf management will elevate the terminal's appearance, aligning it with the City's welcoming aesthetic for travelers and residents.
- A consultant has been retained to design the Airport Drive reconstruction project, which will improve accessibility and visual appeal in the terminal area. This project, when complete, is anticipated to reduce future maintenance costs by addressing existing infrastructure deficiencies.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff is exploring potential public-private partnerships to realize specific elements of the Airport Master Plan, with a focus on adding aircraft hangars and enhancing support services. These investments would bolster service offerings while sharing financial responsibilities with private stakeholders.
- There is rising interest in private hangar construction, presenting opportunities for land lease agreements once suitable sites are identified and prepared. New leases could generate steady income while meeting the demands of private aviation stakeholders seeking facilities at the airport.

# Transportation CIP

## Description:

This is a summary of the Transportation program capital improvements which are detailed in the City of Ames five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Street Improvements:*** | | | | | |
| Grand Avenue Extension | 1,499,773 | - | - | - | |
| South 16th Street Widening | 145,304 | 3,555,000 | 3,734,696 | - | -100% |
| Campustown Public Improvements | 217,163 | - | 982,837 | - | |
| Hyland Avenue Reconstruction | 27,190 | - | 2,620,890 | - | |
| Arterial Street Improvements | 189,026 | - | 1,319,224 | - | |
| Collector Street Improvements | 86,397 | 750,000 | 2,114,868 | 1,200,000 | 60% |
| CyRide Route Improvements | 1,340,639 | - | 1,644,016 | - | |
| Downtown Street Improvements | - | - | - | 250,000 | |
| Asphalt Street Improvements | 2,583,578 | - | 2,679,350 | 4,000,000 | |
| Concrete Pavement Improvements | 3,770,699 | - | 3,836,723 | 3,800,000 | |
| Seal Coat Improvements | 852,607 | - | 1,355,106 | 1,000,000 | |
| Baker Subdivision | 7,788 | - | 6,120 | - | |
| Alley Improvements | 788,805 | - | 8,215 | 400,000 | |
| Right-of-Way Restoration | 210,522 | - | 1,089,288 | 325,000 | |
| Other Street Improvement Projects | - | - | 481,281 | - | |
| *Total Street Improvements CIP* | 11,719,491 | 4,305,000 | 21,872,614 | 10,975,000 | 155% |
| ***Shared Use Path System:*** | | | | | |
| Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan | 66,323 | - | - | - | |
| Skunk River Trail | - | 350,000 | 1,390,138 | - | -100% |
| Shared Use Path Expansion | 833,693 | 25,000 | 980,613 | 825,000 | |
| Multi-Modal Improvements | - | 125,000 | 848,872 | 360,000 | 188% |
| Shared Use Path Maintenance | 60,857 | 300,000 | 249,384 | 375,000 | 25% |
| Bike Trail Signage | 28,472 | - | 172,456 | | |
| Other Shared Use Path Projects | - | - | 176,368 | | |
| *Total Shared Use Path System CIP* | 989,345 | 800,000 | 3,817,831 | 1,560,000 | 95% |
| ***Traffic Improvements:*** | | | | | |
| Metropolitan Transportation Plan | - | 150,000 | 650,000 | - | -100% |
| MPO Safety Plan | - | - | 125,000 | - | |
| Intelligent Transportation System | 1,526,863 | 2,556,000 | 8,375,245 | 2,795,000 | 9% |
| Traffic Signal Program | 716,748 | 373,000 | 639,709 | 480,000 | 29% |
| Traffic Capacity Improvements | 70,298 | 750,000 | 1,484,873 | 3,070,000 | 309% |
| Accessibility Enhancements | 235,516 | 200,000 | 258,284 | 200,000 | 0% |
| Regional Transportation Counts | 53,074 | 75,000 | 91,796 | 75,000 | 0% |
| Other Traffic Improvements | - | - | 290,694 | - | |
| *Total Traffic Improvements CIP* | 2,602,499 | 4,104,000 | 11,915,601 | 6,620,000 | 61% |

# Transportation CIP

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Street Rehabilitation:*** | | | | | |
| Bridge Rehabilitation Program | - | - | 1,185,000 | - | |
| Pavement Restoration Program | 302,851 | 300,000 | 513,367 | 350,000 | 17% |
| US Highway 69 Improvements | 103,412 | - | 471,588 | - | |
| Main Street Improvements | 2,500 | - | 12,888 | - | |
| Streetscape Enhancements | - | 30,000 | 72,094 | 30,000 | 0% |
| Neighborhood Curb Program | 408,352 | 300,000 | 523,560 | 150,000 | -50% |
| Salt Storage Facility Improvements | - | - | 115,000 | - | |
| *Total Street Rehabilitation CIP* | 817,115 | 630,000 | 2,893,497 | 530,000 | -16% |
| ***Transit System:*** | | | | | |
| Vehicle Replacement | 836,778 | 583,480 | 9,948,042 | 5,228,163 | 796% |
| Facility Improvements | 961,107 | 80,000 | 2,008,034 | 830,000 | 938% |
| Technology Improvements | 45,511 | 120,388 | 616,358 | 75,000 | -38% |
| Shop/Office Equipment | 93,729 | 291,400 | 316,400 | 267,400 | -8% |
| Bus Stop Improvements | 57,600 | 95,000 | 135,670 | 110,000 | 16% |
| *Total Transit System CIP* | 1,994,725 | 1,170,268 | 13,024,504 | 6,510,563 | 456% |
| ***Airport:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Airside Improvements | 736,210 | 865,000 | 1,524,775 | 10,635,000 | 1129% |
| Airport Facility Improvements | - | 250,000 | 250,000 | 890,000 | 256% |
| Airport Wildlife Fencing | 77,775 | - | 2,939,530 | - | |
| Airport Entryway Improvements | - | 680,000 | 680,000 | 120,000 | -82% |
| *Total Airport CIP* | 813,985 | 1,795,000 | 5,394,305 | 11,645,000 | 549% |
| ***Total Transportation CIP*** | 18,937,160 | 12,804,268 | 58,918,352 | 37,840,563 | 196% |

**Street Improvements ($10,975,000)**

***Collector Street Pavement Improvements*** is the annual program for the reconstruction or rehabilitation of collector streets. Locations are chosen in accordance with the most current street condition inventory. For FY 2025/26, $1,200,000 is included in the budget for improvements to Bloomington Road from GW Carver Avenue to 500 feet west of Eisenhower Avenue.

***Downtown Street Pavement Improvements*** is the annual program for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of streets or alleys in the downtown area. These projects can involve rehabilitation or reconstruction of the street or alley pavement, storm and sanitary sewer replacement, and streetscape improvements. In FY 2025/26, funding of $250,000 is allocated in this program to reconstruct the east/west alley north of Lincoln Way between Sherman Avenue and Kellogg Avenue.

***Asphalt Street Pavement Improvements*** is the annual program for the reconstruction and resurfacing of asphalt streets, typically located in residential neighborhoods. For FY 2025/26, $4,000,000 is budgeted to reconstruct Hillcrest Avenue, Kentucky Avenue, Illinois Avenue, Oklahoma Drive, and Delaware Avenue from North Dakota Avenue to Ontario Street.

***Concrete Pavement Improvements*** is the annual program to rehabilitate or reconstruct concrete street sections that have deteriorated in order to prevent premature breakdown if the pavement. In FY 2025/26, $3,800,000 is allocated to reconstruct Campus Avenue from Lincoln Way to Oakland Street, Sunset Drive from Ash Avenue to Beach Avenue, and Clark Avenue from Ninth Street to 13th Street.

***Seal Coat Street Pavement Improvements*** is the annual program for the removal of built-up seal coat from streets with asphalt surfaces. The areas to be resurfaced are chosen each spring based on the current street condition inventory and on funding availability. Funding of $1,000,000 is budgeted for this program for FY 2025/26 to resurface Furman Drive and Ferndale Avenue from 20th Street to 24th Street.

***Alley Improvements*** is the annual program to reconstruct existing paved alleys where the structural integrity of the existing pavement has diminished beyond the scope of normal repairs. For FY 2025/26, $400,000 is allocated in this program to reconstruct the east/west alley south of Lincoln Way between South Sherman Avenue and South Kellogg Avenue.

***Right-of-Way Restoration*** is the annual program to address issues associated with restoring the right-of-way after completion of street or utility CIP projects. In the past, this restoration work was typically performed as a subcontract to the main CIP project. In areas where the right-of-way is restored using sod or seed, however, the success rate of the restoration was volatile and dependent on the weather at the time of installation. This program, with $325,000 budgeted for FY 2025/26, enables better restoration through a separate contract with a contractor that is specialized in vegetation establishment. Conditions for each restoration area will be considered individually to select the most appropriate and sustainable alternative.

**Shared Use Path System ($1,560,000)**

The ***Shared Use Path Expansion*** program provides for the construction of shared use paths on street rights-of-way, adjacent to streets, and through greenbelts. The $825,000 allocation for this program in FY 2025/26 will be used to construct a trail along South Dayton Avenue between East Lincoln Way and Southeast 16th Street at a cost of $725,000. The remaining $100,000 will be used to construct a trail to connect Moore Memorial Park to the Iowa Creek Trail.

The ***Multi-Modal Roadway Improvements*** program focuses on improving roadways to create a safer interaction between bicycles and automobiles. In FY 2025/26, $360,000 is budgeted to create a mini-roundabout corridor improvement on Wilder Boulevard.

Shared use paths have typically been constructed with asphalt or concrete pavement, which may need to be repaired or replaced due to structural failure, drainage problems, or vegetation infringement. The ***Shared Use Path Maintenance*** program allocates $375,000 in FY 2025/26 to identify and repair these problem areas throughout the system.

**Traffic Improvements ($6,620,000)**

In FY 2016/17, City staff began the development of a traffic network master plan to create a detailed inventory and evaluation of the communication network used along the City's signalized corridors. The plan identified the upgrades necessary to support the modern technologies used to manage transportation to increase efficiency and improve travel times. In FY 2025/26, Phase 5 of the ***Intelligent Transportation System*** program will begin, with $2,795,000 budgeted to install traffic adaptive systems along Bloomington Road, 24th Street, Stange Road, 13th Street, and North Dakota Avenue.

The ***Traffic Signal*** program is the annual program to replace older traffic signals and to construct new signals in the community. For FY 2025/26, $480,000 is budgeted in this program to replace the signal at South Duff Avenue and South Third Street ($280,000), and to install emergency vehicle preemption upgrades ($200,000).

The ***Traffic System Capacity Improvements*** program was created to address issues identified in the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The 2045 LRTP identified several critical intersections that were at or nearing capacity and will need improvements. For FY 2025/25, funding of $3,070,000 is budgeted to construct the intersection improvements at Grand Avenue and 13th Street.

***Accessibility Enhancements*** is the annual program to implement sidewalk and ADA ramp improvements, as well as accessibility upgrades at traffic signals and publicly owned parking facilities. Signal upgrades that include audible and vibrotactile components, as well as other ADA improvements identified throughout the year, will be addressed through this program, which is budgeted at $200,000 for FY 2025/26.

***Regional Transportation Counts*** is a program created in response to an on-going need for transportation-related data in the Ames regional area. In FY 2025/26, $75,000 is allocated to this program for the collection and management of travel demand data for all transportation modes. Data from this program will be used to track critical transportation system performance measures which are used to analyze and forecast transportation needs and priorities.

**Street Rehabilitation ($530,000)**

***Pavement Restoration*** is the annual program for preventative and proactive maintenance of City streets. The $350,000 budgeted in this program in FY 2025/26 makes possible a variety of maintenance activities including slurry seal, concrete paving, asphalt patching and joint sealing. Locations for this program are coordinated with street construction to gain the best possible life cycle for City streets. Beginning in FY 2026/27, the annual amount budgeted for this program will increase to $400,000.

***Streetscape Enhancements*** is the annual program to provide funding for the enhancement of City rights-of-way, including such items as retaining walls, median enhancements, and right-of-way restoration. For FY 2025/26, $30,000 is budgeted for projects at various locations throughout the city.

***Neighborhood Curb Replacement*** is the annual program for replacement of deteriorated curb and gutter in selected neighborhood areas. For FY 2025/26 $150,000 has been allocated to replace curb and gutter along Ferndale Avenue, between 20th Street and 24th Street.

**Transit System ($6,510,563 )**

***Vehicle Replacement*** is CyRide's annual program to replace its fleet. For FY 2025/26, $5,228,163 is budgeted to replace six 40-foot buses ($3,962,372), replace one 40' bus with a battery electric bus ($1,215,791, and replace one administrative vehicle ($50,000).

CyRide's facility is 37 years old and major components of the building are at the end of their useful lives. Additionally, the facility is housing more vehicles than it was originally designed for, creating higher wear and tear on the facility. The ***Facility Improvements*** project addresses these issues with a series of planned upgrades and repairs over the five years of the CIP. For FY 2025/26, $830,000 is allocated for a fire safety project for the battery electric buses ($750,000), concrete replacement ($30,000), and architectural and engineering services for upcoming facility projects ($50,000).

The ***Technology Improvements*** program provides funding for technology improvements in both CyRide vehicles and at the transit facility. CyRide will continue to invest in technology to improve system efficiency and the riding experience for passengers with disabilities. For FY 2025/26, $75,000 is budgeted for bus technology improvements ($50,000) and infotainment signage ($25,000).

The CyRide Shop and Office Equipment program allocates funding to upgrade office and shop equipment at the CyRide facility. For FY 2025/26, $267,400 is budgeted to replace computers and office equipment ($27,400), purchase snow removal equipment ($40,000), install an inground bus lift ($150,000) and replace shop equipment ($50,000).

Funding of $110,000 is included in FY 2025/26 for ***Bus Stop Improvements*** at various locations throughout the community. CyRide annually updates its Bus Stop Improvement Plan to ensure that enhancements benefit the greatest number of riders. CyRide continues to utilize Automatic Passenger Counters (APCs) to track the number of passengers boarding and alighting at each bus stop, ensuring targeted and effective upgrades.

**Airport ($11,645,000)**

The ***Airport Airside Improvements*** program provides funding to enhance the airport's operational surfaces by resurfacing and expanding runways, taxiways, and aprons, along with installing updated lighting and signage for safety and compliance. All improvements align with FAA guidelines, focusing on safe and efficient design. Funding of $10,635,000 in FY 2025/26 will be used for the reconstruction of Runway 01/19. Additional funding of $15,060,000 is projected for FY 2026/27 to complete the reconstruction.

The ***Airport Facility Improvements*** program focuses on upgrading airport facilities including buildings, stormwater basins, and the fuel farm. All improvement, which are aimed at increasing infrastructure resilience and minimizing environmental impacts, align with the FAA's Airport Improvement Program. In FY 2025/26, funding of $890,000 has been allocated in this program to relocate the National Weather Service's Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) from the old terminal building to the new terminal ($165,000) and to begin the fuel farm replacement project by replacing the jet fuel tank ($725,000).

The ***Airport Entryway Improvements*** project is a multi-year project to enhance access to the airport through improvements to the main entryway, landscaping, and parking improvements. In FY 2025/26, $120,000 is budgeted for landscaping in the central entryway's greenspace.

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# CULTURE AND RECREATION





GREENBRIARPARK
55 YEARS
1969-2024






2024-2025
DROP OFF RECYCLING
1 YEAR

CHRISTOFFERSON PARK
25 YEARS
1999-2024







CITY OF
Ames™

# Culture and Recreation Program

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# Culture and Recreation Summary

## Description:

The City of Ames provides an array of services to enrich the lives of citizens and visitors to the community. These leisure time and informational services are intended to provide opportunities for expanding interests, increasing knowledge, participating in a variety of physical activities, and enjoying the quiet repose of the world around us.

Activities in this program include ***Parks and Recreation, Library Services, Art Services,*** and the ***Cemetery*** activity**,** which oversees the three cemeteries administered by the City. The program also includes capital improvements for these activities in the ***Culture and Recreation CIP***.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parks & Recreation | 5,157,019 | 5,766,175 | 5,794,411 | 6,564,041 | 13.8% |
| Library Services | 5,414,604 | 5,790,943 | 5,790,062 | 6,102,886 | 5.4% |
| Art Services | 286,581 | 286,931 | 555,848 | 298,978 | 4.2% |
| Cemetery | 248,617 | 256,846 | 252,805 | 258,096 | 0.5% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 11,106,821 | 12,100,895 | 12,393,126 | 13,224,001 | 9.3% |
| Culture and Recreation CIP | 7,017,624 | 22,352,108 | 24,361,516 | 6,810,079 | -69.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 18,124,445 | 34,453,003 | 36,754,642 | 20,034,080 | -41.9% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 62.95 | 62.95 | 63.20 | 65.20 | |

# Culture and Recreation Summary

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 7,039,485 | 7,955,848 | 7,596,096 | 8,658,461 | 8.8% |
| Internal Services | 813,902 | 810,006 | 866,059 | 891,429 | 10.1% |
| Contractual | 1,499,224 | 1,611,920 | 1,658,136 | 1,779,799 | 10.4% |
| Commodities | 1,395,710 | 1,447,690 | 1,746,636 | 1,617,834 | 11.8% |
| Capital | 128,497 | 20,500 | 248,831 | 20,500 | 0.0% |
| Other Expenditures | 230,003 | 254,931 | 277,368 | 255,978 | 0.4% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 11,106,821 | 12,100,895 | 12,393,126 | 13,224,001 | 9.3% |
| | | | | | |
| Culture and Recreation CIP | 7,017,624 | 22,352,108 | 24,361,516 | 6,810,079 | -69.5% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 18,124,445 | 34,453,003 | 36,754,642 | 20,034,080 | -41.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Program Revenue | 2,052,618 | 2,135,969 | 2,106,039 | 2,720,321 | 27.4% |
| General Fund Support | 7,400,193 | 8,117,361 | 8,102,458 | 8,515,477 | 4.9% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 318,263 | 322,015 | 404,982 | 334,994 | 4.0% |
| Donations/Grants | 409,213 | 545,379 | 799,465 | 651,731 | 19.5% |
| Furman Aquatic Center Trust | 28,889 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | 560,988 | 596,809 | 577,778 | 595,249 | -0.3% |
| Homewood Golf Course | 336,657 | 383,362 | 384,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | - | - | 2,000 | - | |
| ***Total Operations Funding*** | 11,106,821 | 12,100,895 | 12,393,126 | 13,224,001 | 9.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***CIP Funding:*** | | | | | |
| G.O. Bond Funds | 455,307 | 17,378,016 | 15,225,596 | 4,240,213 | -75.6% |
| General Fund | 938,401 | - | 1,788,437 | 100,000 | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 607,204 | 927,840 | 3,472,744 | 1,055,500 | 13.8% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | - | - | 50,000 | - | |
| American Rescue Plan | - | 868,681 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Library Friends Foundation | - | - | 1,341 | - | |
| Park Development Fund | 946,484 | - | 135,909 | - | |
| Geitel Winakor Donation Fund | 128,726 | - | - | 139,366 | |
| Indoor Aquatic Cntr Donations | 2,201,036 | 2,652,571 | 3,413,085 | 800,000 | |
| Council Priorities Fund | 1,330,032 | - | - | - | |
| Ice Arena Capital Reserve | 207,268 | 25,000 | 155,768 | - | -100.0% |
| Homewood Golf Course Fund | - | - | 75,000 | - | |
| P&R Donations/Grants | 203,166 | 500,000 | 43,636 | 475,000 | -5.0% |
| ***Total CIP Funding*** | 7,017,624 | 22,352,108 | 24,361,516 | 6,810,079 | -69.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 18,124,445 | 34,453,003 | 36,754,642 | 20,034,080 | -41.9% |

# Parks and Recreation

**Description:**

This activity provides a wide array of recreational opportunities to the community. The recreational preferences of many segments of the populace are provided for through both City-sponsored activities and activities sponsored in conjunction with other community groups. Many of these recreational activities are either partially or wholly self-supporting through user fees.

Several categories of recreational opportunities are provided to the community. The Recreational Programs include instructional activities designed to teach new skills, athletic activities which offer organized sporting competition, wellness programs for the overall health, education and welfare of citizens, social programs, and Community Center/Auditorium activities. The Aquatics Activity provides swimming opportunities at three City pools. The Homewood Golf Course Activity provides a highly used 9-hole golf course for citizens. The Ames/ISU Ice Arena provides an assortment of ice rink activities.

As in all Parks and Recreation activities, the challenge is to balance affordability, and the necessary amount of tax support needed to offer a well-rounded program. The department is placing a high premium upon program marketability and the idea that direct costs should be recovered fully through non-tax revenues if possible.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administration | 436,005 | 457,706 | 491,286 | 466,809 | 2.0% |
| Instructional Programs | 210,764 | 239,769 | 234,222 | 252,284 | 5.2% |
| Athletic Programs | 155,999 | 177,873 | 167,696 | 188,306 | 5.9% |
| Aquatics Programs | 1,010,454 | 1,048,190 | 1,036,793 | 1,773,475 | 69.2% |
| Community Center/Auditorium | 420,034 | 462,201 | 459,880 | 481,105 | 4.1% |
| Wellness Programs | 354,794 | 347,436 | 345,499 | 373,337 | 7.5% |
| Homewood Golf Course | 336,657 | 383,362 | 384,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | 560,988 | 596,809 | 577,778 | 595,249 | -0.3% |
| Park Maintenance | 1,671,324 | 2,052,829 | 2,096,853 | 2,027,247 | -1.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,157,019 | 5,766,175 | 5,794,411 | 6,564,041 | 13.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 23.05 | 23.05 | 23.30 | 25.30 | |

# Parks and Recreation

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 3,129,511 | 3,667,562 | 3,398,917 | 4,186,545 | 14.2% |
| Internal Services | 609,306 | 596,714 | 658,539 | 686,523 | 15.1% |
| Contractual | 880,338 | 945,578 | 951,874 | 1,065,933 | 12.7% |
| Commodities | 521,172 | 545,321 | 769,081 | 625,040 | 14.6% |
| Capital | 16,692 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | 11,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,157,019 | 5,766,175 | 5,794,411 | 6,564,041 | 13.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Program Revenue | 1,583,007 | 1,701,554 | 1,673,916 | 2,269,521 | 33.4% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 31,682 | 35,084 | 35,084 | 36,016 | 2.7% |
| Aquatic Center Trust Fund | 28,889 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| Homewood Golf Course | 336,657 | 383,362 | 384,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | 560,988 | 596,809 | 577,778 | 595,249 | -0.3% |
| Donations/Grants | 36,621 | 173,500 | 360,991 | 179,900 | 3.7% |
| P&R Scholarship Fund | 25 | 11,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,577,869 | 2,901,309 | 3,048,173 | 3,486,915 | 20.2% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 2,579,150 | 2,864,866 | 2,746,238 | 3,077,126 | 7.4% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 5,157,019 | 5,766,175 | 5,794,411 | 6,564,041 | 13.8% |



# Parks and Recreation Administration

## Description:

The Parks and Recreation Administration activity provides oversight to all the activities overseen by the Parks and Recreation Department. These include all recreation programs, greenspace maintenance in both the park system and along the street right-of-way, and the operation of such City facilities as the Furman Aquatic Center, the Ames/ISU Ice Arena, Homewood Golf Course, and the Ames Municipal Cemetery.

Responsibilities include strategic planning and operating budget preparation for each of the activities, as well as preparing and administering the Parks and Recreation and Cemetery Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). This activity also provides administration support to the Parks and Recreation Commission, as well as administering the Neighborhood Block Party Trailer program.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 313,933 | 326,688 | 329,647 | 344,238 | 5.4% |
| Internal Services | 40,350 | 41,598 | 41,441 | 36,961 | -11.2% |
| Contractual | 73,781 | 76,370 | 109,070 | 82,900 | 8.6% |
| Commodities | 7,941 | 2,050 | 11,128 | 2,710 | 32.2% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | 11,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 436,005 | 457,706 | 491,286 | 466,809 | 2.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | - | 2,500 | - | 2,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | 2,500 | - | 2,500 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 434,272 | 444,206 | 483,986 | 464,309 | 4.5% |
| P&R Donations/Grants Fund | 1,708 | - | 7,300 | - | |
| P&R Scholarship Fund | 25 | 11,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 436,005 | 457,706 | 491,286 | 466,809 | 2.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.85 | 1.85 | 1.85 | 1.85 | |

# Parks and Recreation Administration

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner**<br><br>**A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people** | Provide quality City parks, facilities, and recreation programming at an efficient cost | Acres of parkland per 1,000 residents – Ames | 18.4 | 19.2 | 19.2 | 19.2 |
| | | Acres of parkland per 1,000 residents – national avg. | 10.8 | 10.6 | 10.6 | 10.6 |
| | | Residents per park – Ames | 1,737 | 1,650 | 1,610 | 1,610 |
| | | Residents per park – national avg. | 2,287 | 2,386 | 2,489 | 2,596 |
| | | Operating expenditures per capita – Ames (all budget activities) | $79.57 | $78.14 | $87.14 | $99.37 |
| | | Operating expenditures per capita – national average | $94.77 | $99.47 | $104.69 | $109.92 |
| | | Cost recovery – Ames | 47.9% | 50.1% | 52.7% | 53.1% |
| | | Cost recovery – national avg. | 24.6% | 25.2% | 25.8% | 26.4% |
| | | Recreation programs | 195 | 191 | 200 | 205 |
| | | Recreation program registrations | 10,233 | 10,160 | 10,400 | 10,660 |
| | | Maintain a tax subsidy level of less than 60% for Parks and Recreation activities | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Maintain a user satisfaction rating of at least 95% Good/Very Good for Parks and Recreation services | 95% | 96% | 96% | 96% |
| | | Complete 100% of CIP projects within budgeted fiscal year | 15% | 27% | 80% | 100% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center (FFIAC) is scheduled to begin operation in January 2026. Included in the FY 2025/26 budget is 65% of a full year of expenses and 55% of a full year of revenue. General fund support for the overall Parks and Recreation budget increased by $212,260, or 7.4%, from the adopted FY 2024/25 budget to the FY 2025/26 budget. Of this increase, $155,073 is due to the addition of FFIAC to the FY 2025/26 operating budget. If FFIAC wasn't included in the FY 2025/26 budget, the increase in General Fund support for Parks and Recreation would have been only 2%.
- The Sixty Forward Center, 205 South Walnut Avenue, which opened in September 2024, provides Parks and Recreation spaces for programming mainly geared towards individuals 60+.

## In-Progress Activities

- Planning continues for the construction of the Daley Park splashpad, Lloyd Kurtz Park mini pitch, and the Carr Park agility course. These projects are anticipated to be under construction in 2025.
- Construction on the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center began in April 2024 with completion expected in late 2025. The construction project is anticipated to occupy a significant portion of staff's time in FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.
- Staff continues to make progress on completing capital improvement projects. By the end of FY 2024/25, 80% of the projects are estimated to be complete.

## Upcoming Activities

- The Sands-McDorman property, a 50-acre parcel located in west Ames on Ontario Street, was purchased in November 2023 to develop a community park. Staff will be holding public input sessions to gain feedback prior to working with a consultant to develop a master plan for the park. The plan is projected to be completed in early FY 2025/26.

# Instructional Programs

**Description:**

Instructional Programs and Activities provide residents with high quality instruction in various leisure time experiences. These include instruction in sports and athletics, arts and crafts, and nature appreciation, all with the purpose of building physically, socially, and emotionally fit individuals.

Fees for instructional programs are kept low to encourage participation and ensure inclusion of all socio-economic statuses. A General Fund subsidy is needed to achieve this goal. Scholarships are also available for participants to further promote inclusion and to ensure financial situations are not prohibitive to participation.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 165,130 | 181,673 | 172,068 | 183,583 | 1.1% |
| Internal Services | 9,432 | 9,638 | 9,628 | 8,563 | -11.2% |
| Contractual | 24,806 | 35,408 | 38,945 | 46,258 | 30.6% |
| Commodities | 11,396 | 13,050 | 13,581 | 13,880 | 6.4% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 210,764 | 239,769 | 234,222 | 252,284 | 5.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Program Revenue | 134,520 | 154,580 | 150,410 | 167,366 | 8.3% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 4,005 | 5,200 | 5,200 | 5,200 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 138,525 | 159,780 | 155,610 | 172,566 | 8.0% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 72,239 | 79,989 | 78,612 | 79,718 | -0.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 210,764 | 239,769 | 234,222 | 252,284 | 5.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.35 | 1.35 | 1.35 | 1.35 | |





# Instructional Programs

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner**<br><br>**A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people** | Provide quality instructional programs for youth and adults | Programs | 49 | 56 | 57 | 58 |
| | | New programs offered | 2 | 7 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Program registrations | 2,231 | 2,200 | 2,423 | 2,540 |
| | | Programs instructor/participant ratios adhered to | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | Instructional programs operational subsidy | 36% | 34% | 34% | 34% |
| | | Average total cost per registration | $90.53 | $95.80 | $96.67 | $99.32 |
| | | Average subsidy per registration | $31.98 | $32.83 | $32.44 | $31.39 |
| | | Youth sport sponsors | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| | | Youth sport sponsor revenue | $1,500 | $1,500 | $1,800 | $1,800 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Youth golf lessons were offered in FY 2024/25 following the hiring of a new youth golf instructor, after several years of not being able to provide the program due to a lack of instructor interest.
- New partnerships have been created to offer STEM camps, cooking classes, chess camps, and Challenger soccer camps. These partnerships are based on a revenue-split model where the organization provides the instructors and curriculum for the camp, and Parks and Recreation markets the event to the community, provides the facility to host the camp, and intakes registration. This gives Parks and Recreation the opportunity to offer a wider variety of programs and engage more community members in Parks and Recreation programming.
- The gymnastics and tumbling programs have been moved to the Activity Room at the Parks and Recreation Administrative Office due to the transition of the space on the second floor of City Hall to office space. The total number of classes were reduced to fit the Activity Room's available times, but class size maximums have increased with the extra space available in the Activity Room.
- There was a vacancy in the Recreation Coordinator position from April 2024 to November 2024, resulting in cost savings from salaries and benefits in FY 2024/25.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff is exploring new programming opportunities in partnership with the Sixty Forward Center, as well as continually exploring new programming options.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff plans to explore a partnership with Can Play to offer additional adaptive programming in FY 2025/26 to serve the recreation needs of individuals with physical and/or intellectual disabilities.

# Athletic Programs

## Description:

The Athletic Programs activity is designed to offer adults and youth the opportunity to participate in team and/or individual competitive sports activities. These programs benefit the participants physically, emotionally, and socially. Examples include softball, basketball, volleyball, and soccer.

Fees and charges for athletic programs are intended to cover the direct cost of the individual program or activities.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 141,949 | 158,183 | 147,766 | 165,782 | 4.8% |
| Internal Services | 1,479 | 1,965 | 2,127 | 2,699 | 37.4% |
| Contractual | 4,493 | 8,385 | 10,314 | 11,025 | 31.5% |
| Commodities | 8,078 | 9,340 | 7,489 | 8,800 | -5.8% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 155,999 | 177,873 | 167,696 | 188,306 | 5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Program Revenue | 101,140 | 118,700 | 112,500 | 117,710 | -0.8% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 101,140 | 118,700 | 112,500 | 117,710 | -0.8% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 54,859 | 59,173 | 55,196 | 70,596 | 19.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 155,999 | 177,873 | 167,696 | 188,306 | 5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | |



# Athletic Programs

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner**<br>**A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people** | Provide quality athletic programs for youth and adults | Programs | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| | | Teams | 331 | 359 | 362 | 375 |
| | | Program participants | 2,738 | 2,615 | 2,633 | 2,737 |
| | | Direct program costs covered by fees | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | Athletic programs tax subsidy | 32% | 35% | 33% | 37% |
| | | Average total cost per participant | $57.70 | $59.66 | $63.69 | $68.80 |
| | | Average subsidy per participant | $18.22 | $20.98 | $20.96 | $25.79 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Adult volleyball and sand volleyball have remained steady in participation numbers and continue to be the largest adult team league programs.
- Participation in adult team softball continues to slowly decline. Staff will continue to look for new ways to market the existing program and/or make changes as needed.
- The Disc Golf Open was a newly added program in FY 2024/25, with sixteen teams and a total of 32 participants. Staff plans to continue this program in future years to continue to promote the Carroll Marty Disc Golf Course.
- There was a vacancy in the Recreation Coordinator position from April 2024 to November 2024, resulting in cost savings from salaries and benefits in FY 2024/25.

## In-Progress Activities

- New programming opportunities in partnership with the Sixty Forward Center are being explored by staff.
- Staff is exploring options for a youth pickleball league through a partnership with the Ames Pickleball Club.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff is discussing how to market athletic programs to new individuals and introduce new programs of interest. This may include offering one-time events (e.g. tournaments) rather than leagues.

# Aquatics

## Description:

Aquatics is responsible for maintaining a safe, sanitary, and fun environment for swimming activities in the community. This includes public swimming, swimming instruction, and special events. Warm-weather swimming is available at the Donald and Ruth Furman Aquatic Center. The City partners with Iowa State University to offer lessons and certification classes during the fall, winter, and spring. The Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center is anticipated to open in January 2026 and will provide indoor aquatic opportunities.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Furman Aquatic Center | 818,834 | 816,677 | 833,492 | 852,306 | 4.4% |
| Temporary Aquatics Facilities | 52,792 | 86,342 | 41,693 | 11,041 | -87.2% |
| Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center | - | - | - | 739,728 | |
| Lessons Program | 136,267 | 145,171 | 161,608 | 170,400 | 17.4% |
| Brookside Wading Pool | 2,561 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,010,454 | 1,048,190 | 1,036,793 | 1,773,475 | 69.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 662,827 | 729,739 | 703,549 | 1,254,852 | 72.0% |
| Internal Services | 58,349 | 60,513 | 63,394 | 97,298 | 60.8% |
| Contractual | 142,235 | 154,693 | 134,639 | 276,549 | 78.8% |
| Commodities | 147,043 | 103,245 | 119,211 | 144,776 | 40.2% |
| Capital | - | - | 16,000 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,010,454 | 1,048,190 | 1,036,793 | 1,773,475 | 69.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Furman Aquatic Center | 649,294 | 662,312 | 649,528 | 671,680 | 1.4% |
| Temporary Aquatics Facilities | 28,065 | 65,100 | 48,192 | 17,631 | -72.9% |
| Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center | - | - | - | 471,013 | |
| Lessons Program | 100,216 | 109,644 | 102,458 | 144,315 | 31.6% |
| Brookside Wading Pool | 767 | - | - | - | |
| Splash Pad | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 778,342 | 837,056 | 800,178 | 1,304,639 | 55.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***General Fund Support:*** | | | | | |
| Furman Aquatic Center | 140,651 | 154,365 | 167,964 | 180,626 | 17.0% |
| Temporary Aquatics Facilities | 24,727 | 21,242 | (6,499) | (6,590) | -131.0% |
| Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Ctr | - | - | - | 268,715 | |
| Lessons Program | 36,051 | 35,527 | 59,150 | 26,085 | -26.6% |
| Brookside Wading Pool | 1,794 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total General Fund Support*** | 203,223 | 211,134 | 220,615 | 468,836 | 122.1% |
| | | | | | |
| Aquatic Center Trust Fund | 28,889 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,010,454 | 1,048,190 | 1,036,793 | 1,773,475 | 69.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.90 | 1.90 | 1.90 | 3.90 | |

# Aquatics

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide safe and sanitary swimming facilities for all users at an efficient cost | Visits to Furman Aquatic Center | 81,060 | 91,201 | 93,000 | 95,000 |
| | | Average subsidy per Furman Aquatic Center user | $2.93 | $1.54 | $1.81 | $1.90 |
| | | Aquatics programs tax subsidy | 25% | 20% | 22% | 26% |
| | | Swim lesson registrations | 1,418 | 1,601 | 1,100 | 2,000 |
| | | Private swim lesson registrations | 171 | 25 | 20 | 30 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Staff has been working with Iowa State University's (ISU) State Gym Pool to offer aquatic programming in the fall, winter, and spring of FY 2024/25 and part of FY 2025/26 until the opening of the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center. Limited time at the State Pool is available, resulting in swim lessons only being offered on Sundays. The rental fee for State Pool is 85% higher than at Forker Pool.
- More swim instructors are becoming certified as Water Safety Instructors, which increases the quality of the swim lesson program. Instructors who obtain this certification receive an 11% pay increase.
- Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center is scheduled to open in FY 2025/26.
- Ames Cyclone Aquatics Club has traditionally held their outdoor swim meet at Furman Aquatic Center. In FY 2025/26 they have decided to hold the meet at the Ames High School Pool. The club will continue to rent the Furman Aquatic Center throughout the summer for practices and will pay 40% of the total rental fee per basin in FY 2025/26.
- Funding of $16,000 has been added to the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget to purchase a new wibit (inflatable obstacle course) for Furman Aquatic Center. This purchase will be made with funds available in the Furman Aquatic Center Trust Fund.

## In-Progress Activities

- Recruitment for 2025 Furman Aquatic Center jobs began in November 2024 by working with CyRide, Iowa State University, local and surrounding area high schools, and many other avenues to promote Furman summer job opportunities.
- Staff are exploring new programming opportunities in partnership with Sixty Forward.
- Staff are exploring scheduling options through surveying Furman Aquatic Center users to better serve the community for aquatic needs and staffing.

## Upcoming Activities

- Additional programming is planned at Furman Aquatic Center, including boat races, Christmas in July, lifeguard camp, and more.



# Community Center, Auditorium, and Bandshell

## Description:

This activity accounts for the operation and events at the Community Center, Auditorium, City Hall, and Bandshell. The Community Center includes a full-size gymnasium, weight room, cardio room, multi-purpose room, as well as locker rooms and office space for both the Community Center and Auditorium, and spaces for other Parks and Recreation activities.

The City Auditorium and Bandshell are utilized for community arts performances, civic meetings, touring performances, etc. The Bandshell is used for Municipal Band concerts during the summer. The Municipal Band is funded by Local Option Sales Tax.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gymnasium | 224,803 | 248,542 | 247,218 | 256,328 | 3.1% |
| Auditorium | 159,551 | 171,126 | 171,923 | 180,967 | 5.8% |
| Bandshell Programming | 3,998 | 7,449 | 5,238 | 7,794 | 4.6% |
| Municipal Band | 31,682 | 35,084 | 35,501 | 36,016 | 2.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 420,034 | 462,201 | 459,880 | 481,105 | 4.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 303,010 | 322,135 | 317,643 | 339,695 | 5.5% |
| Internal Services | 28,782 | 32,142 | 33,967 | 36,662 | 14.1% |
| Contractual | 81,068 | 103,129 | 91,704 | 97,249 | -5.7% |
| Commodities | 7,092 | 4,795 | 16,566 | 7,499 | 56.4% |
| Capital | 82 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 420,034 | 462,201 | 459,880 | 481,105 | 4.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Gymnasium | 46,775 | 39,776 | 44,381 | 47,509 | 19.4% |
| Auditorium | 135,169 | 141,003 | 137,804 | 142,814 | 1.3% |
| Bandshell | 6,291 | 6,000 | 6,480 | 6,675 | 11.3% |
| Miscellaneous | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 188,235 | 186,779 | 188,665 | 196,998 | 5.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***General Fund Support:*** | | | | | |
| Gymnasium | 178,028 | 208,766 | 191,737 | 208,819 | 0.0% |
| Auditorium | 21,632 | 26,623 | 28,739 | 34,653 | 30.2% |
| Bandshell Programming | (2,293) | 1,449 | (1,242) | 1,119 | -22.8% |
| ***Total General Fund Support*** | 197,367 | 236,838 | 219,234 | 244,591 | 3.3% |
| | | | | | |
| Local Option/Municipal Band | 31,682 | 35,084 | 35,084 | 36,016 | 2.7% |
| Donations/Community Center | - | - | 11,100 | - | |
| Grant Funding/Auditorium | 2,750 | 3,500 | 5,380 | 3,500 | 0.0% |
| Donations/Municipal Band | - | - | 417 | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 420,034 | 462,201 | 459,880 | 481,105 | 4.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | |

# Community Center, Auditorium, and Bandshell

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide safe and clean facilities for community use in an efficient manner | Gymnasium drop-in visits | 9,079 | 9,390 | 9,300 | 9,350 |
| | | Weight room drop-in visits | 7,071 | 7,916 | 7,900 | 8,000 |
| | | Total Community Center visits | 67,439 | 65,570 | 67,500 | 70,000 |
| | | Average tax subsidy per Community Center user visit | $2.77 | $2.72 | $2.84 | $2.98 |
| | | Community Center tax subsidy | 82% | 79% | 78% | 81% |
| | | Auditorium events | 121 | 130 | 135 | 140 |
| | | Auditorium visits | 46,371 | 52,709 | 51,000 | 53,000 |
| | | Days/year Auditorium in use | 216 | 225 | 230 | 235 |
| | | Hours/year Auditorium in use | 1,443 | 1,462 | 1,500 | 1,550 |
| | | Average tax subsidy per Auditorium user visit | $0.32 | $0.41 | $0.56 | $0.65 |
| **Strengthen Downtown and Campustown** | Provide Bandshell programming to promote Downtown Ames | Auditorium tax subsidy | 11% | 14% | 17% | 19% |
| | | Bandshell rentals | 30 | 31 | 32 | 34 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The reconfiguration of the gymnastics and multi-purpose rooms into office space could impact Auditorium rentals revenue in FY 2024/25, as groups currently use these rooms as changing rooms. The Community Center Gymnasium space may need to be used to accommodate rentals, which could impact gymnasium drop-in programs and weight room hours.
- In FY 2024/25 the Auditorium secured an Iowa Arts Council grant to cover the expense of artist fees for eight of the twelve scheduled performances within the “Fifth and Clark Concert Series.” Local sponsorships were also secured to assist in offsetting the concert series expenses.
- The Auditorium hosted its first Technical Theater Training Courses in August 2024. The courses were well attended, and the Auditorium plans to offer these courses in summer 2025.
- The Auditorium secured a concession vendor to sell beer, wine, snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages during events. The Auditorium receives 15% of all sales and is continuing to educate the public about this new offering with the goal of increasing attendance at events and bringing in additional revenue through concession sales.
- In FY 2025/26 a 3% service charge will be applied to all credit card payments for Auditorium rentals made by Iowa State University groups.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff are working on attracting additional split-revenue events. These events are those where the Auditorium shares in the ticket sale revenue rather than receiving a flat rental fee.
- Staff are working on several strategies to attract larger concerts and events to the Auditorium. Staff have contacted several other venues and promoters to collect data that will be used to determine the feasibility of this type of event as a revenue generator.
- Staff are developing plans to update the security cameras within the Community Center and are exploring new programming opportunities in partnership with 60 Forward.

### Upcoming Activities

- Lutheran Church of Hope is a significant and steady rental user of the Auditorium and Gymnasium space. The church is exploring the construction of a permanent facility. In anticipation of this, staff will need to develop a plan to offset the loss of rental revenue in 3-5 years (approximately $44,000).

# Wellness Programs

## Description:

The Wellness Programs activity provides a wide range of wellness activities for community members. These include such activities as fitness classes, aqua classes, dance classes, Tae Kwon Do, yoga, and social and educational workshops.

The Wellness Program activity is also responsible for the management of the City Hall weight room and related training/programs, including personal training.

Activities are held at the City of Ames Community Center, Parks and Recreation Administration Activity Room, the Sixty Forward Center, and with partner facilities like Reiman Gardens, Iowa State University, and Vintage Cooperative.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wellness Administration | 231,087 | 228,015 | 222,174 | 238,327 | 4.5% |
| Fitness Classes | 74,070 | 84,769 | 62,442 | 75,333 | -11.1% |
| Personal Training | 44,421 | 32,616 | 45,306 | 46,656 | 43.1% |
| Weight Room | 5,216 | 2,036 | 2,224 | 2,224 | 9.2% |
| Sixty Forward | - | - | 13,353 | 10,797 | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 354,794 | 347,436 | 345,499 | 373,337 | 7.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 282,525 | 289,028 | 301,827 | 329,069 | 13.9% |
| Internal Services | 9,344 | 10,039 | 9,993 | 11,408 | 13.6% |
| Contractual | 35,099 | 43,194 | 25,059 | 25,790 | -40.3% |
| Commodities | 11,216 | 5,175 | 8,620 | 7,070 | 36.6% |
| Capital | 16,610 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 354,794 | 347,436 | 345,499 | 373,337 | 7.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Fitness Classes | 199,139 | 221,741 | 196,513 | 247,758 | 11.7% |
| Personal Training | 58,564 | 43,973 | 60,000 | 61,800 | 40.5% |
| Weight Room | 18,595 | 22,825 | 43,000 | 45,100 | 97.6% |
| Sixty Forward | - | - | 22,300 | 20,300 | |
| Merchandise Sales | 375 | 650 | 650 | 650 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 276,673 | 289,189 | 322,463 | 375,608 | 29.9% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 77,871 | 58,247 | 23,021 | (2,271) | -103.9% |
| P&R Donations/Grants Fund | 250 | - | 15 | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 354,794 | 347,436 | 345,499 | 373,337 | 7.5% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.45 | 1.45 | 1.45 | 1.45 | |

# Wellness Programs

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide quality wellness programming in an efficient manner to operate at break even | Group fitness classes offered weekly | 57 | 57 | 67 | 70 |
| | | Wellness programs | 73 | 74 | 75 | 76 |
| | | Wellness registrations | 6,494 | 6,876 | 8,566 | 8,503 |
| | | Average cost per registration | $48.26 | $51.66 | $40.33 | $43.91 |
| | | New programs created | 8 | 11 | 8 | 8 |
| | | Weight room visits per year | 7,071 | 7,916 | 13,500 | 13,500 |
| | | Average Wellness Program tax subsidy per registrations | $11.77 | $11.41 | $3.14 | $0.00 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Fitness class fees were increased by 25% for FY 2024/25. This was done to align fitness class and group fitness fees at the same rate of $6.25. This results in a significant decrease in the tax subsidy for wellness programs.
- The Community Center Weight Room equipment was replaced in FY 2024/25.
- Due to the closure of Iowa State University's Forker Pool, Aqua classes are no longer offered.
- The Sixty Forward Center opened September 30, 2024. This facility provides another location to offer fitness classes. Staff are also overseeing the strength and weight room at this facility, which includes onboarding users on the EGYM weight equipment and selling punch cards.
- The Fitch Aquatic Center is projected to open FY 2025/26 which serve as a location to offer aqua classes. The multi-purpose space at Fitch will be used for fitness classes.

## In-Progress Activities

- Virtual fitness classes continue to be offered as an alternative option to in-person classes.
- In FY 2024/25 public/private partnerships with Vintage Cooperative and Reiman Gardens continue to be offered.
- New classes were incorporated into the fitness schedule in FY 2024/25, including Cycle Zone, Cycle Beats, Chair Yoga, Intro to Weight Training, Pilates Fusion, Xpress Upper Body Challenge, Xpress Cardio HIIT, Xpress Leg Challenge, Xpress Strength, Zumba Beginners, and Triple Threat.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will continue to offer new fitness programming at the Sixty Forward Center.
- The Aquatics Manager will be developing a schedule of Aqua Fitness classes to offer at the Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center.

# Homewood Golf Course

## Description:

Homewood Golf Course is a municipal 9-hole golf course which offers outdoor recreational enjoyment for all ages. The course also includes a clubhouse/concession facility, which hosts space for a community rental room and pro shop area.

Homewood Golf Course is operated as a City Enterprise Fund, meaning that its operations are funded by its generated revenues. Any profits or losses experienced by the golf course increases or decreases the fund's balance, instead of being funded through property taxes. Traditionally, capital improvements at Homewood Golf Course have been funded through Local Option Sales Tax revenue.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 175,002 | 215,199 | 210,179 | 227,395 | 5.7% |
| Internal Services | 44,252 | 61,277 | 60,418 | 63,561 | 3.7% |
| Contractual | 61,260 | 58,861 | 58,432 | 59,998 | 1.9% |
| Commodities | 56,143 | 48,025 | 55,375 | 55,275 | 15.1% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 336,657 | 383,362 | 384,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Fees/Season Passes | 332,641 | 304,388 | 339,156 | 350,186 | 15.1% |
| Equipment Rental | 106,060 | 97,000 | 110,000 | 112,000 | 15.5% |
| Clubhouse Rental | 17,108 | 19,740 | 19,740 | 20,370 | 3.2% |
| Merchandise Sales | 4,510 | 3,400 | 4,500 | 4,500 | 32.4% |
| Concessions | 44,818 | 44,000 | 46,000 | 47,000 | 6.8% |
| Cell Tower Lease | 24,136 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 0.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 31,038 | 10,000 | 19,000 | 20,000 | 100.0% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 1,625 | - | 980 | 900 | |
| ***Total Program Revenues*** | 561,936 | 502,528 | 563,376 | 578,956 | 15.2% |
| | | | | | |
| Homewood Fund Support | (225,279) | (119,166) | (178,972) | (172,727) | 45.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 336,657 | 383,362 | 384,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.35 | 1.35 | 1.38 | 1.38 | |

# Homewood Golf Course

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner**<br><br>**A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people** | Provide a quality municipal golf course for the community in a fiscally responsible manner | Rounds of golf played | 22,362 | 24,609 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| | | Golf leagues/ tournaments | 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| | | User group meetings held | 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| | | Clubhouse private rental hours | 199 | 169 | 188 | 194 |
| | | Program hours | 155 | 158 | 184 | 184 |
| | | Respondents rating course conditions as “very good” or “good” | 98% | 97% | 97% | 97% |
| | | Respondents rating courtesy of staff as “very good” or “good” | 98% | 96% | 96% | 96% |
| | | Maintain fund balance of at least 25% of operating expenses | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The number of yearly golf rounds continues to increase, along with greens fee revenue, food and beverage sales, and golf cart rentals.
- Daily greens fees and season passes are planned to increase approximately 5% in spring 2025, which will affect the FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 budgets.
- A new junior rate (17 and under) was incorporated into the fee schedule for the 2024 season and was used 149 times. The junior rate will be offered for the 2025 season.
- The Youth Golf League doubled in participation in the summer 2024 season.
- Winter programming, such as special events like Painting with a Twist and Homewood for the Holidays, along with card leagues, continue to be developed to take advantage of the amenities in the new Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse.



## In-Progress Activities

- Staff is implementing a Sixty Forward Golf League for the 2025 season and will continue to explore other program opportunities.

## Upcoming Activities

- Hole #9 bridge renovations are anticipated within FY 2025/26 which will allow carts to travel across the bridge.
- Staff are exploring avenues to better communicate with customers and market all of Homewood’s offerings throughout the year.

# Ames/ISU Ice Arena

## Description:

The Ames/ISU Ice Arena is an ice rink jointly owned by the City of Ames and Iowa State University and operated by the City. The facility provides ice activities for Iowa State University, the public, and user groups.

The Ice Arena is operated as a City Enterprise Fund, meaning that its operations are funded by its own revenues. Any profits or losses experienced by the ice arena increase or decrease the operational fund balance instead of being funded through property taxes. Additionally, the City and Iowa State University each contribute annually to a capital reserve fund, which is used for major improvements at the facility.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 205,730 | 325,383 | 273,608 | 305,877 | -6.0% |
| Internal Services | 49,344 | 56,774 | 60,153 | 63,903 | 12.6% |
| Contractual | 211,151 | 182,011 | 200,788 | 184,139 | 1.2% |
| Commodities | 94,763 | 32,641 | 43,229 | 41,330 | 26.6% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 560,988 | 596,809 | 577,778 | 595,249 | -0.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Admissions | 61,009 | 64,953 | 69,005 | 70,455 | 8.5% |
| Facility Rentals | 395,943 | 439,962 | 499,104 | 523,354 | 19.0% |
| Ice Arena Programming | 5,313 | 23,120 | 7,760 | 7,880 | -65.9% |
| Equipment Rental/Fees | 24,081 | 26,158 | 26,492 | 27,015 | 3.3% |
| Dasher Board Advertising | 6,800 | 14,200 | 16,400 | 24,400 | 71.8% |
| Merchandise Sales | 1,156 | 1,200 | 1,000 | 375 | -68.8% |
| Concessions | 30,505 | 32,140 | 32,450 | 35,150 | 9.4% |
| Interest Revenue | 9,071 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0% |
| Grant Revenue | 3,500 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous | 910 | - | 407 | 966 | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 538,288 | 606,733 | 657,618 | 694,595 | 14.5% |
| | | | | | |
| Ice Arena Fund Support | 22,700 | (9,924) | (79,840) | (99,346) | 901.1% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 560,988 | 596,809 | 577,778 | 595,249 | -0.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 2.50 | 2.50 | 2.72 | 2.72 | |

# Ames/ISU Ice Arena

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner**<br><br>**A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people** | Provide a quality ice arena for the community in a fiscally responsible manner | Winter: | | | | |
| | | Prime-time ice hours rented | 1,242 | 1,401 | 1,660 | 1,750 |
| | | Non-prime-time ice hours rented | 83.0 | 137.5 | 162.0 | 170.0 |
| | | Prime-time public session hours | 428.0 | 307.5 | 350.0 | 375.0 |
| | | Public skate session user visits | 9,162 | 10,249 | 10,650 | 11,289 |
| | | Utilized prime-time ice (winter) | 60% | 62% | 70% | 77% |
| | | Summer: | | | | |
| | | Ice hours rented | 194 | 179 | 211 | 220 |
| | | Public session hours | 167 | 166 | 195 | 205 |
| | | Public skate session user visits | 938 | 950 | 1,100 | 1,155 |
| | | Ice utilized | 20% | 19% | 23% | 24% |
| | | Maintain fund balance of at least 15% of operating expenses | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Ames/ISU Ice Arena had a vacancy in the Manager position from February through June 30, 2024, which resulted in salary savings.
- The ¾ time Ice Arena Coordinator position was converted into a full-time Ice Arena Coordinator position. This position will offset hours of the Ice Arena Manager, therefore reducing the number of part-time shift leaders, and providing more consistent service to customers. This position was filled in October 2024.
- In FY 2024/25, ice rental fees will increase 5%, birthday party package fees will increase approximately 3%, and skate sharpening fees will increase on average 6%.
- In FY 2025/26, a 3% service charge will be applied to all credit card payment for ice rentals.
- In FY 2024/25, the Ames/ISU Ice Arena installed a third-party pro shop vending machine and live stream services. The facility will receive a commission off pro shop vending machine sales and will no longer incur costs for purchasing inventory. The facility will also receive a commission from each live stream subscription purchased.




## In-Progress Activities

- The radiant heat at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena is scheduled to be replaced in FY 2024/25.
- Staff is exploring new programming opportunities to fill vacant ice times as well as partnership programs with Sixty Forward.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff is continuing to explore rental and program opportunities to fill vacant ice times.

# Park Maintenance

## Description:

The Park Maintenance activity is responsible for the maintenance of 41 parks and woodland/open spaces in the City of Ames. These areas cover 1,268 acres of land and include facilities where residents may participate in a variety of active and passive pursuits in a safe, clean environment. These activities include picnicking, bicycling, walking, fishing, playing on play equipment, viewing wildlife, playing sports, and a variety of other leisure time activities.

The Parks and Recreation department maintenance workers who maintain the City parks and facilities are also responsible for the maintenance of the Ames Municipal Cemetery and the City's street right-of-way. Activities involved include tree maintenance, mowing, trail maintenance, and maintaining all park structures and amenities.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parks Administration | 313,971 | 398,446 | 351,926 | 408,939 | 2.6% |
| Turf Maintenance | 240,082 | 287,695 | 269,851 | 284,215 | -1.2% |
| Tree Maintenance | 197,180 | 451,212 | 476,869 | 430,947 | -4.5% |
| Structure/Playground Maint | 884,946 | 849,546 | 950,332 | 835,926 | -1.6% |
| Dog Park Operations | 17,626 | 19,375 | 19,072 | 19,600 | 1.2% |
| Downtown Plaza Operations | 5,145 | 27,825 | 14,450 | 27,825 | 0.0% |
| Mosquito Control | 12,374 | 18,730 | 14,353 | 19,795 | 5.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,671,324 | 2,052,829 | 2,096,853 | 2,027,247 | -1.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 879,405 | 1,119,534 | 942,630 | 1,036,054 | -7.5% |
| Internal Services | 367,974 | 322,768 | 377,418 | 365,468 | 13.2% |
| Contractual | 246,445 | 283,527 | 282,923 | 282,025 | -0.5% |
| Commodities | 177,500 | 327,000 | 493,882 | 343,700 | 5.1% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,671,324 | 2,052,829 | 2,096,853 | 2,027,247 | -1.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Shelter/Facility Rentals | 52,168 | 65,400 | 55,000 | 59,000 | -9.8% |
| Dog Park Fees | 35,586 | 40,850 | 37,400 | 38,400 | -6.0% |
| Concessions | - | 100 | 100 | 100 | 0.0% |
| Miscellaneous | 12,338 | 1,200 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 66.7% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 100,092 | 107,550 | 94,500 | 99,500 | -7.5% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 1,539,319 | 1,775,279 | 1,665,574 | 1,751,347 | -1.4% |
| P&R Donations/Grants Fund | 31,913 | 170,000 | 336,779 | 176,400 | 3.8% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,671,324 | 2,052,829 | 2,096,853 | 2,027,247 | -1.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 9.60 | 9.60 | 9.60 | 9.60 | |

# Park Maintenance

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner**<br><br>**A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people** | Provide a quality park system and facilities for use by the entire community | City parks | 38 | 40 | 41 | 41 |
| | | Acres in City parks | 1,215 | 1,267 | 1,268 | 1,268 |
| | | Developed acres | 291 | 292 | 293 | 293 |
| | | Undeveloped acres | 924 | 975 | 975 | 975 |
| | | Cost to maintain parks per acre | $1,336 | $1,319 | $1,632 | $1,631 |
| | | Frequency of mowing* | 8 days | 8 days | 8 days | 8 days |
| | | Trim-free parks | 18 | 20 | 26 | 28 |
| | | Citizens ratings for park maintenance as “very good” or “good”: | | | | |
| | | Park appearance | 96% | 98% | 98% | 98% |
| | | Wooded areas | 94% | 96% | 96% | 96% |
| | | Playground equipment | 96% | 93% | 95% | 95% |
| | | Park restrooms | 80% | 77% | 80% | 80% |
| | | Hard surface trails | 95% | 98% | 98% | 98% |
| | | Tennis courts | 90% | 90% | 92% | 92% |
| | | Shelters | 94% | 94% | 95% | 95% |
| | | Picnic areas | 92% | 94% | 95% | 95% |

*The mowing frequency goal is 7 to 10 days

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Many key commodities have increased in price, including turf chemicals, playground parts, Engineered Wood Fiber, and structural materials.
- Funds were budgeted in FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 to update the current tree inventory, construct a gravel bed nursery, remove invasive vegetation in woodlands, tree planting, and temporary employee salaries as part of the U.S. Forest Service Grant the City received in FY 2023/24. Some of the grant funds will be used for work in the right-of-way. The $810,000 in grant funding will be spread over a five-year period.
- Funding of $27,000 has been added to the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget to purchase a utility task vehicle (UTV). The UTV will be used primarily at Ada Hayden Heritage Park and will allow staff to navigate the park without damaging the trails or natural areas. The funds are included in the internal services budget and will be transferred to Fleet Services to make the purchase.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Parks and Facilities Supervisor position was filled in December of 2024. The position had been vacant since November of 2023.
- Staff will be replacing the shingle roof on a park shelter at Inis Grove Parks with a metal roof in FY 2024/25.
- Two Maintenance Workers were hired in the fall of 2024 to fill a Sunday through Thursday and a Tuesday through Saturday work schedule to ensure weekend coverage.

## Upcoming Activities

- With the heavy activity taking place at the park playgrounds, the Engineered Wood Fiber will be refreshed in multiple playgrounds.
- The Hickory Park shelter at Brookside Park and the park shelter at Lloyd Kurtz Park will be replaced with metal roofs in FY 2025/26.

# Library Services

## Description:

Ames Public Library's mission statement is: We connect you to the world of ideas. The Library strives to provide facilities, technology, collections, and programs to meet the educational and recreational needs of all people in our community. The library serves the needs of the community through divisions that work directly with the public, such as Youth Services, Adult Services, and Customer Account Services, as well as back-of- house divisions, including Resource Services, which provides support and ensures that library operations run smoothly. Library Administration provides direction and oversight to all library operations. The library operates out of the main library building at 515 Douglas Avenue and offers mobile services through the Bookmobile.

The Library Strategic Plan identifies six priority areas of focus:

- Equity: Create an intentional plan to address barriers in library systems, and actively work to create equitable services and access.
- Inclusion: Create a welcoming and comfortable place for all community members. Develop best practices for collaborative partnerships in order to amplify a diversity of ideas, cultures and experiences and foster community understanding.
- Civic Engagement: Provide opportunities for community members to connect with accurate information, be involved in their community, and better understand and be prepared to participate in the institutions of representative democracy.
- Access: Connect community members to needed information and resources.
- Wellness: Foster a thriving community through promotion of physical, mental, and socio-emotional well-being.
- Staff Development: Ensure excellent customer service as our community needs evolve through proactive staff development and training.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administration | 1,469,849 | 1,595,027 | 1,639,221 | 1,732,207 | 8.6% |
| Resource Services | 1,215,927 | 1,281,022 | 1,290,582 | 1,338,701 | 4.5% |
| Youth Services | 912,474 | 965,100 | 933,364 | 979,834 | 1.5% |
| Adult Services | 768,123 | 868,665 | 845,213 | 917,334 | 5.6% |
| Customer Account Services | 1,048,231 | 1,081,129 | 1,081,682 | 1,134,810 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,414,604 | 5,790,943 | 5,790,062 | 6,102,886 | 5.4% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 38.50 | 38.50 | 38.50 | 38.50 | |

# Library Services

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 3,793,103 | 4,142,760 | 4,065,068 | 4,328,787 | 4.5% |
| Internal Services | 148,353 | 162,612 | 155,346 | 154,529 | -5.0% |
| Contractual | 541,442 | 593,052 | 608,343 | 636,676 | 7.4% |
| Commodities | 209,421 | 224,524 | 271,810 | 279,213 | 24.4% |
| Collection Materials | 650,166 | 664,995 | 686,495 | 700,681 | 5.4% |
| Capital | 69,661 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 2,458 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,414,604 | 5,790,943 | 5,790,062 | 6,102,886 | 5.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Charges for Services | 20,430 | 17,520 | 17,750 | 18,500 | 5.6% |
| State of Iowa | 42,167 | 50,000 | 40,000 | 42,000 | -16.0% |
| Story County | 149,565 | 149,565 | 157,043 | 150,000 | 0.3% |
| Library Friends Foundation | 355,101 | 339,879 | 411,168 | 448,581 | 32.0% |
| Library Direct State Aid | 16,983 | 17,000 | 16,706 | 16,500 | -2.9% |
| Library Donations/Grants | 483 | 4,000 | 6,650 | 6,750 | 68.8% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 584,729 | 577,964 | 649,317 | 682,331 | 18.1% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 4,829,875 | 5,212,979 | 5,140,745 | 5,420,555 | 4.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 5,414,604 | 5,790,943 | 5,790,062 | 6,102,886 | 5.4% |

# Library Administration

**Description:**

Library Administration provides leadership to the Ames Public Library. Library Administration plans, directs, and coordinates all Library fiscal, operational and personnel activities to achieve the Library mission, goals, and objectives within the context of community need. The primary areas of responsibility include ensuring a values-driven department (Excellence Through People), visioning and strategic planning, implementation of the operating budget, and administration of the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). Library Administration is also responsible for coordinating volunteer involvement in the Library, overseeing the maintenance of the Library facilities, and all technology and automated services included in Library operations.

Library Administration works under the direction of the Ames Public Library Board of Trustees and is responsible for carrying out its policies and directives. Library Administration also serves as a liaison to the Library's auxiliary organization, the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 811,247 | 860,873 | 855,466 | 905,090 | 5.1% |
| Internal Services | 134,281 | 144,290 | 141,274 | 146,016 | 1.2% |
| Contractual | 447,176 | 506,196 | 512,133 | 543,143 | 7.3% |
| Commodities | 77,145 | 83,668 | 130,348 | 137,958 | 64.9% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,469,849 | 1,595,027 | 1,639,221 | 1,732,207 | 8.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Library Friends Foundation | 63,065 | 80,619 | 126,969 | 131,926 | 63.6% |
| Library Direct State Aid | - | - | - | - | |
| Library Donations/Grants | - | 500 | 5,650 | 5,750 | 1050.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 63,065 | 81,119 | 132,619 | 137,676 | 69.7% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 1,406,784 | 1,513,908 | 1,506,602 | 1,594,531 | 5.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,469,849 | 1,595,027 | 1,639,221 | 1,732,207 | 8.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 6.75 | 6.75 | 6.75 | 6.75 | |



# Library Administration

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **We value communication and engagement with the public.** | Aligning with Strategic Plan priorities: | Library visits | 317,020 | 332,355 | 330,000 | 340,000 |
| | | Items available for circulation* | 430,763 | 418,833 | 417,500 | 415,000 |
| | | Checkouts | 994,326 | 998,192 | 999,000 | 1,000,000 |
| | | Visits per capita** | 4.77 | 5.00 | 4.97 | 5.12 |
| **We value a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.** | Equity | Circulation per capita** | 14.97 | 15.03 | 15.04 | 15.05 |
| | | Community partners | 89 | 87 | 90 | 93 |
| | Inclusion | Public computer & iPad uses | 40,361 | 46,695 | 47,500 | 50,000 |
| | | Meeting room uses | 8,332 | 9,927 | 9,000 | 9,500 |
| | Civic Engagement | People using meeting rooms | 23,281 | 23,306 | 21,000 | 22,500 |
| **We value environmental sustainability.** | Staff Development | Library volunteers | 314 | 344 | 345 | 325 |
| | | Volunteer hours | 10,955 | 11,707 | 11,500 | 10,000 |

* Physical and virtual materials

** Per capita based on Ames' population of 66,427 (US Census: 2020)

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Library Administration budget reflects salary and benefit increases. Building and service contract costs have also increased. To offset these increases, reductions were made to other areas like conference attendance and professional services.
- The Library has received a $25,000 grant through the Friends Foundation to offer additional checkouts of hotspots and tablets, as well as provide digital literacy programming. Another $26,000 was received from the Friends Foundation to cover bus passes distributed to the public. These two items reflect the increase in both the adjusted FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 budgets.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Library has applied for additional funding with county and regional partners for a Federal Digital Equity grant to expand checkouts of hotspots and tablets and digital literacy programming. Award announcement may come December 2024 through March 2025.
- The Library is finalizing a new 5-year Strategic Plan after gathering extensive community input including nearly 600 survey responses; staff, volunteer and board input; and nine community focus group sessions. Activities will align with Council priorities like community engagement and sustainability.
- With over 330,000 visitors a year, building upkeep and maintenance is a priority. During the winter/spring of FY 2024/25, the Library replaced carpeting in heavily used public areas including the entryway, adult and youth areas, and study rooms. Staff found ways to creatively offer programs, collections, and services during the installation when access was limited.
- Collaborating with city and county partners continues through participation in shared community events, serving as a voting location, and hosting community and partner dialogs around issues such as homelessness.
- Staff development and support remains an ongoing priority. Staff-wide training focuses on customer service, de-escalation strategies, and best practices to create a welcoming and accessible space.
- Designated by the Library of Congress as the Iowa Center for the Book, the Library is promoting literacy and author visits that reflect our state.

## Upcoming Activities

- The Library will be looking at ways to adapt its landscaping and outdoor areas to foster a safe and welcoming environment.
- Library staff will continue to collaborate with the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation to highlight needs and services, and to promote community support and giving.

# Library Resource Services

**Description:**

Library Resource Services is responsible for the acquisition, cataloging, processing, and management of all items in the Library's collection. This includes the administration of the Integrated Library System (ILS), management of all electronic resources, and oversight of the Library's online presence. Additionally, this activity handles collection inventory management, as well as the repair or removal of outdated, damaged, or infrequently used materials.

Library Resource Services is also responsible for the Library's public relations, including the Library's website, external communications, promotional materials, displays, and internal signage. Library Resources ensures consistent branding and messaging within the Library, as well as coordination with the City of Ames.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 498,480 | 529,656 | 526,264 | 557,002 | 5.2% |
| Internal Services | 2,450 | 3,950 | 2,450 | 1,482 | -62.5% |
| Contractual | 41,876 | 43,146 | 43,698 | 45,846 | 6.3% |
| Commodities | 21,922 | 37,775 | 30,175 | 32,190 | -14.8% |
| Collection Materials | 650,166 | 664,995 | 686,495 | 700,681 | 5.4% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 1,033 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,215,927 | 1,281,022 | 1,290,582 | 1,338,701 | 4.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Library Friends Foundation | 75,338 | 92,869 | 116,369 | 141,676 | 52.6% |
| Library Direct State Aid | 450 | 7,500 | - | 5,000 | -33.3% |
| Library Donations/Grants | 483 | 3,500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | -71.4% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 76,271 | 103,869 | 117,369 | 147,676 | 42.2% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 1,139,656 | 1,177,153 | 1,173,213 | 1,191,025 | 1.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,215,927 | 1,281,022 | 1,290,582 | 1,338,701 | 4.5% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.25 | 5.25 | 5.25 | 5.25 | |



# Library Resource Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **We value communication and engagement with the public.**<br><br>**We value a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.** | Aligning with Strategic Plan priorities:<br><br>Equity<br><br>Inclusion<br><br>Access | Physical items available for circulation* | 238,066 | 217,703 | 215,000 | 215,000 |
| | | Electronic items available for circulation | 192,697 | 201,130 | 202,500 | 200,000 |
| | | Retrievals from electronic databases | 273,082 | 207,972 | 210,000 | 215,000 |
| | | New items processed | 21,211 | 19,570 | 19,000 | 18,000 |
| | | Collection items repaired | 14,559 | 12,619 | 12,500 | 12,250 |
| | | Social media followers | 8,413 | 9,476 | 10,000 | 10,500 |
| | | Website and catalog views | 353,746 | 357,878 | 365,000 | 375,000 |
| | | Email subscribers** | 1,036 | 1,145 | 1,150 | 1,175 |

*Excludes newspapers, magazines, and uncatalogued paperbacks
** Open rate for FY 2023/24 was 50.01% - well above the industry average

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The demand for downloadable electronic books and audio outpaces the increasing costs of providing these services. To keep expenses manageable, the Library eliminated some online databases, restricted access to downloadable platforms, and reduced funding for physical collections.
- The Resources Services team is reviewing current vendor options for cataloging records and interlibrary loan services to identify potential cost savings.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Resource Services workgroup continues to support the Library's strategic goal of access by working collaboratively with other Library workgroups to enhance cataloging and labeling of materials to support customers in easily locating materials like books in adult fiction series.
- Staff continues to improve the catalog interface, creating curated content in collaboration with other workgroups to visually highlight different themed booklists, collections, and programs with eye-catching book covers.
- The Community Relations Specialist will be working with an Iowa State University (ISU) intern in upcoming semesters. This will be the Library's fourth year participating in this internship collaboration which has proved to be mutually successful for the Library, the students, and the ISU program as the Library receives fresh insights and ideas and students obtain practical experience in graphic design and communications.

## Upcoming Activities

- In FY 2025/26, the Resource Services team will work with Customer Account Services on a new cardholder "email journey" to enhance awareness and engagement with Library services. These will be periodic emails to new patrons that highlight services and resources available.
- The marketing staff will work on design and promotion for the upcoming strategic plan.
- The Resource Services staff will research room booking and calendar software for potential cost savings.

# Library Youth Services

## Description:

Library Youth Services serves the community's youngest members and their caregivers by providing collections, programs, and a child-friendly environment designed to assist in the development of early literacy skills, so children enter school ready to read. The Youth Services activity supports school-age readers' growth by providing engaging and accurate collections, programs that encourage lifelong learning and personal enrichment, and a safe, stimulating environment that fosters reading to learn. Additionally, the Youth Services activity offers diverse young adult collections, robust programming, and a welcoming, inclusive space for teens. With the assistance of staff mentoring, teens are encouraged to engage in leadership and volunteer activities. This activity provides outreach to youth, teens, and families.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Youth Services | 870,643 | 928,600 | 888,465 | 939,734 | 1.2% |
| Books for Babies | 8,215 | 6,500 | 15,000 | 5,000 | -23.1% |
| Project Smyles | 33,616 | 30,000 | 29,899 | 35,100 | 17.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 912,474 | 965,100 | 933,364 | 979,834 | 1.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 728,055 | 869,861 | 827,294 | 884,719 | 1.7% |
| Internal Services | 3,670 | 5,420 | 3,670 | 2,220 | -59.0% |
| Contractual | 21,933 | 15,608 | 19,189 | 15,440 | -1.1% |
| Commodities | 89,155 | 74,211 | 83,211 | 77,455 | 4.4% |
| Capital | 69,661 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 912,474 | 965,100 | 933,364 | 979,834 | 1.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Library Friends Foundation | 191,919 | 132,522 | 132,421 | 141,303 | 6.6% |
| Library Direct State Aid | 8,215 | 6,500 | 15,000 | 5,000 | -23.1% |
| Library Donations/Grants | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 200,134 | 139,022 | 147,421 | 146,303 | 5.2% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 712,340 | 826,078 | 785,943 | 833,531 | 0.9% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 912,474 | 965,100 | 933,364 | 979,834 | 1.5% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 8.25 | 8.25 | 8.25 | 8.25 | |





# Library Youth Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **We value communication and engagement with the public.**<br><br>**We value a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.** | Aligning with Strategic Plan priorities:<br><br>Equity<br><br>Inclusion<br><br>Access<br><br>Staff Development | Youth/family programs | 1,550 | 1,561 | 1,550 | 1,550 |
| | | Youth/family program attendance | 39,967 | 39,377 | 39,000 | 39,000 |
| | | Teen programs | 113 | 112 | 110 | 110 |
| | | Teen program attendance | 1,892 | 1,489 | 1,250 | 1,250 |
| | | Physical youth collection items circulated | 464,233 | 436,424 | 450,000 | 450,000 |
| | | Electronic youth collection items circulated | 43,481 | 52,295 | 75,000 | 95,000 |
| | | Circulation per capita (youth population) | 65.33 | 62.89 | 66.27 | 67.55 |
| | | Books given away (reading incentives/promotions) | 8,954 | 12,124 | 12,250 | 12,400 |
| | | Participants in reading incentive programs | 2,614 | 2,839 | 2,900 | 3,000 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Youth Services personal service costs have a lower-than-expected increase in FY 2025/26 due to staff turnover and changes in selected insurance plans. Conference attendance was reduced to FY 2025/26 to help offset increases in areas of the budget.
- The Youth Services Manager works closely with the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation Development Director to identify grant opportunities to support youth initiatives such as STEM Programming and Summer Meals.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Youth Services workgroup focuses on partnering with organizations that can add value and expertise to programs and services.
- Partnerships with Youth and Shelter Services included a monthly programming series helping teens navigate mental health crises, social media safety, building resumes, career choices, and more.
- After hosting a first-annual county-wide Baby Fair and Summer Camp Fair with community partners, the Library will collaborate to offer these successful events in the spring of 2025.
- Staff are developing school-age deposit collections which will provide reading materials to over two hundred students at six different sites through a partnership with Ames Community Preschool Center's after-school care program.
- Library staff is working with the Ames Opera Guild to bring the Des Moines Metro Opera to the Library and the Story Theater Company to showcase student productions.
- Youth Service staff support the community's youngest learners with weekly story times in the Library and through the Project Smyles initiative that takes storytimes and curated book collections offsite to ninety-seven preschools and daycares every month.
- The Library's services for teens continue to develop, offering leadership opportunities to teens who plan and host events like themed escape rooms and a full line-up of summer events including special program presenters.
- The Youth Service workgroup collaborates with other City departments like Parks and Recreation for programming, including special story times at the Ice Arena and a permanent Storywalk at Moore Memorial Park.

## Upcoming Activities

- The Youth Services team will continue to collaborate with community partners and donors to maintain access to critical summer meal services. The team will be refreshing and re-branding some larger initiatives such as the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten project and Parent Pack collections.

# Library Adult Services

## Description:

Library Adult Services is responsible for selecting and managing all physical and virtual materials for adults. Adult Services staff provides reference, referral, and technical services to assist patrons in accessing critical information and resources; reader advisory services to meet diverse interests; and public programs to encourage civic engagement, lifelong learning, and personal enrichment. Adult Services provides a safe and welcoming space for adults. In addition, this activity is responsible for outreach services, including the delivery of collection materials to homebound customers and seniors living in residential centers.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 739,671 | 830,682 | 805,459 | 882,651 | 6.3% |
| Internal Services | 3,670 | 4,170 | 3,670 | 2,220 | -46.8% |
| Contractual | 13,247 | 11,143 | 11,914 | 10,728 | -3.7% |
| Commodities | 10,110 | 21,170 | 22,670 | 20,235 | -4.4% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 1,425 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 768,123 | 868,665 | 845,213 | 917,334 | 5.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Library Friends Foundation | 24,779 | 33,869 | 35,409 | 33,676 | -0.6% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 24,779 | 33,869 | 35,409 | 33,676 | -0.6% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 743,344 | 834,796 | 809,804 | 883,658 | 5.9% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 768,123 | 868,665 | 845,213 | 917,334 | 5.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 8.50 | 8.50 | 8.50 | 8.50 | |



# Library Adult Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **We value communication and engagement with the public.**<br><br>**We value a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.** | Aligning with Strategic Plan priorities:<br>Equity<br>Inclusion<br>Access<br>Wellness<br>Civic Engagement | Adult programs | 522 | 493 | 460 | 440 |
| | | Adult program attendance | 4,820 | 5,132 | 5,200 | 5,200 |
| | | Physical adult collection items circulated | 312,684 | 300,293 | 290,000 | 280,000 |
| | | Electronic adult collection items circulated | 186,392 | 209,180 | 220,000 | 230,000 |
| | | Quick Pick collection items circulated | 5,972 | 4,985 | 5,000 | 5,200 |
| | | Virtual readers advisory/reference engagements | 4,794 | 3,838 | 4,296 | 4,500 |
| | | Home delivery trips | 708 | 723 | 700 | 700 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- In the FY 2025/26 budget, benefits increased due to staff turnover and insurance coverage selection. Conference attendance was reduced to help offset increases.
- Ames Public Library Friends Foundation funds will support a furniture refresh in the adult area.

## In-Progress Activities

- A primary focus of the Adult Services workgroup in FY 2024/25 has been programming that creates community. The Library has seen much higher interest in hands-on and interactive programs where participants have opportunities to meet other people and learn in the community. Programs such as International Community Meetup, Speed Friending, Ames Repair Café, and programs involving crafting and art have been popular. The Library will continue to focus on these interactive offerings and the traditional educational lectures.
- The Ames Seed Library opened in March 2024 and had a successful first season providing over five hundred packets of seeds to the Ames community. The initiative is offered in partnership with Story County Extension, who provide volunteers through the Master Gardener program and supports programming and seed donations.
- To support local writers, the Ames Public Library hosted its second Author Fair in October 2024. Over 25 Iowa authors participated. The events provided the opportunity for the community to meet with authors one on one. Publishers were also on hand to offer support and resources. This successful event will continue to be programmed in upcoming years.
- The 12 to Try Reading Challenge for Adults continues to be a popular program. This reading challenge focuses on encouraging reading books beyond a reader's usual selections. Library staff is hopeful that new reading themes will help the program expand even further in the future.

## Upcoming Activities

- In April 2024, the Ames Public Library became home to the Iowa Center for the Book, a Library of Congress program. During FY 2024/25, the Adult Services Workgroup will determine how to further integrate the Center for the Book into existing workloads, how to expand the reach of the Center across the state, and how to further relationships and partnership with local publishers.
- Staff will explore ways to promote the Inspire Design Explore Archive (IDEA) Center resources which offer special software and equipment to digitize photos, slides, and videos.

# Library Customer Account Services

## Description:

Library Customer Account Services activity is responsible for managing customer accounts and for the circulation of all physical Library collection items. This includes the check-in and check-out of materials, collection of fees, processing items on hold for customers, and re-shelving returned items. Customer Accounts Services also manages the interlibrary loan process for materials loaned to and borrowed from other libraries. Additionally, the activity is responsible for staffing the Welcome Desk at both the Library and Bookmobile. The Customer Account Services staff work closely with community members to assist them in being successful and responsible Library users.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 1,015,650 | 1,051,688 | 1,050,585 | 1,099,325 | 4.5% |
| Internal Services | 4,282 | 4,782 | 4,282 | 2,591 | -45.8% |
| Contractual | 17,210 | 16,959 | 21,409 | 21,519 | 26.9% |
| Commodities | 11,089 | 7,700 | 5,406 | 11,375 | 47.7% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,048,231 | 1,081,129 | 1,081,682 | 1,134,810 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Library Direct State Aid | 8,318 | 3,000 | 1,706 | 6,500 | 116.7% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 8,318 | 3,000 | 1,706 | 6,500 | 116.7% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | 1,039,913 | 1,078,129 | 1,079,976 | 1,128,310 | 4.7% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,048,231 | 1,081,129 | 1,081,682 | 1,134,810 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 9.75 | 9.75 | 9.75 | 9.75 | |



# Library Customer Account Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **We value communication and engagement with the public.** | Aligning with Strategic Plan priorities: | Registered Library users | 45,192 | 47,068 | 48,000 | 49,000 |
| | | New users added | 4,937 | 5,199 | 5,500 | 5,750 |
| | | Bookmobile visits | 7,664 | 7,997 | 8,250 | 8,500 |
| | | Physical items circulated through Bookmobile | 26,903 | 26,597 | 27,000 | 27,500 |
| | Equity | Holds processed | 119,535 | 128,304 | 135,000 | 138,000 |
| **We value a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.** | Inclusion | Interlibrary loans to other libraries | 2,556 | 3,236 | 3,700 | 4,000 |
| | Access | Interlibrary loan items borrowed for Ames Library users | 2,094 | 2,193 | 2,350 | 2,550 |
| | Staff Development | Physical items checked-in/reshelved | 677,654 | 704,976 | 710,000 | 715,000 |
| | | Value of materials/fees recovered per dollar spent on recovery* | 10:1 | 11:1 | 11:1 | 11:1 |

*Prior to FY 2019/20 (going fine free) the return on investment was 7:1.

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Customer Accounts Services budget reflects permanent staff salary and benefit increases as well as an increase in postage costs. To offset these increases, reductions were made to the temporary salary budget line and conference costs were reduced.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff is focused on strategic planning. Several staff members joined teams to assist with gathering and synthesizing information during the strategic planning process.
- Staff has engaged in several training opportunities this year including an overview of Intellectual Freedom, customer service best practices, and providing trauma-informed service to Library customers.
- Staff are continuing successful partnerships with City colleagues and community organizations to bring the Bookmobile to events and programs. This has also included outreach to local parks, EcoFair, Juneteenth, and National Night Out. Successful summer outreach continues at Ames Community School District Summer Enrichment, Ames Parks and Recreation summer camp, and All Aboard for Kids camp.
- Staff has been reviewing communication processes for customers with billed Library materials. They have increased efficiency while maintaining positive interactions with customers and getting materials returned.
- Staff has reviewed the library card sign-up processes and how best to share information about Library services and programs with new users. Innovations include creative ideas to celebrate library card sign up with stickers and a giant library card for selfies.
- Library Aides, generally responsible for shelving, are working collaboratively with staff involved in collection development to improve access and browsability of the materials through shifting and the inventory process.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff are preparing for the launch of the new strategic plan. Staff are also reviewing feedback received from the strategic plan survey and focus groups to look for opportunities for continuous improvement. Staff are beginning to think about desired features for a replacement bookmobile in the next five years.

# Cemetery

## Description:

The Cemetery activity provides interment services and maintains quiet, attractive grounds and facilities at the Ames Municipal Cemetery (53 acres) and Ontario Cemetery (4 acres). City staff coordinates funerals and interments, lot sales, monument installations, and all grounds maintenance at the cemeteries. This activity also provides maintenance to the "Billy Sunday Cemetery" located in southeast Ames near the Ames Animal Shelter and Ames Dog Park facilities.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 115,336 | 145,526 | 132,111 | 143,129 | -1.7% |
| Internal Services | 56,243 | 50,680 | 52,174 | 50,377 | -0.6% |
| Contractual | 62,726 | 47,790 | 51,270 | 51,690 | 8.2% |
| Commodities | 14,312 | 12,850 | 17,250 | 12,900 | 0.4% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 248,617 | 256,846 | 252,805 | 258,096 | 0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Charges for Services | 214,497 | 210,330 | 210,330 | 228,300 | 8.5% |
| Interest Revenue | 42,952 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 12,000 | 71.4% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 257,449 | 217,330 | 217,330 | 240,300 | 10.6% |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund Support | (8,832) | 39,516 | 35,475 | 17,796 | -55.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 248,617 | 256,846 | 252,805 | 258,096 | 0.5% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.40 | |

# Cemetery

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide compassionate cemetery services and maintain the City's three cemeteries in an attractive, fiscally responsible, manner | Regular interments | 59 | 53 | 53 | 53 |
| | | Cremains interments | 79 | 69 | 75 | 75 |
| | | Infant interments | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Disinterment | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Cemetery lots sold | 90 | 120 | 126 | 120 |
| | | Columbarium niches sold | 9 | 11 | 9 | 9 |
| | | Markers/ monuments set | 78 | 74 | 75 | 75 |
| | | Tax support (goal of 0%) | 37% | 0% | 14% | 7% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Cemetery contract mowing costs continue to be one of the largest expenditures that impact the budget. Due to the large amount of time required to mow and trim the cemeteries, contracting remains more cost-effective than mowing with City staff. In FY 2025/26, mowing costs are projected to be $48,000.
- Cemetery fees were increased 7% for FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.
- Funds for motor pool costs have been removed for FY 2025/26, as staff took delivery of a new vehicle for use in the cemetery.
- Cemetery lot sales increased by 30 in FY 2023/24 compared to FY 2022/23. Staff is projecting a slight increase in FY 2024/25. Sales for FY 2025/26 are projected to be around the ten-year average of 120.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Cemetery received a $10,000 donation to be used for purchasing and installing three granite benches adjacent to the columbarium.
- Staff will be renovating the landscaping in front of the Cemetery office in the spring of FY 2024/25. Landscape edging and new plantings will assist in beautifying the entrance to the office.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will be contracting with a firm to complete tuckpointing and cleaning of the limestone flower bed in the Garden of Memories section near the center of the cemetery.



# Art Services

## Description:

The Art Services activity supports art in the Ames community through the Public Art Program and through allocations to art agencies, and special art programs. Since 1991, the Public Art Commission (PAC) has administered the acquisition and maintenance of art installations on public properties. PAC maintains an active inventory of hundreds of works, including sculptures, paintings, photographs, collages, quilting, and glasswork.

The allocations to art agencies in the community are recommended through the Commission on the Arts (COTA). These community arts programs are non-profit in nature and primarily involve the performing arts. Mini grants are also available for special one-time projects.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Art Program | 59,036 | 46,000 | 279,480 | 46,000 | 0.0% |
| Small Art Grant Program | - | - | 30,000 | - | |
| Public Art Pollinator Gardens | - | - | 2,000 | - | |
| Art Agency Funding | 227,545 | 240,931 | 244,368 | 252,978 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 286,581 | 286,931 | 555,848 | 298,978 | 4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,535 | - | - | - | |
| Internal Services | - | - | - | - | |
| Contractual | 14,718 | 25,500 | 46,649 | 25,500 | 0.0% |
| Commodities | 639 | - | 2,000 | - | |
| Capital | 42,144 | 20,500 | 232,831 | 20,500 | 0.0% |
| Other Expenditures | 227,545 | 240,931 | 274,368 | 252,978 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 286,581 | 286,931 | 555,848 | 298,978 | 4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | - | - | 180,000 | - | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 286,581 | 286,931 | 369,898 | 298,978 | 4.2% |
| Public Art Donations | - | - | 3,950 | - | |
| Stormwater Utility Fund | - | - | 2,000 | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 286,581 | 286,931 | 555,848 | 298,978 | 4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |

# Art Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner | Set goals and criteria for arts agency expenditures | COTA agencies receiving an annual grant | 17 | 19 | 21 | 22 |
| | | Increase of COTA funds over prior year's funding | 12.1% | 6.0% | 5.0% | 5.0% |
| | | COTA agencies requesting a Spring or Fall Special Project Grant | 9 | 10 | 9 | 9 |
| A fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people | Expand public art awareness throughout the entire community | Requests for Neighborhood Art | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| | | Entries submitted for the Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition | 36 | 33 | 48 | 50 |
| | | Art acquisitions | 9 | 3 | 3 | 3 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Commission on the Arts (COTA) was allocated $252,978 by City Council for FY 2025/26. The majority of the funding is allocated to individual agencies. A small amount is also held in reserve to provide spring and fall special project grants. The FY 2025/26 allocation to COTA is a 5% increase over the amount allocated in FY 2024/25.
- The Public Art Commission (PAC) budget for FY 2025/24 is $46,000, the same amount approved for FY 2024/25.
- At PAC's recommendation, the City Council approved the purchase of a sculpture entitled "Monarch on Milkweed" by the artist Alex Heveri. The sculpture has been installed in the University Boulevard roundabout at Oakwood/Airport Roads using FY 2024/25 adjusted budget funds. The sculpture cost $26,000. Reiman Gardens staff prepared a design and installed additional pollinator plantings around the sculpture in the roundabout. These plantings were financed with Stormwater program funds.

## In-Progress Activities

- The Public Art Commission is preparing a call for artists to solicit proposals for a series of themed sculptures to be installed adjacent CyRide bus shelters. Initially, the project will involve installation of sculptures along the Red CyRide route at shelters outside of the ISU campus.

**Public Arts Agencies Receiving City Local Option**
**Recommendations from COTA (Commission on the Arts)**

| *Agency:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ACTORS | 18,800 | 19,300 | 19,300 | 20,200 | 4.7% |
| AIOFA | 9,500 | 9,260 | 9,260 | 8,880 | -4.1% |
| Ames Chamber Artists | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0.0% |
| Ames Youth Choir | 14,786 | 15,200 | 15,200 | 14,940 | -1.7% |
| Ames Choral Society | 3,900 | 3,950 | 3,950 | 3,980 | 0.8% |
| Ames Community Arts Council | 12,300 | 12,900 | 12,900 | 13,200 | 2.3% |
| Ames Desi Drama Association | - | 4,800 | 4,800 | 5,260 | 9.6% |
| Central Iowa Symphony | 13,500 | 13,900 | 13,900 | 14,000 | 0.7% |
| Creative Artists Studios | - | 4,800 | 4,800 | 4,500 | -6.3% |
| Dancenter Dance Co Foundation | 3,000 | 3,650 | 3,650 | 5,740 | 57.3% |
| Des Moines Metro Opera Guild | 1,474 | 1,450 | 1,450 | 1,500 | 3.5% |
| Friends of Ames Strings | 4,400 | 3,950 | 3,950 | 5,420 | 37.2% |
| Friends of Roosevelt Park | - | 1,160 | 1,160 | - | |
| Good Company | 2,200 | 2,850 | 2,850 | 3,100 | 8.8% |
| India Cultural Association | 9,700 | 9,600 | 9,600 | 8,000 | -16.7% |
| Iowa Youth Ballet | - | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,660 | 11.0% |
| KHOI Radio | 8,924 | 7,800 | 7,800 | 8,400 | 7.7% |
| Kids' Co-Motion | 3,000 | - | - | 3,000 | |
| Octagon Center for the Arts | 48,600 | 46,100 | 46,100 | 44,600 | -3.3% |
| Senior Variety Show | 4,900 | 4,900 | 4,900 | 4,900 | 0.0% |
| Story Theater Company | 31,940 | 39,516 | 39,516 | 41,136 | 4.1% |
| The Buxton Initiative | 4,563 | - | 3,437 | - | |
| Town & Gown Chamber Music | 17,550 | 17,730 | 17,730 | 17,600 | -0.7% |
| Worldly Goods | - | - | - | 4,400 | |
| ***Total Agency Allocations*** | 219,037 | 233,016 | 236,453 | 243,416 | 4.5% |
| Spring/Fall Special Grants | 8,508 | 7,915 | 7,915 | 9,562 | 20.8% |
| ***Total Allocations*** | 227,545 | 240,931 | 244,368 | 252,978 | 5.0% |

# Culture and Recreation CIP

**Description:**
This is a summary of the Culture and Recreation program capital improvements which are detailed in the City of Ames five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Parks & Recreation:*** | | | | | |
| Fitch Indoor Aquatic Center | 2,753,875 | 20,699,268 | 17,126,775 | 4,879,579 | -76.4% |
| Downtown Plaza | 2,004,026 | - | 1,283,713 | - | |
| Park/Facility Improvements | 398,654 | 150,000 | 504,539 | 175,000 | 16.7% |
| Splash Pad | 3,625 | 556,036 | 1,338,517 | - | -100.0% |
| Furman Aquatic Center | 138,505 | - | 100,000 | 231,500 | |
| Municipal Pool Demolition | - | - | 79,457 | - | |
| Ice Arena Improvements | 207,268 | 25,000 | 155,768 | - | -100.0% |
| Homewood Improvements | - | - | 162,520 | 250,000 | |
| Park Maintenance Facility | - | - | 692,964 | - | |
| Playground/Park Equipment | 208,907 | 74,500 | 385,879 | 224,000 | |
| Park Agility Equipment | 3,500 | - | 710,123 | - | |
| ADA Transition Plan Improvements | - | 100,000 | 224,496 | 100,000 | 0.0% |
| Ada Hayden Improvements | 1,072 | 700,000 | 707,275 | 700,000 | 0.0% |
| Sunset Ridge Park Development | 605 | - | 877 | - | |
| Franklin Park Improvements | - | - | 26,432 | - | |
| Hira Park Development | 1,489 | - | 14,004 | - | |
| Soccer Mini-Pitch | 1,710 | - | 349,480 | - | |
| Ontario Park Development | 1,146,484 | - | 100,000 | - | |
| Rec Center Conceptual Plan | - | - | - | 100,000 | |
| Moore Park Pedestrian Bridge | - | - | - | 75,000 | |
| *Total Parks and Rec. CIP* | 6,869,720 | 22,304,804 | 23,962,819 | 6,735,079 | -69.8% |
| ***Library Services:*** | | | | | |
| Library Carpet Replacement | - | 47,304 | 304,341 | - | -100.0% |
| *Total Library Services CIP* | - | 47,304 | 304,341 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Art Services:*** | | | | | |
| Arts Capital Grants Program | 147,904 | - | - | - | |
| *Total Art Services CIP* | 147,904 | - | - | - | |
| ***Cemetery:*** | | | | | |
| Cemetery Improvements | - | - | 75,000 | 75,000 | |
| Scattering Garden | - | - | 19,356 | - | |
| *Total Cemetery CIP* | - | - | 94,356 | 75,000 | |
| ***Total Culture and Rec. CIP*** | 7,017,624 | 22,352,108 | 24,361,516 | 6,810,079 | -69.5% |

**Parks and Recreation ($6,735,079)**

The Municipal Pool located at Ames High School closed on February 28, 2022, and was demolished to create space for the construction of the new Ames High School building. While the new high school includes a competition pool, there is still a need in the community for a warm-water pool facility. The ***Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center*** will contain a 25-yard six lane lap pool, a zero-depth entry pool with a play structure, a current channel, a therapy pool, slides, locker rooms, and party/meeting rooms. The facility, which will be located at 122 Oak Street on land purchased from the Iowa Department of Transportation, is estimated to have a total project cost of $28,272,746. Funding of $6,266,392 was allocated in FY 2020/21, FY 2021/22, FY 2022/23, and FY 2023/24 for the conceptual design, preliminary engineering, soil testing, and the purchase of the site. Funding of $17,126,775 is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget for the construction of the facility, with additional funding of $4,879,579 budgeted in FY 2025/26 to complete the project.

***Park/Facility Improvements*** is the annual program to add improvements and address maintenance issues in City parks and recreation facilities without specific capital programs. For FY 2025/26, $175,000 is budgeted to replace the sound system in the City Auditorium.

The ***Furman Aquatic Center*** opened in May 2010. It has been operational for fourteen seasons, with an average of $89,234 visitors per summer. To ensure that it remains a quality facility, structural and electrical issues are identified and scheduled to be addressed in a systematic manner. Funding of $231,500 is included in the FY 2025/26 budget to replace the water heaters for the splash pad and the lazy river.

The current bridge on Hole #9 at ***Homewood Golf Course*** was designed for walking golfers. With the increased demand for motorized carts at Homewood, replacing the bridge with one designed for motorized carts will speed up play and reduce safety concerns for golfers currently having to drive along Hole #8 to access the Hole #9 green. Funding of $250,000 is budgeted in FY 2025/26 to construct the bridge.

***Playground/Park Equipment*** is the annual program to replace aging play equipment throughout the park system. For FY 2025/26, $224,000 is budgeted to replace the play equipment in Parkview North Park ($75,500) and to replace the play equipment adjacent to the Hickory Shelter in Brookside Park ($148,500).

An assessment of the park system and Parks and Recreation facilities was completed in FY 2022/23 to better understand where improvements need to be made to comply with the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design. A transition plan is being developed from the study's recommendations, and the plan will be implemented through the ***ADA Transition Plan Improvements*** program. This program allocates $100,000 annually for improvements to the park system and Parks and Recreation facilities.

The asphalt trails at ***Ada Hayden Heritage Park*** are deteriorating. Funding of $700,000 is included in the FY 2025/26 budget to improve the shared use path around the north lake by replacing the asphalt with concrete and widening the path from 10 to 12 feet. An additional $700,000 is included in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget to replace the path around the south lake.

# Culture and Recreation CIP

With just one City gymnasium and limited access to Ames Community School District gym space, there is a growing need in the community for additional indoor recreation facilities. A new facility equipped with amenities such as indoor basketball and pickleball courts, volleyball courts, a soccer pitch, a running/walking/jogging track, and play areas would provide recreational opportunities for both adults and youth. Funding of $100,000 is included in the FY 2025/26 budget for a ***Rec Center Conceptual Plan.*** This funding will be used to hire a consultant to prepare preliminary cost estimates for a new facility.

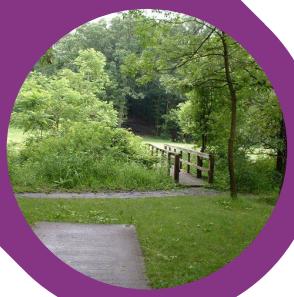
***Moore Memorial Park*** covers 90 acres, with 50 acres located east of Ioway Creek and the remaining 40 acres west of the creek. In response to community input about connecting parks via hard surface trails, a pedestrian bridge is being planned to connect the two areas of the park. Funding of $75,000 is included in FY 2025/26 for the engineering and design of the bridge, with an additional $300,000 projected for FY 2026/27 for the bridge's construction.

**Cemetery ($75,000)**

To honor the memory of those buried in the City's two active cemeteries and to provide peaceful, well-maintained surroundings for those who visit, the ***Cemetery Improvements*** program identifies and provides funding for improvements at the Ames Municipal Cemetery and the Ontario Cemetery. In FY 2025/26, funding of $75,000 has been allocated in this program to replace the fencing at the Ontario Cemetery.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT





GATEWAY PARK
45 YEARS
1979-2024





1989-2024
PERFECT PERMIT COMPLIANCE
35 YEARS

IOWAY CREEK PARK
35 YEARS
1989-2024






CITY OF
ames™

# Community Development Program

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# Community Development Summary

## Description:

The Community Development program provides services that provide direction to the development of the Ames Community, as well as services to increase the quality of life for Ames residents. These services include ***Planning Services***, ***Economic Development, and Sustainability***. ***Housing Services*** administers the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs, as well as additional funding received though other federal or state programs. The Community Development program also includes ***Human Services,*** which provides funding to non-profit agencies in the community that provide direct assistance to Ames citizens. Activities related to ***Disaster Relief*** through FEMA or other state or federal programs are also included in this program when they occur. Capital improvements related to this program are included in the ***Community Development CIP*** activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Planning Services | 952,431 | 1,030,469 | 980,720 | 1,178,104 | 14.3% |
| Economic Development | 2,218,221 | 2,748,908 | 2,700,825 | 2,853,961 | 3.8% |
| Sustainability | 7,573 | 27,444 | 1,125,179 | 24,927 | -9.2% |
| Housing Services | 399,345 | 1,536,189 | 5,550,240 | 1,600,998 | 4.2% |
| Human Services | 1,790,481 | 1,957,016 | 1,968,128 | 2,053,976 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 5,368,051 | 7,300,026 | 12,325,092 | 7,711,966 | 5.6% |
| | | | | | |
| Community Enrichment CIP | 240 | 175,000 | 388,001 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,368,291 | 7,475,026 | 12,713,093 | 7,886,966 | 5.5% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 8.43 | 8.43 | 8.43 | 8.43 | |



# Community Development Summary

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 1,050,848 | 1,285,524 | 1,168,880 | 1,307,067 | 1.7% |
| Internal Services | 149,670 | 184,479 | 174,860 | 171,636 | -7.0% |
| Contractual | 360,107 | 1,477,104 | 2,634,051 | 1,682,134 | 13.9% |
| Commodities | 4,297 | 3,900 | 10,871 | 5,575 | 43.0% |
| Capital | 65,928 | - | 1,023,290 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 3,767,492 | 4,458,799 | 7,413,859 | 4,645,265 | 4.2% |
| Allocations | (30,291) | (109,780) | (100,719) | (99,711) | -9.2% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 5,368,051 | 7,300,026 | 12,325,092 | 7,711,966 | 5.6% |
| Community Enrichment CIP | 240 | 175,000 | 388,001 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 5,368,291 | 7,475,026 | 12,713,093 | 7,886,966 | 5.5% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Program Revenue | 22,239 | 20,000 | 48,000 | 26,000 | 30.0% |
| General Fund Support | 1,019,372 | 1,122,265 | 1,157,460 | 1,266,206 | 12.8% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 1,790,481 | 1,957,016 | 1,956,128 | 2,053,976 | 5.0% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 1,703,716 | 2,233,492 | 2,184,800 | 2,158,722 | -3.4% |
| Road Use Tax | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| City-Wide Housing Fund | 18,826 | 25,453 | 28,805 | 29,410 | 15.6% |
| CDBG Funds | 317,531 | 557,990 | 1,950,954 | 684,122 | 22.6% |
| HOME Funds | 9,419 | 321,764 | 2,939,498 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| CDBG/IEDA CARES Act Funds | 53,569 | - | - | - | |
| HOME American Rescue Plan | - | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| Economic Development Fund | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| TIF Funds | 376,836 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 550,000 | 46.7% |
| Council Priorities Fund | - | - | 997,400 | - | |
| ***Total Operations Funding*** | 5,368,051 | 7,300,026 | 12,325,092 | 7,711,966 | 5.6% |
| ***CIP Funding:*** | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 240 | 175,000 | 388,001 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total CIP Funding*** | 240 | 175,000 | 388,001 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 5,368,291 | 7,475,026 | 12,713,093 | 7,886,966 | 5.5% |

# Planning Services

## Description:

Planning Services includes both long range and current planning activities for the community. Long range planning assists in the creation of policies related to the development, use, and conservation of land within the city. This includes such activities as the preparation, coordination, and presentation of planning studies, Comprehensive Plan amendments, and substantial text amendments to the Municipal Code. Current planning encompasses the review and analysis of development project site development plans, subdivision plans, flood plain permits, and variances and special use permits.

Planning services provides staff support to the City Council, the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the Historic Preservation Commission. Planning staff is also the primary point of contact for preliminary development inquiries, citizen questions on use of property and zoning, and neighborhood inquiries on City activities or plans.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Planning Services | 951,545 | 1,028,719 | 962,720 | 1,076,104 | 4.6% |
| Historic Preservation | 860 | 1,750 | 6,000 | 2,000 | 14.3% |
| CLG Historic Preservation Grant | 26 | - | 12,000 | - | |
| Zoning Update | - | - | - | 100,000 | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 952,431 | 1,030,469 | 980,720 | 1,178,104 | 14.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 807,420 | 867,756 | 793,145 | 912,093 | 5.1% |
| Internal Services | 121,772 | 139,143 | 136,147 | 136,241 | -2.1% |
| Contractual | 19,078 | 20,770 | 42,277 | 125,720 | 505.3% |
| Commodities | 4,161 | 2,800 | 9,151 | 4,050 | 44.6% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 952,431 | 1,030,469 | 980,720 | 1,178,104 | 14.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Charges for Services | 22,239 | 20,000 | 24,000 | 26,000 | 30.0% |
| Historic Preservation Grant | - | - | 12,000 | - | |
| General Fund | 930,192 | 1,010,469 | 944,720 | 1,152,104 | 14.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 952,431 | 1,030,469 | 980,720 | 1,178,104 | 14.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | |

# Planning Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable and high-quality current planning services | Preliminary plats completed* | 5(57) | 4(55) | 5 | 4(55) |
| | | Final plats completed* | 11(21) | 6(18) | 8 | 8(20) |
| | | Minor site development plans* | 21(24) | 23(24) | 26 | 30(25) |
| | | Major site development plans, including PUD/PRD* | 4(30) | 4(40) | 6 | 5(60) |
| | | ZBA cases* | 9(19) | 10(19) | 12 | 15(25) |
| | | Flood plain permits* | 12(8) | 10(7) | 10 | 0 |
| | Provide reliable and high-quality long-range planning services | Plan 2040 map/text amendments completed | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Property rezonings completed | 6 | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| | | Zoning text amendments completed | 10 | 12 | 8 | 6 |
| | | City Council referral issues | 16 | 18 | 14 | 15 |
| | Implement the Council's Façade programs | Downtown façade grants awarded | 2 | 2 | 6 | 3 |
| | | Campustown façade grants awarded | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| **Diverse housing options for the community** | Housing Development Approvals | Single-family attached and detached lots final platted | 83 | 96 | 80 | 200 |
| | | Annual multi-family housing bedrooms completed** | 6 | 245 | 87 | 100 |
| | | Acres annexed | 108.14 | 0.00 | 126.70 | 440.00 |

PUD (Planned Unit Development), PRD (Planned Residence District)

*The metric within parenthesis is the average number of calendar days to process an application from the date of submitting a complete application to the date of staff or Council's approval or first reading. This excludes calendar days while waiting for an applicant's response. Referrals are responses to Council requests typically as memorandums and staff reports and may include more than one follow up per issue.

**Multi-family completions are measured on a calendar year basis to reflect typical completions occurring within the summer of each year.

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Development applications were steady with no significant changes in revenue or projected revenue.
- Commercial development and industrial development are projected to continue to be consistent with recent development trends of the past two years.
- Platting of new residential subdivisions is expected to increase in FY 2025/26 due to two years of slower growth and greater pent-up demand.
- City Council identified within the Planning Division Work Plan a major update of the Zoning Ordinance and the Subdivision Code. The update will primarily be completed by staff. However, the FY 2025/26 budget includes $100,000 for consulting services for formatting and finalizing changes for the final ordinance. The comprehensive update is intended to address zoning and subdivision/public improvement standards.
- City Council adopted a citywide Urban Revitalization Area to encourage new ownership housing construction that includes a property tax abatement incentive. New development will receive a partial abatement for five years limiting the property tax benefits of this new development for started through 2027 and completed in 2028 or sooner.




**In-Progress Activities**

- City staff are supporting Downtown Ames Main Street with preparation of a Downtown Plan to be completed in the spring of 2025.
- The Linc mixed use project includes a development agreement for design, phasing, and public improvement along with use of Urban Renewal Area tax increment financing incentives. FY 2024/25 is expected to include approvals that facilitate the project, including the Site Development Plan for the first phase.
- City Council continues to address housing related development priorities with policy and ordinance changes. This includes issues identified by the AEDC Short Term Housing Taskforce. Policies regarding pioneer infrastructure and oversizing will be addressed in 2025.
- Planning staff will continue supporting the Climate Action Plan Technical Committee.
- Planning staff will work with the Metropolitan Planning Organization on the upcoming transportation plan as it relates to Ames Plan 2040 growth and land use planning.
- City Council selected south of campus for the first redirection area neighborhood study that will begin in FY 2024/25 and be completed in FY 2025/26.
- Staff will complete updated development tracking mechanisms in coordination with other Departments.
- Final Downtown Facade Program updates for maintenance will be provided to City Council in the winter of 2025.
- Council previously initiated an update of the East 13th Street Regional Commercial and North East Gateway Overlay zoning with expectations of changes to prior development agreement for the former “regional mall site.” Draft changes and consultation with the developer will occur this spring.

# Planning Services

**Upcoming Activities**

- Kick off of the Zoning Ordinance update, with related development issues, will occur as a first step with a City Council workshop to compare ordinance styles and define issues and priorities for the update process.
- Public outreach with workshops and online communication will occur throughout the Zoning Ordinance update process. City Council will approve an outreach approach for the process.
- Planned annexation of the North Ames land known as the Borgmeyer property will require working with a developer for master planning to address housing diversity and commercial development interests for the site defined by Plan 2040.



Creekside Townhomes Low Income Housing Development along Tripp Street

# Economic Development

**Description:**

The Economic Development activity supports both existing and new businesses in their efforts to provide opportunities for quality employment in the Ames community. This activity provides local support for federal, and state sponsored economic development programs, and administers and oversees all economic development programs.

This activity also records the pass-through of five sevenths of the seven cent per dollar Hotel/Motel tax to the Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau. This activity also includes the distribution of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) tax revenue as required by various economic development agreements.

A portion of the City Manager (10%), City Attorney (5%), and Finance Director (16%) positions are allocated to Economic Development activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Discover Ames Pass-through | 1,524,935 | 2,054,892 | 1,981,350 | 1,979,922 | -3.7% |
| Econ Development/City Staff | 81,607 | 84,352 | 84,961 | 89,175 | 5.7% |
| Econ Development/AREA | 175,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| Chamber of Commerce Dues | 3,781 | 3,600 | 3,800 | 3,800 | 5.6% |
| Kingland Tax Rebate | 25,510 | - | - | - | |
| Barilla Tax Rebate | 351,326 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 0.0% |
| Downtown Urban Renewal | - | - | 24,650 | - | |
| North Dayton Tax Rebate | - | - | - | 175,000 | |
| RISE Grant Repayment | 56,062 | 56,064 | 56,064 | 56,064 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,218,221 | 2,748,908 | 2,700,825 | 2,853,961 | 3.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 78,627 | 81,518 | 81,294 | 85,155 | 4.5% |
| Internal Services | 2,980 | 2,834 | 3,667 | 4,020 | 41.9% |
| Contractual | 178,781 | 178,600 | 203,450 | 178,800 | 0.1% |
| Commodities | - | - | - | - | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 1,957,833 | 2,485,956 | 2,412,414 | 2,585,986 | 4.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,218,221 | 2,748,908 | 2,700,825 | 2,853,961 | 3.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 1,703,716 | 2,233,492 | 2,184,800 | 2,158,722 | -3.4% |
| General Fund | 81,607 | 84,352 | 84,961 | 89,175 | 5.7% |
| Road Use Tax | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| ISU Research Park Reimb | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| TIF/Kingland Systems | 25,510 | - | - | - | |
| TIF/Barilla | 351,326 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 0.0% |
| TIF/North Dayton | - | - | - | 175,000 | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 2,218,221 | 2,748,908 | 2,700,825 | 2,853,961 | 3.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.31 | 0.31 | 0.31 | 0.31 | |

# Economic Development

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Promote economic development** | Support growth of tax base and high paying employment | Number of TIF payments | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| | | Dollar value of TIF payments | $711,857 | $376,836 | $375,000 | $550,000 |
| | | Ames MSA* unemployment rate | 2.1% | 2.3% | 2.3% | 2.5% |
| | | Population census estimate | 66,772 | 66,427 | 66,500 | 66,700 |

*MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area)

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The City continues to make TIF payments to to Barilla, in accordance with the development agreement. In addition, the FY 2025/26 requested budget includes the first payment to the developer for the infrastructure reimbursement related to the North Dayton Industrial Park.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff continues to work alongside legal counsel and the developer to construct a development agreement in support of The Linc project.

## Upcoming Activities

- The pass through to Discover Ames was decreased in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget and remained approximately level in the FY 2024/25 budget.

# Sustainability

## Description:

The Sustainability activity has been created to account for programs and projects that will be implemented to support the City Council value of Environmental Sustainability. This activity will coordinate sustainability efforts across all City departments, develop programs in support of the City's Climate Action Plan, and promote sustainability throughout the community.

The majority of the Sustainability activity is allocated to the Utilities, with 20% of the operational costs remaining in the General Fund.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sustainability | 37,864 | 137,224 | 125,898 | 124,638 | -9.2% |
| City Facilities Study | - | - | 102,600 | - | |
| City Council Sustainability | - | - | 997,400 | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 37,864 | 137,224 | 1,225,898 | 124,638 | -9.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | - | 134,152 | 104,215 | 117,515 | -12.4% |
| Internal Services | 62 | 3,072 | 3,172 | 2,623 | -14.6% |
| Contractual | 37,802 | - | 1,118,311 | 4,300 | |
| Commodities | - | - | 200 | 200 | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 37,864 | 137,224 | 1,225,898 | 124,638 | -9.2% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (30,291) | (109,780) | (100,719) | (99,711) | -9.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Sustainability Expenditures*** | 7,573 | 27,444 | 1,125,179 | 24,927 | -9.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 7,573 | 27,444 | 127,779 | 24,927 | -9.2% |
| Council Priorities Fund | - | - | 997,400 | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 7,573 | 27,444 | 1,125,179 | 24,927 | -9.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | |

# Sustainability

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2023/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Value sustainability in the policies that guide the organization's decision making and through the services provided** | Progress towards the adopted carbon emissions reduction target | Prioritize and implement strategies | NA | NA | NA | NA |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The budget for personal services is lower by 12.4% than the adopted FY 2024/25 budget. The decrease is due to the filling of the Sustainability Coordinator position in FY 2024/25. The position was open when the budget was adopted for FY 2024/25. Open positions are normally budgeted at the salary mid-point for the position and with the most expensive family insurance plan offered by the City. The actual cost of the filled position is often lower, resulting in salary savings from the adopted budget.
- Funding of $1,000,000 has been carried over from FY 2023/24 to the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget. This funding will be used for sustainability projects the City Council is interested in implementing to support the Climate Action Plan.
- The FY 2024/25 adjusted budget includes an additional $100,000 in carryover funding for a study of City buildings and facilities to determine improvements that can be made in support of the Climate Action Plan.

## In-Progress Activities

- The City buildings and facilities study is ongoing and will conclude by June 2025. Results will inform long-term planning for implementing Climate Action Plan implementation step #5: retrofitting municipal buildings.
- Staff continues to identify federal funding (e.g., Inflation Reduction Act) and other grant opportunities to improve energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction. Two federal grants totaling $15 million have been applied for thus far.
- Staff will continue to work with builders to roll out the net-zero enhanced tax abatement program for single family new construction. In addition, staff will collaborate with the Ames Home Builder Association on developing a high-performing home pilot project.
- The Sustainability Coordinator will also continue to engage in education and outreach activities at events and with various community organizations.

## Upcoming Activities

- Progress will continue towards the City Council's goal to reduce emissions by 70% over the 2018 levels by the year 2030 and to reach near-zero by 2050.
- A comprehensive update of the community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory will take place in 2025.
- The Sustainability Coordinator will work with City departments to coordinate sustainability programs and develop plans for additional programs and projects to support the goals of the Climate Action Plan. Priorities include a residential retrofit program, City-owned and private renewable energy, waste infrastructure and diversion, and fleet decarbonization.

# City-Wide Housing Programs

## Description:

The goal of the City-Wide Housing Programs activity is to promote better housing and housing related educational opportunities for low- and moderate-income citizens in the Ames community. These housing related activities could include such things as emergency and disaster-related assistance, housing fairs, public educational workshops, etc. This activity also provides support for programs and projects funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs. A portion of the Housing Coordinator position is allocated to this activity along with salary and expenses for additional temporary staffing needs.

| ***Expenditures:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 3,381 | 7,865 | 11,231 | 11,668 | 48.4% |
| Internal Services | 15,011 | 17,588 | 17,074 | 17,242 | -2.0% |
| Contractual | 434 | - | 400 | 400 | |
| Commodities | - | - | 100 | 100 | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 18,826 | 25,453 | 28,805 | 29,410 | 15.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| City-Wide Housing Fund | 18,826 | 25,453 | 28,805 | 29,410 | 15.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 18,826 | 25,453 | 28,805 | 29,410 | 15.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | |

# City-Wide Housing Programs

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Encourage citizen participation by hosting educational events and community-wide meetings regarding housing and community development issues | Community forums or events to educate the public on various housing topics/ awareness, program policies, procedures, etc. | 1 | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| **Diverse housing options for the community** | | Attendees at community housing programs, events, or presentations | 30 | 0 | n/a | n/a |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- This activity will only account for expenses incurred by the City's housing programs that are not eligible for reimbursement under the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs that assist low- and moderate-income households. This includes assistance provided to other City departments and non-profit organizations and administration of non-CDBG federal, state, county, and/or local programs. Salary and benefits of temporary employees, if not reimbursed by the federal grant programs, are also charged to this activity.
- This activity includes five percent of the Housing Coordinator's salary and benefits.

# Community Development Block Grant

## Description:

This activity administers the City's federally funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The CDBG program include a wide variety of housing, community and economic development activities directed toward affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services. The overall goals of the CDBG program are to ensure that at least one of the following three national objectives is met: 1) benefit persons of low and moderate income, 2) aid in the prevention of slums or blight, or 3) meet other community development needs of particular urgency. The majority of the Housing Coordinator position (80%) is allocated to this activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CDBG Administration | 128,082 | 111,598 | 106,824 | 106,824 | -4.3% |
| Acquisition Rehabilitation | 184,966 | - | 316,402 | - | |
| Renter Assistance Program | - | - | 248,871 | - | |
| 321 State Avenue NRSA | 4,483 | - | 4,500 | - | |
| Baker Subdivision Park | - | - | 130,000 | - | |
| Single Family Rehabilitation | - | - | 242,433 | - | |
| Homebuyer Assistance NRSA | - | - | 200,000 | - | |
| Infrastructure Improvements | - | - | 701,924 | | |
| CDBG Future Programs | - | 446,392 | - | 577,298 | 29.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 317,531 | 557,990 | 1,950,954 | 684,122 | 22.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 123,113 | 94,325 | 80,023 | 88,996 | -5.7% |
| Internal Services | 9,614 | 10,223 | 9,181 | 10,413 | 1.9% |
| Contractual | 118,740 | 452,842 | 480,034 | 583,988 | 29.0% |
| Commodities | 136 | 600 | 920 | 725 | 20.8% |
| Capital | 65,928 | - | 689,492 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | 691,304 | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 317,531 | 557,990 | 1,950,954 | 684,122 | 22.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| CDBG Fund | 317,531 | 557,990 | 1,950,954 | 684,122 | 22.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 317,531 | 557,990 | 1,950,954 | 684,122 | 22.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.80 | |

# Community Development Block Grant

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Diverse housing options for the community** | Utilize and leverage CDBG funds for Low and Moderate-Income (LMI) persons through private and public partnerships* | Program expenditures in LMI households and/or neighborhoods (goal: 70% over 3-year period) | 100% | 70% | 70% | 100% |
| | | Existing properties purchased for LMI housing to be rehabilitated and/or demolished | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Houses/Land sold/leased to non-profits for rehabilitation or new construction | 1 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Utilize and leverage CDBG funds for non-LMI persons through private and public partnerships** | Market Rate lots sold for new home construction in the Baker Subdivision | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| | | Blighted properties acquired and demolished in non-LMI Census Tract Areas for code enforcement | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Administer the CDBG program in compliance with federal regulations | Demonstrated compliance with HUD's monitoring of program reports, etc. | Yes | No | Yes | Yes |
| | | Biannual program audit meets federal compliance standards | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

*Achieved using the following steps:
1. Increase supply of single family or two-family housing for ownership in the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA).
2. Reduce the cost burden for low-income households to access or maintain rental housing citywide.
3. Increase the affordability, quality, and availability of owner housing for homeowners citywide.

**Achieved using the following steps:
1. Integrate affordable and market rate residential developments.
2. Remove blight and deteriorated housing to reuse into new housing.
3. Support and address code enforcement of deteriorated housing.
4. Remove blight and deteriorated housing in flood plain and other hazardous areas.

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- In FY 2024/25, the City anticipates receiving its 20th allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding of $534,122. Of that amount, $106,824 can be used for program administration and $427,298 is available for programming.
- In FY 2024/25 CDBG funding of $1,299,492 is anticipated to be carried over from FY 2023/24 and $50,938 is anticipated in program income.
- The City's CDBG allocation for FY 2025/26 has not yet been announced. For budgeting purposes, the FY 2024/25 allocation of $534,122 is being projected for FY 2025/26. The budget allocates 20% of the CDBG allocation for administrative expenses ($106,824), with the remaining 80% to be used for programming.

## In-Progress Activities

- The City will be working with Public Works to prepare to solicit bids for the replacement of lead water lines along North Russell Avenue this spring.
- The City will be working with the Parks and Recreation Department to begin installing the neighborhood park improvements in the Baker Subdivision.
- City staff will begin soliciting applications to implement the Renter Affordability Program at the beginning of January 2025.
- The City will be preparing to sell the twelve market-rate single-family lots in the Baker Subdivision this coming spring to qualified developers. Program income from the sale of these lots is not reflected in the budget.

## Upcoming Activities

- After contracting with a modular home developer in FY 2024/25 to construct two homes in Baker subdivision, the four remaining affordable lots are anticipated to be sold to qualified LMI housing developers.

# HOME Investment Partnership Program

**Description:**

This activity administers the City's federally funded HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME). The HOME program is designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. The overall goals of the HOME program are to fund a wide range of activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership or providing direct rental assistance to low-income people, often in partnership with local nonprofit groups. Cities receiving HOME funding are called Participating Jurisdictions (PJs). Up to 10% of the funding can be allocated for program administration. A portion of the Housing Coordinator position (15%) is being allocated to administer HOME program activities.

Some special conditions apply to the use of HOME funds. PJs must provide a 25% local dollar match of nonfederal funds (except for administration) on projects. PJs must reserve at least 15% of their allocations to fund housing to be owned, developed, or sponsored by experienced, community-driven nonprofit groups designated as Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). PJs must also ensure that HOME-funded housing units remain affordable in the long term (20 years for new construction of rental housing and 5-15 years for construction of homeownership housing and housing rehabilitation, depending on the amount of the HOME subsidy).

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HOME Administration | 9,419 | 32,176 | 208,137 | 25,648 | -20.3% |
| CHDO Allocation | - | 48,265 | 147,563 | 38,472 | -20.3% |
| Single Family Housing | - | - | 333,798 | - | |
| LIHTC/Multi-Family | - | - | 2,100,000 | - | |
| Homebuyer Assistance | - | - | 150,000 | - | |
| HOME Future Programs | - | 241,323 | - | 192,363 | -20.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 9,419 | 321,764 | 2,939,498 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 7,480 | 22,140 | 26,737 | 21,574 | -2.6% |
| Internal Services | 170 | 5,772 | 5,522 | 949 | -83.6% |
| Contractual | 1,769 | 245,087 | 175,378 | 194,988 | -20.4% |
| Commodities | - | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | 333,798 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | 48,265 | 2,397,563 | 38,472 | -20.3% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 9,419 | 321,764 | 2,939,498 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| HOME Fund | 9,419 | 321,764 | 2,939,498 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 9,419 | 321,764 | 2,939,498 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | |

# HOME Investment Partnership Program

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner to address housing needs in the community** | Build or partner to construct affordable housing units in the designated Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) of the Baker Housing Subdivision | Single-family units constructed* | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Provided down payment and closing assistance* | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | | Assisted for LIHTC units constructed* | 0 | 0 | 38 | 0 |
| | Implement the Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA) | Qualified low-income household assisted with monthly rental assistance for up to 12-18 months through TBRA. | N/A | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| | Administer the HOME program in compliance with Federal regulations | Demonstrated compliance with HUD's monitoring of program reports, etc. | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Biannual program audit meets federal compliance standards | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

*For low- and moderate-income families

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The City is anticipating receiving its seventh HOME funding allocation for FY 2024/25 of $256,483. Under the HOME program, both administration and programming dollars can also be rolled over each year. Therefore, it is estimated that approximately $2,683,015 in rollover funding is being carried over from FY 2023/24 for a total of $2,939,498 in HOME funding for FY 2024/25. Of this amount, $447,563 is set aside for a local Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) (if designated by the City). Of that $447,563, $300,000 was reallocated to the LIHTC project, leaving a CHDO fund balance of $147,563. Of the remaining FY 2024/25 funding, $208,137 is available for administration, leaving $2,583,798 available in FY 2024/25 for programming to support the City Council's goal of affordable housing. Of this total, $2.1 million has been allocated to support the construction of 38 Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) multi-family housing units in Baker Subdivision.
- HOME also requires that Participating Jurisdictions (PJs) contribute or match $0.25 for each dollar of HOME funds spent on affordable housing. The City has allocated $307,339 of General Obligation (GO) Bond funds toward infrastructure improvements at 321 State Avenue (Baker Subdivision), and $292,615 of Electric Funds towards the installation of geothermal units for the 26 single-family lots. This $599,954 in local funding will count as the local match towards requirement for the HOME dollars through FY 2025/26. The City must identify funds in future years when this match is spent.
- The FY 2025/26 HOME allocation for the City has not yet been announced. For budgeting purposes, the FY 2024/25 funding allocation of $256,483 is being projected for FY 2025/26.

## In-Progress Activities

- Construction of 38 LIHTC townhomes on Lot 27 in the Baker Subdivision will be completed in the summer of 2025.

## Upcoming Activities

- As a HOME future program, the City will work with HUD to finalize the approval of creating a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA) to assist low-income households with rental payments for a 12-to-18-month period.

# Housing CARES/American Rescue Plan

## Description:

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was passed in 2020 in response to the growing effects of COVID-19. The grant funding is to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act into law, which provides grant funding to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As of part of this Act, grant funds were allocated to local governments that qualified for HOME Investment Partnerships Program (PJs) allocations for fiscal year 2021. The funding is to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homeless and other vulnerable populations. All programs are to assist low and moderate-income households with incomes that are at 80% or below the Ames Metropolitan Statistical Area.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| IEDA/CARES Administration | 19,836 | - | - | - | |
| IEDA/ACPC Daycare | 33,733 | - | - | - | |
| HOME/ARP Administration | - | 91,552 | 91,553 | 91,553 | 0.0% |
| HOME/ARP Programming | - | 539,430 | 539,430 | 539,430 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 53,569 | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 19,836 | 54,227 | 49,582 | 46,109 | -15.0% |
| Internal Services | - | 5,750 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Contractual | - | 571,005 | 581,401 | 584,874 | 2.4% |
| Commodities | - | - | - | - | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 33,733 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 53,569 | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| CDBG CARES Act Funds | - | - | - | - | |
| IEDA State Funds | 53,569 | - | - | - | |
| HOME Amer. Rescue Plan | - | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 53,569 | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |

# Housing CARES/American Rescue Plan

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Diverse housing options for the community** | **IEDA/CARES:** Utilize IEDA/CARES (COVID-19) to assist Human Services and daycares to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic for: 1. housing/shelter/food needs for low and moderate-income households and individuals 2. economic opportunities for local nonprofit organizations<br>**HOME-ARP:** To address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic through providing housing, services and shelter for homelessness and other vulnerable populations<br>**IEDA/CARES/HOME-ARP:** Administer the State CARES/HOME ARP programs in compliance with federal regulations | Human service agencies assisted | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Daycares assisted | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Acquisition of non-congregate shelter | n/a | n/a | TBD | TBD |
| | | Demonstrate compliance with HUD/State of Iowa monitoring of program | n/a | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Program audit meets federal and state compliance standards | n/a | Yes | Yes | Yes |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The IEDA/CARES (COVID-19) Program was completed and closed out in FY 2023/24.
- HOME-ARP funding of $1,261,966 has been carried over from FY 2023/24. The funding will be split over FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26, with $630,983 budgeted each year. Of each annual amount, $91,553 will be used for administration and $539,430 will be available for programming.

## In-Progress Activities

- In 2022 City Council elected to choose acquisition of non-congregate shelter housing with the HOME- ARP funding. The City is preparing program guidelines for City Council review and approval for spring of 2025.

## Upcoming Activities

- The City will seek to solicit applications for funding once the program guidelines are approved.

# Human Services

## Description:

The Human Services activity accounts for the allocations which are made by the City Council to human service providers in the Ames community. These allocations are made in collaboration with Story County, Iowa State University Student Government, and United Way of Story County, through the Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team (ASSET). The two main purposes of ASSET are to 1) recommend funding levels for each funder to purchase services from agencies, and 2) to coordinate the provision of human services in Story County.

The services provided by ASSET agencies are divided into the categories of Education, Financial Stability, and Health. Volunteers are appointed by each funder to analyze agency funding requests, conduct agency site visits, review agency outcomes reports, and make funding recommendations. The governing bodies of each funder (including the City Council) jointly set the administrative policies and direction used to coordinate the funding process. A portion of one of the Assistant City Manager positions is allocated to this activity (12%).

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Administration | 14,555 | 32,438 | 31,550 | 33,169 | 2.3% |
| Homelessness Conversations | - | - | 24,000 | - | |
| Human Services Funding | 1,775,926 | 1,924,578 | 1,912,578 | 2,020,807 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,790,481 | 1,957,016 | 1,968,128 | 2,053,976 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 10,991 | 23,541 | 22,653 | 23,957 | 1.8% |
| Internal Services | 61 | 97 | 97 | 148 | 52.6% |
| Contractual | 3,503 | 8,800 | 32,800 | 9,064 | 3.0% |
| Commodities | - | - | - | - | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 1,775,926 | 1,924,578 | 1,912,578 | 2,020,807 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,790,481 | 1,957,016 | 1,968,128 | 2,053,976 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Story County | - | - | 12,000 | - | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 1,790,481 | 1,957,016 | 1,956,128 | 2,053,976 | 5.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 1,790,481 | 1,957,016 | 1,968,128 | 2,053,976 | 5.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.12 | |

# Human Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Strengthen human services | Agencies receiving City funds | 25 | 25 | 25 | 26 |
| | | Increase from prior year's approved funding | 8% | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| | | Council-authorized funding recommended by volunteers | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | Allocated funds drawn down by agencies | 94% | 96% | 100% | 100% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- For FY 2025/26, the City Council has authorized a 5% increase in ASSET funding for a total of $2,020,807. The 5% increase ($96,229), however, is designated towards coordinating and working with ASSET agencies to ensure efficiency of service delivery and focusing on preventing and assisting unsheltered individuals.
- For FY2025/26, the City Council also authorized a 3% increase for ASSET administrative costs for a total of $9,064.
- The majority of the authorized funding is allocated to individual human service agencies that apply for funding through the ASSET process. Occasionally, an amount may be recommended by the ASSET volunteers to be held in reserve for additional needs that arise after the allocations have been made to the individual agencies.

## In-Progress Activities

- The ASSET volunteers met in January 2025 to make FY 2025/26 funding recommendations for ASSET agencies.

## Human Service Agencies Receiving City Local Option Tax Funding Through the Asset Process

| *Agency:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ACCESS | 124,121 | 135,824 | 135,824 | 143,601 | 5.7% |
| ACPC | 155,499 | 166,482 | 166,482 | 121,590 | -27.0% |
| All Aboard For Kids | 11,239 | 11,891 | 11,891 | 16,587 | 39.5% |
| American Red Cross | - | 9,933 | 9,933 | 2,500 | -74.8% |
| ARC of Story County | 11,200 | 11,400 | 11,400 | 11,400 | 0.0% |
| Boys & Girls Club | 123,218 | 126,093 | 126,093 | 130,553 | 3.5% |
| Bridge Home | 117,851 | - | - | - | |
| Camp Fire | 4,990 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0.0% |
| Center for Creative Justice | 67,450 | 70,823 | 70,823 | 74,365 | 5.0% |
| ChildServe | 20,602 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 30,800 | 27.3% |
| Community Academy | 5,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 16,500 | 65.0% |
| Good Neighbor | 35,500 | 47,800 | 47,800 | 54,369 | 13.7% |
| Heartland of Story County | 207,193 | 222,368 | 222,368 | 222,368 | 0.0% |
| HIRTA | 47,921 | 49,359 | 49,359 | 49,359 | |
| Legal Aid | 138,704 | 149,800 | 149,800 | 160,000 | 6.8% |
| Lutheran Services in Iowa | - | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0.0% |
| MGMC Home Health Services | 34,178 | 34,178 | 34,178 | 34,178 | 0.0% |
| MICA | 28,000 | 33,000 | 33,000 | 35,000 | 6.1% |
| NAMI | 22,037 | 27,550 | 27,550 | 27,550 | 0.0% |
| Prairie Flower | - | - | - | 15,300 | |
| Primary Health Care | 80,000 | 88,382 | 88,382 | 95,388 | 7.9% |
| Raising Readers | 30,023 | 36,838 | 36,838 | 37,808 | 2.6% |
| RSVP | 35,500 | 37,150 | 37,150 | 37,350 | 0.5% |
| The Salvation Army | 106,998 | 80,200 | 180,200 | 217,200 | 170.8% |
| University Community Childcare | 94,772 | 104,250 | 104,250 | 114,675 | 10.0% |
| Welch Avenue Apartments | 25,000 | - | - | - | |
| YWCA | 4,366 | 4,366 | 4,366 | - | -100.0% |
| YSS | 244,564 | 291,112 | 291,112 | 224,893 | -22.8% |
| ***Total Agency Allocations*** | 1,775,926 | 1,780,999 | 1,880,999 | 1,881,334 | 5.6% |
| | | | | | |
| Unallocated Funding Reserve | - | 143,579 | 31,579 | 139,473 | -2.9% |
| ***Total Allocations*** | 1,775,926 | 1,924,578 | 1,912,578 | 2,020,807 | 5.0% |

# Community Development CIP

## Description:

This is a summary of the Community Development capital improvements which are detailed in the City of Ames five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Community Development:*** | | | | | |
| Downtown Façade Program | - | 75,000 | 288,001 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| Campustown Façade Program | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| Neighborhood Improvement Program | 240 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| *Total Community Development CIP* | 240 | 175,000 | 388,001 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Community Development CIP*** | 240 | 175,000 | 388,001 | 175,000 | 0.0% |

**Community Development ($175,000)**

The ***Downtown Façade Improvement Program*** is the City's annual program to provide financial incentives for façade improvements consistent with the historic character of Downtown Ames. The program, which was introduced in FY 2001/02, provides up to $23,000 in grant funds to downtown business owners. The grants are matched by building owners for such exterior elements as upper façade restorations, display windows, entrances, signs, and awnings. The annual allocation to this program is $75,000, with 56 grants awarded over the life of the program.

The ***Campustown Façade Improvement Program*** provides financial incentives to enhance the appearance and use of existing buildings with commercial uses in the Campustown district. The program is designed to encourage and maintain the eclectic culture and "uniqueness" of Campustown, to increase safety and security, to promote investment by property and business owners, and to add to the vitality of Campustown. Funding of $50,000 is allocated annually to this program.

The ***Neighborhood Improvement Program*** was designed to enhance the appearance of City neighborhoods with the addition of permanent physical improvements and to promote a greater sense of community through resident participation in neighborhood projects. The program provides neighborhood grants to help residents accomplish those projects that they have identified as top priorities for their neighborhoods. Neighborhood residents are expected to provide a local match for the grants in the form of money, materials, and/or labor. Since the program was initiated in FY 1996/97, 126 projects have been funded, including such diverse projects as tree plantings, playground equipment, basketball courts, and prairie and pond restorations. The annual allocation to this program is $50,000.

# GENERAL GOVERNMENT





PATIO HOMES WEST PARK
45 YEARS
1979-2024



2010-2025
FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER
15 YEARS

PALEY PARK AND GREENBELT
30 YEARS
1994-2024





CITY OF ames™

# General Government Program

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# General Government Summary

## Description:

The General Government program is comprised of leadership, management, and support activities for all City of Ames departments. These activities give direction and necessary background assistance to the City's "frontline" services.

The General Government program includes the following activities: City Council, which includes the legislative and policy-making leadership provided by the Mayor and City Council as well as special allocations made by Council and the oversight of a Council Contingency Fund, City Clerk who records and maintains the records of the City Council and various appointed commissions and committees; and City Manager who provides day-to-day administration and coordination of all the City's service programs. The remainder of this program includes a wide array of support services, including Communications and Outreach, Financial Services, Legal Services, and Human Resources. General Government CIP projects are also included in this program.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| City Council | 654,973 | 577,611 | 771,116 | 609,033 | 5.4% |
| City Clerk | 277,713 | 292,545 | 300,768 | 312,095 | 6.7% |
| City Manager | 470,043 | 596,254 | 695,048 | 611,789 | 2.6% |
| Communications/Outreach | 325,413 | 510,054 | 374,681 | 400,852 | -21.4% |
| Financial Services | 527,364 | 700,309 | 690,974 | 596,981 | -14.8% |
| Legal Services | 542,622 | 580,797 | 579,686 | 609,546 | 5.0% |
| Human Resources | 352,252 | 413,535 | 492,240 | 493,804 | 19.4% |
| Facilities | 440,573 | 386,107 | 553,334 | 410,591 | 6.3% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 3,590,953 | 4,057,212 | 4,457,847 | 4,044,691 | -0.3% |
| | | | | | |
| General Government CIP | 179,868 | 75,000 | 2,141,597 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 3,770,821 | 4,132,212 | 6,599,444 | 4,119,691 | -0.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 47.37 | 47.87 | 48.87 | 48.87 | |

# General Government Summary

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 5,379,687 | 6,279,456 | 6,205,879 | 6,669,854 | 6.2% |
| Internal Services | 631,557 | 634,844 | 644,913 | 625,237 | -1.5% |
| Contractual | 931,755 | 977,384 | 1,432,523 | 1,038,911 | 6.3% |
| Commodities | 197,275 | 127,915 | 143,765 | 138,141 | 8.0% |
| Capital | 27,300 | - | 159,269 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 420,725 | 380,535 | 510,520 | 382,487 | 0.5% |
| Allocations to Other Programs | (3,997,346) | (4,342,922) | (4,639,022) | (4,824,939) | 11.1% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 3,590,953 | 4,057,212 | 4,457,847 | 4,029,691 | -0.7% |
| General Government CIP | 179,868 | 75,000 | 2,141,597 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 3,770,821 | 4,132,212 | 6,599,444 | 4,104,691 | -0.7% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Program Revenue | 217,312 | 411,694 | 172,897 | 173,599 | -57.8% |
| General Fund | 2,916,576 | 3,309,365 | 3,877,001 | 3,516,602 | 6.3% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 291,830 | 312,035 | 316,485 | 329,907 | 5.7% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 157,662 | 15,000 | 82,338 | 15,000 | 0.0% |
| G.O. Bond Funds | 7,573 | 9,118 | 9,126 | 9,583 | 5.1% |
| ***Total Operations Funding*** | 3,590,953 | 4,057,212 | 4,457,847 | 4,044,691 | -0.3% |
| ***CIP Funding:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 118,767 | - | 1,320,528 | - | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 61,101 | 75,000 | 288,988 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| American Rescue Plan | - | - | 200,000 | - | |
| Council Priorities Fund | - | - | 332,081 | - | |
| ***Total CIP Funding*** | 179,868 | 75,000 | 2,141,597 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 3,770,821 | 4,132,212 | 6,599,444 | 4,119,691 | -0.3% |

# City Council

## Description:

The City Council is the legislative and policymaking body of the City of Ames municipal government. The Mayor and two City Council members are elected at-large, while the four remaining Council members are elected from their respective wards. An Iowa State University student also serves as a non-voting ex officio member of the City Council to represent student interests in various City processes and projects. Major responsibilities of the City Council include enacting City ordinances and policies, setting property tax levels, approving City service levels with the related budgets needed to support those services, and directing community development efforts for the City of Ames. The Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, appoints members to serve on various policymaking and advisory boards and commissions. Regular City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, with special meetings and work sessions scheduled as needed.

City Council Contingency is an annual appropriation to allow the City Council to respond to opportunities or special requests which occur after the budget has been approved. Funding of $50,000 in allocated annually, with unspent amounts carried forward at the end of each fiscal year, as necessary. Additional funding can also be added at budget amendment time if needed.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| City Council | 181,539 | 198,506 | 207,758 | 214,126 | 7.9% |
| Human Relations | 3,490 | 2,070 | 7,450 | 5,420 | 161.8% |
| City Council Contingency | 20,452 | 50,000 | 164,535 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 205,481 | 250,576 | 379,743 | 269,546 | 7.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 78,168 | 78,168 | 78,169 | 78,169 | 0.0% |
| Internal Services | 30,251 | 33,240 | 35,326 | 40,119 | 20.7% |
| Contractual | 67,449 | 56,648 | 79,463 | 65,463 | 15.6% |
| Commodities | 20,825 | 28,520 | 30,300 | 27,795 | -2.5% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 8,788 | 54,000 | 156,485 | 58,000 | 7.4% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 205,481 | 250,576 | 379,743 | 269,546 | 7.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 201,793 | 249,876 | 372,293 | 264,126 | 5.7% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | - | - | 7,450 | 5,420 | |
| Donations | 2,000 | 700 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 1,688 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 205,481 | 250,576 | 379,743 | 269,546 | 7.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |

# City Council

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Enhance opportunities for everyone to thrive by fostering a culture that embraces creativity and innovation | Expenditures/capita* | $3,516 | $3,604 | $5,809 | $4,678 |
| | | Property tax rate/$1,000 valuation | $9.83 | $10.20 | $10.09 | $10.26 |
| | | General levy rate/$1,000 valuation | $5.51 | $6.34 | $6.22 | $6.34 |
| | | Total outstanding debt per capita | $940 | $1,009 | $1,117 | $1,175 |
| | | Ordinances adopted | 32 | 31 | 31 | 31 |
| | | Resolutions passed | 680 | 643 | 643 | 645 |
| | | City Council goal-setting tasks completed** | CY 2022: 60% | CY 2024: 47% | CY 2025: 80% | CY: 2026 100% |
| | | Mayoral Proclamations issued | 24 | 22 | 22 | 23 |
| **Communication and engagement with the public** | Increase public feedback | Number of individual speakers providing input at regular Council meetings | 68 | 90 | 90 | 90 |

*Before transfers
**By Calendar Year (CY)

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- For many years, the Ames Human Relations Commission (AHRC) has had funding for its operations in the City Council budget and funding for special events in the City Council Special Allocations budget. To make the budget easier for the AHRC to manage, the two budgets have been combined in the City Council budget for both the Adjusted FY 2024/25 Budget and the FY 2025/26 Budget. The funding source for the combined program will be Local Option Sales Tax.
- Recent state law changes regarding property tax collection have made preparing the budget more difficult.
- The City Council held a mid-point goal review session on January 11, 2025.
- Ames families hosted approximately 20 Japanese students from Oct. 13 – 18, 2024 as part of the Ames International Partner Cities Association youth exchange program. The students visited Ames City Hall, downtown Ames, Ames Public Library, Ames Fire Station No. 1, and Iowa State University campus as well as Center Grove Orchard.

## In-Progress Activities

- The City Council is providing direction regarding several major initiatives, including the Animal Control Shelter, indoor or outdoor recreational spaces, Climate Action Plan, the community-wide plan to address homelessness, and projects affecting the City's utilities.
- The City Council continues to use nontraditional methods to engage with underrepresented community members.

# City Council Special Allocations

## Description:

City Council Special Allocations includes the Outside Funding Request Program, which allocates funding to various community groups. Applications are made to a committee which includes City staff and residents, who then make funding recommendations to City Council as part of the budget process.

Also included in this activity is funding provided to the Ames Human Relations Commission for special projects or events, and the funding for the City's share of the Sustainability Coordinator, a position shared with Iowa State University. The City's share of this position is funded through four of the City's utility funds.

| *Expenditures by Activity:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Council Grant Program:*** | | | | | |
| American Legion Riders | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 3,000 | 20.0% |
| Ames Historical Society | 50,752 | 56,000 | 56,000 | 59,500 | 6.3% |
| Ames Int'l Partner Cities | 5,800 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 0.0% |
| Ames Main Street | 53,000 | 54,000 | 54,000 | 55,500 | 2.8% |
| Campustown (Ames Chamber) | 42,000 | 43,000 | 43,000 | 43,000 | 0.0% |
| Downtown Farmer's Market | 10,000 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 12,000 | 9.1% |
| Hunziker Youth Sports Complex | 84,000 | 89,035 | 89,035 | 94,250 | 5.9% |
| Story County Housing Trust | 40,778 | 45,500 | 45,500 | 49,237 | 8.2% |
| ***Council Grant Program Total*** | 288,830 | 309,035 | 309,035 | 324,487 | 5.0% |
| Ames History Museum | 105,000 | - | 30,000 | - | |
| City Website Update | 37,662 | - | 37,338 | - | |
| AREA/Workforce Development | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 0.0% |
| AHRC Special Events | 3,000 | 3,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 449,492 | 327,035 | 391,373 | 339,487 | 3.8% |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | - | - | - | - | |
| Internal Services | - | - | - | - | |
| Contractual | 37,662 | 500 | 37,338 | - | -100.0% |
| Commodities | - | - | - | - | |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 411,830 | 326,535 | 354,035 | 324,487 | -0.6% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 449,492 | 327,035 | 391,373 | 324,487 | -0.8% |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 291,830 | 312,035 | 309,035 | 324,487 | 4.0% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 157,662 | 15,000 | 82,338 | 15,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 449,492 | 327,035 | 391,373 | 339,487 | 3.8% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |

# City Council Special Allocations

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Promote and support activities that have a broad-based appeal to the Ames community | Outside Funding Request applications | 8 | 10 | 9 | 11 |
| | | Applicants awarded grant funding | 8 | 10 | 9 | |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- For FY 2024/25, contracts totaling $309,035 were awarded from Local Option Sales Tax funds. An additional $10,000 was allocated in Hotel/Motel Tax funds to be available to reimburse the Parking Fund in instances where an organization wishes to hold an event where parking fees are waived district-wide. When approved by the City Council, the parking reimbursement funds are transferred internally to the Parking Fund to make up for the lost Parking Fund revenue.
- In addition to the outside funding requests financed from the Local Option Sales Tax Fund, $15,000 was allocated in FY 2024/25 in the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund for workforce initiatives undertaken by the Ames Regional Economic Alliance.

## In-Progress Activities

- Contracts with each agency are prepared in the spring after the allocation amounts are established. Each contract describes the specific scope of services to be delivered by each agency receiving funds.

# City Clerk

## Description:

The City Clerk activity records and maintains proceedings of the City Council. This activity also prepares agendas, takes meeting minutes, publishes proceedings and claims, certifies legal assessments, issues cemetery deeds and fifteen types of permits and licenses, maintains the City's official documents, and provides public information and notification on various items. A portion of City Clerk expenditures are allocated to Electric Services (10%) and Water and Pollution Control (10%). The balance of City Clerk expenditures remains in the General Fund.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| City Clerk | 337,045 | 365,681 | 375,960 | 380,117 | 4.0% |
| Elections | 9,911 | - | - | 10,000 | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 346,956 | 365,681 | 375,960 | 390,117 | 6.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 274,027 | 290,260 | 290,968 | 307,348 | 5.9% |
| Internal Services | 23,648 | 23,096 | 24,067 | 20,894 | -9.5% |
| Contractual | 47,822 | 50,825 | 59,425 | 60,375 | 18.8% |
| Commodities | 1,459 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 346,956 | 365,681 | 375,960 | 390,117 | 6.7% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (69,243) | (73,136) | (75,192) | (78,022) | 6.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated City Manager Expenditures*** | 277,713 | 292,545 | 300,768 | 312,095 | 6.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Licenses and Permits | 109,654 | 81,800 | 81,600 | 81,600 | -0.2% |
| General Fund | 168,059 | 210,745 | 219,168 | 230,495 | 9.4% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 277,713 | 292,545 | 300,768 | 312,095 | 6.7% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 3.50 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | |

# City Clerk

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide support for City Council and the City Manager's Office, and act as the official record keeper for all City documents and records in an accurate and fiscally responsible manner | City Council minutes published within timeframe prescribed by Code of Iowa | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | Meetings reported | 43 | 53 | 60 | 65 |
| | | Resolutions finalized | 673 | 779 | 790 | 800 |
| | | Legal notices published | 224 | 232 | 240 | 250 |
| | | Documents recorded | 93 | 98 | 125 | 150 |
| | | Council action summaries | 123 | 212 | 220 | 225 |
| | | Licenses/ permits processed | 547 | 505 | 550 | 600 |
| | | Open records requests processed | 63 | 65 | 90 | 100 |
| | | Cemetery deeds issued | 64 | 94 | 85 | 90 |
| | | Notary services provided | N/A | N/A | N/A | 200 |
| | | Election petitions accepted | 8 | 0 | 0 | 6 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Clerk's Office is transitioning the records management software from File Management System (FMS) to Laserfiche, currently utilized by several City departments.
- Staff is evaluating the existing permits and fees for relevance and appropriateness.
- There are regular City Council elections in 2025, resulting in an increase in election expenses.

## In-Progress Activities

- City Council approved the updated Record Retention Manual in December 2024 with an effective date of January 1, 2025. The current schedule had not been updated since 2014. The City has adopted the schedule produced by the Iowa League of Cities, which considers requirements of the Code of Iowa, the Iowa Administrative Code and Federal Law.
- City Clerk staff continues to embrace the Excellence Through People value of employee involvement by assisting at events such as Rummage RAMPage and by having a representative on the Employee Council, Employee Care Fund, Wellness Committee and the Website Improvement Committee.

## Upcoming Activities

- The Clerk's Office will be focusing on finding an alternative solution for Docuware, an outdated computer system that currently stores documents from 1963–2010. Most documents housed in the system are Zoning Board of Adjustments documents. Docuware is currently housed on one computer in IT, and staff is investigating the scope and cost of this significant project.

# City Manager

## Description:

It is the responsibility of the City Manager's Office to provide the overall administrative direction for the City organization in accordance with policies established by the City Council. Other responsibilities of this activity are ensuring that City operations are conducted economically, efficiently, and effectively, and that City Council and citizen concerns are addressed. The City Manager champions "Excellence Through People", the mindset and values that guide employee service throughout the organization. The City Manager's Office also develops recommendations to the City Council for changes in programs, operations, and policies. In addition, this activity presents, reviews, and monitors the annual operating budget and Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) program for the City. A portion of overall City Manager expenditures is allocated to Electric Services (22%) and Water and Pollution Control (22.8%). A portion of the City Manager's position (10%) is also charged directly to the Economic Development activity and a portion of one of the Assistant City Manager positions (12%) is allocated directly to Human Services.

The City Manager's Office also oversees the Engagement activity for the City. This activity, which provides services to all City departments, is allocated to various programs and activities based on the number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) in each activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| City Manager | 713,115 | 910,814 | 883,625 | 947,590 | 4.0% |
| Employee Council | 8,645 | 9,000 | 9,500 | 9,500 | 5.6% |
| Community Engagement | 123,773 | 126,876 | 132,331 | 139,342 | 9.8% |
| Engagement Training | - | 25,000 | 50,000 | - | -100.0% |
| Community Engagement Plan | - | - | 100,000 | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 845,533 | 1,071,690 | 1,175,456 | 1,096,432 | 2.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 740,039 | 962,514 | 928,528 | 1,010,750 | 5.0% |
| Internal Services | 41,948 | 43,416 | 44,857 | 44,151 | 1.7% |
| Contractual | 52,812 | 54,460 | 190,071 | 29,531 | -45.8% |
| Commodities | 10,734 | 11,300 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 6.2% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 845,533 | 1,071,690 | 1,175,456 | 1,096,432 | 2.3% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (375,490) | (475,436) | (480,408) | (484,643) | 1.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated City Manager Expenditures*** | 470,043 | 596,254 | 695,048 | 611,789 | 2.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| City Assessor | 1,584 | 1,762 | 2,115 | 1,616 | -8.3% |
| General Fund | 468,459 | 594,492 | 692,933 | 610,173 | 2.6% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 470,043 | 596,254 | 695,048 | 611,789 | 2.6% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.53 | 5.53 | 5.53 | 5.53 | |

# City Manager

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide overall leadership and direction for the city organization so that the community needs, and desires are met, City Council policies are implemented, and City Council goals are accomplished | Respondents rating quality of City services as "very good" or "good" | 97% | 98% | 98% | 98% |
| | | Council referrals to City staff | 123 | 147 | 147 | 148 |
| | | Referrals to City Manager's Office | 11% | 22% | 22% | 22% |
| | | Referrals to Planning & Housing | 50% | 28% | 28% | 29% |
| | | Referrals to Public Works | 17% | 22% | 22% | 22% |
| | | Referrals to other City departments | 22% | 27% | 28% | 27% |
| | | Union contracts negotiated | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| **We value a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community** | Create a community where everyone has opportunities to discover and thrive | Respondents who agree with "I am knowledgeable about the issues facing my community" | 50% | 79% | 79% | 80% |
| | | Respondents who agree with "I feel I belong at this town" | 71% | 92% | 80% | 82% |
| | | Respondents who agree with "I feel valued as an individual in the Ames community" | 61% | 86% | 70% | 87% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Sustainability Coordinator position was filled in July 2024 and work has begun to regularly track and report the progress of the Climate Action Plan and other sustainable activities. Staff have applied for several federal grants to assist with sustainable efforts in FY 2024/25.
- Funding from the FY 2023/24 adjusted budget ($100,000) has been carried over into FY 2024/25 for the community-wide engagement. Staff continue to focus on building relationships with historically underrepresented communities to ensure greater community participation in civic engagement.
- The Management Analyst position is anticipated to be filled in FY 2024/25. The vacancy has resulted in savings in personal services expenses in the adjusted budget. The Management Analyst, once hired, will focus on projects in various departments and seeking grants and other outside funding opportunities for City activities.

## In-Progress Activities

- Following the FY 2023/24 initiative to utilize an Assistant City Manager as a dedicated facilitator for the Development Review Committee (DRC) process, staff will be transitioning to a rotation of department heads to assist in DRC facilitation. These facilitators assist development customers with the steps necessary to make their project occur successfully. Additionally, the facilitators will identify opportunities for process improvements and will emphasize the mission and purpose of the DRC.
- The City Manager's Office continues to work with the Linc project developer to accomplish a successful development. Additionally, staff is coordinating responses to industrial prospects for the Prairie View Industrial Center regarding utilities and other infrastructure.
- City Manager's Office staff is coordinating with Resource Recovery (Public Works) to develop options for converting the Resource Recovery System to a transfer station model. This includes discussions with potential landfill and recycling partners, evaluating sites, and reviewing regulations and financing.

# Communications and Outreach

**Description:**

The purpose of the Communications and Outreach activity is to promote a positive identity for the City of Ames, provide information about local government to citizens, and promote City programs and services. Information is channeled through the City of Ames website, social media, City Side (the utility bill insert), email, and press releases to radio, television, newspapers, and other media outlets. The Communications and Outreach activity also includes Media Production Services, which provides live coverage on the Government Access Channel (12) of Ames City Council and other select boards and commissions meetings, as well as developing original programming to promote the City of Ames government in an enlightening and engaging manner. Printing and Graphics Services designs and prints publications, flyers, signs, and brochures which are used to educate the public. A portion of Communication and Outreach expenses are allocated to other programs and activities using the services.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Communications/Outreach | 232,584 | 358,492 | 318,400 | 350,394 | -2.3% |
| Media Production Services | 208,185 | 225,109 | 230,401 | 242,174 | 7.6% |
| Printing/Graphics Services | 128,733 | 123,623 | 130,749 | 139,877 | 13.2% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 569,502 | 707,224 | 679,550 | 732,445 | 3.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 420,917 | 555,892 | 514,471 | 550,016 | -1.1% |
| Internal Services | 63,528 | 60,690 | 61,353 | 68,695 | 13.2% |
| Contractual | 59,508 | 75,202 | 81,326 | 90,934 | 20.9% |
| Commodities | 25,549 | 15,440 | 22,400 | 22,800 | 47.7% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenditure Subtotal*** | 569,502 | 707,224 | 679,550 | 732,445 | 3.6% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (244,089) | (197,170) | (304,869) | (331,593) | 68.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Comm/ Outreach Expenditures*** | 325,413 | 510,054 | 374,681 | 400,852 | -21.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Departmental Charges | - | 123,623 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Outside Printing Revenue | 936 | - | 1,000 | 1,000 | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 358 | - | - | | |
| General Fund | 324,119 | 386,431 | 373,681 | 399,852 | 3.5% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 325,413 | 510,054 | 374,681 | 400,852 | -21.4% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 3.25 | 4.25 | 4.25 | 4.25 | |

# Communications and Outreach

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide relevant, accurate, and timely information in multiple formats about City programs, services, policies, and projects that educate citizens and encourage participation. | Press releases distributed | 235 | 238 | 240 | 245 |
| | | City events/recognitions | 8 | 8 | 6 | 8 |
| | | Facebook followers | 14,303 | 15,355 | 16,468 | 16,750 |
| | | Facebook posts views from main City of Ames page | 466,531 | 876,050 | 900,000 | 925,000 |
| | | Twitter followers | 11,616 | 11,322 | 11,283 | 11,500 |
| | | Instagram followers | 3,244 | 3,686 | 4,284 | 4,500 |
| | | Instagram posts views from main City of Ames page | 19,379 | 51,592 | 60,000 | 65,000 |
| | | Threads | N/A | 438 | 792 | 900 |
| | | Rating of website as a news source* | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 2.4 |
| | | Rating of Facebook as a news source* | N/A | N/A | 2.6 | 2.5 |
| | | Rating of Instagram as a news source* | N/A | N/A | 2.3 | 2.4 |
| | | Rating of the CitySide utility bill insert as a news source* | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 |
| **Communication and engagement with the public** | | Divisions/departments assisted with printing and graphics | N/A | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| | | Logos created | N/A | 8 | 8 | 10 |
| | | Social media graphics created | N/A | 72 | 72 | 80 |
| | | Construction notices printed | N/A | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| | | Postcards/direct mail distributed | N/A | 9 | 9 | 10 |
| | | Live meetings broadcast | 113 | 99 | 120 | 120 |
| | Promote City programs and services in a compelling and engaging manner. | Original media production services videos | 204 | 374 | 385 | 400 |
| | | Live/archive meeting online views (Granicus total page views) | 156 | 1,969 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| | | Original program YouTube views | 154,562 | 396,225 | 425,000 | 500,000 |

*Data per the most recent Resident Satisfaction Survey (3 = very useful; 2 = somewhat useful; 1 = not useful)

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- On July 1, 2024, Public Relations, Media Production Services, and Printing and Graphics Services were combined into the new Communications and Outreach division. The cost of Communications and Printing and Graphics Services is allocated to the programs and activities using the services, while Media Production Services will continue to be funded by the General Fund. Since Printing and Graphics Services was classified as an internal service in the Adopted FY 2024/25 budget, the funding source was shown as departmental revenue instead of as an expense allocation to other departments. The change has been made to an allocation in the Adjusted FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 budgets.
- A new Communications Specialist position was created and filled in July 2024. This new FTE supports the merged Communication and Outreach division and focuses specifically on social media and the City website. This FTE was added in the FY 2024/25 Adopted Budget, using an estimated salary and insurance costs. The actual cost of the filled position is lower, resulting in a 1.1% decrease in personal service costs for FY 2025/26.
- Closed captioning services are being researched for all videos on all platforms (including live meetings). These actions are required by the Federal Communications Commission for all broadcast stations beginning September 16, 2024. Stations have until August 17, 2026, to become compliant. Additionally, the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires government digital communications to be compliant by April of 2026.

# Communications and Outreach

### Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets, continued

- Additional software packages for design/editing will be purchased to comply with software subscription policies. Media Production staff members (including part-time videographers) and the new Communication Specialist require licenses.
- Printing services will no longer be tracked and billed, which could create some fluctuations in expenses as a service for all departments and divisions.

### In-Progress Activities

- The Website Improvement Team, led by Communications and Outreach in partnership with Information Technology, continues to work with vendor Granicus on a new backend content management system and redesigned website. The new site is expected to launch in spring 2025, and 70 web administrators will be trained to use it. The website will integrate the City Clerk's new PEAK agenda system, as well as feature a new e-notification system, forms capability, mobile-friendly design, and intuitive navigation. The new content management system will be WCAG (Website Content and Accessibility Guidelines) compliant at the required Website A level.
- New video programs, shorts, and reels are being developed specifically for posting to social media. Staff is currently producing The Ames Minute, Belonging in Ames, Jobs at COA, Animals in Ames, and Twelve to Try. Staff is in the early stages of developing materials for Meet City Staff, The More You Know Ames, How May I Assist?, and Public Safety Ames.
- Podcasting equipment has been purchased and assembled. Four different work groups have met to begin working on podcasts. Those include Community Engagement, Police Mental Health Advocate, Human Resources, and a general City of Ames podcast.
- The Communications and Outreach team provides organization-wide oversite of City departments to ensure compliance with the Visual Standards Guide, maintaining a professional reputation, and ensuring compliance with ADA guidelines.




**Examples of social media graphics placed on City platforms.**

# Communications and Outreach

## Upcoming Activities

- The expanded Communications and Outreach team is now better prepared for emergency communications. Previous emergency events have required several days of emergency outreach. Having more City staff trained in these emergency outreach roles provides a better community response. Additionally, a larger team allows a more strategic approach to both future communications as well as day-to-day organizational needs.
- The division will continue working with departments to strategically message and use a variety of communications tools. There will be increased emphasis on visual communication and videos through social media posts on Threads, Facebook, Instagram, X, NextDoor, LinkedIn, and YouTube.
- Staff is working with Fleet and Facilities to improve the Council Chambers to promote a better live meeting experience and ease-of-use equipment for broadcasting live meetings.
- Staff will be going into the video archives to create closed captions for previously released videos that are still in circulation. This project will be time-consuming but will be a benefit to viewers of those programs still available on Ames Television and YouTube.
- Printing and Graphics Services continues to analyze hard copy printing requests to look for more sustainable ways to provide services. Options include exploring digital options, outsourcing, and web-based solutions.
- Communications and Outreach continues to explore ways to connect with hard-to-reach and diverse audiences.




**Examples of waste reduction messaging.**

# Administrative Support Services

## Description:

The Administrative Support Services activity provides administrative support for the Fire Administration, Building Safety, Public Works Administration, City-Wide Housing, and Planning Services activities. This support includes being the first point of contact for customers, processing building permit applications, providing support for various board and commission meetings, distributing plans and specifications for City projects, and scheduling building and rental housing inspections.

The cost of the Administrative Support Services activity is allocated to the various activities it supports on a percentage basis determined by the workload associated with each activity.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 387,989 | 498,823 | 467,525 | 502,406 | 0.7% |
| Internal Services | 17,843 | 18,809 | 18,917 | 18,061 | -4.0% |
| Contractual | 2,901 | 3,500 | 5,083 | 1,500 | -57.1% |
| Commodities | 7,931 | 1,400 | 1,800 | 1,550 | 10.7% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 416,664 | 522,532 | 493,325 | 523,517 | 0.2% |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | | | | | |
| Fire Administration | (34,583) | (43,370) | (40,945) | (43,452) | 0.2% |
| Building Safety | (79,166) | (99,281) | (93,732) | (99,468) | 0.2% |
| Rental Housing | (66,666) | (83,605) | (78,932) | (83,763) | 0.2% |
| Public Works Administration | (152,916) | (191,769) | (181,050) | (192,131) | 0.2% |
| City-Wide Housing | (75,000) | (94,056) | (88,799) | (94,233) | 0.2% |
| Planning Services | (8,333) | (10,451) | (9,867) | (10,470) | 0.2% |
| ***Total Allocations*** | (416,664) | (522,532) | (493,325) | (523,517) | 0.2% |
| ***Total Unallocated Admin Services Expenditures*** | - | - | - | - | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | |

# Administrative Support Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Building Safety support | Building and trade permits processed | 4,066 | 3,822 | 3,750 | 3,800 |
| | | Permit expiration emails sent | 565 | 757 | 675 | 700 |
| | | Building and trade inspections scheduled | 6,826 | 6,405 | 5,500 | 5,750 |
| | | Code cases processed | 639 | 972 | 2,100 | 2,000 |
| | | Rental inspections scheduled | 3,588 | 3,484 | 3,888 | 3,600 |
| | | Rental advance billing notices | 1,300 | 1,325 | 1,400 | 1,450 |
| | | New rental registrations | 80 | 111 | 116 | 100 |
| | Public Works support | Ames issues being acknowledged by division via mobile application | 1,995 | 1,560 | 2,184 | 2,100 |
| | | Driveway/curb cut applications processed | 64 | 97 | 175 | 150 |
| | | Parking waivers processed | 89 | 55 | 64 | 60 |
| | | Parking permits issued | 495 | 208 | 3,500 | 200 |
| | | Late permit payment notices distributed | 60 | 54 | 48 | 50 |
| | | Meter hood rentals processed | 45 | 69 | 280 | 175 |
| | | Bid letting projects entered | 20 | 17 | 20 | 18 |
| | | Construction website updates | | 316 | 336 | 325 |
| | | Public notices mailed out | 3,940 | 1,990 | 2,200 | 2,000 |
| | Planning support | Development Review Committee (DRC) cases distributed | 131 | 135 | 168 | 150 |
| | | Other Planning cases distributed* | 95 | 89 | 160 | 125 |
| | | Board/commission meetings staffed** | 51 | 37 | 40 | 45 |

*Final plats, flood plain permits, Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA), etc.
** ZBA, Planning and Zoning, and Historic Preservation Commission

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The budget for personal services has an increase of only .7% in FY 2025/26 due to the filling of a vacancy in the division. The position was open when the budget was adopted for FY 2024/25. Open positions are normally budgeted at the salary mid-point for the position and with the most expensive family insurance plan offered by the City. The actual cost of the filled position often comes in lower, resulting in salary savings from the adopted budget.
- Contractual services has been reduced by 57.1% due to $2,000 in training normally budgeted in Administrative Services being transferred to the Building Safety budget. The training planned for FY 2025/26 is specific to the building permit process and not something that benefits the other activities that provide funding to Administrative Services.

## In-Progress Activities

- The City's permitting and inspection software, EnerGov, requires daily system maintenance and updates for the systems and processes to function efficiently. Administrative Services has been tasked with auditing and tracking EnerGov efficiencies, along with charting all necessary workarounds users must perform.
- The City's reporting app, See Click Fix, is available for citizens to report a variety of issues within the city that needs addressed. See Click Fix has recently been updated and requires all City employee users to be migrated over to the new platform. Administrative Services is assisting with the ongoing transition.
- Administrative Services is contributing to category updates and security measures for items being reported on the Ames on the Go app. Many categories have had a dramatic increase with the new Property Maintenance updates, resulting in Administrative Services entering a significantly higher amount of code cases.

## Upcoming Activities

- Administrative Services will play a pivotal role in website migration and the rebuilding of multiple web pages for the Planning, Public Works, and Fire Departments.
- Administrative Services will participate in an efficiency meeting with local contractors and department heads to further explore process improvements for Access and Paving permits.
- All employee parking permits for City Hall will expire in 2025. Administrative Services will be cataloging and issuing all new parking permits to City employees at that time.

# Finance Administration and Budget

## Description:

The Finance Administration and Budget activity is responsible for the overall financial management of the City. This includes budget preparation, debt issuance, and financial analysis as required by City Council, the City Manager's Office, other City departments, or outside agencies. This activity also provides direct oversight for the Utility Customer Service, Parking Violation Collection, Accounting and Reporting, Purchasing Services, Debt Service, and Information Technology activities.

Finance Administration expenditures are allocated to Electric Services (42%), Water and Pollution Control (30%), Resource Recovery (4%), Fleet Services (2%), and Parking Enforcement (1%). the Fleet Services activity. Another 1% of Finance Administration expenditures are charged to G.O. Bond funds. A portion (16%) of the Finance Director position is also allocated directly to the Economic Development activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Finance Administration | 478,730 | 620,423 | 616,721 | 656,938 | 5.9% |
| Budgeting/Reporting System | - | - | 105,320 | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 478,730 | 620,423 | 722,041 | 656,938 | 5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 390,990 | 560,640 | 554,505 | 593,288 | 5.8% |
| Internal Services | 38,141 | 37,471 | 38,992 | 39,720 | 6.0% |
| Contractual | 48,934 | 21,487 | 126,793 | 23,105 | 7.5% |
| Commodities | 665 | 825 | 1,751 | 825 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenditure Subtotal*** | 478,730 | 620,423 | 722,041 | 656,938 | 5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (378,781) | (490,133) | (487,209) | (518,981) | 5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Finance Administration Expenditures*** | 99,949 | 130,290 | 234,832 | 137,957 | 5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 95,154 | 124,086 | 228,665 | 131,388 | 5.9% |
| G.O. Bond Funds | 4,795 | 6,204 | 6,167 | 6,569 | 5.9% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 99,949 | 130,290 | 234,832 | 137,957 | 5.9% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 3.84 | 3.84 | 3.84 | 3.84 | |

# Finance Administration and Budget

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide fiscal oversight for all City departments and initiatives<br><br>Develop financial strategies and identify the necessary resources to successfully achieve the City's missions. | Annual expenditures* | $263.50 | $271.70 | $412.77 | $332.33 |
| | | General Fund balance at fiscal year-end* | $16.3 | $17.0 | $10.7 | $10.7 |
| | | General Fund balance meets Council-approved minimum fund balance requirement | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | General Obligation (G.O.) Bond indebtedness* | $63.1 | $67.0 | $74.2 | $78.0 |
| | | Bond rating (Moody's) | Aa1 | Aa1 | Aa1 | Aa1 |
| | | Utility revenue bond indebtedness* | $64.4 | $69.5 | $137.3 | $137.4 |
| | | GFOA Distinguished Budget Awards | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 |
| | | Budget document rated as outstanding or proficient by GFOA reviewers | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Available Fund balance ratio (Available Fund Balance + Net Current Assets / Revenue) | 6/6 | 6/6 | 6/6 | 6/6 |

*In millions

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Personnel costs for the FY 2025/26 budget are projected to rise by approximately 5.8% compared to the FY 2024/25 adopted budget. While this increase is expected due to wage and insurance cost escalations, it is noteworthy that the budget division is fully staffed for the first time in several years.
- With the addition of a new team member, the FY 2025/26 requested budget eliminates the historical $5,000 funding for conferences and reallocates these resources to increase the training budget to $7,000. This adjustment will enable staff to participate in the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) budget development and analysis training, which will provide industry best practices and support the department in identifying enhancements to the budget presentation and process.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff continues to collaborate with the Accounting Division and various departments to identify process improvements aimed at enhancing efficiency. The Department intends to have the City's accounts payable process fully electronic by the end of FY 2024/25. This transition will streamline payment issuance, improve invoice tracking, bolster internal controls, and facilitate electronic storage of invoices for all users.
- Staff is actively reviewing financial policies, many of which have not been updated in several years. The limits, requirements, and authorizations outlined in these policies are often outdated, leading to delays and unnecessary administrative steps.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff anticipates further modifications to the state's property tax system, including changes to tax caps and use restrictions. In response, it is likely that staff will need to begin the process of identifying alternative revenue sources to mitigate the impact of restrictive legislation.

# Accounting Services

## Description:

The purpose of the Accounting Services activity is to manage the processing and reporting of all financial transactions for the City of Ames. This activity includes three sub-activities. The Accounting sub-activity is responsible for all financial reporting, including the preparation of the City's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). It also encompasses accounts payable, accounts receivable, and cash receipt functions. The Payroll sub-activity handles the payment of all City employees, as well as the preparation of required quarterly and annual tax reports and the issuance of employee W-2 forms. The Treasury sub-activity provides investment and cash management services within the parameters set by the City of Ames Investment Policy. Accounting Services is allocated on a percentage basis to other City programs and activities that utilize the services.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Accounting Services | 932,975 | 971,396 | 998,960 | 1,004,683 | 3.4% |
| Payroll Services | 119,853 | 133,002 | 112,155 | 126,558 | -4.9% |
| Treasury Service | 168,578 | 166,577 | 174,801 | 179,075 | 7.5% |
| Accounting Allocation | (832,520) | (868,386) | (874,594) | (898,195) | 3.4% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 388,886 | 402,589 | 411,322 | 412,121 | 2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 820,359 | 903,663 | 864,614 | 934,458 | 3.4% |
| Internal Services | 246,576 | 244,685 | 243,995 | 214,545 | -12.3% |
| Contractual | 150,630 | 117,927 | 171,631 | 157,200 | 33.3% |
| Commodities | 3,734 | 4,700 | 5,676 | 4,113 | -12.5% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 107 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 1,221,406 | 1,270,975 | 1,285,916 | 1,310,316 | 3.1% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (832,520) | (868,386) | (874,594) | (898,195) | 3.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Accounting Services Expenditures*** | 388,886 | 402,589 | 411,322 | 412,121 | 2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| City Assessor | 3,384 | 3,525 | 2,972 | 3,354 | -4.9% |
| General Fund | 382,724 | 396,150 | 405,391 | 405,753 | 2.4% |
| G.O. Bond Funds | 2,778 | 2,914 | 2,959 | 3,014 | 3.4% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 388,886 | 402,589 | 411,322 | 412,121 | 2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.00 | |

# Accounting Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Peer-reviewed Financial Report that meets standard | Unqualified audit opinion received | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Years GFOA award received for Excellence in Financial Reporting | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 |
| | | Days after year end audit is finalized (Goal ≤ 180) | 331 | 215 | 180 | 180 |
| | Process financial transactions in a timely, efficient, and accurate manner | Average monthly checks issued to vendors | 1,000 | 1,040 | 1,040 | 900 |
| | | Average monthly electronic payments to vendors | 125 | 115 | 115 | 255 |
| | | Payments to vendors issued within 7 days of appropriate internal approval | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | W-2 forms issued | 1,290 | 1,270 | 1,270 | 1,270 |
| | | Accurate payroll reports filed on a timely basis | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| | | Average rate of return on investments | 3.10% | 2.75% | 3.90% | 3.30% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Staff is implementing an electronic invoice approval routing system to replace the existing paper and mail processes. This transition aims to enhance efficiency and communication across all departments by facilitating paperless invoice handling whenever feasible. As a result, implementation costs included in the FY 2024/25 Adjusted budget are expected to decline in FY 2025/26.
- Associated with the electronic invoice approval process, licensing costs have increased in the FY 2024/25 Adjusted budget to reflect the increased user licensing costs. These costs are projected to remain elevated in subsequent years as the City continues to use the routing software.
- Staff members are planning to pursue further certifications and training. This includes funding for one staff member to enroll in the Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO) program and for another staff member to attend a Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) conference or training session.

## In-Progress Activities

- The federal government's recent grant capital asset threshold increasing from $5,000 to $10,000, staff will review the City's internal threshold for capital assets, inventory, and purchase order requirements and will propose adjustments to streamline City processes.
- Staff is working with the City's selected vendor to identify ways to reduce the use of paper processes and limit manual processes. This will allow for more efficient electronic storage of invoices/payments and an improved process for entering invoice data into the City's financial system.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff will focus on analyzing and documenting procedures. This initiative aims to centralize information, enhance training efforts, and provide support for backup coverage during planned or unexpected absences.
- Staff intends to evaluate opportunities to improve the searchability of the City's electronic document retention software, focusing on invoices paid by EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) or ACH (Automated Clearing House). The purpose of this initiative is to increase the number of vendors utilizing these less costly alternate payment methods.

# Purchasing Services

## Description:

The Purchasing Services activity is responsible for the procurement of goods and services necessary for City services to be delivered to the citizens of Ames. This involves obtaining the goods and services in the most cost-effective manner while maintaining compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and professional standards. Purchasing services are allocated on a predetermined percentage basis based on relative use of service. Messenger Services and Shared Copier Services are allocated to City departments based on usage, with the goal of recovering the cost of the services provided.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Purchasing Services | 607,084 | 652,950 | 645,704 | 675,527 | 3.5% |
| Messenger Service | 112,306 | 119,689 | 118,803 | 124,854 | 4.3% |
| Shared Copier Service | 3,325 | 5,300 | 3,910 | 3,910 | -26.2% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 722,715 | 777,939 | 768,417 | 804,291 | 3.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 642,904 | 680,566 | 677,314 | 717,365 | 5.4% |
| Internal Services | 38,891 | 38,942 | 39,671 | 35,464 | -8.9% |
| Contractual | 32,190 | 51,701 | 44,185 | 45,504 | -12.0% |
| Commodities | 8,730 | 6,730 | 7,247 | 5,958 | -11.5% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 722,715 | 777,939 | 768,417 | 804,291 | 3.4% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (684,186) | (610,509) | (723,597) | (757,388) | 24.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Purchasing Services Expenditures*** | 38,529 | 167,430 | 44,820 | 46,903 | -72.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Departmental Charges | - | 122,119 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Outside Messenger Service | 2,754 | 2,870 | 2,849 | 2,994 | 4.3% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 1,000 | - | - | - | |
| General Fund | 34,775 | 42,441 | 41,971 | 43,909 | 3.5% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 38,529 | 167,430 | 44,820 | 46,903 | -72.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | |

# Purchasing Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide timely and cost-effective procurement of goods and services meeting the needs of City programs in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policies and professional standards | Annual/term contracts awarded | 144 | 146 | 146 | 146 |
| | | Value of awarded bids* | $28.1 | $36.1 | $80.3 | $23.3 |
| | | Savings realized through bidding process (difference between high bid and low bid) | 41% | 48% | 30% | 30% |
| | | Competitive bids | 228 | 218 | 210 | 215 |
| | | Value of purchase orders* | $84.82 | $85.55 | $61.00 | $61.00 |
| | | Vendors registered in AmesBids (City's electronic bidding system) | 1,004 | 1,219 | 1,350 | 1,450 |
| | | Value of p-card transactions* | $1.56 | $1.36 | $1.10 | $1.11 |
| | Provide reliable, timely, and cost-effective distribution of US mail, internal mail and parcels | Outgoing US mail sent via discount | 84.10% | 82.20% | 81.00% | 81.00% |
| | | Total US Mail pieces | 84,619 | 82,454 | 86,095 | 85,090 |
| | | Library parcels | 1,929 | 2,014 | 1,900 | 1,900 |

* In millions

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- On July 1, 2024, the responsibility for overseeing Printing Services was transferred from the Purchasing division of the Finance Department to the new Communications and Outreach division of the City Manager's Office. As part of the transition, both Printing Services and Messenger Services were shifted from Internal Services to the General Government Program, with Messenger Services now included in the Purchasing Services budget. Shared Copier Services, formerly a responsibility of Printing Services, is now also an activity included in Purchasing Services. Since Messenger Services and Shared Copier Services were internal services in the Adopted FY 2024/25 budget, the funding source was shown as departmental revenue instead of an expense allocation to other departments. The change has been made to an allocation in the Adjusted FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 budgets.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff continues to provide training sessions to City staff. These sessions cover essential topics, including procurement policies and procedures, requisition processing, procurement thresholds, conflict of interest reporting, and training for procurement cardholders.
- The Purchasing Division utilizes "AmesBids" to issue bids and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for goods and services. This electronic bidding and vendor management tool enhances communication, transparency, and record-keeping, significantly reducing the risks of non-compliant, incomplete, or unsigned bids. Staff is currently in the final implementation phase, focusing on extending this system to public improvement bids.
- Due to increasing repair costs, the Messenger van is anticipated to be replaced in FY 2024/25. Staff is exploring options for an electric vehicle; however, some models have proven to be cost-prohibitive.

## Upcoming Activities

- The Purchasing Division is set to implement automated routing of purchase orders to vendors and departments. This initiative will eliminate the need for printing and mailing purchase orders, with all documents being automatically filed in the electronic document management system (Laserfiche).

# Legal Services

## Description:

The mission of the Legal Services activity is to provide sound and objective legal advice and representation to City officials and departments. This responsibility includes advising City Council, staff, and boards and commissions on legal and policy matters, drafting ordinances and amendments to the City's Municipal Code, drafting and reviewing contracts, real estate agreements, and other legal documents, litigating claims by and against the City in District and Appellate Court, prosecuting criminal complaints, traffic tickets, code enforcement violations, and other municipal infractions as necessary, and representing the City in all labor and unemployment, housing, licensing, and other arbitration and administrative claims, Legal Services also provides legal support to Mary Greeley Medical Center (MGMC) and the Ames City Assessor.

A portion of Legal Services expenditures are allocated to Electric Services (15.1%), Water and Pollution Control (19%), Parking Enforcement (4.6%), Resource Recovery (2.5%), and Transit (1.45%). A portion (5%) of the City Attorney position is also allocated directly to the Economic Development activity.

| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 856,476 | 902,161 | 899,192 | 951,109 | 5.4% |
| Internal Services | 33,631 | 33,386 | 34,240 | 32,864 | -1.6% |
| Contractual | 53,714 | 74,974 | 75,154 | 76,679 | 2.3% |
| Commodities | 2,338 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 946,159 | 1,012,721 | 1,010,786 | 1,062,852 | 5.0% |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (403,537) | (431,924) | (431,100) | (453,306) | 5.0% |
| ***Total Unallocated Legal Services Expenditures*** | 542,622 | 580,797 | 579,686 | 609,546 | 5.0% |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| Charges for Services | 66,124 | 46,250 | 51,250 | 51,250 | 10.8% |
| General Fund | 476,498 | 534,547 | 528,436 | 558,296 | 4.4% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 542,622 | 580,797 | 579,686 | 609,546 | 5.0% |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.95 | 5.95 | 5.95 | 5.95 | |

# Legal Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide reliable, high quality legal services to both internal and external customers | New Legal matters: | 616 | 541 | 532 | 532 |
| | | Electric | 39 | 31 | 12 | 12 |
| | | Human Resources | 8 | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| | | Parks and Rec | 18 | 22 | 12 | 12 |
| | | Planning | 45 | 46 | 44 | 44 |
| | | Police | 18 | 14 | 20 | 20 |
| | | Public Works | 38 | 46 | 16 | 16 |
| | | Water and Pollution Control | 13 | 13 | 8 | 8 |
| | | Other (includes trials) | 437 | 361 | 416 | 416 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Revenue for municipal infractions has been increased in the FY 2024/25 adjusted and FY 2025/26 budgets to better reflect the actual amount of revenue being received in the last few fiscal years.

### In-Progress Activities

- Legal staff assists with a variety of property matters including the review of new subdivisions and the drafting of various easements and sidewalk deferral agreements.
- Work continues to reach an acceptable agreement with the developer of the Linc project. Legal staff will continue to be involved in drafting documents as necessary.
- Legal staff, with help from outside counsel, continues to assist City Council with reaching an agreeable solution to the issues with the Schainker Plaza ice ribbon surface.
- With the adoption of the property maintenance standards, legal staff continues to assist the Inspections Division on alternatives for distressed properties, including issuing a Declaration of a Dangerous Building, monitoring board meetings, and taking legal action.

## Upcoming Activities

- Advice and review of documentation from Legal staff will be necessary as the City explores potentially purchasing and rehabbing an existing building for the future Animal Shelter.
- Legal staff will continue to provide staffing for various City boards and commissions, as well as represent the City at the Board of Review for property assessment appeals
- Legal staff will continue to be responsible for drafting ordinances, reviewing City contracts, coordinating with outside council on litigation matters, and consulting with the Police Department to prosecute municipal infractions.

# Human Resources

## Description:

The Human Resources activity is responsible for the hiring and retaining qualified employees using progressive recruitment techniques and competitive compensation and benefit programs. Other responsibilities of Human Resources include monitoring and preparing reports to demonstrate compliance with federal and state regulations, providing training opportunities and resources for employee development, updating and ensuring compliance with City personnel policies, negotiating union contracts, and assuming a leadership role for the City's Excellence Through People (ETP) program.

Human Resources expenditures are allocated to other programs or activities based on the number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) in each of those activities. Human Resources staff is also responsible for the Risk Insurance and Health Insurance activities.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Human Resources | 703,567 | 805,382 | 932,770 | 987,509 | 22.6% |
| Employee Development | 61,145 | 55,650 | 54,072 | 54,122 | -2.8% |
| Employee Assistance | 11,171 | 12,500 | 11,242 | 12,500 | 0.0% |
| ETP Program | 11,703 | 48,225 | 94,000 | 43,000 | -10.8% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 787,586 | 921,757 | 1,092,084 | 1,097,131 | 19.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 590,189 | 664,157 | 749,271 | 835,368 | 25.8% |
| Internal Services | 43,535 | 43,090 | 44,383 | 38,916 | -9.7% |
| Contractual | 132,594 | 189,710 | 271,339 | 197,247 | 4.0% |
| Commodities | 21,268 | 24,800 | 27,091 | 25,600 | 3.2% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 787,586 | 921,757 | 1,092,084 | 1,097,131 | 19.0% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (435,334) | (508,222) | (599,844) | (603,327) | 18.7% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Human Resources Expenditures*** | 352,252 | 413,535 | 492,240 | 493,804 | 19.4% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| City Assessor | 10,344 | 10,291 | 12,251 | 12,288 | 19.4% |
| General Fund | 341,908 | 403,244 | 479,989 | 481,516 | 19.4% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 352,252 | 413,535 | 492,240 | 493,804 | 19.4% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 5.05 | 5.05 | 6.05 | 6.05 | |

# Human Resources

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | To enhance our culture of excellence by maximizing human potential through caring people, quality programs, and exceptional services | Recruitments* | 193 | 165 | 165 | 175 |
| | | Applications* | 2,345 | 1949 | 1949 | 2,000 |
| | | External hires** | 73 | 121 | 121 | 120 |
| | | Internal promotions | 22 | 22 | 22 | 20 |
| | | Racially diverse applicants | 19% | 17% | 17% | 20% |
| | | Female applicants | 40% | 38% | 38% | 40% |
| | | Hours leadership development training offered | 30 | 120 | 120 | 120 |
| | | Employees attending training through Employee Development Center (EDC) | 711 | 762 | 762 | 765 |
| | | Average employee rating of EDC courses | 92% | 92% | 92% | 93% |

*Open or promotional
**Full and part-time

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- City Council authorized the addition of a Human Resources Specialist in the 2024/25 budget year. The position was filled in October and will have a significant impact on the current year budget with additions to salary, benefits, and required training for the new employee. Costs will be maintained in future budget requests.

## In-Progress Activities

- Human Resources staff continues to work with departments to conduct a large number of recruitments annually. Recruitment processes have been evaluated and improvements are being implemented. These process improvements will increase efficiency and create better alignment of staff and activities.
- The addition of a Human Resources Specialist creates the opportunity to reorganize the work in Human Resources. The redistribution of duties among staff allows for a more strategic approach to recruitment, learning and development, and leave management. This means that programs are becoming more efficient and effective while making a more significant impact on the organization.

## Upcoming Activities

- Human Resources staff will work with City leadership to select and implement a Human Resources Information System.

# Facilities

## Description:

The Facilities activity is responsible for the maintenance of City Hall, the City Hall grounds and parking lots, and the Veteran's Memorial adjacent to City Hall. City Hall includes office space for City departments, the City Council Chambers, the Ames City Assessor's office, and offices and a court room for Story County, as well as meeting rooms available to the public, the City Auditorium, and the Community Center, which includes a gymnasium, weight room, exercise space and locker rooms. Facility consultation services and project support are also provided for City facilities that are the direct responsibility of other City departments.

A portion of Facilities expenditures is allocated to other City programs and activities and to the City Assessor's Office.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| City Hall/Veterans Memorial | 525,194 | 551,581 | 562,949 | 586,558 | 6.3% |
| City Hall Special Projects | 72,881 | - | 159,269 | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 598,075 | 551,581 | 722,218 | 586,558 | 6.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 177,629 | 182,612 | 181,322 | 189,577 | 3.8% |
| Internal Services | 53,565 | 58,019 | 59,112 | 71,808 | 23.8% |
| Contractual | 245,539 | 280,450 | 290,715 | 291,373 | 3.9% |
| Commodities | 94,042 | 30,500 | 31,800 | 33,800 | 10.8% |
| Capital | 27,300 | - | 159,269 | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 598,075 | 551,581 | 722,218 | 586,558 | 6.3% |
| | | | | | |
| Less: Expenditures Allocated to Other Programs/Activities | (157,502) | (165,474) | (168,884) | (175,967) | 6.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Unallocated Facilities Expenditures*** | 440,573 | 386,107 | 553,334 | 410,591 | 6.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources for Unallocated Expenditures:*** | | | | | |
| City Assessor | 17,486 | 18,754 | 18,860 | 19,497 | 4.0% |
| General Fund | 423,087 | 367,353 | 534,474 | 391,094 | 6.5% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 440,573 | 386,107 | 553,334 | 410,591 | 6.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | |

# Facilities

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Maintain an attractive City Hall and Veteran's Memorial | Maintenance cost per square foot (excluding Community Center and Auditorium) | $6.88 | $6.91 | $7.40 | $7.72 |
| **A fun, vibrant, and healthy community that attracts and retains people** | Help maintain the Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition and neighborhood art | Public Art pieces installed by Facilities staff | 11 | 13 | 13 | 14 |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Funding of $159,269 has been carried over into the adjusted FY 2024/25 budget for City Hall space needs projects. The funding will be used to create additional office space to accommodate additional employees, to reconfigure existing office spaces to maximize space usage, and to add or expand conference rooms for both City and public usage.
- An increase of 18.6% was seen in internal services due to increased property insurance and computer services.

## In-Progress Activities

- The carpet and base updates at City Hall have been completed in the conference rooms and hallways. The next phase of updates will be in the office spaces and is anticipated to take place in early 2025. This will require coordination for customer service activities during the project.
- Additional funding has been identified to complete the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) replacement in the Municipal Auditorium. Staff has worked with the consultant on a design that does not use natural gas and meets the Climate Action Plan goals for municipal buildings.
- Facilities staff continue to assist and support other City facilities and programs including the Ames Municipal Airport, three fire stations, the Ames Public Library, the Ames Animal Shelter and the Public Art Program.

## Upcoming Activities

- Facility staff is working with the ADA Coordinator on the Transition Plan committee. Staff will also be working to update all the signage in City Hall to current standards.

# General Government CIP

## Description:

This is a summary of the General Government program capital improvements which are detailed in the City of Ames five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

| *Activities:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Facilities:*** | | | | | |
| City Hall Improvements | 179,868 | 75,000 | 656,914 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| Auditorium HVAC System | - | - | 1,459,683 | - | |
| Police Parking Area | - | - | 25,000 | - | |
| *Total Facilities CIP* | 179,868 | 75,000 | 2,141,597 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total General Government CIP*** | 179,868 | 75,000 | 2,141,597 | 75,000 | 0.0% |

**Facilities ($75,000)**

The ***City Hall Improvements*** program is focused on major maintenance projects or the replacement of structural or decorative items in City Hall, the adjacent Veterans Memorial, or the parking lots on the east and west sides of the building. Many of the building's mechanical, electrical, and other support systems were installed during the renovation of the building in 1990. Annual funding of $75,000 has been allocated to this program for system or building upgrades that are beyond the funding level of the Facilities operating budget.

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# DEBT SERVICE







TOM EVANS PLAZA
35 YEARS
1989-2024



TAHIRA & LABH HIRA PARK
5 YEARS
2020-2025

CAMPUSTOWN COURT
35 YEARS
1990-2025






CITY OF
ames™

# Debt Service

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# Debt Service Summary

This program accounts for the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued by the City of Ames. There are two types of bonds that Debt Service covers: 1) ***General Obligation Bonds*** which are accounted for in the Debt Service Fund and which are full face and an obligation of the City; and 2) ***Revenue Bonds*** which are accounted for from the earnings of the enterprise funds.

The City of Ames' debt is managed in accordance with the Capital Improvement Financing and Debt Management policies adopted by the City Council. The City expects to remain well under debt limits set by the ***Code of Iowa*** and the further reserve limits set by the City Council. The City's General Obligation bonds currently have the Aa1 rating from Moody's Investor Services.

All outstanding debt is fully amortized with approximately equal principal and interest payments each year during the term of the bonds.

| ***Use of Funds:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General Obligation Bonds | 12,979,460 | 13,425,435 | 13,421,870 | 14,092,994 | 5.0% |
| Electric Revenue Bonds | 964,806 | 966,213 | 966,213 | 966,075 | 0.0% |
| SRF Loan Payments | 5,597,185 | 6,031,446 | 5,888,263 | 6,070,082 | 0.6% |
| Bond Costs | 131,847 | 279,450 | 302,450 | 200,222 | -28.4% |
| *Total Expenditures* | 19,673,298 | 20,702,544 | 20,578,796 | 21,329,373 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Debt Service Fund | 12,979,460 | 13,425,435 | 13,421,870 | 14,092,994 | 5.0% |
| G.O. Bond Funds | 131,847 | 279,450 | 302,450 | 200,222 | -28.4% |
| Electric Sinking Fund | 964,806 | 966,213 | 966,213 | 966,075 | 0.0% |
| Water Sinking Fund | 4,317,916 | 4,554,866 | 4,469,543 | 4,641,500 | 1.9% |
| Sewer Sinking Fund | 1,279,269 | 1,476,580 | 1,418,720 | 1,428,582 | -3.3% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 19,673,298 | 20,702,544 | 20,578,796 | 21,329,373 | 3.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Debt Service Principal and Interest Breakdown:*** | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| *G.O. Bonds* | | | | | |
| Principal | 10,250,000 | 10,220,497 | 10,325,000 | 10,624,354 | 4.0% |
| Interest | 2,729,460 | 3,204,938 | 3,096,870 | 3,468,640 | 8.2% |
| Issuance Costs | 131,847 | 279,450 | 302,450 | 200,222 | -28.4% |
| *Total G.O. Bonds* | 13,111,307 | 13,704,885 | 13,724,320 | 14,293,216 | 4.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Electric Revenue Bonds* | | | | | |
| Principal | 875,000 | 895,000 | 895,000 | 915,000 | 2.2% |
| Interest | 89,806 | 71,213 | 71,213 | 51,075 | -28.3% |
| *Total G.O. Bonds* | 964,806 | 966,213 | 966,213 | 966,075 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *State Revolving Fund Loans* | | | | | |
| Principal | 4,263,852 | 4,481,000 | 4,421,953 | 4,626,000 | 3.2% |
| Interest | 1,333,333 | 1,550,446 | 1,466,310 | 1,444,082 | -6.9% |
| *Total SRF Loans* | 5,597,185 | 6,031,446 | 5,888,263 | 6,070,082 | 0.6% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Debt Service*** | 19,673,298 | 20,702,544 | 20,578,796 | 21,329,373 | 3.0% |

# Debt Service Cost Allocation

## Debt Service Cost Allocation for 2025/26 Budget

Taxable Valuation for Debt Service: $3,679,642,646

| Use of Bond Proceeds | Allocated Debt Service | Debt Service Abatements | Property Tax Support | Rate Per $1,000 Valuation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Airport | 212,219 | 70,976 | 141,243 | 0.03838 |
| Fire Department Apparatus | 198,408 | 49,602 | 148,806 | 0.04044 |
| Fire Facilities | 49,061 | - | 49,061 | 0.01333 |
| Indoor Aquatic Center | 1,373,966 | - | 1,373,966 | 0.37340 |
| Library | 1,088,488 | - | 1,088,488 | 0.29581 |
| Park Projects | 257,025 | - | 257,025 | 0.06985 |
| Public Safety Radio | 251,035 | 29,500 | 221,535 | 0.06021 |
| Resource Recovery | - | - | - | 0.00000 |
| Sewer | 406,496 | 406,496 | - | 0.00000 |
| Storm Sewer | 50,972 | - | 50,972 | 0.01385 |
| Streets | 8,225,257 | - | 8,225,257 | 2.23534 |
| TIF | 332,550 | 332,550 | - | 0.00000 |
| Water | 103,554 | 103,554 | - | 0.00000 |
| 2025/2026 CIP G. O. | 1,543,962 | 93,766 | 1,450,196 | 0.39411 |
| **Total G.O. Debt** | 14,092,993 | 1,086,444 | 13,006,549 | 3.53472 |
| **Less: State Replacement Tax** | | | 198,757 | 0.05402 |
| **Use of Fund Balance** | | | 600,000 | 0.16306 |
| **Total Debt Service Cost** | $ 14,092,993 | $ 1,086,444 | $ 12,207,792 | 3.31764 |
| **FY 2024/2025 Debt Service Levy** | | | **$ 12,207,792** | **3.31764** |

| **2025/2026 CIP G.O. ISSUE** | |
|---|---|
| Fire Station Alerting System | 211,905 |
| Asphalt Sreet Pavement Improvements | 4,000,000 |
| Concrete Pavement Improvements | 3,800,000 |
| Seal Coat Street Pavement Improvements | 1,000,000 |
| Collector Street Pavement Improvements | 500,000 |
| Alley Pavement Improvements | 400,000 |
| Downtown Street Pavement Improvements | 250,000 |
| Traffic System Capacity Improvements | 1,520,000 |
| Intelligent Transportation System | 367,540 |
| Airport Airside Improvements | 531,750 |
| Airport Facility Improvements | 329,000 |
| Ada Hayden Heritage Park | 700,000 |
| Resource Recovery | 880,000 |
| **Total G.O. Bonds** | $ 14,490,195 |

# Projection of Debt Capacity

## City of Ames, Iowa
## Projection of Debt Capacity

| | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Budgeted | 2025/26 Projected | 2026/27 Projected | 2027/28 Projected | 2028/29 Projected | 2029/30 Projected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Total Actual Valuation | 5,541,171,438 | 6,561,140,157 | 6,631,161,731 | 6,830,096,583 | 7,034,999,480 | 7,246,049,464 | 7,463,430,948 |
| 2. State Mandated Debt Limit | 277,058,572 | 328,057,008 | 331,558,087 | 341,504,829 | 351,749,974 | 362,302,473 | 373,171,547 |
| 3. City Reserve (25% of Limit) | 69,264,643 | 82,014,252 | 82,889,522 | 85,376,207 | 87,937,494 | 90,575,618 | 93,292,887 |
| Un-Reserved Debt Capacity | 207,793,929 | 246,042,756 | 248,668,565 | 256,128,622 | 263,812,480 | 271,726,855 | 279,878,660 |
| 4. Outstanding Debt | 67,035,000 | 74,205,000 | 64,545,000 | 55,275,000 | 46,920,000 | 39,145,000 | 31,760,000 |
| 5. Proposed Issues | - | - | 14,490,195 | 21,331,756 | 13,084,302 | 12,041,544 | 14,896,996 |
| 6. Balance of Proposed Issues | - | - | (964,354) | 11,103,238 | 29,044,699 | 37,801,702 | 44,351,428 |
| Total Debt Subject to Limit | 67,035,000 | 74,205,000 | 78,070,841 | 87,709,994 | 89,049,001 | 88,988,246 | 91,008,424 |
| 7. Available Un-Reserved Debt Capacity ($) | 140,758,929 | 171,837,756 | 170,597,724 | 168,418,628 | 174,763,479 | 182,738,609 | 188,870,236 |
| 8. Available Un-Reserved Debt Capacity (%) | 67.74% | 69.84% | 68.60% | 65.76% | 66.25% | 67.25% | 67.48% |
| 9. Total Debt Capacity ($) | 210,023,572 | 253,852,008 | 253,487,246 | 253,794,835 | 262,700,973 | 273,314,227 | 282,163,123 |
| 10. Total Debt Capacity (%) | 75.80% | 77.38% | 76.45% | 74.32% | 74.68% | 75.44% | 75.61% |

***Notes:***

1. *Total assessed valuation plus utility valuation growth assumption is 3.0% per year.*
2. *State of Iowa statutory debt limit is 5% of total actual valuation.*
3. *City Policy reserves 25% percent of available debt capacity.*
4. *Current outstanding debt subject to limit at Fiscal Year End includes all debt in which property taxes are pledged.*
5. *Debt issues subject to limit proposed are part of Capital Improvement Plan.*
6. *Debt Balance on Issues in Capital Improvement Plan.*
7. *Debt capacity available after deducting the reserved capacity.*
8. *Percentage of debt capacity available after deducting the reserved capacity.*
9. *Debt capacity available prior to deducting the reserved capacity.*
10. *Percentage of debt capacity available prior to deducting the reserved capacity.*

# Summary of All Bonds Payable

## Summary of All Bonds Payable
## at June 30, 2024 for the City of Ames

| Bond Type | Date of Issue | Interest Rates | Maturity Date | Amount Originally Issued | Outstanding 30-Jun-24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **General Obligation Bonds - Government Activities** | | | | | |
| Corporate purpose | 2014 | 2.000-2.500 | 2026 | 9,395,000 | 1,315,000 |
| Corporate purpose/refunding | 2015 | 3.000-5.000 | 2035 | 15,670,000 | 3,100,000 |
| Corporate purpose | 2016 | 2.000-5.000 | 2028 | 9,020,605 | 2,634,980 |
| Corporate purpose/refunding | 2017 | 2.000-5.000 | 2029 | 10,975,000 | 3,255,000 |
| Corporate purpose | 2018 | 3.000-5.000 | 2030 | 7,490,000 | 4,190,000 |
| Corporate purpose/TIF | 2019 | 1.500-5.000 | 2031 | 290,000 | 200,000 |
| Corporate purpose | 2019 | 1.500-5.000 | 2031 | 10,230,000 | 6,250,000 |
| Corporate purpose | 2020 | 1.000-5.000 | 2032 | 9,500,000 | 6,720,000 |
| Corporate purpose/refunding | 2020 | 1.000-5.000 | 2032 | 7,929,118 | 1,975,000 |
| Corporate purpose | 2021 | 1.375-5.000 | 2033 | 9,850,000 | 7,740,000 |
| Corporate purpose/refunding | 2021 | 1.375-5.000 | 2033 | 9,372,505 | 6,192,227 |
| Corporate purpose | 2022 | 4.000-5.000 | 2034 | 12,440,000 | 10,450,000 |
| Corporate purpose | 2023 | 5.000 | 2035 | 12,110,000 | 10,980,000 |
| | | | | 124,272,228 | 65,002,207 |
| **General Obligation Bonds - Business-Type Activities** | | | | | |
| Corporate purpose/refunding | 2015 | 3.000-5.000 | 2027 | 1,860,000 | 555,000 |
| Corporate purpose | 2015 | 3.000-5.000 | 2027 | 915,000 | 585,000 |
| Corporate purpose/refunding | 2016 | 2.000-5.000 | 2028 | 2,629,395 | 610,020 |
| Corporate purpose | 2019 | 1.500-5.000 | 2031 | 255,000 | 175,000 |
| Corporate purpose/refunding | 2021 | 5.000 | 2025 | 417,495 | 107,773 |
| | | | | 6,076,890 | 2,032,793 |
| **Revenue Bonds** | | | | | |
| Hospital improve./ref. | 2012 | 2.070 | 2027 | 19,945,000 | 1,450,000 |
| Electric | 2015 | 2.125-5.000 | 2027 | 9,500,000 | 2,750,000 |
| Hospital refunding | 2016 | 3.000-5.000 | 2036 | 64,790,000 | 53,810,000 |
| Hospital expansion/remodel | 2019 | 1.990 | 2034 | 35,000,000 | 24,945,000 |
| | | | | 129,235,000 | 82,955,000 |
| **Total All Bonds** | | | | **259,584,118** | **149,990,000** |

# Summary of All Bonds Payable – Principle and Interest

**Summary of All Bonds Payable – Principle and Interest**
**At June 30, 2024 for the City of Ames**

**Debt Service Fund:**

| Year Ending June 30 | General Obligation Bonds Principal | Interest |
|---|---|---|
| 2025 | 8,694,176 | 2,477,459 |
| 2026 | 8,511,951 | 2,088,900 |
| 2027 | 8,080,500 | 1,730,027 |
| 2028 | 7,320,500 | 1,391,352 |
| 2029 | 7,010,500 | 1,145,568 |
| 2030-2034 | 23,651,000 | 2,472,005 |
| 2035 | 1,260,000 | 63,000 |
| **Total** | **64,528,627** | **11,368,312** |

**Water Utility Fund:**

| Year Ending June 30 | General Obligation Bonds Principal | Interest |
|---|---|---|
| 2025 | 99,750 | 11,893 |
| 2026 | 99,750 | 8,805 |
| 2027 | 104,750 | 5,718 |
| 2028 | 109,750 | 2,480 |
| 2029 | 4,750 | 285 |
| 2030-2034 | 9,500 | 285 |
| 2035 | - | - |
| **Total** | **428,250** | **29,465** |

**Sewer Utility Fund:**

| Year Ending June 30 | General Obligation Bonds Principal | Interest |
|---|---|---|
| 2025 | 369,750 | 39,142 |
| 2026 | 384,750 | 27,955 |
| 2027 | 394,750 | 16,318 |
| 2028 | 204,750 | 4,380 |
| 2029 | 4,750 | 285 |
| 2030-2034 | 9,500 | 285 |
| 2035 | - | - |
| **Total** | **1,368,250** | **88,365** |

**Resource Recovery Fund:**

| Year Ending June 30 | General Obligation Bonds Principal | Interest |
|---|---|---|
| 2025 | 107,774 | 5,389 |
| 2026 | - | - |
| 2027 | - | - |
| 2028 | - | - |
| 2029 | - | - |
| 2030-2034 | - | - |
| 2035 | - | - |
| **Total** | **107,774** | **5,389** |

**Airport Enterprise Fund:**

| Year Ending 30-Jun | General Obligation Bonds Principal | Interest |
|---|---|---|
| 2025 | 45,000 | 17,994 |
| 2026 | 45,000 | 16,644 |
| 2027 | 50,000 | 15,294 |
| 2028 | 50,000 | 13,794 |
| 2029 | 50,000 | 12,294 |
| 2030-2034 | 285,000 | 37,106 |
| 2035 | 60,000 | 1,950 |
| **Total** | **585,000** | **115,075** |

**Electric Utility Fund:**

| Year Ending 30-Jun | General Obligation Bonds Principal | Interest | Year Ending 30-Jun | Revenue Bonds Principal | Interest |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2025 | 8,550 | 855 | 2025 | 895,000 | 71,213 |
| 2026 | 8,549 | 427 | 2026 | 915,000 | 51,075 |
| 2027 | | | 2027 | 940,000 | 28,200 |
| **Total** | **17,099** | **1,282** | **Total** | **2,750,000** | **150,488** |

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# INTERNAL SERVICE AND TRANSFERS






CHARLES & JUNE CALHOUN PARK
20 YEARS
2005-2025





2006-2026
PROJECT SMYLES
20 YEARS

CARR PARK
60 YEARS
1965-2025






CITY OF
ames™

# Internal Services

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# Internal Services Summary

## Description:

Internal Services are operations which support other City programs. In contrast to the support services in the General Government program, these operations are entirely funded by charges made to other City programs. As these activities represent expenses that are already reflected in other City programs, they are budgeted for accountability and decision making but are not reported to the State. Fleet Services involves the maintenance and operating costs for City vehicles and other pieces of equipment as well as the acquisition and disposal of that equipment. Information Technology provides support to other City programs for both data processing and communications. Printing Services accounts for the activity of the City's Print Shop and related design services. Messenger Services provides internal messenger service and outside mail service to all City departments. Risk Management is responsible for safety-related work practices and securing the most economical risk insurance coverage for the City. The Health Insurance activity includes the administration of the City's self-insured health insurance plan, as well as the Health Promotion program available to City employees. Capital improvements for Internal Services activities are included in Internal Services CIP.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fleet Services | 4,915,968 | 3,614,837 | 5,741,966 | 5,775,956 | 59.8% |
| Information Technology | 2,912,357 | 2,880,388 | 3,165,107 | 2,760,052 | -4.2% |
| Risk Management | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| Health Insurance | 12,274,128 | 12,294,406 | 12,291,748 | 12,175,481 | -1.0% |
| Health Promotion | 271,444 | 327,557 | 352,812 | 373,131 | 13.9% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 23,666,821 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |
| | | | | | |
| Internal Services CIP | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 23,666,821 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 21.20 | 20.90 | 19.90 | 19.90 | |

# Internal Services Summary

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 2,324,709 | 2,612,841 | 2,465,075 | 2,598,415 | -0.6% |
| Internal Services | 1,074,973 | 665,270 | 995,835 | 615,336 | -7.5% |
| Contractual | 5,450,019 | 6,489,988 | 5,816,345 | 6,251,933 | -3.7% |
| Commodities | 1,305,985 | 1,341,443 | 1,411,995 | 1,406,350 | 4.8% |
| Capital | 2,052,293 | 833,200 | 2,893,138 | 2,849,300 | 242.0% |
| Other Expenditures | 11,458,842 | 11,102,888 | 11,227,888 | 11,013,715 | -0.8% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 23,666,821 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |
| | | | | | |
| Internal Services CIP | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 23,666,821 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Services Fund | 2,719,819 | 2,735,637 | 2,734,432 | 2,840,656 | 3.8% |
| Fleet Reserve Funds | 2,196,149 | 879,200 | 3,007,534 | 2,935,300 | 233.9% |
| Information Technology Fund | 2,199,904 | 2,280,288 | 2,278,585 | 1,979,252 | -13.2% |
| Technology Reserve Funds | 396,373 | 270,100 | 497,954 | 380,800 | 41.0% |
| Shared Communications Fund | 316,080 | 330,000 | 388,568 | 400,000 | 21.2% |
| Risk Insurance Fund | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| Health Insurance Fund | 12,545,572 | 12,621,963 | 12,644,560 | 12,548,612 | -0.6% |
| ***Total Operations Funding*** | 23,666,821 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |
| | | | | | |
| ***CIP Funding:*** | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total CIP Funding*** | - | - | - | - | |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 23,666,821 | 23,045,630 | 24,810,276 | 24,735,049 | 7.3% |

# Fleet Services

## Description:

The Fleet Services activity provides centralized management and maintenance of the City's fleet. Vehicles and equipment are purchased for City departments to match adopted public service tasks and programs. The useful life of each unit is analyzed, and funds are collected from the using departments over that life for the replacement of the equipment when it becomes obsolete. Each vehicle and piece of equipment is replaced as economically as possible without sacrificing quality and reliability. Utilization of equipment between operating departments is encouraged to maximize the value received from each unit. "Green" vehicles and equipment are purchased whenever feasible.

Fleet maintenance and repairs are planned, scheduled, and completed using the most efficient and cost-effective methods available. Maintenance, repairs, insurance, fuel, and overhead costs are allocated to the departments and programs utilizing the equipment. Fleet Services also operates a motor pool with vehicles available to all City departments as needed.

The Fleet Services maintenance facility is shared by several Public Works divisions: Engineering, Street Maintenance, and Utility Maintenance. The costs associated with the facility are paid by Fleet Services and allocated to the Public Work activities on a percentage basis.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fleet Administration | 534,285 | 592,161 | 592,865 | 614,792 | 3.8% |
| Fleet Maintenance | 2,002,062 | 1,949,208 | 1,948,433 | 2,022,958 | 3.8% |
| Motor Pool Services | 48,102 | 38,000 | 38,000 | 38,000 | 0.0% |
| Fleet Maintenance Facility | 135,370 | 156,268 | 155,134 | 164,906 | 5.5% |
| Fleet Acquisitions | 2,196,149 | 879,200 | 3,007,534 | 2,935,300 | 233.9% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 4,915,968 | 3,614,837 | 5,741,966 | 5,775,956 | 59.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 1,003,283 | 1,079,858 | 1,075,253 | 1,128,836 | 4.5% |
| Internal Services | 395,701 | 303,264 | 406,669 | 414,610 | 36.7% |
| Contractual | 558,113 | 349,765 | 349,610 | 377,110 | 7.8% |
| Commodities | 957,017 | 1,048,750 | 1,087,800 | 1,076,100 | 2.6% |
| Capital | 1,986,720 | 833,200 | 2,822,634 | 2,779,300 | 233.6% |
| Other Expenditures | 15,134 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 4,915,968 | 3,614,837 | 5,741,966 | 5,775,956 | 59.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Services Fund | 2,719,819 | 2,735,637 | 2,734,432 | 2,840,656 | 3.8% |
| Fleet Reserve Funds | 2,196,149 | 879,200 | 3,007,534 | 2,935,300 | 233.9% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 4,915,968 | 3,614,837 | 5,741,966 | 5,775,956 | 59.8% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 8.25 | 7.95 | 7.95 | 7.95 | |

# Fleet Services

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide and maintain the City's fleet to support all City activities in a high quality and cost-effective manner | City shop rate compared to private sector shop rate | 51% | 51% | 50% | 50% |
| | | Billable hours | 6,200 | 6,132 | 6,600 | 6,500 |
| | | Number of vehicles & equipment that received service | 540 | 556 | 575 | 580 |
| | | Percentage of preventative maintenance work completed | 99% | 82% | 95% | 100% |
| **Environmental sustainability** | Maintain a fleet with green vehicles to reduce carbon footprint | All Electric Vehicles | 2 | 6 | 10 | 15 |
| | | Hybrid Vehicles | 20 | 17 | 26 | 26 |
| | | Alternative Fuel Vehicles* | 60 | 62 | 64 | 66 |
| | | Gallons of fuel purchased | 177,342 | 178,365 | 195,000 | 190,000 |

* Includes 11 Snowplow Trucks using B100

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The City's shop rate will increase from $90.51/hour which generates $615,46 to $98.63/hour which generates $641,095. The rate is designed to recover the cost of the Fleet Services technicians' salaries and benefits. This is based on the new reduced estimate of 6,500 billable hours. Based on actual historical hours based and the longevity of the work force.
- Administrative fees will increase from $735,286 to $757,387 in the FY 2024/25 Adjusted Budget and increase to $771,577 in FY 2025/26 (4.9% increase). Historically Fleet Services has budgeted to have revenues and expenditures be equal. In the last three fiscal years, expenses have exceeded revenues, requiring the drawdown of available balance. The increased administrative fee will replenish the Fleet Fund.
- Average fuel costs are projected to remain flat at $3.15/gallon in FY 2025/26. Fuel remains the largest component of the Fleet Maintenance operating budget, with $614,250 budgeted for FY 2024/25. The number of gallons used is estimated to decrease, due to green initiatives, from 195,000 gallons to 190,000 gallons in FY 2025/26, which is budgeted at $598,500.
- Due to an increase in the cost of parts and the delay in receiving new vehicles, the budget for parts was increased by $25,000 in FY 2025/26.

## In-Progress Activities

- Fleet Services has budgeted $50,000 in the Fleet Services Reserve Fund in FY 2024/25 to help departments purchase all-electric or hybrid vehicles. Funding is again being programmed for this purpose in FY 2025/26. Also, due to the age of the motor pool, $50,000 is being programmed in both FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 for additional purchases of used vehicles.
- The first all-electric pickups have been put into service in the fleet, along with two all-electric SUVs. It is anticipated that four more all-electric trucks will be in service in FY 2024/25.

## Upcoming Activities

- Fleet Services will continue to work towards identifying more sustainable vehicle and equipment alternatives.

# Information Technology

## Description:

The purpose of the Information Technology activity is to provide electronic information and communication systems for internal City of Ames activities to assist in the delivery of programs and services to the citizens of Ames. The services provided by Information Technology include network infrastructure support, desktop computer support, and planning, analysis, and implementation of information systems. This activity also provides voice network infrastructure support, Wi-Fi infrastructure support, and cellular and phone system planning, analysis, and maintenance.

Computer Services and Phone System Operations costs are allocated to other City programs based on system use and the number of users and devices supported. Information Technology also assists City departments with planning for future technology needs and collects funds into a reserve, so funding is available when equipment needs to be replaced or updated.

The shared public safety system used by the City of Ames, Iowa State University, Story County, and the E-911 system is also reflected in this activity.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Computer Services | 1,921,991 | 2,001,841 | 2,001,258 | 1,810,800 | -9.5% |
| Phone System Operations | 277,913 | 278,447 | 277,327 | 168,452 | -39.5% |
| Technology Replacement | 396,373 | 270,100 | 477,954 | 380,800 | 41.0% |
| Finance/HRIS Software Study | - | - | 20,000 | - | |
| Shared Communications | 316,080 | 330,000 | 388,568 | 400,000 | 21.2% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,912,357 | 2,880,388 | 3,165,107 | 2,760,052 | -4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 985,068 | 1,176,767 | 1,034,718 | 1,094,522 | -7.0% |
| Internal Services | 660,840 | 342,120 | 568,095 | 177,417 | -48.1% |
| Contractual | 855,765 | 1,075,101 | 1,173,890 | 1,094,513 | 1.8% |
| Commodities | 344,005 | 286,400 | 317,900 | 323,600 | 13.0% |
| Capital | 57,807 | - | 70,504 | 70,000 | |
| Other Expenditures | 8,872 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 2,912,357 | 2,880,388 | 3,165,107 | 2,760,052 | -4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Information Technology Fund | 2,199,904 | 2,280,288 | 2,278,585 | 1,979,252 | -13.2% |
| Technology Reserve Funds | 396,373 | 270,100 | 497,954 | 380,800 | 41.0% |
| Shared Communications Fund | 316,080 | 330,000 | 388,568 | 400,000 | 21.2% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 2,912,357 | 2,880,388 | 3,165,107 | 2,760,052 | -4.2% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 10.00 | 10.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 | |

# Information Technology

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Establish and maintain secure and reliable IT infrastructure and technology equipment and tools to support service delivery to our citizens | Server downtime | 5 min | 5 min | 4 hr | 4 hr |
| | | Core network downtime | 5 min | 5 min | 4 hr | 4 hr |
| | | Primary internet downtime: all services | NA | 13 hr | 4 hr | 4 hr |
| | | Internet downtime: full client services, limited server services | NA | 20 min | 1 hr | 1 hr |
| | | Phone service downtime | NA | 3 day 5hr | 4 hr | 4 hr |
| | | CyberSecurity weekly status: average weekly high or critical vulnerabilities, CISA reports | 0.54 | 0.00 | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| | | Client computer patch status | NA | NA | 95% | 95% |
| | | Service desk: percent of tickets with a same-day ongoing response | NA | NA | 92% | 95% |

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- In Fall 2020, the Information Technology (IT) department had 10 full time equivalency (FTE) members and two part-time employees who worked less than 20 hours per week. December 2021 marked the last instance of a ten-member full-time team. Over the past three years, the nine-member team has implemented many automations to improve productivity. The FY 2024/25 adjusted and FY 2025/26 budgets reflects a reduction of one FTE.
- In FY 2023/24, IT implemented a new methodology for allocating computer costs to better reflect the actual usage of IT services by departments. This change caused varied impacts on departmental charges. To ease this transition, adjustments are being phased in over five years, with FY 2025/26 as the third year of implementation.
- Staff vacancies and other efficiencies resulted in revenues to the IT reserve fund outpacing required expenditures. Given the City's IT reserve fund balance, no funding is budgeted for technology replacement in FY 2025/26.
- The above table is a new product of the IT Division for this budget year. Given this transition, some historical and present numbers are unavailable.

## In-Progress Activities

- IT is implementing multi-factor authentication for Windows logins. This security improvement was suggested at the City's Spring 2024 Iowa Communities Assurance Pool (ICAP) cyber-insurance review.
- The IT team is transitioning to Iowa Communication Network (ICN) as the City's primary internet service provider. ICN offers superior service-level agreement terms for fiber cuts and significant cost savings to the City compared to other providers.
- IT is leading a re-examination of voice communications in the City. This examination will involve traditional telephone services along with associated services such as fax and text messages.
- In partnership with the Intelligent Traffic System project, IT is establishing new fiber-optic pathways across Ames, enhancing communication with City buildings and increasing network redundancy.

## Upcoming Activities

- IT will replace aging, on-site backup servers. Additionally, IT will perform a full review of its backup processes to ensure efficient execution of both on-site and off-site backups.
- IT will adopt security suggestions resulting from the City's cyber security review.

# Risk Management

## Description:

The Risk Management activity administers the City's risk insurance programs, including general and professional liability, vehicle and property insurance, the Worker's Compensation program, and occupational safety and training. Other responsibilities include exposure analysis and risk financing.

| *Expenditures by Activity:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Risk Administration | 170,575 | 181,361 | 179,893 | 189,772 | 4.6% |
| Property Insurance | 1,302,332 | 1,766,733 | 1,051,452 | 1,281,304 | -27.5% |
| Liability Insurance | 342,980 | 390,727 | 355,142 | 405,213 | 3.7% |
| Liability Claims | 76,566 | 84,223 | 80,307 | 88,338 | 4.9% |
| Auto Insurance | 239,858 | 268,641 | 250,403 | 287,963 | 7.2% |
| Transit Insurance | 80,071 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 0.0% |
| Professional Liability Insurance | 72,280 | 79,508 | 85,344 | 98,146 | 23.4% |
| Police Professional Insurance | 54,341 | 59,775 | 58,636 | 64,500 | 7.9% |
| Workers Compensation | 810,611 | 749,014 | 849,014 | 882,660 | 17.8% |
| Internal Safety Training | 143,310 | 148,460 | 148,452 | 152,533 | 2.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 157,152 | 165,976 | 164,438 | 173,762 | 4.7% |
| Internal Services | 8,241 | 8,775 | 9,495 | 9,410 | 7.2% |
| Contractual | 2,405,515 | 3,003,541 | 2,209,560 | 2,592,107 | -13.7% |
| Commodities | - | 150 | 150 | 150 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 722,016 | 750,000 | 875,000 | 875,000 | 16.7% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Risk Insurance Fund | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 | |

# Risk Management

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Ensure that the City's risk insurance program protects the City in a cost-effective manner | Value of City's insured buildings/ property* | $737 | $767 | $618 | $674 |
| | | Percent increase in actual property insurance paid over the prior year | 12% | 33% | -19% | 22% |
| | | Worker's Compensation claims | 34 | 35 | 33 | 35 |
| | | Police/Fire injury claims | 25 | 20 | 24 | 25 |
| | Cultivate a safety culture to promote a safe work environment and minimize claims | Safety training classes held | 128 | 130 | 129 | 130 |
| | | Lost time injuries | 5 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| | Maintain a fund balance of at least $1,000,000 for deductibles and retained risk | Risk Insurance fund balance* | $3.6 | $3.9 | $4.0 | $4.1 |

*In millions of dollars

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- Through property appraisals, the City was able to lower total insured property values in FY 2024/25, resulting in reduced premium costs which are reflected in the FY 2024/25 adjusted budget. This reduction primarily benefits the Electric Utility's allocation of property insurance costs. City staff proposes additional property appraisals in FY 2025/26 to ensure properties are appropriately insured.
- While the insurance market remains tumultuous, City staff expect rate increases for FY 2025/26. Staff expects rates to rise by 15%. Property values are budgeted to increase by 5% in FY 2025/26. The FY 2025/26 Budget also includes property insurance costs for the new Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center.

## In-Progress Activities and Upcoming Activities

- City staff anticipate the issuance of a request-for-proposal (RFP) for the City's Excess Workers' Compensation insurance for FY 2025/26. This will ensure that the City receives the best rates possible.
- City staff will also issue an RFP for our workers' compensation third-party administrator (TPA). The City has been with the incumbent TPA for several years. While the current TPA provides excellent service, an RFP will ensure that the City receives the best service at the best value.

# Health Insurance

## Description:

The Health Insurance Management activity is responsible for the administration of the City's health insurance plan, which involves the accumulation of departmental, employee, and retiree contributions, and the payment of all medical, dental, and prescription drug claims. This activity is also responsible for the selection of third-party administrators for the payment of claims, the preparation of all required financial and regulatory reporting, and the determination of appropriate contribution rates to maintain an adequate Health Insurance fund balance.

| ***Expenditures by Activity:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change From Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Health Administration | 199,358 | 172,160 | 169,502 | 176,612 | 2.6% |
| Medical Claims | 7,498,677 | 7,152,791 | 7,152,791 | 6,301,788 | -11.9% |
| Dental Claims | 426,688 | 469,818 | 469,818 | 443,657 | -5.6% |
| Pharmacy Claims | 2,782,497 | 2,730,279 | 2,730,279 | 3,393,270 | 24.3% |
| Excess Insurance | 990,974 | 1,322,704 | 1,322,704 | 1,418,261 | 7.2% |
| Other Health Insurance | 375,934 | 446,654 | 446,654 | 441,893 | -1.1% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 12,274,128 | 12,294,406 | 12,291,748 | 12,175,481 | -1.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenditures by Category:*** | | | | | |
| Personal Services | 76,252 | 80,688 | 80,608 | 85,397 | 5.8% |
| Internal Services | 4,601 | 5,357 | 5,979 | 6,290 | 17.4% |
| Contractual | 1,480,140 | 1,855,098 | 1,851,898 | 1,944,704 | 4.8% |
| Commodities | 315 | 375 | 375 | 375 | 0.0% |
| Capital | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | 10,712,820 | 10,352,888 | 10,352,888 | 10,138,715 | -2.1% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 12,274,128 | 12,294,406 | 12,291,748 | 12,175,481 | -1.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Health Insurance Fund | 12,274,128 | 12,294,406 | 12,291,748 | 12,175,481 | -1.0% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 12,274,128 | 12,294,406 | 12,291,748 | 12,175,481 | -1.0% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 0.70 | 0.70 | 0.70 | 0.70 | |

# Health Insurance

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Enhance opportunities for everyone to thrive by fostering a culture that embraces creativity and innovation | Total medical claims paid* | $7.2 | $7.5 | $7.2 | $6.3 |
| | | Total dental claims paid^ | $446 | $427 | $470 | $444 |
| | Improve the health status of all City employees | Total pharmacy claims paid* | $2.6 | $2.8 | $2.7 | $3.4 |
| | | Maintain an adequate fund balance to cover reserves* | $7.2 | $7.7 | $7.2 | $7.9 |

*In millions of dollars
^In thousands of dollars

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2025/26 Budget

- Based on consultant assistance, the budgeting of claims for FY 2025/26 includes only net claims. This is due to the recovery of funds for each individual whose claims exceeded the specific excess insurance limit ($125,000) being an unknown amount each year. The same applies for rebates from the Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM).
- In FY 2024/25 the City carved out the PBM service from Wellmark to save on drug pricing and transparent rebate methodology (based on the City's specific experience rather than the company's entire book of business). While this change brought the anticipated savings, the new vendor's (CarelonRx) service levels did not meet expectations. The City terminated the contract with CarelonRx in spring 2025, and re-engaged Wellmark BCBS for PBM services beginning April 2025. Wellmark BCBS has a strong service history with the City and has provided a pricing and rebate structure that is competitive. Using actual claims information from a fixed 6-month period, projections indicate a potential savings of approximately 22% ($1.3M) from Wellmark BCBS over the next three years compared to the same period with the current PBM.
- Stop-loss insurance rates have increased over the last five years due to the claims experience. The City has incurred increases of at least 25% or higher each of these years, and staff are projecting a 20% increase for FY 2025/26, with a total cost of $1,401,365. Staff anticipates enlisting the City's benefits consultant to re-evaluate specific excess insurance coverage or individual stop-loss insurance. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine if the City can lower the total net insurance costs by increasing the individual stop loss deductible from $125k to $150k.
- The FY 2025/26 budget includes an 8% increase in health insurance rates for all departments and employees. This increase takes a conservative approach to managing the fluctuations in anticipated claims costs.

## In-Progress Activities

- Staff is planning a second Benefits Fair for employees to meet with representatives of all benefit vendors. This initiative started in November 2023 and will continue with the support of the Benefit Advisory Team.

## Upcoming Activities

- Staff plans to create educational sessions for employees, participating retirees, and COBRA recipients on benefit-related topics. Discussed methods of communication include podcasts (to allow all members access outside the organization), videos, and classes.

# Health Promotion

## Description:

The City's Health Promotion activity offers programs and services to employees and family members included on the City's insurance plan to promote wellness, preventative screenings, and healthy lifestyles.

| *Expenditures by Category:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Personal Services | 102,954 | 109,552 | 110,058 | 115,898 | 5.8% |
| Internal Services | 5,590 | 5,754 | 5,597 | 7,609 | 32.2% |
| Contractual | 150,486 | 206,483 | 231,387 | 243,499 | 17.9% |
| Commodities | 4,648 | 5,768 | 5,770 | 6,125 | 6.2% |
| Capital | 7,766 | - | - | - | |
| Other Expenditures | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 271,444 | 327,557 | 352,812 | 373,131 | 13.9% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| Health Insurance Fund | 271,444 | 327,557 | 352,812 | 373,131 | 13.9% |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 271,444 | 327,557 | 352,812 | 373,131 | 13.9% |
| | | | | | |
| *Authorized FTEs* | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | |

# Health Promotion

| City Mission/ Council Value | Department Goals and Core Services | Indicators | 2022/23 Actual | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Estimated |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provide quality programs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner** | Provide City employees with the resources and programs to maintain or improve their wellbeing<br><br>Empower our workforce to share responsibility for the health and wellbeing of our organization | Employees that participated in **any** wellness program activity (not including vaccine clinics) | 343 (59%) | 366 (62%) | 390 (66%) | 400 (68%) |
| | | Healthy4Life program participants that met **all** participation criteria* | 160 (80%) | 159 (80%) | 171 (85%) | 175 (87%) |
| | | Employees, insured family members, and insured retirees that received influenza vaccination through the City | 444 (27%) | 358 (21%) | 365 (23%) | 380 (24%) |
| | | Employees that completed year-end Health Promotion survey that indicated they feel the City of Ames cares about their wellbeing | 85% | 87% | 89% | 90% |
| | | Healthy4Life participants that completed year-end survey that indicated the Healthy4Life program helped them improve or maintain their wellbeing | 88% | 80% | 90% | 92% |
| | | Average number of sick leave hours used per person, **Healthy4Life members** vs. non-Healthy4Life members | **69.49** (64.74) | **50.65** (56.69) | **50.5** (60.5) | **48.5** (58.5) |

*In FY 2022/23, there were 5 criteria. From FY 2023/24 onward, there are 4 criteria.

## Issues and Factors Affecting the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Budgets

- The Health Promotion Program is anticipating increased usage in the employee fitness subsidy for Parks and Recreation programs and is therefore increasing the budget to $24,000 in FY 2024/25 and $30,000 in FY 2025/26.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are now privatized, and cost has dramatically increased (formerly $40, now $140). It is anticipated costs will stay that high for the foreseeable future. Despite this, utilizing onsite vaccine services rather than encouraging employees to only go through health insurance still saves the Health Insurance Fund money, because the City only pays for the vaccines themselves and no administration fee (which would be charged at a health care facility). Therefore, the Health Promotion Program is increasing the budget for flu and COVID-19 vaccines to $45,000 in both FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.

## In-Progress and Upcoming Activities

- In FY 2024/25 and 2025/26, a new emphasis on employee wellbeing is being integrated into the City's new leadership training program, Leadership Fundamentals. A section of the program is dedicated to teaching supervisors about the eight different areas of wellbeing (physical, emotional, intellectual, occupational, environmental, financial, spiritual, and social), and how they overlap with the employee experience. The Health Promotion Coordinator will teach supervisors a variety of techniques to support their employees' wellbeing.
- Throughout FY 2024/25 and 2025/26, the Health Promotion Coordinator will be conducting injury prevention workshops at various City department meetings. Muscular strains and sprains are a common and preventable injury seen in positions that include manual labor. It is the hope that by teaching injury prevention exercises that can be performed each day, the number of muscular strains and sprains will decrease over the coming years.
- The Health Promotion Program will collaborate with the Human Resources Department and the Benefits Advisory Team in FY 2025/26 to host the City's 2nd Benefits Fair. The plan is to host this event every other year.

# Transfers

## Description:

This program accounts for the transfer of money between the carious City funds. Transfers are shown both as an expense and as a revenue in the respective funds.

| *Expenditures:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change From Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Transfers | 34,958,302 | 25,597,427 | 31,171,106 | 25,030,918 | -2.2% |
| ***Total Expenditures*** | 34,958,302 | 25,597,427 | 31,171,106 | 25,030,918 | -2.2% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Funding Sources:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 8,561,424 | 6,427,723 | 8,740,528 | 5,592,854 | -13.0% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 7,359,970 | 7,340,000 | 7,580,000 | 7,580,000 | 3.3% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 400,496 | 421,554 | 406,825 | 406,539 | -3.6% |
| Police/Fire Retirement | 55,000 | - | 17,893 | - | |
| Parks & Rec Donations/Grants | 27,620 | - | 175,000 | - | |
| FEMA Derecho 2020 | 415,483 | - | - | - | |
| American Rescue Plan | 1,000,000 | - | - | - | |
| TIF/ISU Research Park | 302,400 | 300,650 | 300,650 | 302,400 | 0.6% |
| TIF/ISU Research Park Dist 2 | 32,650 | 31,400 | 31,400 | 30,150 | -4.0% |
| Special Assessments | 322,627 | 43,450 | 45,450 | 49,400 | 13.7% |
| Street Construction Fund | 172,167 | - | - | - | |
| G.O. Bond Funds | 396,339 | - | 1,249,446 | - | |
| Airport Operations | 138,189 | 163,435 | 153,114 | 157,666 | -3.5% |
| Airport Sigler Reserve | 64,043 | 65,956 | 65,956 | 67,945 | 3.0% |
| Water Utility Fund | 4,472,275 | 4,631,861 | 4,550,191 | 4,707,694 | 1.6% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 1,670,566 | 1,799,184 | 1,742,294 | 1,752,254 | -2.6% |
| Sewer Improvements | - | - | 300,000 | - | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 5,685,615 | 3,459,051 | 3,459,051 | 3,490,250 | 0.9% |
| Transit Operations | 3,010,923 | 800,000 | 2,240,145 | 800,000 | 0.0% |
| Stormwater Improvements | 676,913 | - | - | - | |
| Resource Recovery | 147,403 | 113,163 | 113,163 | 93,766 | -17.1% |
| Fleet Replacement Fund | 46,199 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Funding Sources*** | 34,958,302 | 25,597,427 | 31,171,106 | 25,030,918 | -2.2% |

# Transfers

## FY 2024/25 Adjusted Budget Transfer Detail

| *Funding Sources:* | Amount of Transfer | *Reason for Transfer* |
|---|---|---|
| ***General Fund:*** | | |
| - to Hotel/Motel Tax Fund | 2,775,000 | *Hotel/Motel Tax receipts* |
| - to Parks & Recreation Scholarship Fund | 200,000 | *Transfer to increase amount available for scholarships* |
| - to Council Priorities Fund | 3,000,000 | *Funding for future projects prioritized by City Council* |
| - to Transit Operations Fund | 2,173,044 | *Transit Levy receipts* |
| - to Resource Recovery Fund | 592,484 | *City of Ames per capita payment* |
| ***Total General Fund Transfers*** | 8,740,528 | |
| ***Local Option Sales Tax:*** | | |
| - to General Fund | 7,440,000 | *Property tax relief* |
| - to Park Development Fund | 100,000 | *Park development annual funding* |
| - to Ice Arena Capital Reserve Fund | 40,000 | *City's annual contribution to capital reserve* |
| ***Total Local Option Sales Tax Transfers*** | 7,580,000 | |
| ***Hotel/Motel Tax:*** | | |
| - to General Fund | 238,095 | *Hotel/Motel share of property tax relief* |
| - to Local Option Sales Tax Fund | 158,730 | *Hotel/Motel share of community betterment* |
| - to Parking Operations Fund | 10,000 | *Reimbursement for special event parking waivers* |
| ***Total Hotel/Motel Tax Transfers*** | 406,825 | |
| ***Police/Fire Retirement:*** | | |
| *- to General Fund* | 17,893 | *Transfer to General Fund to close fund* |
| ***Parks & Recreation Grants:*** | | |
| - to General Park Development Fund | 175,000 | *Grant proceeds for land purchased in Park Dev Fund* |
| ***TIF/ISU Research Park:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 300,650 | *Debt service for ISU Research Park TIF project* |
| ***TIF/ISU Research Park District 2*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 31,400 | *Debt service for ISU Research Park TIF project* |
| ***Special Assessments:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 38,450 | *Debt service on projects with special assessments* |
| - to General Fund | 7,000 | *Assessments collected on General Fund expenses* |
| ***Total Special Assessments*** | 45,450 | |

## FY 2024/25 Adjusted Budget Transfer Detail, continued

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***Airport Operations:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service | 70,984 | *Debt service for Airport terminal building* |
| - to Airport Improvements | 82,130 | *Airport operations farm revenue* |
| ***Total Airport Operations Transfers*** | 153,114 | |
| | | |
| ***Airport Sigler Reserve:*** | | |
| - to Airport Operations | 65,956 | *Amount equal to Sigler annual lease payment* |
| | | |
| ***G.O. Bond Funds:*** | | |
| - to Street Construction Fund | 270,279 | *Bond funds to cover unreimbursed grant expenses* |
| *- to Debt Service Fund* | 979,167 | *Transfer to Debt Service to close 2019/20 G.O. Bonds* |
| ***Total G.O. Bond Funds*** | 1,249,446 | |
| | | |
| ***Water Utility Fund:*** | | |
| - to Water Sinking Fund | 4,483,873 | *Water Utility SRF loan debt service* |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 66,318 | *Water Utility G.O. bond debt service* |
| ***Total Water Utility Fund Transfers*** | 4,550,191 | |
| | | |
| ***Sewer Utility Fund:*** | | |
| - to Sewer Sinking Fund | 1,419,542 | *Sewer Utility SRF loan debt service* |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 322,752 | *Sewer Utility G.O. bond debt service* |
| ***Total Sewer Utility Fund Transfers*** | 1,742,294 | |
| | | |
| ***Sewer Improvements Fund:*** | | |
| - to Stormwater Improvements | 300,000 | *SRF proceeds for stormwater CIP projects* |
| | | |
| ***Electric Utility Fund:*** | | |
| - to General Fund | 2,420,784 | *In-Lieu-of-Property Tax payment* |
| - to Electric Sinking Fund | 966,202 | *Electric Utility revenue bond debt service* |
| - to SunSmart Fund | 53,000 | *Electric Utility share of solar power purchases* |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 19,065 | *Electric Utility G.O. bond debt service* |
| ***Total Electric Utility Fund Transfers*** | 3,459,051 | |
| | | |
| ***Transit Operations:*** | | |
| - to Transit Student Govt Trust Fund | 440,145 | *Excess student fees paid in FY 2023/24* |
| - to Transit Capital Reserve Fund | 1,800,000 | *Annual Transit Operations capital funding* |
| ***Total Transit Operations Transfers*** | 2,240,145 | |
| | | |
| ***Resource Recovery:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 113,163 | *Resource Recovery G.O. bond debt service* |
| | | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | **31,171,106** | |

# Transfers

## FY 2025/26 Adopted Budget Transfer Detail

| *Funding Sources:* | Amount of Transfer | *Reason for Transfer* |
|---|---|---|
| ***General Fund:*** | | |
| - to Hotel/Motel Tax Fund | 2,773,000 | *Hotel/Motel Tax receipts* |
| - to Transit Operations Fund | 2,227,370 | *Transit Levy receipts* |
| - to Resource Recovery Fund | 592,484 | *City of Ames per capita payment* |
| - to Debt Service Fund | - | *Transfer to help offset future debt service costs* |
| ***Total General Fund Transfers*** | 5,592,854 | |
| ***Local Option Sales Tax:*** | | |
| - to General Fund | 7,440,000 | *Property tax relief* |
| - to Park Development Fund | 100,000 | *Park development annual funding* |
| - to Ice Arena Capital Reserve Fund | 40,000 | *City's annual contribution to capital reserve* |
| ***Total Local Option Sales Tax Transfers*** | 7,580,000 | |
| ***Hotel/Motel Tax:*** | | |
| - to General Fund | 237,923 | *Hotel/Motel share of property tax relief* |
| - to Local Option Sales Tax Fund | 158,616 | *Hotel/Motel share of community betterment* |
| - to Parking Operations Fund | 10,000 | *Reimbursement for special event parking waivers* |
| ***Total Hotel/Motel Tax Transfers*** | 406,539 | |
| ***TIF/ISU Research Park:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 302,400 | *Debt service for ISU Research Park TIF project* |
| ***TIF/ISU Research Park District 2*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 30,150 | *Debt service for ISU Research Park TIF project* |
| ***Special Assessments:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 42,400 | *Debt service on projects with special assessments* |
| - to General Fund | 7,000 | *Assessments collected on General Fund expenses* |
| ***Total Special Assessment Transfers*** | 49,400 | |

## FY 2025/26 Adopted Budget Transfer Detail, continued

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***Airport Operations:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 70,975 | *Debt service for Airport terminal building* |
| - to Airport Improvements Fund | 86,691 | *Airport operations farm revenue* |
| ***Total Airport Operations Transfers*** | 157,666 | |
| ***Airport Sigler Reserve:*** | | |
| - to Airport Operations | 67,945 | *Amount equal to Sigler annual lease payment* |
| ***Water Utility Fund:*** | | |
| - to Water Sinking Fund | 4,640,852 | *Water Utility SRF loan debt service* |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 66,842 | *Water Utility G.O. bond debt service* |
| ***Total Water Utility Fund Transfers*** | 4,707,694 | |
| ***Sewer Utility Fund:*** | | |
| - to Sewer Sinking Fund | 1,428,532 | *Sewer Utility SRF loan debt service* |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 323,722 | *Sewer Utility G.O. bond debt service* |
| ***Total Sewer Utility Fund Transfers*** | 1,752,254 | |
| ***Electric Utility Fund:*** | | |
| - to General Fund | 2,452,707 | *In-Lieu-of-Property Tax payment* |
| - to Electric Sinking Fund | 966,253 | *Electric Utility revenue bond debt service* |
| - to SunSmart Fund | 53,000 | *Electric Utility share of solar power purchases* |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 18,290 | *Electric Utility G.O. bond debt service* |
| ***Total Electric Utility Fund Transfers*** | 3,490,250 | |
| ***Transit Operations:*** | | |
| - to Transit Capital Reserve Fund | 800,000 | *Annual Transit Operations capital funding* |
| ***Resource Recovery:*** | | |
| - to Debt Service Fund | 93,766 | *Resource Recovery G.O. bond debt service* |
| ***Total Transfers*** | **25,030,918** | |

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# FUND SUMMARIES







RIVER VALLEY PARK
60 YEARS
1965-2025




SUNSET RIDGE PARK
25 YEARS
2000-2025





CITY OF
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# Fund Summaries

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# Fund Summaries

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All the funds for the City are listed above and all are appropriated.

A fund balance reserve for minimum fund balances is established for certain funds, based on an evaluation of each fund using the Budget and Fiscal Policies adopted by the City Council. Enterprise Fund balances, and other funds used for capital projects, may significantly exceed the unreserved fund balance due to the balances for future pay-as-you-go capital projects.

# General Fund

This fund accounts for programs such as Law Enforcement, Fire Safety, Building Safety, Parks and Recreation, and Library Services, as well as many general government activities such as City Council, Financial Services, and Legal Services. The minimum fund balance reserve is based on the credit rating agency guideline for an Aaa-rated City.

| ***Revenues:*** <br> ***Property Taxes:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General Levy | 21,408,093 | 22,108,355 | 22,108,355 | 23,305,597 | 5.4% |
| Utility Excise Tax | 129,802 | 50,264 | 50,264 | 51,706 | 2.9% |
| Other Taxes | 40,184 | 34,452 | 34,452 | 37,088 | 7.7% |
| State Replacement Tax | 630,829 | 494,750 | 494,750 | 374,803 | -24.2% |
| Transit Levy | 2,046,879 | 2,119,714 | 2,119,714 | 2,185,766 | 3.1% |
| Transit Excise Tax | 12,394 | 4,811 | 4,811 | 4,848 | 0.8% |
| Transit State Replacement Tax | 60,217 | 48,519 | 48,519 | 36,756 | -24.2% |
| ***Total Property Taxes*** | 24,328,398 | 24,860,865 | 24,860,865 | 25,996,564 | 4.6% |
| ***Other Revenues:*** | | | | | |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,762,285 | 2,878,000 | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | -3.6% |
| Metropolitan Planning Organization | 108,745 | 148,091 | 168,018 | 223,330 | 50.8% |
| Other Governmental Revenue | 116,008 | 78,975 | 84,461 | 84,461 | 6.9% |
| Cable TV Franchise | 228,822 | 250,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | -20.0% |
| Cell Tower Lease | 20,329 | 24,850 | 20,329 | 20,329 | -18.2% |
| City Clerk Licenses/Permits | 109,654 | 81,800 | 81,600 | 81,600 | -0.2% |
| Planning Services | 22,239 | 20,000 | 36,000 | 26,000 | 30.0% |
| Legal Services | 66,124 | 46,250 | 51,250 | 51,250 | 10.8% |
| Fire Services | 2,153,762 | 2,253,527 | 2,257,925 | 2,353,513 | 4.4% |
| Building Permits | 1,155,553 | 1,269,566 | 1,269,566 | 1,269,662 | 0.0% |
| Rental Housing Fees | 533,686 | 548,167 | 533,461 | 537,083 | -2.0% |
| Police Services | 123,165 | 127,000 | 127,000 | 127,000 | 0.0% |
| Animal Control | 33,086 | 31,500 | 31,500 | 31,500 | 0.0% |
| Library Services | 212,162 | 217,085 | 214,793 | 210,500 | -3.0% |
| Facilities | 18,568 | 18,754 | 19,140 | 19,943 | 6.3% |
| Parks and Recreation | 1,583,007 | 1,701,554 | 1,673,916 | 2,269,521 | 33.4% |
| Cemetery | 258,071 | 217,330 | 217,330 | 228,300 | 5.0% |
| Human Services | - | - | 12,000 | - | |
| Public Works | 103,280 | 58,455 | 49,906 | 52,799 | -9.7% |
| Interest Revenue | 1,267,569 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 750,000 | -25.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 995,807 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 24,754 | 16,272 | 21,187 | 21,252 | 30.6% |
| ***Total Other Revenues*** | 11,896,676 | 10,987,176 | 10,844,382 | 11,331,043 | 3.1% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 36,225,074 | 35,848,041 | 35,705,247 | 37,327,607 | 4.1% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 7,219,970 | 7,200,000 | 7,440,000 | 7,440,000 | 3.3% |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 237,004 | 246,932 | 238,095 | 237,923 | -3.6% |
| Electric Utility (In Lieu of Taxes) | 2,292,262 | 2,420,784 | 2,420,784 | 2,452,707 | 1.3% |
| Police/Fire Retirement | 55,000 | - | 17,893 | - | |
| Special Assessments | 5,074 | 5,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 40.0% |
| FEMA/Derecho 2020 | 415,483 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 10,224,793 | 9,872,716 | 10,123,772 | 10,137,630 | 2.7% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 46,449,867 | 45,720,757 | 45,829,019 | 47,465,237 | 3.8% |

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| *Operations Expenses:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change from Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Law Enforcement | 10,409,121 | 11,789,108 | 11,351,668 | 12,209,884 | 3.6% |
| Fire Safety | 8,377,101 | 8,894,108 | 8,899,921 | 9,250,301 | 4.0% |
| Building Safety | 1,793,038 | 1,972,225 | 1,913,631 | 1,994,042 | 1.1% |
| Animal Control | 655,669 | 646,507 | 734,308 | 828,263 | 28.1% |
| Emergency Management | 2,448 | 3,448 | 13,448 | 2,481 | -28.0% |
| Storm Warning System | 10,074 | 13,050 | 12,972 | 13,078 | 0.2% |
| Public Works Engineering | 25,669 | 31,815 | 28,000 | 28,000 | -12.0% |
| Traffic Engineering | 172,834 | 148,091 | 168,018 | 223,330 | 50.8% |
| Traffic Operations | 25,624 | 26,640 | 21,256 | 24,799 | -6.9% |
| Streetlight System | 887,613 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 0.0% |
| Street Maintenance | 65,791 | - | - | - | |
| P & R Administration | 434,254 | 446,706 | 483,986 | 466,809 | 4.5% |
| Instructional Programs | 210,764 | 239,769 | 234,222 | 252,284 | 5.2% |
| Athletic Programs | 155,999 | 177,873 | 167,696 | 188,306 | 5.9% |
| Aquatics | 981,565 | 1,048,190 | 1,020,793 | 1,773,475 | 69.2% |
| Community Center/Auditorium | 385,602 | 423,617 | 407,899 | 441,589 | 4.2% |
| Public Wellness Programs | 354,544 | 347,436 | 345,484 | 373,337 | 7.5% |
| Park Maintenance | 1,639,411 | 1,882,829 | 1,760,074 | 1,850,847 | -1.7% |
| Library Services | 5,042,037 | 5,430,064 | 5,355,538 | 5,631,055 | 3.7% |
| Art Services | 147,904 | - | 180,000 | - | |
| Cemetery | 248,635 | 256,846 | 252,805 | 258,096 | 0.5% |
| Planning Services | 952,431 | 1,030,469 | 980,720 | 1,178,104 | 14.3% |
| Economic Development | 81,607 | 84,352 | 84,961 | 89,175 | 5.7% |
| Sustainability | 7,573 | 27,444 | 25,179 | 24,927 | -9.2% |
| Sustainability/City Facilities | - | - | 100,000 | - | |
| Human Services Administration | - | - | 12,000 | - | |
| City Council | 185,029 | 200,576 | 207,758 | 214,126 | 6.8% |
| City Council Contingency | 20,452 | 50,000 | 164,535 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| City Clerk | 277,713 | 292,545 | 300,768 | 312,095 | 6.7% |
| City Manager | 412,847 | 526,133 | 510,867 | 547,455 | 4.1% |
| Community Engagement | 57,196 | 45,121 | 34,181 | 64,334 | 42.6% |
| City Engagement Training | - | 25,000 | 50,000 | - | -100.0% |
| Community Engagement Plan | - | - | 100,000 | - | |
| Communications and Outreach | 325,413 | 386,431 | 374,681 | 400,852 | 3.7% |
| Finance Administration | 95,154 | 124,086 | 123,345 | 131,388 | 5.9% |
| Budgeting/Reporting System | - | - | 105,320 | - | |
| Accounting Services | 386,108 | 399,675 | 408,363 | 409,107 | 2.4% |
| Purchasing Services | 38,529 | 42,441 | 44,820 | 46,903 | 10.5% |
| Legal Services | 542,622 | 580,797 | 579,686 | 609,546 | 4.9% |
| Human Resources | 352,252 | 413,535 | 492,240 | 493,804 | 19.4% |
| Facilities | 367,692 | 386,107 | 394,065 | 410,591 | 6.3% |
| City Hall Space Needs | 72,881 | - | 159,269 | - | |
| ***Total Operations*** | 36,201,196 | 39,293,034 | 39,504,477 | 41,692,383 | 6.1% |

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| ***CIP:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fire Engine 1 Replacement | - | - | 16,017 | - | |
| Fire Station 2 Relocation | - | - | 40,000 | - | |
| Fire Station Alerting System | - | - | - | 80,000 | |
| Fire Station Improvements | 15,684 | - | 159,380 | - | |
| New Animal Shelter Study | - | - | 100,000 | - | |
| Outdoor Storm Warning System | - | - | 59,036 | - | |
| Bike Trail Signage | 28,472 | - | 159,233 | - | |
| Downtown Plaza | 642,800 | - | 721,807 | - | |
| Splash Pad | - | - | 231,172 | - | |
| Aerobics Room Flooring | 2,646 | - | - | - | |
| Park Maintenance Facility | - | - | 142,964 | - | |
| Park Agility Course | 4,750 | - | 238,636 | - | |
| Bandshell Sound System | 2,697 | - | - | - | |
| Inis Grove Restroom Repairs | 135,894 | - | - | - | |
| Soccer Pitch | 1,710 | - | 148,290 | - | |
| Ontario Park Development Plan | - | - | 100,000 | - | |
| Comm Center Security Cameras | - | - | 30,000 | - | |
| Bandshell Door Reconfiguration | - | - | 20,000 | - | |
| Recreation Center Conceptual Plan | - | - | - | 100,000 | |
| Library Carpet Replacement | - | - | 155,568 | - | |
| City Hall Improvements | 118,767 | - | 646,066 | - | |
| Auditorium HVAC System | - | - | 649,462 | - | |
| Police Parking Area | - | - | 25,000 | - | |
| ***Total CIP*** | 953,420 | - | 3,642,631 | 180,000 | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 37,154,616 | 39,293,034 | 43,147,108 | 41,872,383 | 6.6% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,762,285 | 2,878,000 | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | -3.6% |
| P&R Scholarship Fund | 250,000 | - | 200,000 | - | |
| Transit Operations (Transit levy) | 2,097,005 | 2,173,044 | 2,173,044 | 2,227,370 | 2.5% |
| Resource Recovery | 592,484 | 592,484 | 592,484 | 592,484 | 0.0% |
| Council Priorities (Sustainability) | 500,000 | - | - | - | |
| Council Priorities (Capital Projects) | 2,317,340 | - | 3,000,000 | - | |
| Parking Operations Fund | 374 | - | - | - | |
| FEMA/COVID-19 Fund | 41,936 | - | - | - | |
| Debt Service Fund | - | 784,195 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 8,561,424 | 6,427,723 | 8,740,528 | 5,592,854 | -13.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 45,716,040 | 45,720,757 | 51,887,636 | 47,465,237 | 3.8% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 733,827 | - | (6,058,617) | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 16,229,557 | 10,229,903 | 16,963,384 | 10,904,767 | 6.6% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 16,963,384 | 10,229,903 | 10,904,767 | 10,904,767 | 6.6% |
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | | | | | |
| 25% of revenues less pass-throughs | | | | 10,616,217 | |
| *Unreserved fund balance* | | | | 288,550 | |

# Special Revenue – Local Option Sales Tax

This fund accounts for the collection of 1% local option tax as approved by the voters on November 4, 1986. Revenue is allocated 60% for property tax relief and 40% for community betterment, including human service and arts agency funding. The fund balance is reserved at 25% of budgeted expenditures less the 60% tax relief transfer. Reserves are for cash flow and revenue fluctuations.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Property Tax Relief (60%) | 7,219,970 | 7,200,000 | 7,440,000 | 7,440,000 | 3.3% |
| Community Betterment (40%) | 4,813,313 | 4,800,000 | 4,960,000 | 4,960,000 | 3.3% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 12,033,283 | 12,000,000 | 12,400,000 | 12,400,000 | 3.3% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 158,003 | 164,622 | 158,730 | 158,616 | -3.6% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 12,191,286 | 12,164,622 | 12,558,730 | 12,558,616 | 3.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Municipal Band | 31,682 | 35,084 | 35,084 | 36,016 | 2.7% |
| Public Art | 59,036 | 46,000 | 125,530 | 46,000 | 0.0% |
| Art Agency Funding | 227,545 | 240,931 | 244,368 | 252,978 | 5.0% |
| Human Services Administration | 14,555 | 32,438 | 31,550 | 33,169 | 2.3% |
| Human Service Agency Funding | 1,775,926 | 1,924,578 | 1,924,578 | 2,020,807 | 5.0% |
| City Council Allocations | 288,830 | 309,035 | 309,035 | 324,487 | 5.0% |
| AHRC Special Events | 3,000 | 3,000 | 7,450 | 5,420 | 80.7% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 2,400,574 | 2,591,066 | 2,677,595 | 2,718,877 | 4.9% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Street Improvements | 68,117 | - | 244,900 | - | |
| Shared Use Path System | 544,351 | 675,000 | 2,796,503 | 810,000 | 20.0% |
| Traffic Improvements | 235,516 | 100,000 | 433,284 | 100,000 | 0.0% |
| Parks and Recreation | 607,204 | 880,536 | 3,230,956 | 980,500 | 11.4% |
| Library Services | - | 47,304 | 147,432 | - | -100.0% |
| Cemetery Improvements | - | - | 94,356 | 75,000 | |
| Downtown Façade Program | - | 75,000 | 288,001 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| Campustown Façade Program | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| Neighborhood Imp. Program | 240 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| Facilities Improvements | 61,101 | 75,000 | 288,988 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total CIP*** | 1,516,529 | 1,952,840 | 7,624,420 | 2,215,500 | 13.5% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 3,917,103 | 4,543,906 | 10,302,015 | 4,934,377 | 8.6% |

# Special Revenue – Local Option Sales Tax

**Continued from previous page.**

| ***Transfers:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General Fund | 7,219,970 | 7,200,000 | 7,440,000 | 7,440,000 | 3.3% |
| Park Development Fund | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0.0% |
| Ames/ISU Ice Arena | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| Parking Operations | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 7,359,970 | 7,340,000 | 7,580,000 | 7,580,000 | 3.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 11,277,073 | 11,883,906 | 17,882,015 | 12,514,377 | 5.3% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 914,213 | 280,716 | (5,323,285) | 44,239 | -84.2% |
| Beginning Balance | 9,779,016 | 4,625,702 | 10,693,229 | 5,369,944 | 16.1% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 10,693,229 | 4,906,418 | 5,369,944 | 5,414,183 | 10.3% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 25% of expenses less 60% pass-through | 1,268,594 |
| *Unreserved fund balance* | 4,145,589 |

# Special Revenue – Hotel/Motel Tax

Hotel/Motel tax revenues are collected in the General Fund and transferred to the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. Of the 7¢ per dollar tax, 5¢ is provided to the Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau for community attractions, 1¢ replaces the local option tax and is split 60% for tax reduction and 40% for community betterment projects. The remaining 1¢ remains in this fund for economic development activities.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 2,762,285 | 2,878,000 | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | -3.6% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,762,285 | 2,878,000 | 2,775,000 | 2,773,000 | -3.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Discover Ames Pass Through | 1,524,935 | 2,054,892 | 1,981,350 | 1,979,922 | -3.6% |
| Economic Development | 175,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 | 175,000 | 0.0% |
| Chamber of Commerce Dues | 3,781 | 3,600 | 3,800 | 3,800 | 5.6% |
| AREA/Council Grant Program | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 0.0% |
| City Website Update | 37,662 | - | 37,338 | - | |
| Reinvestment District Study | - | - | 24,650 | - | |
| Ames History Museum Allocation | 105,000 | - | 30,000 | - | |
| ***Total Operations*** | 1,861,378 | 2,248,492 | 2,267,138 | 2,173,722 | -3.3% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Main Street Improvements | 2,500 | - | 12,888 | - | |
| Downtown Plaza | - | - | 50,000 | - | |
| ***Total CIP*** | 2,500 | - | 62,888 | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 1,863,878 | 2,248,492 | 2,330,026 | 2,173,722 | -3.3% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 237,004 | 246,932 | 238,095 | 237,923 | -3.6% |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 158,003 | 164,622 | 158,730 | 158,616 | -3.6% |
| Parking Operations | 5,489 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 400,496 | 421,554 | 406,825 | 406,539 | -3.6% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 2,264,374 | 2,670,046 | 2,736,851 | 2,580,261 | -3.4% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 497,911 | 207,954 | 38,149 | 192,739 | -7.3% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,434,691 | 1,421,767 | 1,932,602 | 1,970,751 | 38.6% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,932,602 | 1,629,721 | 1,970,751 | 2,163,490 | 32.8% |

# Special Revenue – Road Use Tax

This fund accounts for activity of the state allocated motor vehicle fuel tax. The fund balance policy is to retain 10% of budgeted expenses as an operating reserve.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Road Use Tax | 9,392,282 | 9,300,000 | 9,400,000 | 9,500,000 | 2.2% |
| Public Works Fees/Charges | 22,945 | - | 4,055 | 4,055 | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 9,415,227 | 9,300,000 | 9,404,055 | 9,504,055 | 2.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Public Works Administration | 326,446 | 359,197 | 375,375 | 385,167 | 7.2% |
| Public Works Engineering | 17,187 | 9,581 | 8,954 | 11,017 | 15.0% |
| Public Works GIS | 126,218 | 173,785 | 161,715 | 180,092 | 3.6% |
| Traffic Engineering | 221,349 | 257,135 | 264,622 | 257,590 | 0.2% |
| Traffic Operations | 1,189,089 | 1,379,177 | 1,393,215 | 1,450,723 | 5.2% |
| Street Maintenance | 2,442,645 | 2,599,875 | 2,591,330 | 2,803,455 | 7.8% |
| Street Cleaning | 335,650 | 405,791 | 401,473 | 415,687 | 2.4% |
| Snow and Ice Control | 1,347,479 | 1,601,586 | 1,603,399 | 1,770,739 | 10.6% |
| Right-of-Way Maintenance | 855,443 | 992,748 | 1,080,228 | 971,817 | -2.1% |
| Econ Dev (RISE Repayment) | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 6,889,537 | 7,806,907 | 7,908,343 | 8,274,319 | 6.0% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Street Improvements | 187,607 | - | 75,000 | 125,000 | |
| Shared Use Path System | - | 125,000 | 852,069 | 360,000 | 188.0% |
| Traffic Improvements | 1,086,957 | 1,886,900 | 3,921,755 | 1,936,460 | 2.6% |
| Street Rehabilitation | 789,615 | 630,000 | 1,995,609 | 530,000 | -15.9% |
| ***Total CIP*** | 2,064,179 | 2,641,900 | 6,844,433 | 2,951,460 | 11.7% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 8,953,716 | 10,448,807 | 14,752,776 | 11,225,779 | 7.4% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 461,511 | (1,148,807) | (5,348,721) | (1,721,724) | 49.9% |
| Beginning Balance | 8,962,817 | 4,443,386 | 9,424,328 | 4,075,607 | -8.3% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 9,424,328 | 3,294,579 | 4,075,607 | 2,353,883 | -28.6% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 10% of operating expenses | 827,432 |
| *Unreserved fund balance* | 1,526,451 |

# Special Revenue – Police Forfeiture

This fund accounts for funds received through investigations when seized property is forfeited or when evidence can be sold, and a portion of the proceeds retained by the Police Department. The funds are limited to being used for law enforcement activities or expenses outside of the normal Law Enforcement operating budget.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Police Forfeiture | 59,902 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| Evidence Proceeds | 1,153 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 61,055 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Law Enforcement | 65,443 | 12,000 | 26,000 | 12,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 65,443 | 12,000 | 26,000 | 12,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (4,388) | (2,000) | (16,000) | (2,000) | 0.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 177,045 | 172,047 | 172,657 | 156,657 | -8.9% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 172,657 | 170,047 | 156,657 | 154,657 | -9.1% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| Reserved for vehicle replacement | 30,000 |
| *Unreserved fund balance* | 124,657 |

# Special Revenue – Public Safety Donation/Grants

This fund accounts for the revenues and expenses associated with Public Safety grants and donations received by the Police and Fire Departments.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Police Grants/Donations | 49,435 | 48,000 | 50,825 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| Fire Grants/Donations | 37,061 | - | 236,834 | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 86,496 | 48,000 | 287,659 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Police Donations | - | - | - | - | |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 86,496 | 48,000 | 287,659 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Law Enforcement | 69,104 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| Fire Safety | 36,961 | - | 237,834 | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 106,065 | 48,000 | 285,834 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Fire Donations | - | - | - | - | |
| | | | | | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 106,065 | 48,000 | 285,834 | 48,000 | 0.0% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (19,569) | - | 1,825 | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 25,238 | 8,697 | 5,669 | 7,494 | -13.8% |
| | | | | | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 5,669 | 8,697 | 7,494 | 7,494 | -13.8% |

# Special Revenue – Animal Shelter Donations

This fund is used to account for donations received by the Ames Animal Shelter and the expenditures funded by the donations.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Animal Shelter Donations | 94,756 | 50,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 50.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 5,876 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 4,000 | -20.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 4,678 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 105,310 | 55,000 | 80,000 | 79,000 | 43.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Animal Shelter | 165,764 | 87,567 | 70,500 | 80,500 | -8.1% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 165,764 | 87,567 | 70,500 | 80,500 | -8.1% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (60,454) | (32,567) | 9,500 | (1,500) | -95.4% |
| Beginning Balance | 203,469 | 192,669 | 143,015 | 152,515 | -20.8% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 143,015 | 160,102 | 152,515 | 151,015 | -5.7% |

# Special Revenue – New Animal Shelter Donations

This fund is used to account for donations received for the relocation or construction of a new Animal Shelter and the expenditures funded by the donations.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Animal Shelter Donations | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Animal Shelter Relocation | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Special Revenue – City-Wide Housing Programs

This fund accounts for miscellaneous housing program activity including housing grant program repayments and proceeds from the sale of housing properties.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations | - | - | 500 | 500 | |
| Mortgage Reimbursement | 16,360 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 16,360 | - | 500 | 500 | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| Housing Programs | 18,826 | 25,453 | 28,805 | 29,410 | 15.5% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 18,826 | 25,453 | 28,805 | 29,410 | 15.5% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (2,466) | (25,453) | (28,305) | (28,910) | 13.6% |
| Beginning Balance | 419,334 | 395,785 | 416,868 | 388,563 | -1.8% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 416,868 | 370,332 | 388,563 | 359,653 | -2.9% |

# Special Revenue – Community Development Block Grant

This fund reflects the activity of the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The fund balance reflects the balance of loans outstanding, in addition to cash and investments held by the fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CDBG Funding | 282,241 | 557,990 | 534,122 | 534,122 | -4.3% |
| CDBG Rollover | - | - | 1,299,492 | - | |
| Program Repayments | - | - | 938 | - | |
| Sale of Homes | 93,034 | - | 50,000 | 150,000 | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 938 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 376,213 | 557,990 | 1,884,552 | 684,122 | 22.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| CDBG Administration | 128,082 | 111,598 | 106,824 | 106,824 | -4.3% |
| CDBG Programs | 189,449 | 446,392 | 1,844,130 | 577,298 | 29.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 317,531 | 557,990 | 1,950,954 | 684,122 | 22.6% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 58,682 | - | (66,402) | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 7,720 | - | 66,402 | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 66,402 | - | - | - | |

# Special Revenue – HOME Program

This fund is used to account for the revenue and expenditures associated with funding received by the City through the federally funded Home Investment Partnership (HOME) program. This funding is designated to create affordable housing for low-income households.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HOME Funding | 9,419 | 321,764 | 256,483 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| HOME Rollover | - | - | 2,683,015 | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 9,419 | 321,764 | 2,939,498 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| HOME Administration | 9,419 | 32,176 | 208,137 | 25,648 | -20.3% |
| CHDO Allocation | - | 48,265 | 147,563 | 38,472 | -20.3% |
| HOME Programs | - | 241,323 | 2,583,798 | 192,363 | -20.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 9,419 | 321,764 | 2,939,498 | 256,483 | -20.3% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Special Revenue – IEDA/COVID-19 CARES Act

This fund is used to account for CARES Act funding received from the State of Iowa. The funding is designated for COVID-19 relief programs developed and administered by Planning and Housing.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| IEDA COVID-19 Funding | 292,651 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 292,651 | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| IEDA CARES Administration | 19,836 | - | - | - | |
| IEDA CARES Programming | 33,733 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 53,569 | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 239,082 | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | (239,082) | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Special Revenue – HOME American Rescue Plan

This fund is used to account for funding awarded to the City of Ames through the HOME American Rescue Plan Program (ARP). Programs to utilize the funding will be developed and administered by Planning and Housing.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HOME ARP Funding | - | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| HOME/ARP Administration | - | 91,552 | 91,553 | 91,553 | 0.0% |
| HOME/ARP Programming | - | 539,430 | 539,430 | 539,430 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | 630,982 | 630,983 | 630,983 | 0.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Special Revenue – Fire/Police Pension

This fund accounts for the funds remaining from the transition to the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (MFPRSI). Funds may only be used to offset City contributions to MFPRSI.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 1,838 | 2,000 | 2,000 | - | -100.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 1,604 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 3,442 | 2,000 | 2,000 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 55,000 | - | 17,893 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 55,000 | - | 17,893 | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (51,558) | 2,000 | (15,893) | - | -100.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 67,451 | 14,451 | 15,893 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 15,893 | 16,451 | - | - | -100.0% |

# Special Revenue – Parks and Recreation Donation and Grants

This fund is used to account for revenues to be used for specific park improvements or recreation programs.

| Revenues: | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change from Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations | 43,354 | 10,100 | 32,925 | 87,100 | 762.4% |
| Grant Revenue | 17,562 | 663,500 | 601,291 | 572,712 | -13.7% |
| Interest Revenue | 2,738 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 2,000 | -50.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 2,422 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 66,076 | 677,600 | 638,216 | 661,812 | -2.3% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Parks & Recreation Donations | 6,231 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 72,307 | 677,600 | 638,216 | 661,812 | -2.3% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Parks & Rec Donations | 1,708 | - | 6,545 | - | |
| Block Party Trailer | - | - | 755 | - | |
| Community Center | - | - | 11,100 | - | |
| Auditorium | 2,750 | 3,500 | 5,380 | 3,500 | 0.0% |
| Municipal Band | - | - | 417 | - | |
| Public Wellness | 250 | - | 15 | - | |
| Park System Improvements | 21,913 | 10,000 | 114,449 | 12,000 | 20.0% |
| Tree Planting Grants | 10,000 | 160,000 | 222,330 | 164,400 | 2.8% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 36,621 | 173,500 | 360,991 | 179,900 | 3.7% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Disc Golf Course | - | - | 4,500 | - | |
| EML Park Shelter | - | - | 16,825 | - | |
| AHHP Accessible Launch | 1,072 | - | 2,275 | - | |
| AHHP Wetland Overlook | - | - | 5,000 | - | |
| Brookside Park Play Equipment | - | - | - | 75,000 | |
| Sunset Ridge Park | 605 | - | 877 | - | |
| Hira Park | 1,489 | - | 14,004 | - | |
| Carr Park | - | - | 155 | - | |
| Ontario Park | 200,000 | - | - | - | |
| Fitch Indoor Aquatic Center | - | 500,000 | - | 400,000 | -20.0% |
| ***Total CIP*** | 203,166 | 500,000 | 43,636 | 475,000 | -5.0% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 239,787 | 673,500 | 404,627 | 654,900 | -2.8% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| P&R Grants Fund | 6,231 | - | - | - | |
| P&R Scholarship Fund | 21,389 | - | - | - | |
| Park Development Fund | - | - | 175,000 | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 27,620 | - | 175,000 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 267,407 | 673,500 | 579,627 | 654,900 | -2.8% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (195,100) | 4,100 | 58,589 | 6,912 | 68.6% |
| Beginning Balance | 143,423 | 2,600 | (51,677) | 6,912 | 165.8% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | (51,677) | 6,700 | 6,912 | 13,824 | 106.3% |

# Special Revenue – Parks and Recreation Scholarships

The Parks and Recreation Scholarship Fund will provide reimbursement to the General Fund for recreation program participants receiving scholarships. The Fund, which was established in FY 2023/24 with $250,000 from the General Fund, will make Parks and Recreation programming more accessible to all Ames residents.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations | 7,124 | 5,000 | 5,000 | - | -100.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 1,848 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 723 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 9,695 | 16,000 | 16,000 | 11,000 | -31.3% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 250,000 | - | 200,000 | - | |
| P&R Donations/Grants | 21,389 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 271,389 | - | 200,000 | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 281,084 | 16,000 | 216,000 | 11,000 | -31.3% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Parks & Rec Scholarships | 25 | 11,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 25 | 11,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 281,059 | 5,000 | 216,000 | 11,000 | 120.0% |
| Beginning Balance | - | 276,389 | 281,059 | 497,059 | 79.8% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 281,059 | 281,389 | 497,059 | 508,059 | 80.6% |

# Special Revenue – FEMA/COVID-19

This fund accounts for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance disaster award grant for the City Response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenses eligible for grant reimbursement are moved to the fund then submitted to FEMA for reimbursement.

| Revenues: | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change from Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FEMA Disaster Relief | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 41,936 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 41,936 | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 41,936 | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | (41,936) | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Special Revenue – FEMA/Derecho 2020

This fund accounts for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance disaster award grant for the City Response to the August 10, 2020, Midwest Derecho Storm. Expenses eligible for grant reimbursement are moved to the fund then submitted to FEMA for reimbursement.

| Revenues: | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change from Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FEMA Disaster Relief | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 415,483 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 415,483 | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (415,483) | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 415,483 | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Special Revenue – American Rescue Plan

This fund accounts for all activities related to City of Ames allocation of federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

| Revenues: | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change from Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| American Rescue Plan | 1,260,420 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 1,260,420 | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Ames 2040 Utility Extensions | 2,555,020 | - | 3,202,557 | - | |
| Auditorium HVAC System | - | - | 200,000 | - | |
| Fitch Indoor Aquatic Center | - | 868,681 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 2,555,020 | 868,681 | 3,402,557 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Ice Arena Operations | - | - | - | - | |
| Council Priorities Fund | 1,000,000 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 1,000,000 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 3,555,020 | 868,681 | 3,402,557 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (2,294,600) | (868,681) | (3,402,557) | - | -100.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 8,445,907 | 1,017,953 | 6,151,307 | 2,748,750 | 170.0% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 6,151,307 | 149,272 | 2,748,750 | 2,748,750 | 1741.4% |

# Special Revenue – Library Donations and Grants

This fund accounts for general donations and grants to the Library designated for specific purposes.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Library Friends Foundation | 431,011 | 363,633 | 412,559 | 448,631 | 23.4% |
| Library Direct State Aid | 16,836 | 17,000 | 16,706 | 16,500 | -2.9% |
| Library Donations/Grants | 992 | 2,000 | 6,650 | 6,750 | 237.5% |
| Interest Revenue | 12,796 | 9,000 | 8,899 | 13,250 | 47.2% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 10,116 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 471,751 | 391,633 | 444,814 | 485,131 | 23.9% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Administration | 63,065 | 80,619 | 126,969 | 131,926 | 63.6% |
| Resource Services | 76,271 | 104,369 | 123,019 | 153,426 | 47.0% |
| Youth Services | 200,134 | 139,022 | 147,421 | 146,303 | 5.2% |
| Adult Services | 24,779 | 33,869 | 35,409 | 33,676 | -0.6% |
| Customer Account Services | 8,318 | 3,000 | 1,706 | 6,500 | 116.7% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 372,567 | 360,879 | 434,524 | 471,831 | 30.7% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Library Carpet Replacement | - | - | 1,341 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 372,567 | 360,879 | 435,865 | 471,831 | 30.7% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 99,184 | 30,754 | 8,949 | 13,300 | -56.8% |
| Beginning Balance | 411,667 | 379,817 | 510,851 | 519,800 | 36.9% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 510,851 | 410,571 | 519,800 | 533,100 | 29.8% |

# Special Revenue – Utility Assistance

This fund accounts for donations received through Utility Customer Service that are designated for utility payment assistance.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alternative Energy Donations | 624 | - | - | - | |
| Project Share Donations | 22,485 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 23,109 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Utility Assistance | 21,956 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 21,956 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 15,500 | 0.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 1,153 | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 16,857 | 16,856 | 18,010 | 18,010 | 6.8% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 18,010 | 16,856 | 18,010 | 18,010 | 6.8% |

# Special Revenue – Miscellaneous Donations

This fund accounts for donations and revenues received that are designated for specific projects.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations | - | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Public Art | - | - | 3,950 | - | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Shared Use Path CIP | - | - | 10,026 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | 13,976 | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | (13,976) | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 14,008 | 3,982 | 14,008 | 32 | -99.2% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 14,008 | 3,982 | 32 | 32 | -99.2% |

# Special Revenue – Developer Projects

This fund accounts for funds received from developers to be used for City infrastructure.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sidewalk Agreements | 16,128 | - | - | - | |
| Interest Revenue | 1,456 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,500 | -25.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 1,149 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 18,733 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,500 | -25.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Developer Projects | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 18,733 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,500 | -25.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 227,525 | 229,526 | 246,258 | 248,258 | 8.2% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 246,258 | 231,526 | 248,258 | 249,758 | 7.9% |

# Special Revenue – Economic Development

This fund accounts for revolving loan, community investment, and pass-through State loan activity. Approved loans are shown as expenses. The fund balance reflects the balance of loans outstanding, in addition to cash and investments held by the fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ISU Research Park | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| RISE Grant Repayment | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 28,031 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 28,032 | 0.0% |
| **Fund Balance:** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 547,166 | 547,166 | 547,166 | 547,166 | 0.0% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 547,166 | 547,166 | 547,166 | 547,166 | 0.0% |

# Special Revenue – Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

This fund has been established for the receipt of tax revenues from TIF districts. The TIF fund records TIF project expenditures and collects revenue for repayment of debt issued to fund TIF projects.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Property Taxes | 378,041 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 550,000 | 46.7% |
| Interest Revenue | 47,392 | 43,000 | 43,000 | 45,000 | 4.7% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 37,948 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 463,381 | 418,000 | 418,000 | 595,000 | 42.3% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Kingland Systems | 25,510 | - | - | - | |
| Barilla | 351,326 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 0.0% |
| North Dayton Road | - | - | - | 175,000 | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 376,836 | 375,000 | 375,000 | 550,000 | 46.7% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Debt Service | 335,050 | 332,050 | 332,050 | 332,550 | 0.2% |
| TIF/ISU Research Park Dist. 2 | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 335,050 | 332,050 | 332,050 | 332,550 | 0.2% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 711,886 | 707,050 | 707,050 | 882,550 | 24.8% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (248,505) | (289,050) | (289,050) | (287,550) | -0.5% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,765,464 | 1,482,413 | 1,516,959 | 1,227,909 | -17.2% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,516,959 | 1,193,363 | 1,227,909 | 940,359 | -21.2% |

# Capital Projects – Special Assessments

This fund accounts for collection of special assessments and payment of principal of abated G.O. bonds, and the construction of streets and sanitary sewers for benefited property special assessment districts.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assessments | 241,098 | 227,104 | 227,104 | 209,414 | -7.8% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 241,098 | 227,104 | 227,104 | 209,414 | -7.8% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 5,074 | 5,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 40.0% |
| Debt Service | 317,553 | 38,450 | 38,450 | 42,400 | 10.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 322,627 | 43,450 | 45,450 | 49,400 | 13.7% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (81,529) | 183,654 | 181,654 | 160,014 | -12.9% |
| Beginning Balance | (760,065) | (851,449) | (841,594) | (659,940) | -22.5% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | (841,594) | (667,795) | (659,940) | (499,926) | -25.1% |

# Capital Projects – Street Construction

This fund accounts for street construction projects including, but not limited to, bus route reconstruction, signal construction, and associated street construction projects. Projects which have multiple funding sources are budgeted in this fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Traffic MPO/Grant Funding | 918,317 | 1,641,000 | 6,046,172 | 2,696,000 | 64.3% |
| Street MPO/Grant Funding | 767,660 | 2,814,000 | 6,774,757 | 700,000 | -75.1% |
| Bike Trail MPO/Grant Funding | 887,000 | - | - | 390,000 | |
| Iowa State University | - | - | 240,000 | - | |
| Story County | 750 | - | 750 | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 2,573,727 | 4,455,000 | 13,061,679 | 3,786,000 | -15.0% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Street Construction Fund | - | - | 270,279 | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,573,727 | 4,455,000 | 13,331,958 | 3,786,000 | -15.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Street Improvements | 1,455,622 | 2,814,000 | 5,716,491 | 700,000 | -75.1% |
| Shared Use Path System | 416,522 | - | - | 390,000 | |
| Traffic Improvements | 1,016,223 | 1,641,000 | 5,495,597 | 2,696,000 | 64.3% |
| Street Rehabilitation | - | - | 60,000 | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 2,888,367 | 4,455,000 | 11,272,088 | 3,786,000 | -15.0% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Debt Service Fund | 172,167 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 3,060,534 | 4,455,000 | 11,272,088 | 3,786,000 | -15.0% |
| **Fund Balance:** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (486,807) | - | 2,059,870 | - | |
| Beginning Balance | (1,278,738) | 294,330 | (1,765,545) | 294,325 | 0.0% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | (1,765,545) | 294,330 | 294,325 | 294,325 | 0.0% |

# Capital Projects – Park Development

This fund accounts for the development of new City parks or new amenities added to existing City parks. Donations and grants for park development will be accounted for in this fund, as well as a $100,000 annual transfer from the Local Option Sales Tax Fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 19,029 | 31,000 | 31,000 | 15,000 | -51.6% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 17,244 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 36,273 | 31,000 | 31,000 | 15,000 | -51.6% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0.0% |
| P&R Donations/Grants | - | - | 175,000 | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 100,000 | 100,000 | 275,000 | 100,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 136,273 | 131,000 | 306,000 | 115,000 | -12.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Parks and Recreation | 946,484 | - | 135,909 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 946,484 | - | 135,909 | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (810,211) | 131,000 | 170,091 | 115,000 | -12.2% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,361,589 | 495,653 | 551,378 | 721,469 | 45.6% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 551,378 | 626,653 | 721,469 | 836,469 | 33.5% |

# Capital Projects – Winakor Donation

This fund accounts for a bequest received from Geitel Winakor to be used for a future Parks and Recreation capital project.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 58,113 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 45,000 | -6.3% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 45,910 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 104,023 | 48,000 | 48,000 | 45,000 | -6.3% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Indoor Aquatic Center | 128,726 | - | - | 139,366 | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 128,726 | - | - | 139,366 | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (24,703) | 48,000 | 48,000 | (94,366) | -296.6% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,973,368 | 82,367 | 1,948,665 | 1,996,665 | 2324.1% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,948,665 | 130,367 | 1,996,665 | 1,902,299 | 1359.2% |

# Capital Projects – Indoor Aquatic Center Donations

This fund will be used to account for donations that are received to support the construction of the new Indoor Aquatic Center.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations | 126,600 | 1,403,036 | 3,451,962 | 800,000 | -43.0% |
| Story County | 500,000 | - | - | - | |
| Interest Revenue | 25,423 | - | - | - | |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 21,702 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 673,725 | 1,403,036 | 3,451,962 | 800,000 | -43.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Indoor Aquatic Center | 2,201,036 | 2,652,571 | 3,413,085 | 800,000 | -69.8% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 2,201,036 | 2,652,571 | 3,413,085 | 800,000 | -69.8% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (1,527,311) | (1,249,535) | 38,877 | - | -100.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,543,247 | 1,287,224 | 15,936 | 54,813 | -95.7% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 15,936 | 37,689 | 54,813 | 54,813 | 45.4% |

# Capital Projects – Council Priorities Capital Fund

This fund accounts for funding that has been reserved to pay for capital projects that City Council has determined are of high priority or to cover funding shortfalls for high priority capital projects.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Workiva Penalty | - | - | 1,424,800 | - | |
| Interest Revenue | 57,956 | 52,000 | 52,000 | 60,000 | 15.4% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 38,504 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 96,460 | 52,000 | 1,476,800 | 60,000 | 15.4% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | 2,817,340 | - | 3,000,000 | - | |
| American Rescue Plan Fund | 1,000,000 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 3,817,340 | - | 3,000,000 | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 3,913,800 | 52,000 | 4,476,800 | 60,000 | 15.4% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| City Facilities Study | - | - | 2,600 | - | |
| Sustainability | - | - | 997,400 | - | |
| ***Total Operations*** | - | - | 1,000,000 | - | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Animal Shelter Relocation | - | - | 1,105,000 | 1,750,000 | |
| Downtown Plaza | 1,330,032 | - | - | - | |
| Auditorium HVAC | - | - | 332,081 | - | |
| ***Total CIP*** | 1,330,032 | - | 1,437,081 | 1,750,000 | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 1,330,032 | - | 2,437,081 | 1,750,000 | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 2,583,768 | 52,000 | 2,039,719 | (1,690,000) | -3350.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 2,141,912 | 3,667,220 | 4,725,680 | 6,765,399 | 84.5% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 4,725,680 | 3,719,220 | 6,765,399 | 5,075,399 | 36.5% |

# Capital Projects – Bond Proceeds

This fund accounts for proceeds of general obligation bond issues. G.O. bond sales are planned each year to finance CIP projects. Any undesignated fund balances may be used for certain projects or transferred to the Debt Service fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bond Proceeds | 12,791,309 | 18,815,000 | 18,815,000 | 14,700,000 | -21.9% |
| Interest Revenue | 503,350 | 933,000 | 933,000 | 570,000 | -38.9% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 744,658 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 14,039,317 | 19,748,000 | 19,748,000 | 15,270,000 | -22.7% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Bond Issuance Costs | 131,847 | 279,450 | 302,450 | 200,222 | -28.4% |
| Financial Services | 7,573 | 9,118 | 9,126 | 9,583 | 5.1% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 139,420 | 288,568 | 311,576 | 209,805 | -27.3% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Fire Safety | - | - | 368,541 | 211,905 | |
| Stormwater Improvements | 44,277 | - | - | - | |
| Resource Recovery | - | - | - | 880,000 | |
| Street Improvements | 9,940,914 | 1,491,000 | 14,967,829 | - | -100.0% |
| Traffic Improvements | 263,803 | 476,100 | 1,844,071 | 1,887,540 | 296.5% |
| Street Rehabilitation | 25,000 | - | 825,000 | 9,950,000 | |
| Airport Improvements | - | 680,000 | 680,000 | 860,750 | 26.6% |
| Parks and Recreation | 455,307 | 17,378,016 | 15,225,596 | 4,240,213 | -75.6% |
| ***Total CIP*** | 10,729,301 | 20,025,116 | 33,911,037 | 18,030,408 | -10.0% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 10,868,721 | 20,313,684 | 34,222,613 | 18,240,213 | -10.2% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Street Construction Fund | - | - | 270,279 | - | |
| Debt Service Fund | 396,339 | - | 979,167 | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 396,339 | - | 1,249,446 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 11,265,060 | 20,313,684 | 35,472,059 | 18,240,213 | -10.2% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 2,774,257 | (565,684) | (15,724,059) | (2,970,213) | 425.1% |
| Beginning Balance | 19,157,249 | 4,571,674 | 21,931,506 | 6,207,447 | 35.8% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 21,931,506 | 4,005,990 | 6,207,447 | 3,237,234 | -19.2% |

# Permanent Fund - Cemetery

This fund accounts for the 20% portion of cemetery lot sales designated for perpetual care. Interest earnings are transferred to the General Fund for cemetery operations. The fund balance will be retained to provide cemetery maintenance.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sale of Cemetery Lots | 24,451 | 25,570 | 25,570 | 26,250 | 2.7% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 24,451 | 25,570 | 25,570 | 26,250 | 2.7% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| Perpetual Care | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 24,451 | 25,570 | 25,570 | 26,250 | 2.7% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,084,809 | 1,108,459 | 1,109,260 | 1,134,830 | 2.4% |
| **Ending Balance** | 1,109,260 | 1,134,029 | 1,134,830 | 1,161,080 | 2.4% |

# Permanent Fund – Donald and Ruth Furman Aquatic Center Trust

This fund accounts for the one-million-dollar gift from Donald and Ruth Furman to establish an endowment to subsidize the City's ongoing operational costs, to fund future repairs and enhancements, and to replace equipment at the Aquatic Center.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 31,860 | 27,000 | 27,000 | 35,000 | 29.6% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 25,191 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 57,051 | 27,000 | 27,000 | 35,000 | 29.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Aquatic Center Operations | 28,889 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Aquatic Center Improvements | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 28,889 | - | 16,000 | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 28,162 | 27,000 | 11,000 | 35,000 | 29.6% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,095,769 | 1,090,420 | 1,123,931 | 1,134,931 | 4.1% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,123,931 | 1,117,420 | 1,134,931 | 1,169,931 | 4.7% |

# Enterprise – Airport Operations

This fund accounts for the operation of the James Herman Banning Airport, a municipally owned airport which provides services to residents of the City of Ames and contiguous areas.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Charges for Services | 140,354 | 116,436 | 120,401 | 123,999 | 6.5% |
| Airport Farm | 181,820 | 191,928 | 88,130 | 92,691 | -51.7% |
| Iowa State University | 37,247 | 43,432 | 44,501 | 41,832 | -3.7% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 7,400 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 366,821 | 351,796 | 253,032 | 258,522 | -26.5% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Sigler Reserve | 64,043 | 65,956 | 65,956 | 67,945 | 3.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 430,864 | 417,752 | 318,988 | 326,467 | -21.9% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Operations | 146,865 | 154,840 | 159,874 | 162,801 | 5.1% |
| Airport Farm Operations | 107,750 | 99,477 | 6,000 | 6,000 | -94.0% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 254,615 | 254,317 | 165,874 | 168,801 | -33.6% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Debt Service | 64,119 | 70,984 | 70,984 | 70,975 | 0.0% |
| Airport Improvements | 74,070 | 92,451 | 82,130 | 86,691 | -6.2% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 138,189 | 163,435 | 153,114 | 157,666 | -3.5% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 392,804 | 417,752 | 318,988 | 326,467 | -21.9% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 38,060 | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 43,907 | 75,818 | 81,967 | 81,967 | 8.1% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 81,967 | 75,818 | 81,967 | 81,967 | 8.1% |

# Enterprise – Airport Improvements

This fund is used to account for grants and other outside funding received for capital improvements at the City's James Herman Banning Airport. Profits from the farmland owned by the Airport are also transferred to this fund to serve as the local match for the capital improvement projects. Expenditures for the Capital Improvements are also reflected in this fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Federal/State Grants | 732,588 | 960,000 | 4,156,694 | 10,664,250 | 1010.9% |
| Interest Revenue | 18,318 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 14,992 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 765,898 | 980,000 | 4,176,694 | 10,684,250 | 990.2% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Operations | 74,070 | 92,451 | 82,130 | 86,691 | -6.2% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 839,968 | 1,072,451 | 4,258,824 | 10,770,941 | 904.3% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Improvements | 813,985 | 1,115,000 | 4,714,305 | 10,784,250 | 867.2% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Sigler Reserve | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 813,985 | 1,115,000 | 4,714,305 | 10,784,250 | 867.2% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 25,983 | (42,549) | (455,481) | (13,309) | -68.7% |
| Beginning Balance | 767,747 | 448,143 | 793,730 | 338,249 | -24.5% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 793,730 | 405,594 | 338,249 | 324,940 | -19.9% |

# Enterprise – Airport Sigler Reserve

This fund accounts for the proceeds received from the sale of the Sigler hangar in the spring of 2022. The sale amount was calculated to match the projected lease payments over the life of the lease. These funds are being held in a reserve fund and will be transferred to the Airport Operations Fund over time to replace the long term lease revenue that would have been generated by the rental of the hangar.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 79,039 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 62,556 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 141,595 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Improvements | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 141,595 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Airport Operations | 64,043 | 65,956 | 65,956 | 67,945 | 3.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 64,043 | 65,956 | 65,956 | 67,945 | 3.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 77,552 | 9,044 | 9,044 | 7,055 | -22.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 2,775,472 | 2,796,429 | 2,853,024 | 2,862,068 | 2.3% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 2,853,024 | 2,805,473 | 2,862,068 | 2,869,123 | 2.3% |

# Enterprise – Water Utility

This fund accounts for the operation of a municipality owned water utility which provides services to residents of the City and some contiguous areas. Major capital improvements have been financed from the current revenues and the Water Fund balance.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Metered Sales | 12,757,392 | 13,063,880 | 12,756,200 | 13,506,700 | 3.4% |
| Contract Sales | 584,683 | 897,000 | 1,012,000 | 1,118,000 | 24.6% |
| Fees/Service Charges | 198,428 | 173,800 | 257,114 | 169,200 | -2.6% |
| Cell Tower Lease | 21,705 | 24,136 | 24,136 | 24,136 | 0.0% |
| Farmland Rental | 15,760 | 15,761 | 15,761 | 15,761 | 0.0% |
| Sprint PCS Land Rental | 16,686 | 21,901 | 21,901 | 26,835 | 22.5% |
| Grant Funding | - | - | - | 984,000 | |
| ISU Capital Repayment | 677,583 | 514,045 | 514,045 | 524,326 | 2.0% |
| PFAS Settlement | - | - | 5,500,000 | - | |
| Interest Revenue | 767,704 | 650,927 | 725,927 | 796,646 | 22.4% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 470,920 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 51,305 | 15,000 | 23,831 | 16,000 | 6.7% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 15,562,166 | 15,376,450 | 20,850,915 | 17,181,604 | 11.7% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| W & PC Administration | 694,676 | 952,924 | 871,196 | 997,616 | 4.7% |
| Water Plant Operations | 3,409,164 | 4,554,637 | 4,695,861 | 4,705,904 | 3.3% |
| W & PC Meter Services | 611,782 | 717,817 | 766,921 | 738,700 | 2.9% |
| W & PC Laboratory | 236,695 | 263,840 | 239,819 | 259,657 | -1.6% |
| Public Works Administration | 142,415 | 155,990 | 156,398 | 164,198 | 5.3% |
| Public Works Engineering | 59,576 | 56,372 | 55,432 | 58,526 | 3.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 77,969 | 118,399 | 107,809 | 120,062 | 1.4% |
| Distribution System Maintenance | 1,411,034 | 1,525,485 | 1,533,684 | 1,632,912 | 7.0% |
| Customer Service | 457,428 | 489,546 | 495,890 | 494,364 | 1.0% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 7,100,739 | 8,835,010 | 8,923,010 | 9,171,939 | 3.8% |

# Enterprise – Water Utility

**Continued from previous page.**

| ***CIP:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Water Production/Treatment | 527,429 | 586,000 | 2,531,968 | 3,967,000 | 577.0% |
| Water Distribution | 2,532,116 | 2,050,000 | 4,937,018 | 2,050,000 | 0.0% |
| Right-of-Way Restoration | 59,256 | - | 385,667 | 75,000 | |
| ***Total CIP*** | 3,118,801 | 2,636,000 | 7,854,653 | 6,092,000 | 131.1% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 10,219,540 | 11,471,010 | 16,777,663 | 15,263,939 | 33.1% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Debt Service | 127,624 | 66,318 | 66,318 | 66,842 | 0.8% |
| Water Sinking | 4,344,651 | 4,565,543 | 4,483,873 | 4,640,852 | 1.6% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 4,472,275 | 4,631,861 | 4,550,191 | 4,707,694 | 1.6% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 14,691,815 | 16,102,871 | 21,327,854 | 19,971,633 | 24.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 870,351 | (726,421) | (476,939) | (2,790,029) | 284.1% |
| Beginning Balance | 19,566,061 | 14,771,074 | 20,436,412 | 19,959,473 | 35.1% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 20,436,412 | 14,044,653 | 19,959,473 | 17,169,444 | 22.2% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 10% of operating expenses | 917,194 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 16,252,250 |

# Enterprise – Water Construction

This fund accounts for revenue and expenditures for certain major projects of the water utility.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| State Revolving Loan Fund | 7,478,732 | 160,000 | 5,342,620 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 7,478,732 | 160,000 | 5,342,620 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| N River Valley Well Field | 6,518,941 | - | 5,556,059 | - | |
| Old Water Plant Demolition | 385,621 | - | 75,449 | - | |
| Technical Services Addition | - | 160,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 6,904,562 | 160,000 | 5,631,508 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 574,170 | - | (288,888) | - | |
| Beginning Balance | (99,749) | 299,031 | 474,421 | 185,533 | -0.38 |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 474,421 | 299,031 | 185,533 | 185,533 | -38.0% |

# Enterprise – Water Sinking

This fund is used to account for State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan payments for water utility projects financed with SRF funding.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** | **2024/25** | **2025/26** | **% Change from** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Transfers:*** | **Actual** | **Adopted** | **Adjusted** | **Adopted** | **Adopted** |
| Water Utility Fund | 4,344,651 | 4,565,543 | 4,483,873 | 4,640,852 | 1.6% |
| **Total Revenues** | 4,344,651 | 4,565,543 | 4,483,873 | 4,640,852 | 1.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Debt Service:*** | | | | | |
| SRF Loan Payments | 4,317,916 | 4,554,866 | 4,469,543 | 4,641,500 | 1.9% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 4,317,916 | 4,554,866 | 4,469,543 | 4,641,500 | 1.9% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 26,735 | 10,677 | 14,330 | (648) | -106.1% |
| Beginning Balance | 148,540 | 93,207 | 175,275 | 189,605 | 103.4% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 175,275 | 103,884 | 189,605 | 188,957 | 81.9% |

# Enterprise – Sewer Utility

This fund accounts for the operation of a municipally owned sewer utility, which provides services to residents of the City and some contiguous areas.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Metered Charges | 8,443,435 | 8,865,000 | 9,011,000 | 9,497,000 | 7.1% |
| Contract Charges | 1,293,141 | 2,588,881 | 2,601,581 | 2,874,300 | 11.0% |
| Fees/Service Charges | 403,809 | 120,500 | 314,100 | 123,900 | 2.8% |
| Flood Warning System | 12,346 | 10,900 | 9,900 | 9,900 | -9.2% |
| Farmland Income | 107,075 | 142,100 | 140,700 | 140,700 | -1.0% |
| Grant Revenue | 140,415 | 325,000 | - | 258,000 | -20.6% |
| Connection District Fee | - | - | 298,000 | - | |
| Interest Revenue | 559,409 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 650,000 | 30.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 448,065 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 1,200 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 11,408,895 | 12,552,381 | 12,875,281 | 13,553,800 | 8.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| W & PC Administration | 694,676 | 952,925 | 871,197 | 997,617 | 4.7% |
| WPC Plant Operations | 2,685,044 | 3,105,591 | 3,152,048 | 3,253,851 | 4.8% |
| W & PC Meter Services | 423,063 | 504,752 | 547,767 | 520,713 | 3.2% |
| W & PC Laboratory | 439,575 | 489,988 | 445,379 | 482,221 | -1.6% |
| Public Works Administration | 142,415 | 155,990 | 156,398 | 164,198 | 5.3% |
| Public Works Engineering | 68,148 | 65,767 | 64,671 | 68,280 | 3.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 77,969 | 118,399 | 107,809 | 120,062 | 1.4% |
| Collection System Maintenance | 729,576 | 684,816 | 688,914 | 685,471 | 0.1% |
| Customer Service | 431,721 | 462,638 | 468,507 | 466,215 | 0.8% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 5,692,187 | 6,540,866 | 6,502,690 | 6,758,628 | 3.3% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Water Pollution Control | 348,837 | 705,000 | 2,270,776 | 1,687,000 | 139.3% |
| Sanitary Sewer System | 1,132,869 | 400,000 | 1,822,467 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| Right-of-Way Restoration | 2,374 | - | 392,826 | 75,000 | |
| ***Total CIP*** | 1,484,080 | 1,105,000 | 4,486,069 | 2,162,000 | 95.7% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 7,176,267 | 7,645,866 | 10,988,759 | 8,920,628 | 16.7% |

# Enterprise – Sewer Utility

**Continued from previous page.**

| ***Transfers:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Debt Service | 383,888 | 322,752 | 322,752 | 323,722 | 0.3% |
| Sewer Sinking | 1,286,678 | 1,476,432 | 1,419,542 | 1,428,532 | -3.2% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 1,670,566 | 1,799,184 | 1,742,294 | 1,752,254 | -2.6% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 8,846,833 | 9,445,050 | 12,731,053 | 10,672,882 | 13.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 2,562,062 | 3,107,331 | 144,228 | 2,880,918 | -7.3% |
| Beginning Balance | 20,373,478 | 20,715,288 | 22,935,540 | 23,079,768 | 11.4% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 22,935,540 | 23,822,619 | 23,079,768 | 25,960,686 | 9.0% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 10% of operating expenses | 675,863 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 25,284,823 |

# Enterprise – Sewer Improvements

This fund accounts for revenue and expenditures for certain major projects of the sanitary sewer utility.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| State Revolving Loan Fund | 2,799,493 | 25,920,000 | 41,264,009 | 26,240,000 | 1.2% |
| Stormwater Loan Proceeds | - | - | 300,000 | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,799,493 | 25,920,000 | 41,564,009 | 26,240,000 | 1.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Water Pollution Control | 1,438,643 | 25,920,000 | 26,585,884 | 26,240,000 | 1.2% |
| Sanitary Sewer System | 4,772,233 | - | 9,424,888 | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 6,210,876 | 25,920,000 | 36,010,772 | 26,240,000 | 1.2% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Stormwater Improvements | - | - | 300,000 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 6,210,876 | 25,920,000 | 36,310,772 | 26,240,000 | 1.2% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (3,411,383) | - | 5,253,237 | - | |
| Beginning Balance | (1,841,854) | - | (5,253,237) | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | (5,253,237) | - | - | - | |

# Enterprise – Sewer Sinking

This fund is used to account for State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan payments for sewer utility projects financed with SRF funding.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 1,286,678 | 1,476,432 | 1,419,542 | 1,428,532 | -3.2% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 1,286,678 | 1,476,432 | 1,419,542 | 1,428,532 | -3.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Debt Service:*** | | | | | |
| SRF Loan Payments | 1,279,269 | 1,476,580 | 1,418,720 | 1,428,582 | -3.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 1,279,269 | 1,476,580 | 1,418,720 | 1,428,582 | -3.3% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 7,409 | (148) | 822 | (50) | -66.2% |
| Beginning Balance | 4,451 | 4,575 | 11,860 | 12,682 | 177.2% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 11,860 | 4,427 | 12,682 | 12,632 | 185.3% |

# Enterprise – Electric Utility

This fund accounts for the operation of a municipally owned electric utility, which generates and distributes electrical power to customers within the city and some contiguous areas. The fund balance is available for operations and improvements. The transfer to the General Fund constitutes a payment in lieu of taxes.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Metered Sales | 58,101,857 | 66,000,000 | 60,000,000 | 62,930,000 | -4.7% |
| Iowa State University | 3,124,120 | 4,106,750 | 3,450,348 | 4,037,500 | -1.7% |
| MEC Zonal Transmission | 1,516,569 | 1,400,000 | 1,400,000 | 1,500,000 | 7.1% |
| Gas Trading Revenue | 650,566 | 1,000,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | -75.0% |
| Streetlights | 886,178 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 900,000 | 0.0% |
| Security Lighting Rental | 139,873 | 155,000 | 155,000 | 155,000 | 0.0% |
| Subdivision Construction | - | 30,000 | 60,000 | 40,000 | 33.3% |
| Fees/Service Charges | 440,600 | 341,800 | 339,021 | 283,000 | -17.2% |
| Bond Proceeds | - | - | - | 5,527,500 | |
| Iowa Dept. of Transportation | - | - | 2,200,000 | 50,000 | |
| Grant Revenue | - | 50,000 | 690,000 | 50,000 | 0.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 1,657,781 | 1,770,000 | 1,770,000 | 1,350,000 | -23.7% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 1,495,793 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 250,330 | 25,000 | 829,228 | 25,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 68,263,667 | 75,778,550 | 72,043,597 | 77,098,000 | 1.7% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Administration | 2,757,156 | 3,090,777 | 3,185,700 | 3,173,497 | 2.7% |
| Demand-Side Management | 591,798 | 1,367,378 | 896,212 | 907,079 | -33.7% |
| Electric Production | 13,258,026 | 14,488,962 | 13,960,571 | 14,420,090 | -0.5% |
| Fuel/Purchased Power | 30,800,266 | 37,558,686 | 36,532,591 | 36,636,931 | -2.5% |
| Distribution/Operations | 3,748,217 | 3,901,725 | 3,833,437 | 3,924,358 | 0.6% |
| Distribution/Improvements | 2,145,179 | 2,854,984 | 2,447,112 | 2,440,601 | -14.5% |
| Electric Technical Services | 1,325,352 | 1,455,280 | 1,659,056 | 1,675,585 | 15.1% |
| Electric Engineering | 825,219 | 947,636 | 909,586 | 989,696 | 4.4% |
| Customer Service | 833,532 | 901,917 | 908,953 | 909,270 | 0.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 35,440 | 53,818 | 49,004 | 54,574 | 1.4% |
| Utility Deposit Interest | 46,266 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Operations*** | 56,366,451 | 66,621,163 | 64,382,222 | 65,131,681 | -2.2% |

# Enterprise – Electric Utility

**Continued from previous page.**

| ***CIP:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Electric Services | 6,673,011 | 4,240,000 | 19,595,236 | 11,790,000 | 178.1% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 63,039,462 | 70,861,163 | 83,977,458 | 76,921,681 | 8.6% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund (In Lieu of Taxes) | 2,292,262 | 2,420,784 | 2,420,784 | 2,452,707 | 1.3% |
| Electric Sinking | 964,923 | 966,202 | 966,202 | 966,253 | 0.0% |
| SunSmart | 45,340 | 53,000 | 53,000 | 53,000 | 0.0% |
| Electric Sustainability Reserve | 2,366,505 | - | - | - | |
| Debt Service | 16,585 | 19,065 | 19,065 | 18,290 | -4.1% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 5,685,615 | 3,459,051 | 3,459,051 | 3,490,250 | 0.9% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 68,725,077 | 74,320,214 | 87,436,509 | 80,411,931 | 8.2% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (461,410) | 1,458,336 | (15,392,912) | (3,313,931) | -327.2% |
| Beginning Balance | 57,638,997 | 38,614,999 | 57,177,587 | 41,784,675 | 8.2% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 57,177,587 | 40,073,335 | 41,784,675 | 38,470,744 | -4.0% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| Consultant recommended minimum fund balance | 20,300,000 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 18,170,744 |

# Enterprise – Electric Sinking

This fund is used to account for principal and interest payments for Electric Revenue Bonds.

| ***Revenues:*** <br> ***Transfers:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Electric Utility Fund | 964,923 | 966,202 | 966,202 | 966,253 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 964,923 | 966,202 | 966,202 | 966,253 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** <br> ***Debt Service:*** | | | | | |
| Bond Principal and Interest | 964,806 | 966,213 | 966,213 | 966,075 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 964,806 | 966,213 | 966,213 | 966,075 | 0.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 117 | (11) | (11) | 178 | -1718.2% |
| Beginning Balance | 80,401 | 80,518 | 80,518 | 80,507 | 0.0% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 80,518 | 80,507 | 80,507 | 80,685 | 0.2% |

# Enterprise – SunSmart Community Solar

This fund is used to account for contributions to the SunSmart Community Solar program. The revenue is primarily contributions for a share of the energy production from the solar farm. Expenses are primarily to pay the developer of the solar farm for the energy produced. The Ames Electric Service activity related to the solar farm is accounted for in the Electric Utility Fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SunSmart Power Packs | 6,402 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0% |
| ISU/Solar Energy | 77,607 | 80,000 | 80,000 | 80,000 | 0.0% |
| Interest Revenue | (519) | 14,000 | 14,000 | 40,000 | 185.7% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 53,348 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 136,838 | 99,000 | 99,000 | 125,000 | 26.3% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 45,340 | 53,000 | 53,000 | 53,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 182,178 | 152,000 | 152,000 | 178,000 | 17.1% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| Solar Energy | 194,377 | 185,587 | 185,587 | 185,602 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 194,377 | 185,587 | 185,587 | 185,602 | 0.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (12,199) | (33,587) | (33,587) | (7,602) | -77.4% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,012,920 | 981,734 | 1,000,721 | 967,134 | -1.5% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,000,721 | 948,147 | 967,134 | 959,532 | 1.2% |

# Enterprise – Electric Sustainability Reserve

This fund is accounts for the proceeds received from a litigation settlement involving the Electric Utility's service area. The funds are being held in reserve for Electric Utility sustainability projects.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 37,302 | - | 70,000 | 70,000 | |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 26,300 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 63,602 | - | 70,000 | 70,000 | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Electric Utility Fund | 2,366,505 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,430,107 | - | 70,000 | 70,000 | |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 2,430,107 | - | 70,000 | 70,000 | |
| Beginning Balance | - | - | 2,430,107 | 2,500,107 | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 2,430,107 | - | 2,500,107 | 2,570,107 | |

# Enterprise – Parking Operations

This fund accounts for the operation of the City parking system including maintenance of meters and lots, collection of meter coin, parking enforcement, and collection of parking fines. Parking rates are set at a level to cover operations and contribute to funding of capital improvements for the parking system. Revenues in excess of operations and the operating fund balance are transferred to the Parking Capital Reserve Fund to fund capital improvements.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Illegal Parking | 276,357 | 400,000 | 300,000 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| Overtime Parking | 95,027 | 80,000 | 95,000 | 85,000 | 6.3% |
| East District - Downtown | 305,669 | 313,500 | 313,500 | 315,700 | 0.7% |
| West District - Campustown | 185,674 | 213,000 | 213,000 | 215,100 | 1.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 6,067 | 16,000 | 16,000 | 5,000 | -68.8% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 6,093 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 1,442 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 876,329 | 1,022,500 | 937,500 | 1,020,800 | -0.2% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund (Contingency) | 374 | - | - | - | |
| Hotel/Motel Tax | 5,489 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 5,863 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 882,192 | 1,032,500 | 947,500 | 1,030,800 | -0.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Parking Enforcement | 485,216 | 625,868 | 546,215 | 626,418 | 0.1% |
| Parking Operations | 249,916 | 254,813 | 254,760 | 262,977 | 3.2% |
| Customer Service | 154,339 | 160,999 | 152,402 | 142,212 | -11.7% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 889,471 | 1,041,680 | 953,377 | 1,031,607 | -1.0% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Parking Capital Reserve | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 889,471 | 1,041,680 | 953,377 | 1,031,607 | -1.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (7,279) | (9,180) | (5,877) | (807) | -91.2% |
| Beginning Balance | 143,141 | 133,881 | 135,862 | 129,985 | -2.9% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 135,862 | 124,701 | 129,985 | 129,178 | 3.6% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 10% of operating expenses | 103,161 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 26,017 |

# Enterprise – Parking Capital Reserve

This fund accounts for accumulated Parking Fund revenue being held for capital improvement projects. Funds in excess of Parking Operation's minimum fund balance requirement are transferred to the Parking Capital Reserve Fund to fund future Parking capital projects.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 32,977 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 30,000 | 20.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 24,741 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 57,718 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 30,000 | 0.2 |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Parking Operations | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 57,718 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 30,000 | 20.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Parking CIP | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 57,718 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 30,000 | 20.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,169,860 | 1,280,370 | 1,227,578 | 1,252,578 | -2.2% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,227,578 | 1,305,370 | 1,252,578 | 1,282,578 | -1.7% |

# Enterprise – Transit Operations

This fund accounts for the operation of the City's transit bus system. The Transit Board consists of representatives from Iowa State University (ISU), the ISU Student, and the City of Ames. Funding is provided through student fees, a property tax levy, ISU, passenger fares, and grants received through the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Federal Government. The Transit Board has adopted a minimum ending fund balance policy of 7.5% of total expenditures less transfers, with a goal to maintain a balance between 7.5% and 10%.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Federal/State Funding | 5,389,423 | 5,367,821 | 5,367,821 | 5,370,821 | 0.1% |
| ISU Administration | 929,723 | 952,966 | 952,966 | 976,790 | 2.5% |
| ISU Student Fees | 6,296,461 | 6,002,724 | 6,002,724 | 6,152,792 | 2.5% |
| Fees/Service Charges | 700,596 | 654,705 | 654,705 | 675,296 | 3.1% |
| Metro Planning Organization | 40,248 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 0.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 256,565 | 225,000 | 225,000 | 225,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 206,622 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 116,688 | 28,000 | 28,000 | 28,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 13,936,326 | 13,261,216 | 13,261,216 | 13,458,699 | 1.5% |
| **Transfers:** | | | | | |
| General Fund (Transit Levy) | 2,097,005 | 2,173,044 | 2,173,044 | 2,227,370 | 2.5% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 16,033,331 | 15,434,260 | 15,434,260 | 15,686,069 | 1.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Administration | 2,631,094 | 2,699,548 | 2,723,268 | 2,814,082 | 4.2% |
| Fixed Route Service | 10,793,553 | 12,500,598 | 12,544,337 | 12,585,715 | 0.7% |
| Dial-A-Ride Service | 281,698 | 285,728 | 285,618 | 292,333 | 2.3% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 13,706,345 | 15,485,874 | 15,553,223 | 15,692,130 | 1.3% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Capital Reserve | 3,010,923 | 800,000 | 1,800,000 | 800,000 | 0.0% |
| Student Government Trust | - | - | 440,145 | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 3,010,923 | 800,000 | 2,240,145 | 800,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 16,717,268 | 16,285,874 | 17,793,368 | 16,492,130 | 1.3% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (683,937) | (851,614) | (2,359,108) | (806,061) | -5.3% |
| Beginning Balance | 10,520,629 | 7,342,186 | 9,836,692 | 7,477,584 | 1.8% |
| **Ending Balance** | 9,836,692 | 6,490,572 | 7,477,584 | 6,671,523 | 2.8% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| Reserve for cash flow | 2,000,000 |
| 10% of operating expenses | 1,569,213 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 3,102,310 |

# Enterprise – Transit Student Government Trust

This fund is used for the stabilization of the contributions from the ISU Student Government at Iowa State University to the Transit operating budget. The fund balance fluctuates based on fee approval, enrollment, and service levels.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 24,391 | 19,000 | 19,000 | 19,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 18,689 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 43,080 | 19,000 | 19,000 | 19,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Operations | 210,923 | - | 440,145 | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 254,003 | 19,000 | 459,145 | 19,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Operations | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 254,003 | 19,000 | 459,145 | 19,000 | 0.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 776,327 | 1,010,250 | 1,030,330 | 1,489,475 | 47.4% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,030,330 | 1,029,250 | 1,489,475 | 1,508,475 | 46.6% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 10% of ISU Student Fees | 615,279 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 893,196 |

# Enterprise – Transit Capital Reserve

This fund accounts for CyRide grant and capital activities.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Federal/State Funding | 1,161,276 | 574,268 | 9,017,100 | 4,337,056 | 655.2% |
| ISU Parking | 17,000 | 17,000 | 17,000 | 17,000 | 0.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 316,144 | 255,000 | 255,000 | 255,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 241,817 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 5,000 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 1,741,237 | 846,268 | 9,289,100 | 4,609,056 | 444.6% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Transit Operations | 2,800,000 | 800,000 | 1,800,000 | 800,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 2,800,000 | 800,000 | 1,800,000 | 800,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 4,541,237 | 1,646,268 | 11,089,100 | 5,409,056 | 228.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Transit | 1,994,725 | 1,170,268 | 13,024,504 | 6,510,563 | 456.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 1,994,725 | 1,170,268 | 13,024,504 | 6,510,563 | 456.3% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 2,546,512 | 476,000 | (1,935,404) | (1,101,507) | -331.4% |
| Beginning Balance | 10,889,941 | 10,577,440 | 13,436,453 | 11,501,049 | 8.7% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 13,436,453 | 11,053,440 | 11,501,049 | 10,399,542 | -5.9% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| Facility Expansion Local Match Reserve | 3,715,166 |
| Electric Bus Local Match Reserve | 1,382,960 |
| 40' Bus Local Match Reserve | 3,398,692 |
| Accessibility Technology Reserve | 750,000 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 1,152,724 |

# Enterprise – Stormwater Utility

The Stormwater Utility Fund accounts for receipt of stormwater fees and grants and expenditure of funds for maintenance and capital improvements in the stormwater system.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stormwater Fees | 1,959,741 | 1,958,548 | 1,960,000 | 1,960,000 | 0.1% |
| Permits and Plan Reviews | 20,700 | 22,750 | 23,500 | 23,500 | 3.3% |
| Fees/Service Charges | 9,569 | 8,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 25.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 228,650 | 210,000 | 210,000 | 225,000 | 7.1% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 179,198 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 80,000 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,477,858 | 2,199,298 | 2,203,500 | 2,218,500 | 0.9% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Storm Sewer Maintenance | 349,381 | 403,502 | 408,632 | 433,085 | 7.3% |
| Stormwater Permit Program | 377,569 | 446,463 | 432,193 | 446,961 | 0.1% |
| Public Works Engineering | 33,163 | 28,186 | 27,716 | 29,263 | 3.8% |
| Public Works GIS | 46,072 | 69,963 | 63,706 | 70,946 | 1.4% |
| Customer Service | 3,293 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 0.0% |
| Art Services | - | - | 2,000 | - | |
| ***Total Operations*** | 809,478 | 955,114 | 941,247 | 987,255 | 3.4% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Stormwater | 739,510 | 1,450,000 | 6,264,414 | 2,100,000 | 44.8% |
| Right-of-Way Restoration | 5,601 | - | 310,795 | 50,000 | |
| ***Total CIP*** | 745,111 | 1,450,000 | 6,575,209 | 2,150,000 | 48.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 1,554,589 | 2,405,114 | 7,516,456 | 3,137,255 | 30.4% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 923,269 | (205,816) | (5,312,956) | (918,755) | 346.4% |
| Beginning Balance | 7,000,809 | 2,574,577 | 7,924,078 | 2,611,122 | 1.4% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 7,924,078 | 2,368,761 | 2,611,122 | 1,692,367 | -28.6% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 10% of operating expenses | 98,726 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 1,593,641 |

# Enterprise – Stormwater Improvements

This fund is used to account for grant and developer funding related to stormwater capital improvement projects.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Federal/State Grants | - | 400,000 | 1,000,000 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| SRF Grant Program | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | - | 400,000 | 1,000,000 | 400,000 | |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Sewer Improvements | - | - | 300,000 | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | 400,000 | 1,300,000 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Stormwater Improvements | - | 400,000 | 1,300,000 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Debt Service | 676,913 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 676,913 | 400,000 | 1,300,000 | 400,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (676,913) | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 676,913 | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Enterprise – Ames/ISU Ice Arena

This fund accounts for the operation of the Ice Arena.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Admissions | 61,009 | 64,953 | 69,005 | 70,455 | 8.5% |
| Ice Rink Rental | 395,943 | 439,962 | 499,104 | 523,354 | 19.0% |
| Ice Arena Programming | 5,313 | 23,120 | 7,760 | 7,880 | -65.9% |
| Equipment Rental/Fees | 24,081 | 26,158 | 26,492 | 27,015 | 3.3% |
| Dasher Board Advertising | 6,800 | 14,200 | 16,400 | 24,400 | 71.8% |
| Pro Shop Sales | 1,156 | 1,200 | 1,000 | 375 | -68.8% |
| Concessions | 30,505 | 32,140 | 32,450 | 35,150 | 9.4% |
| Interest Revenue | 4,951 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 4,112 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 4,418 | - | 407 | 966 | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 538,288 | 606,733 | 657,618 | 694,595 | 14.5% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Ice Arena Operations | 560,988 | 596,809 | 577,778 | 595,249 | -0.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 560,988 | 596,809 | 577,778 | 595,249 | -0.3% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (22,700) | 9,924 | 79,840 | 99,346 | 901.1% |
| Beginning Balance | 302,707 | 292,795 | 280,007 | 359,847 | 22.9% |
| **Ending Balance** | 280,007 | 302,719 | 359,847 | 459,193 | 51.7% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 15% of operating expenses | 89,287 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 369,906 |

# Enterprise – Ice Arena Capital Reserve

This fund accounts for capital replacement contributions from the City of Ames and Iowa State University (ISU). Both the City of Ames and ISU contribute $40,000 annually. Funds may only be spent on approved capital improvements at the Ice Arena. Interest earned by the reserve is credited to the Ice Arena Operations Fund to improve the fund balance and reduce rate increases required to fund operations.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Iowa State University | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 6,036 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 3,000 | -25.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 4,963 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 50,999 | 44,000 | 44,000 | 43,000 | -2.3% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Local Option Sales Tax | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 90,999 | 84,000 | 84,000 | 83,000 | -1.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Ice Arena Improvements | 207,268 | 25,000 | 155,768 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 207,268 | 25,000 | 155,768 | - | -100.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (116,269) | 59,000 | (71,768) | 83,000 | 40.7% |
| Beginning Balance | 240,354 | 46,042 | 124,085 | 52,317 | 13.6% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 124,085 | 105,042 | 52,317 | 135,317 | 28.8% |

# Enterprise – Homewood Golf Course

This fund accounts for the operation of a 9-hole municipal golf course.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Green Fees | 226,629 | 206,000 | 233,428 | 240,431 | 16.7% |
| Season Passes/Punch Cards | 96,946 | 90,288 | 98,248 | 101,045 | 11.9% |
| League Entry Fees | 3,446 | 2,880 | 3,240 | 3,510 | 21.9% |
| Program Fees | 5,620 | 5,220 | 4,240 | 5,200 | -0.4% |
| Equipment Rental | 106,060 | 97,000 | 110,000 | 112,000 | 15.5% |
| Clubhouse Rental | 17,108 | 19,740 | 19,740 | 20,370 | 3.2% |
| Pro Shop Sales | 4,510 | 3,400 | 4,500 | 4,500 | 32.4% |
| Concessions | 44,818 | 44,000 | 46,000 | 47,000 | 6.8% |
| Cell Tower Lease | 24,136 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 0.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 17,579 | 10,000 | 19,000 | 20,000 | 100.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 13,459 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 1,625 | - | 980 | 900 | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 561,936 | 502,528 | 563,376 | 578,956 | 15.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Administration/Concessions | 207,983 | 247,770 | 245,469 | 267,042 | 7.8% |
| Golf Course Maintenance | 128,674 | 135,592 | 138,935 | 139,187 | 2.7% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 336,657 | 383,362 | 384,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| ***CIP:*** | | | | | |
| Homewood Improvements | - | - | 75,000 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 336,657 | 383,362 | 459,404 | 406,229 | 6.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 225,279 | 119,166 | 103,972 | 172,727 | 44.9% |
| Beginning Balance | 483,075 | 526,494 | 708,354 | 812,326 | 54.3% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 708,354 | 645,660 | 812,326 | 985,053 | 52.6% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 25% of operating expenses | 101,557 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 883,496 |

# Enterprise – Resource Recovery

This fund accounts for the operation of a municipally owned Resource Recovery Plant that provides service to 12 communities and several governmental organizations on a contractual basis. The member organizations contribute a per capita fee. The transfer from the General Fund is the Ames share of the per capita.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Commercial Accounts | 2,483,615 | 2,625,000 | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 14.3% |
| Iowa State University | 273,379 | 250,000 | 275,000 | 275,000 | 10.0% |
| Other Contracts | 8,342 | 6,540 | 7,040 | 7,040 | 7.6% |
| Public Fees | 113,270 | 124,000 | 188,000 | 188,000 | 51.6% |
| FWD Pilot Program | 320 | 500 | 250 | 250 | -50.0% |
| Per Capita Revenue | 319,970 | 319,966 | 319,966 | 319,966 | 0.0% |
| Electric RDF Revenue | 896,942 | 901,688 | 901,688 | 901,688 | 0.0% |
| Sale of Metals | 254,482 | 125,000 | 177,900 | 180,400 | 44.3% |
| Sale of Recyclables | 3,861 | - | 20,000 | 25,000 | |
| Interest Revenue | 20,723 | 19,000 | 19,000 | 25,000 | 31.6% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 16,129 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 2,282 | - | 3,000 | 3,000 | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 4,393,315 | 4,371,694 | 4,911,844 | 4,925,344 | 12.7% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund (Ames Per Capita) | 592,484 | 592,484 | 592,484 | 592,484 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 4,985,799 | 4,964,178 | 5,504,328 | 5,517,828 | 11.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Operations:*** | | | | | |
| Public Works Administration | 142,415 | 155,990 | 156,398 | 164,198 | 5.3% |
| Resource Recovery Operations | 3,303,783 | 3,653,645 | 3,476,395 | 3,658,539 | 0.1% |
| Reject Disposal | 1,064,874 | 712,663 | 1,090,363 | 1,144,630 | 60.6% |
| Yard Waste Management | 42,965 | 48,010 | 48,000 | 52,000 | 8.3% |
| Landfill Monitoring | 5,139 | 7,800 | 5,700 | 5,500 | -29.5% |
| ***Total Operations*** | 4,559,176 | 4,578,108 | 4,776,856 | 5,024,867 | 9.8% |

# Enterprise – Resource Recovery

**Continued from previous page.**

| *CIP:* | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted | % Change from Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Resource Recovery | 269,057 | 650,000 | 927,919 | 459,000 | -29.4% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 4,828,233 | 5,228,108 | 5,704,775 | 5,483,867 | 4.9% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Debt Service | 147,403 | 113,163 | 113,163 | 93,766 | -17.1% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 4,975,636 | 5,341,271 | 5,817,938 | 5,577,633 | 4.4% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 10,163 | (377,093) | (313,610) | (59,805) | -84.1% |
| Beginning Balance | 1,438,962 | 754,663 | 1,449,125 | 1,135,515 | 50.5% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,449,125 | 377,570 | 1,135,515 | 1,075,710 | 184.9% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| 10% of operating expenses | 502,487 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 573,223 |

# Debt Service

This fund accounts for payment of principal and interest on general obligation bonds. Iowa State University participates in the repayment of bonds issued to fund Fire capital acquisitions. The available fund balance will be used to reduce future debt service.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Property Taxes | 11,057,459 | 11,722,642 | 11,722,642 | 12,180,953 | 3.9% |
| Excise Tax | 66,608 | 26,515 | 26,515 | 26,839 | 1.2% |
| State Replacement Tax | 324,572 | 262,365 | 262,365 | 198,757 | -24.2% |
| Iowa State University | 49,347 | 51,132 | 51,132 | 49,602 | -3.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 192,945 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 0.0% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 168,856 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 11,859,787 | 12,137,654 | 12,137,654 | 12,531,151 | 3.2% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| General Fund | - | 784,195 | - | - | -100.0% |
| TIF/ISU Research Park | 302,400 | 300,650 | 300,650 | 302,400 | 0.6% |
| TIF/ISU RP Phase 2 | 32,650 | 31,400 | 31,400 | 30,150 | -4.0% |
| Special Assessments | 317,553 | 38,450 | 38,450 | 42,400 | 10.3% |
| G.O. Bonds | 396,339 | - | 979,167 | - | |
| Street Construction Fund | 172,167 | - | - | - | |
| Airport Operations Fund | 64,119 | 70,984 | 70,984 | 70,975 | 0.0% |
| Water Utility Fund | 127,624 | 66,318 | 66,318 | 66,842 | 0.8% |
| Sewer Utility Fund | 383,888 | 322,752 | 322,752 | 323,722 | 0.3% |
| Electric Utility Fund | 16,585 | 19,065 | 19,065 | 18,290 | -4.1% |
| Stormwater Improvements | 676,913 | - | - | - | |
| Resource Recovery | 147,403 | 113,163 | 113,163 | 93,766 | -17.1% |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 2,637,641 | 1,746,977 | 1,941,949 | 948,545 | -45.7% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 14,497,428 | 13,884,631 | 14,079,603 | 13,479,696 | -2.9% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Debt Service:*** | | | | | |
| G.O. Bond Principal | 10,250,000 | 10,220,497 | 10,325,000 | 10,624,354 | 4.0% |
| G.O. Bond Interest | 2,729,460 | 3,204,938 | 3,096,870 | 3,468,640 | 8.2% |
| G.O. Bond Costs | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 12,979,460 | 13,425,435 | 13,421,870 | 14,092,994 | 5.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 1,517,968 | 459,196 | 657,733 | (613,298) | -233.6% |
| Beginning Balance | 2,352,741 | 3,646,381 | 3,870,709 | 4,528,442 | 24.2% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 3,870,709 | 4,105,577 | 4,528,442 | 3,915,144 | -4.6% |

# Internal Services – Fleet Services

This fund accounts for the operations of the City's Fleet Services activity, which provides maintenance and support for vehicles and equipment used by all City departments, apart from Transit (CyRide).

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fleet Maintenance Charges | 2,593,071 | 2,632,503 | 2,631,864 | 2,733,203 | 3.8% |
| Maintenance Facility Charges | 67,685 | 78,134 | 77,568 | 82,453 | 5.5% |
| Motor Pool Charges | 52,330 | 65,000 | 65,000 | 65,000 | 0.0% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 4,106 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,717,192 | 2,775,637 | 2,774,432 | 2,880,656 | 3.8% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Administration | 534,285 | 592,161 | 592,865 | 614,792 | 3.8% |
| Fleet Maintenance | 2,002,062 | 1,949,208 | 1,948,433 | 2,022,958 | 3.8% |
| Fleet Maintenance Facility | 135,370 | 156,268 | 155,134 | 164,906 | 5.5% |
| Motor Pool Operations | 48,102 | 38,000 | 38,000 | 38,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 2,719,819 | 2,735,637 | 2,734,432 | 2,840,656 | 3.8% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | (2,627) | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 106,138 | 155,384 | 103,511 | 143,511 | -7.6% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 103,511 | 195,384 | 143,511 | 183,511 | -6.1% |

# Internal Services – Fleet Replacement Reserve

This fund accounts for the accumulation of funds for the replacement of City fleet vehicles and equipment. Having a replacement reserve fund allows City departments to accumulate funds through their operating budgets over the useful lives of the equipment. These funds are then available to replace the equipment at the end of its useful life.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fleet Replacement Funds | 2,179,254 | 2,031,001 | 2,316,147 | 2,458,721 | 21.1% |
| Sale of Equipment | 9,792 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 379 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,189,425 | 2,031,001 | 2,316,147 | 2,458,721 | 21.1% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Acquisitions | 2,017,499 | 879,200 | 2,847,534 | 2,835,300 | 222.5% |
| Fleet Disposal | 783 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 2,018,282 | 879,200 | 2,847,534 | 2,835,300 | 222.5% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Technology Replacement | 46,199 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 46,199 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 2,064,481 | 879,200 | 2,847,534 | 2,835,300 | 222.5% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 124,944 | 1,151,801 | (531,387) | (376,579) | -132.7% |
| Beginning Balance | 13,227,011 | 11,220,842 | 13,351,955 | 12,820,568 | 14.3% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 13,351,955 | 12,372,643 | 12,820,568 | 12,443,989 | 0.6% |

# Internal Services – Fleet Services Reserve

This fund accounts for the accumulation of interest earned by funds held in the Fleet Replacement Reserve fund. Revenues in excess of expenses in the Fleet Services operations fund are also transferred to this fund at the end of each fiscal year. These funds are used for equipment upgrades and capital improvements for Fleet Services.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Interest Revenue | 403,301 | 340,000 | 340,000 | 400,000 | 17.6% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 318,041 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 721,342 | 340,000 | 340,000 | 400,000 | 17.6% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Acquisitions | 100,000 | - | 100,000 | 100,000 | |
| Fleet Services | 77,867 | - | 60,000 | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 177,867 | - | 160,000 | 100,000 | |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 543,475 | 340,000 | 180,000 | 300,000 | -11.8% |
| Beginning Balance | 616,228 | 803,618 | 1,159,703 | 1,339,703 | 66.7% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,159,703 | 1,143,618 | 1,339,703 | 1,639,703 | 43.4% |

# Internal Services – Information Technology

Information Technology accounts for all information technology and communication services provided to City departments.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Computer Charges | 1,918,803 | 2,001,841 | 2,001,258 | 1,810,800 | -9.5% |
| Phone System Charges | 277,913 | 278,447 | 277,327 | 168,452 | -39.5% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 3,188 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 2,199,904 | 2,280,288 | 2,278,585 | 1,979,252 | -13.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Computer Services | 1,849,119 | 1,895,270 | 1,922,298 | 1,714,853 | -9.5% |
| Network Services | 72,872 | 106,571 | 78,960 | 95,947 | -10.0% |
| Phone Operations | 277,913 | 278,447 | 277,327 | 168,452 | -39.5% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 2,199,904 | 2,280,288 | 2,278,585 | 1,979,252 | -13.2% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | 120,000 | 120,000 | 120,000 | 120,000 | 0.0% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 120,000 | 120,000 | 120,000 | 120,000 | 0.0% |

# Internal Services – Technology Replacement Reserve

This fund accounts for the accumulation of funds to use for the replacement of City departmental computers and other technology equipment. Having a replacement reserve fund allows City departments to accumulate funds through their operating budgets over the useful lives of the equipment. These funds are then available to replace the equipment at the end of its useful life.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Departmental Replacement | 409,221 | 309,707 | 344,913 | 326,676 | 5.5% |
| ***Total Before Transfers*** | 409,221 | 309,707 | 344,913 | 326,676 | 5.5% |
| ***Transfers:*** | | | | | |
| Fleet Replacement Fund | 46,199 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Transfers*** | 46,199 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 455,420 | 309,707 | 344,913 | 326,676 | 5.5% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Technology Replacement | 321,256 | 205,100 | 388,279 | 250,800 | 22.3% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 321,256 | 205,100 | 388,279 | 250,800 | 22.3% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 134,164 | 104,607 | (43,366) | 75,876 | -27.5% |
| Beginning Balance | 2,158,333 | 2,101,482 | 2,292,497 | 2,249,131 | 7.0% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 2,292,497 | 2,206,089 | 2,249,131 | 2,325,007 | 5.4% |

# Internal Services – Technology Reserve Fund

This fund accounts for the accumulation of interest earned by funds held in the Technology Replacement Reserve fund. Revenues in excess of expenses in the Information Technology operations fund are also transferred to this fund at the end of each fiscal year. These funds are used for the replacement of network and computer equipment for Information Technology.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| IT Technology Replacement | 491,743 | 100,000 | 100,000 | - | -100.0% |
| Interest Revenue | 79,174 | 63,000 | 63,000 | 70,000 | 11.1% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 63,088 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 634,005 | 163,000 | 163,000 | 70,000 | -57.1% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| IT Technology Replacement | 75,117 | 65,000 | 109,675 | 130,000 | 100.0% |
| Finance/HRIS Software Study | - | - | - | - | |
| Phone System | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 75,117 | 65,000 | 109,675 | 130,000 | 100.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 558,888 | 98,000 | 53,325 | (60,000) | -161.2% |
| Beginning Balance | 899,856 | 903,847 | 1,458,744 | 1,512,069 | 67.3% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 1,458,744 | 1,001,847 | 1,512,069 | 1,452,069 | 44.9% |

# Internal Services – Shared Communications System

This fund accounts for the communication system that the City shares with Iowa State University, Story County, the E911 system, and several other neighboring communities.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Iowa State University | 79,772 | 84,278 | 99,400 | 102,324 | 21.4% |
| Story County | 81,176 | 85,430 | 100,595 | 103,554 | 21.2% |
| E911 System | 56,910 | 60,424 | 73,138 | 75,290 | 24.6% |
| MGMC | 4,082 | 2,765 | 2,843 | 2,927 | 5.9% |
| Ames Police Department | 85,160 | 88,192 | 103,431 | 106,474 | 20.7% |
| Ames Fire Department | 5,168 | 5,502 | 5,654 | 5,821 | 5.8% |
| City of Story City | 2,151 | 1,642 | 1,690 | 1,740 | 6.0% |
| City of Huxley | 1,661 | 1,767 | 1,817 | 1,870 | 5.8% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 316,080 | 330,000 | 388,568 | 400,000 | 21.2% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Shared Communications System | 316,080 | 330,000 | 388,568 | 400,000 | 21.2% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 316,080 | 330,000 | 388,568 | 400,000 | 21.2% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Internal Services – Printing Services

This fund is used to account for the revenues and expenses of the City's Printing Services activity. In FY 2024/25, the Printing Services fund was absorbed into the General Fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Department Printing Services | - | 115,739 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Department Copier Services | - | 10,184 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Outside Printing Services | - | 3,000 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | 128,923 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Printing Services | - | 123,623 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Copier Services | - | 5,300 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | 128,923 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Internal Services – Messenger Services

This fund is used to account for the revenues and expenses of the City's Messenger Services activity. In FY 2024/25, the Messenger Services fund was absorbed into the General Fund.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Department Messenger Services | - | 116,819 | - | - | -100.0% |
| Outside Messenger Services | - | 2,870 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Revenues*** | - | 119,689 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Messenger Services | - | 119,689 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | - | 119,689 | - | - | -100.0% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | - | - | - | - | |
| Beginning Balance | - | - | - | - | |
| ***Ending Balance*** | - | - | - | - | |

# Internal Services – Risk Management

This fund accounts for payment of insurance premiums for Workers' Compensation, comprehensive liability and other insurance covered by the Risk Management Program. Loss prevention is also included in the program. The fund balance includes the required reserves plus an accrual calculation for unreported claims.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Departmental Charges | 3,522,231 | 4,075,519 | 3,319,931 | 3,705,829 | -9.1% |
| Interest Revenue | 66,921 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 40,000 | 33.3% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 54,039 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 2,000 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 3,645,191 | 4,105,519 | 3,349,931 | 3,745,829 | -8.8% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Risk Administration | 170,575 | 181,361 | 179,893 | 189,772 | 4.6% |
| Liability Insurance | 342,980 | 390,727 | 355,142 | 405,213 | 3.7% |
| Liability Claims | 80,071 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 0.0% |
| Automobile Insurance | 76,566 | 84,223 | 80,307 | 88,338 | 4.9% |
| Transit Insurance | 239,858 | 268,641 | 250,403 | 287,963 | 7.2% |
| Property Insurance | 1,302,332 | 1,766,733 | 1,051,452 | 1,281,304 | -27.5% |
| Professional Liability Ins. | 72,280 | 79,508 | 85,344 | 98,146 | 23.4% |
| Police Professional Ins. | 54,341 | 59,775 | 58,636 | 64,500 | 7.9% |
| Internal Safety Training | 143,310 | 148,460 | 148,452 | 152,533 | 2.7% |
| Workers Compensation | 810,611 | 749,014 | 849,014 | 882,660 | 17.8% |
| **Total Expenses** | 3,292,924 | 3,928,442 | 3,258,643 | 3,650,429 | -7.1% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 352,267 | 177,077 | 91,288 | 95,400 | -46.1% |
| Beginning Balance | 3,603,725 | 3,761,068 | 3,955,992 | 4,047,280 | 7.6% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 3,955,992 | 3,938,145 | 4,047,280 | 4,142,680 | 5.2% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| Reserved for deductibles and retained risk | 1,000,000 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 3,142,680 |

# Internal Services – Health Insurance

This fund accounts for City and employee contributions for the City's health benefits plan. The City began self-insurance in July 2000. The reserve for post-employment health care benefits reflects the City's liability for funding post-employment health care benefits.

| ***Revenues:*** | **2023/24 Actual** | **2024/25 Adopted** | **2024/25 Adjusted** | **2025/26 Adopted** | **% Change from Adopted** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Department Contributions | 10,085,781 | 10,905,420 | 10,858,096 | 11,695,567 | 7.2% |
| Employee Contributions | 820,886 | 905,271 | 882,301 | 949,437 | 4.9% |
| Retiree Contributions | 246,645 | 375,988 | 266,377 | 287,687 | -23.5% |
| COBRA Contributions | 18,407 | 53,267 | 19,880 | 21,470 | -59.7% |
| Stop Loss Recoveries | 336,057 | - | - | - | |
| Pharmacy Refunds | 1,343,907 | - | - | - | |
| Interest Revenue | 222,239 | 191,000 | 191,000 | 200,000 | 4.7% |
| Unrealized Investment Gain | 175,991 | - | - | - | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 225 | - | - | - | |
| ***Total Revenues*** | 13,250,138 | 12,430,946 | 12,217,654 | 13,154,161 | 5.8% |
| ***Expenses:*** | | | | | |
| ***Internal Services:*** | | | | | |
| Health Insurance Admin. | 199,358 | 172,160 | 169,502 | 176,612 | 2.6% |
| Medical Claims | 7,498,677 | 7,152,791 | 7,152,791 | 6,301,788 | -11.9% |
| Dental Claims | 426,688 | 469,818 | 469,818 | 443,657 | -5.6% |
| Pharmacy Claims | 2,782,497 | 2,730,279 | 2,730,279 | 3,393,270 | 24.3% |
| Other Insurance/Fees | 1,366,908 | 1,769,358 | 1,769,358 | 1,860,154 | 5.1% |
| Health Promotion Program | 271,444 | 327,557 | 352,812 | 373,131 | 13.9% |
| ***Total Expenses*** | 12,545,572 | 12,621,963 | 12,644,560 | 12,548,612 | -0.6% |
| ***Fund Balance:*** | | | | | |
| Net Change in Fund | 704,566 | (191,017) | (426,906) | 605,549 | -417.0% |
| Beginning Balance | 6,967,491 | 7,137,282 | 7,672,057 | 7,245,151 | 1.5% |
| ***Ending Balance*** | 7,672,057 | 6,946,265 | 7,245,151 | 7,850,700 | 13.0% |

| | |
|---|---|
| *Minimum fund balance target:* | |
| Claims reserve | 4,630,830 |
| Unreserved fund balance | 3,219,870 |

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# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION









2014-2024
AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITION
10 YEARS



CITY OF ames™

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# Authorized Employment Levels

| Department | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|
| **City Manager** | | | |
| City Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Assistant City Manager | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| City Clerk/Records Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Public Relations Officer | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Communications Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Media Services Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Printing/Graphics Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Engagement Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Sustainability Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Management Analyst | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **City Manager Total** | **14.00** | **14.00** | **14.00** |
| | | | |
| **Legal Services** | | | |
| City Attorney | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Assistant City Attorney I | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Administrative Assistant | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Legal Secretary | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| **Legal Services Total** | **6.00** | **6.00** | **6.00** |
| | | | |
| **Human Resources** | | | |
| HR Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| HR Officer II | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| HR Officer I | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Risk Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Health Promotion Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Human Reources Specialist | - | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| HR Assistant | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Human Resources Total** | **8.00** | **9.00** | **9.00** |
| | | | |
| **Planning & Housing** | | | |
| Planning/Housing Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Housing Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Planner | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| **Planning/Housing Total** | **7.00** | **7.00** | **7.00** |
| | | | |
| **Administrative Services** | | | |
| Admin Svcs. Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| **Admin. Services Total** | **5.00** | **5.00** | **5.00** |
| | | | |
| **Finance** | | | |
| **Finance Administration** | | | |
| Finance Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Budget Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Budget Analyst | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Finance Admin. Subtotal** | **4.00** | **4.00** | **4.00** |
| | | | |
| **Accounting** | | | |
| Accounting/Reporting Mgr. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Investment Officer | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Accountant | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Payroll Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Account Clerk | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Treasury Cashier | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Accounting Subtotal** | **8.00** | **8.00** | **8.00** |

| Department | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Utility Customer Service** | | | |
| Utility Accounts Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Utility Accounts Technician | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Utility Customer Svc. Clerk | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| Senior Meter Reader | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Meter Reader | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| **Customer Svc. Subtotal** | **12.00** | **12.00** | **12.00** |
| | | | |
| **Information Technology** | | | |
| IT Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Systems Analyst | 3.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Network Administrator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Client Support Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| IT Public Safety Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Client Support Specialist II | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Client Support Specialist I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Help Desk Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Info. Tech. Subtotal** | **10.00** | **9.00** | **9.00** |
| | | | |
| **Purchasing** | | | |
| Purchasing Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Procurement Specialist II | 2.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Procurement Specialist I | 1.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Purchasing Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Mail Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Purchasing Subtotal** | **6.00** | **6.00** | **6.00** |
| **Finance Total** | **40.00** | **39.00** | **39.00** |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| **Fleet/Facilities** | | | |
| Fleet/Facilities Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Fleet Support Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Lead Fleet Technician | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Fleet Technician | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Mechanic Assistant | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Building Maintenance Spc. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Fleet/Facilities Total** | **9.00** | **9.00** | **9.00** |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| **Transit** | | | |
| Transit Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Assistant Transit Director | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Transit Planner | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Transit Schd/Admin Analyst | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Transit Safety Officer | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.75 | 1.75 | 1.75 |
| Transit Technology Coord. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Operations Manager | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Transit Trainer | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Transit Dispatcher | 6.25 | 6.25 | 6.25 |
| Transit Driver | 53.75 | 53.75 | 53.75 |
| Maintenance Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Lead Mechanic | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Mechanic | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 |
| Mechanic Assistant | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Lead Lane Worker | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Lane Worker | 2.50 | 2.50 | 2.50 |
| **Transit Total** | **89.25** | **89.25** | **89.25** |

# Authorized Employment Levels

| Department | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fire/Building Safety** | | | |
| **Fire** | | | |
| Fire Chief | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Deputy Fire Chief | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Fire Training Officer | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Shift Commander | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Fire Lieutenant | 9.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 |
| Fire Inspector | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Firefighter | 46.00 | 46.00 | 47.00 |
| **Fire Subtotal** | **63.00** | **63.00** | **64.00** |
| **Building Safety** | | | |
| Building Official | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Assistant Building Official | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Plans Examiner | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Building/Zoning Inspector | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Electrical Inspector | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Plumbing Inspector | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Housing Inspector | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Community Codes Liaison | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Building Safety Subtotal** | **12.00** | **12.00** | **12.00** |
| **Fire/Building Safety Total** | **75.00** | **75.00** | **76.00** |
| **Police** | | | |
| Chief of Police | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Support Services Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary II | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Police Major | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Police Lieutenant | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Police Sergeant | 9.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 |
| Police Officer | 41.00 | 41.00 | 41.00 |
| Mental Health Advocate | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Parking Enfrcmnt. Coord. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Emergency Comm. Super. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Public Safety Dispatcher | 12.00 | 12.00 | 12.00 |
| Police Records Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Police Records Clerk | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Police Evidence Technician | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Animal Control Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Animal Control Officer | 2.05 | 2.05 | 2.50 |
| Animal Control Vet. Tech. | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| Animal Control Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Animal Control Attendant | 0.50 | 0.50 | 1.50 |
| **Police Total** | **84.05** | **84.05** | **85.50** |
| **Library** | | | |
| Library Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Library Volunteer Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Comm. Relations Specialist | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| Library Marketing Assistant | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Resource Services Mgr. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Resource Services Clerk | 1.50 | 1.50 | 1.50 |
| Youth Services Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Adult Services Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Librarian | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.00 |
| Library Assistant | 11.00 | 11.00 | 11.00 |
| Adult Services Clerk | 1.25 | 1.25 | 1.25 |
| Customer Accounts Mgr. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Operations Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Customer Accounts Clerk | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| IT Systems Administrator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Client Support Technician | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Cataloging Clerk | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| Building Maint. Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Library Total** | **38.50** | **38.50** | **38.50** |

| Department | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Parks & Recreation** | | | |
| Parks & Recreation Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Recreation Superintendent | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Recreation Manager | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Recreation Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Ice Arena Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Ice Arena Coordinator | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Aquatics/Activites Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Aquatics Coordinator | - | - | 1.00 |
| Wellness Program Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Auditorium/Bandshell Mgr. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Office Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 2.00 | 2.00 | 3.00 |
| Parks/Facilities Supt. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Parks/Facilities Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| City Forester | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Turf Maintenance Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Parks Maint. Specialists | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Maintenance Workers | 10.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| **Parks & Recreation Total** | **28.75** | **29.00** | **31.00** |
| **Water and Pollution Control** | | | |
| **W & PC Administration** | | | |
| W & PC Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Assistant W & PC Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Environmental Engineer I | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Environmental Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| SCADA Technician | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **W & PC Admin Subtotal** | **7.00** | **7.00** | **7.00** |
| **Water Plant Operations** | | | |
| Water Plant Superintendent | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Water Plant Asst. Supt. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Water Plant Operator | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| Water Plant Maint. Spc. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Water Plant Maint. Tech II | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Water Plant Subtotal** | **9.00** | **9.00** | **9.00** |
| **WPC Facility Operations** | | | |
| WPC Plant Superintendent | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| WPC Plant Asst. Supt. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| WPC Plant Operator | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| WPC Plant Maint. Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| WPC Plant Maint. Tech II | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| WPC Plant Maint. Worker | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **WPC Facility Subtotal** | **12.00** | **12.00** | **12.00** |
| **W & PC Metering** | | | |
| Water Meter Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Water Meter Repair Worker | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Cross Connect. Ctrl. Coord. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **W & PC Metering Subtotal** | **6.00** | **6.00** | **6.00** |
| **W & PC Laboratory** | | | |
| W & PC Lab Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| W & PC Lab Analyst | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| W & PC Lab Technician | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| **W & PC Lab Subtotal** | **5.00** | **5.00** | **5.00** |
| **W & PC Total** | **39.00** | **39.00** | **39.00** |

# Authorized Employment Levels

| Department | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Electric Services** | | | |
| **Electric Administration** | | | |
| Electric Services Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Assistant Electric Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Utility Engineer | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Power Plant Engineer | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Energy Markets Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Energy Services Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Administration Subtotal** | **9.00** | **9.00** | **9.00** |
| **Electric Production** | | | |
| Power Plant Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Plant Operations Super. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Plant Maintenance Super. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Instrument & Control Tech. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| Environmental I & C Tech. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Power Plant Operator | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| Power Plant Aux. Operator | 11.00 | 11.00 | 11.00 |
| Power Plant Fireworker | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| Power Plant Electrician | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Power Plant Maint. Mech. | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.00 |
| Coal Handler | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Custodian | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Production Subtotal** | **42.00** | **42.00** | **42.00** |
| **Electric Distribution** | | | |
| Electric Distribution Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Asst Distribution Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Electric Line Crew Leader | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Electric Lineworker | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| Apprentice Lineworker | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Electric Serviceworker | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Underground Serviceworker | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Records/Materials Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Storekeeper | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Distribution Subtotal** | **18.00** | **18.00** | **18.00** |
| **Electric Technical Services** | | | |
| Technical Svs Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Substation Crew Leader | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Substation Electrician | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Apprentice Substn. Elect. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Electric Meter Technician | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| **Technical Svcs. Subtotal** | **7.00** | **7.00** | **7.00** |
| **Electric Engineering** | | | |
| Electric Engineering Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Electric Engineer II | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Electric Engineer I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Electric GIS Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Engineering Subtotal** | **5.00** | **5.00** | **5.00** |
| **Electric Services Total** | **81.00** | **81.00** | **81.00** |

| Department | 2024/25 Adopted | 2024/25 Adjusted | 2025/26 Adopted |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Public Works** | | | |
| **Public Works Administration** | | | |
| Public Works Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Management Analyst | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Administration Subtotal** | **2.00** | **2.00** | **2.00** |
| **Traffic** | | | |
| Traffic Engineer Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Civil Engineer II | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Transportation Planner | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Traffic Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Traffic Signal Technician | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Traffic Technician II | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Traffic Technician | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| **Traffic Subtotal** | **8.00** | **8.00** | **8.00** |
| **Streets** | | | |
| Operations Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Streets Operations Super. | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Streets Maint. Foreman | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Sr. Heavy Equip. Operator | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| Street Maint. Lead Worker | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Maintenance Worker | 14.00 | 14.00 | 14.00 |
| **Streets Subtotal** | **22.00** | **22.00** | **22.00** |
| **Public Works Engineering** | | | |
| Municipal Engineer | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Civil Engineer II | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| GIS Coordinator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| GIS Specialist | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Senior Engineering Tech. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| Civil Design Technician | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Storm Water Specialist | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Storm Water Rsrc. Analyst | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| **Engineering Subtotal** | **14.75** | **14.75** | **14.75** |
| **Utility Maintenance** | | | |
| Operations Supervisor | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Utility Maint. Foreman | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Sr. Heavy Equip. Operator | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| Maintenance Worker | 7.00 | 7.00 | 7.00 |
| Principal Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| **Utility Maintenance Subtotal** | **13.00** | **13.00** | **13.00** |
| **Resource Recovery** | | | |
| System Superintendent | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Assistant Superintendent | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Secretary I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Lead Operator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Maintenance Operator | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Equipment Operator | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Maintenance Technician I | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Maintenance Technician II | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| Process Worker | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| **Resource Recovery Subtotal** | **15.00** | **15.00** | **15.00** |
| **Parking Maintenance** | | | |
| Traffic Technician | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| **Parking Maint. Subtotal** | **2.00** | **2.00** | **2.00** |
| **Public Works Total** | **76.75** | **76.75** | **76.75** |
| **Total FTEs** | **601.30** | **601.55** | **606.00** |

# Glossary

**Accounting System:** Records and procedures which are used to record, classify, and report information on the financial status and operations of an entity.

**Accrual Basis of Accounting:** A basis of accounting in which transactions are recognized at the time they are incurred, as opposed to when cash is received or spent.

**Activity:** A specific type of work or group of tasks performed by one or more organized units of the government. An example would be Crime Prevention and Patrol.

**Ad Valorem Taxes:** See Property Tax

**Amortization:** The gradual elimination of an asset or liability, such as a bond premium, over a specified period of time.

**Appropriation:** A legal authorization to incur obligations and to make expenditures for specific purposes.

**Assets:** Resources owned or held by the City which have a monetary value.

**Audit:** An official inspection of an organization's accounts, typically by an independent body.

**Balanced Budget:** A budget for which expenses are equal to revenues.

**Bond:** A long-term commitment to pay a sum of money (the face amount of the bond) on a specific date(s) (the bond maturity date) at a specified interest rate.

**Bonding Capacity (Debt Capacity):** The State limit for general obligation debt is 5% of assessed valuation. The Ames City Council imposes a further limit which reserves 25% of that capacity.

**Budget:** A plan of financial operation and estimated expenditures for a specific period of time, and the monies to be used to finance the expenditures. The City of Ames Operating Budget is a plan for the period from July 1 through June 30.

**Capital:** Purchases of buildings, improvements other than buildings, machinery, and equipment with a value over $5,000 and an estimated, useful life in excess of one year.

**Capital Improvements Plan (CIP):** A long-range plan for providing the capital outlays necessary to ensure that adequate services are provided the residents of the City. The plan includes improvements to, or the acquisition of, structural improvements and major equipment purchases.

**Commodities:** Commodities include various materials, parts, and supplies used for continuing operations of the City with a short life expectancy and a unit cost of under $5,000.

**Contingency Funds:** A reserve of monies set aside within the General Fund for emergency or unexpected expenditures. This is also called the Emergency Reserve.

**Contractual Services:** Contractual Services include all work and services performed for the City by outside individuals, businesses, or organizations.

**COVID-19:** Coronavirus disease, an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

# Glossary

**Debt Service:** The fund which accounts for the payment of interest and principal on all general obligation debt other than that payable from special assessments and revenue debt issued for a governmental enterprise.

**Department:** A major organizational unit of the City with responsibility for managing one or more City activities.

**Depreciation:** A method of allocating the cost of an asset over its useful life.

**Derecho:** a line of intense, widespread, and fast-moving windstorms and sometimes thunderstorms that moves across a great distance and is characterized by damaging winds.

**Division:** A component of a department.

**Expenditures:** Funds spent in accordance with budgeted appropriations on assets or goods and services obtained.

**Enterprise Fund:** Funds established to finance and account for the acquisition, operation and maintenance of governmental operations which are predominantly self-supporting by user charges. Such operations must be run in a manner similar to a private business. Examples are the Electric Utility, Sewer Utility, and Parking Funds.

**Fiscal Year (FY):** The 12-month period to which the operating budget applies, and the period of time at the end of which the government determines its financial condition. For the City of Ames, this is July 1 through June 30.

**Full-Time Equivalent (FTE):** A measure of authorized personnel calculated by equating 2,080 hours of work per year with the FTE of one position.

**Fund:** An accounting term referring to a group of accounts recording all financial resources together with corresponding liabilities, which has a distinct balance and is used to segregate specific activities and functions from those of other groups of accounts.

**Fund Balance:** Describes the net assets of funds calculated on a budgetary basis with intent to serve as a measure of financial resources available.

**General Fund:** The General Fund is one of five governmental fund types and typically serves as the chief operating fund of a government. The General Fund is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**General Obligation Bonds (G.O. Bonds):** Bonds backed by the full faith and credit of the issuing government. Repayment of these bonds is based on the government's ability to tax its residents for such purposes.

**Governmental Funds:** Funds generally used to account for tax-supported activities. There are five different types of governmental funds: the general fund, special revenue funds, debt service funds, capital project funds, and permanent funds.

**Interfund Transfers:** A transfer from a fund receiving the revenue, to a fund through which the authorized expenditure is to be made. An example would be a transfer of revenue from the Road Use Tax Fund to the Street Construction Fund.

**Internal Services:** Goods or services provided by one department to others within the same government or to other governments, on a user fee basis, with full costs to be recovered. An example of this would be the City's Fleet Services Department.

# Glossary

**Levy:** The amount of taxes, assessments or service charges imposed by a government. The maximum General Fund property tax levy allowed in Iowa is $8.10 per $1,000 of assessed valuation. Other levies may be imposed in addition to this.

**Local Option Sales Tax:** A tax approved by a majority of the City's registered voters, which collects revenue according to a percentage of the value of goods and services delivered within the corporate limits. In Ames, the local option sales tax applies to those goods and services to which the State of Iowa sales tax applies.

**Major Fund:** Governmental fund or enterprise fund reported as a separate column in a governmental entity's basic fund financial statements and subject to a separate opinion in the independent auditor's report.

**Modified Accrual Accounting:** The accrual basis of accounting modified to the governmental fund type spending measurement focus. Under it, revenues are recognized when they become both "measurable" and "available to finance expenditures of the current period". Expenditures are recognized when the related fund liability is incurred except for: (1) prepaid insurance and similar items; (2) accumulated unpaid vacation, sick pay, and other employee benefit amounts which need not be recognized in the current period, but for which larger-than-normal accumulations must be disclosed in the notes to the financial statements; and (3) principal and interest on long-term debt which are generally recognized when due.

**Operating Expenses:** Those expenses from a fund which are directly related to accomplishing the fund's primary functions. Payroll would be one example of an operating expense.

**Operating Revenue:** Funds that the government receives as income to pay for ongoing operations. It includes such items as taxes, fees from specific services, interest earnings, and grant revenues. Operating revenues are used to pay for day-to-day services.

**P-Card:** The City's procurement card program of credit cards for individual City employees.

**Performance Measures:** Accomplishments of a particular activity in relation to desired standards workload, effectiveness, and efficiency. These measures must be meaningful to the tasks of the activity involved, and verifiable.

**Permanent Fund:** Governmental fund used to report resources that are legally restricted to the extent that earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the public).

**PROBE:** The Productive Review Of Budget Entries meetings are the departmental budget review meetings held with the Assistant City Managers, Finance Director, and Budget Officer.

**Program:** A grouping of related work tasks or activities into a large organizational unit. An example of a program is the Public Safety Program.

**Program Performance Budget:** Expenditures within the budget are based upon programs of work and performance of these programs. The City of Ames' budget is a Program Performance Budget.

**Property Tax:** An ad valorem tax levied on both real and personal property according to the property's valuation and the tax rate.

**Proprietary Funds:** Funds that focus on the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery), financial position, and cash flows. There are two types of proprietary funds: enterprise funds and internal service funds.

# Glossary

**Reserves:** Accounts used to hold certain portions of a fund or types of assets as unappropriated for expenditures, or as legally set aside for a specific purpose.

**Revenue:** Funds that the government receives as income. It includes such items as tax payments, fees from specific services, receipts from other governments, fines, forfeitures, share revenues, and interest income.

**Revenue Bonds:** Bonds which are repaid in both principal and interest from the earnings of an enterprise fund operation. An example is Electric Utility Revenue bonds.

**Rollback:** The State of Iowa annually adjusts the rollback percentage which is the percentage of the residential assessed valuation which is taxable.

**Special Assessment:** A levy against a property to pay for all or part of the cost of an improvement benefitting that property.

**Special Revenue Funds:** Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for particular purposes.

**Sub-Program:** A portion of a program comprised of several activities. Law Enforcement is a sub-program of Public Safety.

**Tax Rate:** The amount of tax stated in terms of a unit of the tax base; for example, dollars per $1,000 of assessed valuation.

**Transfers:** Involves the movement of money between City funds.

**Trust and Agency Funds:** Funds used to account for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity, for individuals or other groups associated with the government. Agency monies or assets are held by a government acting as an agent for others, i.e., economic development state loans.

**Unamortized Premium and Discount:** When bonds are sold, the difference in the price above par or face value (premium) or below par (discount) is recognized over the life of the bonds. The amount of the premium or discount not yet recognized is called the unamortized premium or discount.

**Valuation:** The official value established for various properties, within set State guidelines, for taxation purposes. The assessed valuation of property is that portion of the property's value upon which taxes are levied.

**Working Capital:** Current assets minus current liabilities.

# Acronyms

| | |
|---|---|
| **ACFR** | Annual Comprehensive Financial Report |
| **ACH** | Automated Clearing House |
| **ACVB** | Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau |
| **ADA** | Americans with Disabilities Act |
| **AEDC** | Ames Economic Development Commission (currently known as AREA) |
| **AHHP** | Ada Hayden Heritage Park |
| **AHRC** | Ames Human Relations Commission |
| **AMR/AMI** | Automated Meter Reading/Advanced Metering Infrastructure |
| **APC** | Automatic Passenger Counters |
| **APD** | Ames Police Department |
| **ARCH** | Alternative Response for Community Health |
| **AREA** | Ames Regional Economic Alliance (formerly known as AEDC) |
| **ARP** | American Rescue Plan |
| **ARPAC** | Ames Resident Police Advisory Committee |
| **ASOS** | Automated Surface Observing Systems |
| **ASSET** | Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team |
| **AVL** | Automated Vehicle Locating |
| **BEB** | Battery Electric Bus |
| **BMP** | Best Management Practice |
| **BOD5** | Biochemical Oxygen Demand |
| **CAF** | Council Action Form |
| **CARES** | Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security |
| **CDBG** | Community Development Block Grant |
| **CHDO** | Community Housing Development Organization |
| **CIP** | Capital Improvements Plan |
| **CISA** | Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency |
| **CLG** | Certified Local Government |
| **COBRA** | Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act |
| **COTA** | Commission on the Arts |
| **CPFO** | Certified Public Finance Officer |
| **CSD** | Community School District |
| **CSO** | Community Safety Officer |
| **CT** | Combustion Turbine |
| **CY** | Calendar Year |
| **DAR** | Dial-A-Ride |
| **DC** | Direct Current |
| **DMACC** | Des Moines Area Community College |
| **DRC** | Development Review Committee |
| **DSM** | Demand Side Management |
| **EAB** | Emerald Ash Borer |
| **ECA** | Energy Cost Adjustment |
| **EDA** | Economic Development Administration |
| **EDC** | Employee Development Center |
| **EFT** | Electronic Funds Transfer |
| **EMT** | Emergency Medical Technician |
| **EPA** | Environmental Protection Agency |
| **ERT** | Encoder Receiver Transmitters |
| **ERU** | Equivalent Residential Unit |
| **ETP** | Excellence Through People |
| **EUORAB** | Electric Utility Operation Review & Advisory Board |
| **EV** | Electric Vehicle |

# Acronyms

| | |
|---|---|
| **FAA** | Federal Aviation Administration |
| **FBO** | Fixed Base Operator-Airport |
| **FEMA** | Federal Emergency Management Agency |
| **FFIAC** | Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center |
| **FICA** | Federal Insurance Contributions Act |
| **FMS** | File Management System |
| **FOG** | Fats, Oils, Grease |
| **FTE** | Full-Time Equivalent |
| **FWD** | Food Waste Diversion |
| **FY** | Fiscal Year (July 1 – June 30) |
| **GFOA** | Government Finance Officers Association |
| **GIS** | Geographic Information System |
| **GO** | General Obligation Bonds |
| **GT** | Gas Turbine |
| **HIIT** | High-Intensity Interval Training |
| **HIRTA** | Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency |
| **HOME** | Home Investment Partnership Program |
| **HRIS** | Human Resources Information System |
| **HUD** | Housing and Urban Development |
| **HVAC** | Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning |
| **ICAP** | Iowa Communities Assurance Pool |
| **ICN** | Iowa Communication Network |
| **IDEA** | Inspire Design Explore Archive |
| **IDNR** | Iowa Department of Natural Resources |
| **IDOT** | Iowa Department of Transportation |
| **IEDA** | Iowa Economic Development Authority |
| **ILS** | Integrated Library System |
| **IPERS** | Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System |
| **ISO** | Insurance Services Office |
| **ISU** | Iowa State University |
| **ISURP** | Iowa State University Research Park |
| **IT** | Information Technology |
| **kV** | Kilovolt(s) |
| **LED** | Light Emitting Diode |
| **LIHTC** | Low-Income Housing Tax Credit |
| **LMI** | Low and Moderate Income |
| **LOST** | Local Option Sales Tax |
| **LRTP** | Long Range Transportation Plan |
| **MFPRSI** | Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa |
| **MG** | Million Gallons |
| **MGD** | Million Gallons per Day |
| **MGMC** | Mary Greeley Medical Center |
| **MISO** | Midwest Independent System Operator |
| **MPO** | Metropolitan Planning Organization |
| **MS4** | Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System |
| **MSA** | Metropolitan Statistical Area |
| **MSW** | Municipal Solid Waste |
| **MTP** | Metropolitan Transportation Plan |
| **MW** | Megawatt |
| **MWH** | Megawatt Hours |

# Acronyms

| | |
|---|---|
| **NAACP** | National Association for the Advancement of Colored People |
| **NEC** | National Electrical Code |
| **NERC** | North American Electric Reliability Corporation |
| **NPDES** | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| **NRSA** | Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area |
| **NRV** | North River Valley |
| **OSHA** | Occupational Safety & Health Administration |
| **OWI** | Operating While Intoxicated |
| **PAC** | Public Arts Commission |
| **PBM** | Pharmacy Benefit Manager |
| **PJs** | Participating Jurisdictions |
| **PRD** | Planned Residence District |
| **PROBE** | Productive Review of Budget Entries |
| **PTIG** | Public Transit Infrastructure Grant |
| **PUD** | Planned Unit Development |
| **RDF** | Refuse Derived Fuel |
| **REG** | Renewable Energy Group |
| **RFP** | Request for Proposal |
| **RICE** | Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines |
| **RISE** | Revitalizing Iowa's Sound Economy |
| **ROW** | Right-of-Way |
| **RRFB** | Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons |
| **RRP** | Resource Recovery Plant |
| **RUT** | Road Use Tax |
| **SAIDI** | System Average Interruption Duration Index |
| **SAM** | State and Mortensen Water Tank |
| **SCADA** | Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition |
| **SCBA** | Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus |
| **SL-RAT** | Sewer Line Rapid Assessment Tool |
| **SNDN** | Simultaneous Nitrification-Denitrification |
| **SRF** | State Revolving Fund |
| **SSSE** | Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation |
| **STEM** | Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math |
| **SUAS** | Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems |
| **SWM** | Storm Water Management |
| **TBRA** | Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program |
| **TIF** | Tax Increment Financing |
| **TPA** | Third Party Administrator |
| **TSC** | Technical Services Complex |
| **TSS** | Total Suspended Solids |
| **US** | United States |
| **UTV** | Utility Task Vehicle |
| **UV** | Ultraviolet |
| **VFD** | Variable Frequency Drives |
| **VMT** | Vehicle Miles Traveled |
| **W & PC** | Water and Pollution Control |
| **WCAG** | Website Content and Accessibility Guidelines |
| **WPC** | Water Pollution Control |
| **WPCF** | Water Pollution Control Facility |
| **ZBA** | Zoning Board of Adjustment |

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