



City of Lawrence

2008 Budget in Brief

How is the Budget Prepared?

Each year, City departments submit a budget request including payroll projections, capital outlay requests, and program improvement decision packages to the City Manager.

A number of study sessions are held throughout the spring and summer to discuss various elements of the budget.

This Commission also holds budget conferences with each department. The conferences provide the Commissioners the opportunity to review the requests with department staff and ask questions about the issues presented by department staff in their budget proposals.

The City Manager then prepares a recommended budget that is revised and adopted by the City Commission.

There are multiple opportunities for public comment throughout the process including study sessions in June and July, and a public hearing in early August. All the budget materials are posted online as well.

In accordance with state law, the budget must be adopted by the City Commission by August 25th.

2008 Property Tax Rate

The 2008 City mill rate has increased slightly over 2007 to 26.788 mills and is based on an assessed valuation of all real property in the city of \$853,551,473.

This translates to a property tax rate of \$26.78 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

The City is just one of four entities that levy property taxes. The County, the State, and the School District also levy property taxes each year.

2008 City Budget (all funds)

Resources \$145,940,564
Expenditures \$140,842,355

2008 Budget Overview

Resources in the 2008 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget total \$145,940,564, an increase of \$3,477,694 or 2.4%. Property taxes generate only 16.81% of that total, sales tax generate only 15.8%; the rest comes from fees, licenses, fines, and other charges for services.

The 2008 budget provides for authorized expenditures totaling \$140,842,355. This is an increase of 2.4% over budgeted expenditures in 2007.

A large part of the increase is due to expenses related to personnel including healthcare and other benefits, merit increases for eligible employees and a two percent general wage adjustment for City employees.

The increase can also be attributed to the rising cost of maintaining the current level of service provided by the City's Transit system.

Fair Market Value of Home	Assessed Valuation (11.5% of FMV)	Approx. 2008 City Tax Bill Mill Rate= 26.788
\$ 100,000	\$ 11,500	\$ 308.06
125,000	14,375	385.08
150,000	17,250	462.09
175,000	20,125	539.11
200,000	23,000	616.12
225,000	25,875	693.14
250,000	28,750	770.16
275,000	31,625	847.17
300,000	34,500	924.19
325,000	37,375	1,001.20
350,000	40,250	1,078.22
375,000	43,125	1,155.23
400,000	46,000	1,232.25
450,000	51,750	1,386.28
500,000	57,500	1,540.31
600,000	69,000	1,848.37

More than One Budget?

The City's budget is made up of fourteen separate fund accounts and some may be used only for a specific purpose.

The General Operating Fund is the fund that accounts for most of the City's service functions including police, fire and medical, maintenance of parks and recreation facilities, building inspection, and code enforcement services. The General Operating Fund expenditures account for 42.25% of the total authorized budget expenditures for 2008.

The Library Fund finances the operation of the Lawrence Public Library. This fund represents 2.14% of the total City budget.

The Public Transportation Fund finances the operation of the public transportation system and represents 1.10% of the total City budget.

The Recreation Fund supports recreational programs and services. This fund receives 87.6% of its 2008 operating revenue from sources other than property taxes. The Recreation Fund represents 2.55% of the total City budget.

The Bond and Interest Fund is used to retire bonds issued to finance long-term capital and community improvements within the City. This fund receives resources from property and motor vehicle taxes in addition to special assessments. The Bond and Interest Fund represents 8.32% of the total 2008 City budget.

The Guest Tax Fund accounts for revenue received from the five percent guest tax levy on hotel and motel room rates in Lawrence. The revenue is used primarily to fund the Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau and other visitor related programs. The fund represents 0.70% of the total City budget.

Agencies Receiving 2008 Special Alcohol Funds

Ballard Center	\$15,000
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	\$30,000
Boys & Girls Club	\$100,000
DCCCA	\$79,819
DCCCA Coordination Project	\$18,435
First Step House	\$29,150
Headquarters	\$23,750
Hearthstone	\$7,500
Lawrence Community Shelter	\$30,000
Van Go Mobile Arts	\$47,500
Womens' Transitional Care Service	\$17,000

The Special Alcohol Fund is used to account for receipts received from a State tax levied on alcohol purchases. This fund receives one-third of the City's alcohol tax receipts. The Special Recreation and General Operating Fund also receive one-third of the City's alcohol tax receipts. The Special Alcohol Fund represents 0.46% of the total City budget.

The Special Gas Tax Fund is used to account for receipts remitted by the State from the motor fuel tax (24 cents/gallon of gasoline; 26 cents/gallon of diesel fuel). These funds are used for road maintenance, traffic signalization, and annual street overlay, brick street, and curb repair programs. This fund represents 2.02% of the total City budget.

The Special Recreation Fund receives one-third of the City alcohol tax allocation from the State tax on alcohol sales. The funds are used to support recreational and cultural activities. This fund accounts for 0.42% of the total City budget.

The Water and Sewer (Utilities) Fund accounts for the delivery of water and wastewater services. Revenues from water and sewer charges, system development charges and other fees support this fund. The Water and Sewer Fund, with authorized expenditures of

\$39,685,414 makes up 28.18% of the total City budget.

The Solid Waste Fund provides recycling and refuse disposal services for residential and commercial customers. Service charges and fees are the main budgeted revenue sources for this fund. The Sanitation Fund accounts for 7.81% of the total City budget.

The Public Parking Fund is used to account for revenues received from parking meters, overtime parking, the New Hampshire St. parking garage, and the Riverfront garage. This fund represents 0.85% of the total 2008 City budget.

The Storm Water Fund accounts for the management of storm water drainage facilities and systems. This fund represents 2.49% of the total City budget.

The Public Golf Fund accounts for revenues and expenditures associated with the operation of Eagle Bend Golf Course. Play began in 1998. The Public Golf Fund represents 0.69% of the total City budget.

2008 Budgeted Expenditures – All Funds

General Operating	\$59,511,384
Library	3,021,000
Public Transportation	1,550,846
Recreation	3,590,612
Guest Tax	982,000
Special Alcohol	653,154
Special Gas	2,851,711
Special Recreation	597,400
Bond / Interest	11,720,000
Water / Wastewater	39,685,414
Solid Waste	11,003,901
Public Parking	1,198,844
Storm Water	3,503,149
Public Golf Course	972,940
TOTAL	\$140,842,355

Department Budgets

The City of Lawrence is organized into 12 departments to provide City services and carry out City policies.

Although funding from sources other than the General Fund support several departments, only their general fund support is noted here.

City Commission - The 2008 budget authorizes \$71,550 to support the activities of the City Commission.

The **City Manager's Office** directs and coordinates the operations of all other City departments and advises the City Commission on City service operations and issues. The City's public information function is also funded out of this office. 2008 budget - \$725,277.

The **Planning and Development Services Department** was established in 2008 by merging the Lawrence / Douglas County Planning Department and the Neighborhood Resources Department. The department is made up of four divisions. The Planning and Development Services division administers land use regulations and provides professional planning advice to the City and County governing bodies. The Code Enforcement division enforces building safety and environmental codes in the City. The Building Safety / Plan Review division conducts building inspections and reviews applications for building permits, licensees, etc. The Community Development Division administers the federal funding received by the City from HUD. 2008 budget (excluding CDBG funding)- \$2,414,107.

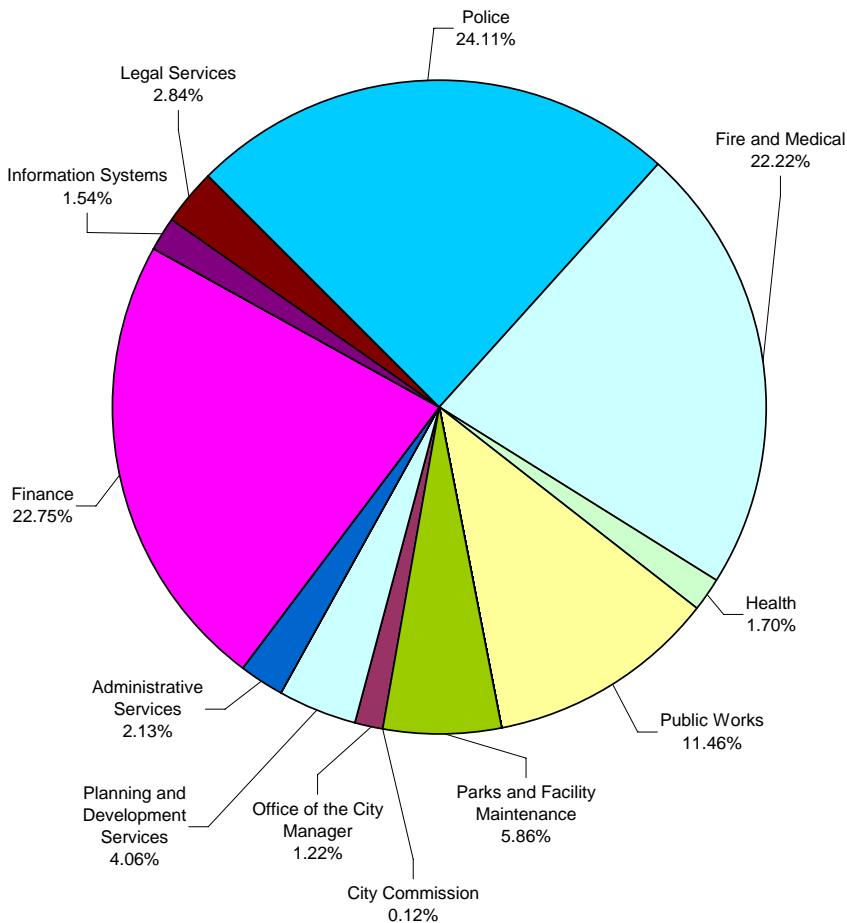
Administrative Services has three divisions (city clerk, personnel, and risk management) responsible for legal record keeping, personnel and insurance functions. 2008 budget - \$1,266,943.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

In 2008, the City will use your taxes, rate dollars, service charges, fines, and fees to:

- Maintain over 300 miles of streets
- Produce and distribute an average of 13 million gallons of water per day
- Treat an average of 12.5 million gallons of wastewater per day
- Operate 6 recreation centers, 4 aquatic facilities, 18 tennis courts, and 3 sport complexes
- Provide rides on the Public Transit System to an average of 39,753 passengers each month
- Respond to more than 8,900 calls for fire and medical service
- Respond to over 97,000 calls for police service
- Process 47,500 Municipal Court citations
- Conduct over 20,000 building inspections
- Maintain 3,500 acres of parks
- Provide over \$1.3 million in aid to social service and other agencies in the community
- Provide \$652,300 in direct support for the operation of the Health Department
- Provide maintenance of the levee and flood control gates on the Kansas River
- Support operations of the Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Provide \$3.02 million to support the operation of the Lawrence Public Library
- Provide solid waste services to approximately 31,00 residential and multi-family accounts as well as 1,400 commercial and industrial accounts every week
- Recycle over 11,700 tons of material through City programs

**2008 General Operating Fund
Expenditures by Department:
Total - \$59,511,384**



the department. 2008 budget - \$13,222,466.

The **Public Works Department** is the City's largest department comprising eight divisions in the General Fund: health, street maintenance, engineering, traffic, airport maintenance, property maintenance, streetlights and levee maintenance. 2008 budget - \$7,831,640.

Parks and Recreation is composed of the following divisions within the General Fund: landscaping, forestry, cemetery, turf management and facilities maintenance. 2008 budget - \$3,487,834.

The **Utilities Department** is responsible for operating and maintaining the water treatment and distribution systems and the wastewater collection and treatment systems. The water and wastewater systems are 100% financed by user fees. These systems serve over 28,000 customer accounts. 2008 budget - no general fund support, see Water & Sewer Fund.

Want More Information?

To see the complete 2008 budget and supporting documents visit www.lawrenceks.org/budget.shtml or contact the City Manager's Office by calling 785.832.3400 or emailing cityhall@ci.lawrence.ks.us.

The administrative division of the **Finance** department is responsible for investing, purchasing, accounting, and supervision of the utility billing functions. Also included in this department budget are general overhead expenditures, including payment to a number of social service agencies, and transfers. 2008 budget - \$13,538,915.

Information Systems provides telecommunications and information systems support for the organization. 2008 budget - \$916,860.

Legal Services provides legal and municipal court services as well as support functions for the City organization. In 2008, the department will be merged with

Human Relations, the City's civil rights enforcement agency. 2008 budget - \$1,689,601.

The **Lawrence Police Department** provides services for the community including criminal enforcement, investigations and animal control functions. The department is also responsible for public parking enforcement in the Downtown area. 2008 budget - \$14,346,191.

Lawrence-Douglas County Fire and Medical Department provides fire prevention education, fire protection services and emergency medical services for the community. Protection of life and property from fire loss and medical emergencies are the central services provided by



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www.lawrenceks.org