



City Manager's Budget Message

August 15, 2022

Mayor and City Council,

I am pleased to present to you the fiscal year 2023 proposed budget. The purpose of this message is to provide a summary of the key components of the annual budget. The City's annual budget is a planning tool that seeks to allocate resources in a manner that best meets the needs of the community. The budget is also a communication tool that provides transparency into how resources will be utilized. Additionally, the budget is a policy document that directs revenue and spending according to all applicable statutes and ordinances. Combining these purposes makes the annual budget one of the most significant documents for the organization. The budget presents an opportunity to discuss the direction or trajectory of the city organization and community as a whole. As this message will outline, I believe the City of Joplin is headed in the direction of improvement.

1. Budget Request

The City has approximately twenty-five funds, each categorized by purpose. We are proposing a comprehensive expenditure of nearly \$150 million. This includes all proposed funding for daily operations, capital improvements, internal service and enterprise operations.

FY 2023 OVERALL BUDGET SUMMARY					
Fund Type	FY 2023 Total Revenue	FY 2023 Operational Expenditures	FY 2023 Capital Expenditures	FY 2023 Transfers Out	FY 2023 Total Expenditures
General Fund	\$ 33,957,258	\$ 25,661,133	\$ 2,035,250	\$ 5,314,126	\$ 33,010,509
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 59,434,807	\$ 35,707,117	\$ 33,468,610	\$ 8,007,268	\$ 77,182,995
Capital Project Funds	\$ 9,263,000	\$ 2,665,500	\$ 5,885,000	\$ -	\$ 8,550,500
Enterprise Funds	\$ 23,867,141	\$ 16,395,716	\$ -	\$ 1,668,528	\$ 18,064,244
Internal Service Funds	\$ 13,525,091	\$ 12,885,740	\$ -	\$ 133,529	\$ 13,019,269
Total Funds	\$ 140,047,297	\$ 93,315,206	\$ 41,388,860	\$ 15,123,451	\$ 149,827,517



General Fund: This fund includes budgets for fifteen departments that provide mission critical services to our residents.

Special Revenue Funds: These funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific, and earmarked, revenue sources requiring separate accounting because of legal or regulatory provisions or administrative actions.

Capital Project Funds: The City utilizes these funds to record the receipt and disbursement of monies used to fund infrastructure projects.

Enterprise Funds: The City's enterprise funds hold the budgets for departments that operate in business-type activities. These funds rely on revenue generated from sales of materials or services and, for the most part, do not require funding from locally approved taxes.

Internal Service Funds: The City uses internal service funds, or proprietary funds, to account for operations and services where costs are allocated for the reimbursement of services to other departments.

2. Dedicated Revenue

This is a new section within the budget message to communicate how voters have obligated tax dollars. The services provided by the City of Joplin are predominantly funded by taxes. Voters have been presented with plans to improve the community, address service needs, or resolve problems. In exchange for support, the City has obligated tax dollars for specific purposes or expenditures. **These include sales taxes of 1% general sales tax, 1/2% general sales tax for public safety, 1/2% general sales tax for public safety pension, 1/4% parks & stormwater sales tax, 1/2% transportation sales tax, and 3/8% capital improvement sales tax. Additionally, hotel/motel tax, property tax, and the use tax have all been approved for specified purposes.**

- **1/2-Cent Public Safety Sales Tax** – Approved in 2006, this tax dedicated funds for 30 additional police personnel, 34 additional fire personnel, neighborhood streetlights, a new Public Safety Training Center, two additional fire stations and related equipment, along with replacement of other public safety equipment. This tax does not sunset and is projected to generate approximately \$8.7 million.
- **1/2-Cent Pension Sales Tax (Prop B)** – Approved in 2019, this half-cent sales tax is dedicated to funding and closing the policemen's and firemen's pension plan and transitioning certain public safety employees to LAGERS. The tax will "sunset" or expire at the earlier of 12 years or when the pension plan reaches 120% funded status, which is anticipated to occur sometime around 2028.
- **Hotel/Motel Tax – CVB** – The motel occupation license tax is assessed upon hotel/motel operators and is based on the room charge revenues collected. Currently, the rate as



specified by City Code is 4%. The rate was increased from 2% to 4% by a vote of the people effective January 1, 2001. The revenues from this additional tax are dedicated for promotion of conventions and tourism, festival support, entryway beautification and sports marketing.

- **Property Tax – Health Department** – Property tax is an ad valorem tax, based on the assessed valuation established by the Jasper and Newton County Assessors. The property tax levy must be set by August 31 each year. The City's property tax is levied each November 1 on the assessed value of real estate property listed as of the prior January 1, the lien date, and is due on or before December 31.
- **Property Tax – Parks** – Property tax is an ad valorem tax, based on the assessed valuation established by the Jasper and Newton County Assessors. The property tax levy must be set by August 31 each year. The City's property tax is levied each November 1 on the assessed value of real estate property listed as of the prior January 1, the lien date, and is due on or before December 31.
- **Property Tax – Environmental** – Property tax is an ad valorem tax, based on the assessed valuation established by the Jasper and Newton County Assessors. The property tax levy must be set by August 31 each year. The City's property tax is levied each November 1 on the assessed value of real estate property listed as of the prior January 1, the lien date, and is due on or before December 31.
- **¼-Cent Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax** – Initially approved in 2001, renewed in 2011 and 2021, this quarter-cent tax is dedicated to parks and stormwater projects, specifically projects designated by a Citizen's Committee and approved by the voters of Joplin. This tax sunsets ten years from the effective date, which will be March 31, 2032.
- **½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax** – With voter approval, this ½-cent sales tax was instituted in 1983 by the City. This tax is restricted to "transportation purposes;" which is defined as a mass transportation system, construction, reconstruction, repair and maintenance of streets, bridges, airports, land acquisition and rights-of-way related to these purposes, and other transportation-related activities. This tax does not sunset and is projected to generate approximately \$8.7 million.
- **3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax** – This tax may be used for capital improvements. Voters approved a three-eighths-cent sales tax sales tax effective January 1, 2005 and renewed this tax on August 5, 2014. This tax will sunset on December 31, 2024.
- **Use Tax (Prop Action)** – "Prop Action" is a broader set of 49 "Action Plans" designed to address citizens' needs that were brought forward during the City Manager's listening tour. This citizen-based strategic plan is funded through a use tax, which is like a sales tax, applied to purchases made from out-of-state vendors and shipped to Joplin. Because the use tax is a form of a sales tax, it mirrors the restrictions imposed by each of the sales taxes. For example, the use tax on goods purchased online increases



revenue generated by the Public Safety Sales Tax and that new revenue cannot be used for anything other than what is allowed by State Statute and City Ordinance for that specific tax. It is expected that the Use Tax will generate approximately \$3.7 million in new revenue allocated across each of the sales tax areas, which has been earmarked to fund action plans. To see how the use tax compliments existing sales tax, please see the following table:

PROJECTED BREAKDOWN BY USE TAX CATEGORY	AMOUNT
1% General	\$1,184,000
1/2% General for Pension	\$592,000
1/2% General for Public Safety	\$592,000
1/4% Parks/Stormwater	\$296,000
1/2% Transportation	\$592,000
3/8% Capital Improvement	\$444,000
Estimated Total Use Tax Funding	\$3,700,000

3. Vision and Goals

The City is fortunate to have goal-oriented, intentional, and pro-active leadership from the Mayor and Council. This leadership helps ensure the organization is focused on issues beyond the "daily fires." The City's operations are oriented to address the goals set by the Mayor and Council.

Improving Community Appearance	Addressing Declining Neighborhoods	Increasing Economic Development	Addressing Homelessness	Decreasing Crime & Increasing Safety	Grow Resilient Revenue
					

Strategic Priorities:

To date, the City has completed the following "Action Plans":

- Adoption of a new zoning code
- Adoption of a complete streets program



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The following Action Plans are in progress:

- Housing Revitalization Plan – In FY22, the City started this plan which establishes an incentive to tear down dilapidated housing and replace it with new housing. During the initial pilot project, the City approved five applications and will look to award more incentives in FY23.
- Annexation – In FY22, the City annexed two significant residential areas being served by City sewer. Additional annexation opportunities have been identified and will be pursued in FY23.
- Operational Assessment – The Operational Assessment is a review of the City's Planning and Neighborhood Services Department and will provide a foundation for improving code enforcement and addressing declining neighborhoods.
- Recruitment and Retention – In FY21, the City established a recruitment incentive for the Police Department whereby a financial incentive is granted to experienced Police Officers who transfer to Joplin. In FY22, the incentive amount increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000.
- SMART Cities – In FY22, the Fiber Gap Analysis was completed. A consultant has been hired to develop and implement a Broadband Plan for Joplin based on this analysis.



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4. Review of Financial Condition – General Operating Funds

The City of Joplin continues to operate with constraints following minimal revenue growth. The City is predominantly funded through sales tax. Over the last ten years, the City has seen limited sales tax revenue growth despite a strong national economy during that timeframe. To have a balanced budget, without new revenue, the City is unable to invest in service improvements.



Not only has the sales tax not been able to support new needs, but inflationary pressure coupled with increasing demands for existing services has forced the City to cut expenditures in order to maintain a balanced budget. Beginning in 2015, the City has "tightened its belt" to control expenditures. Some of the major expenditure reductions or cost containment efforts included:

- Elimination of Positions – In fiscal year 2017, thirteen full-time positions were eliminated, and one position was reduced to part-time status. This resulted in savings in the general operating funds of approximately \$775,000.00.
- Pay freezes – No wage increases were granted during fiscal year 2015 and 2016. This resulted in approximate savings in the general operating funds of approximately \$200,000.
- Expenditure Reductions – During fiscal years 2015 and 2016, many measures were taken by the City to reduce general operating expenditures. Capital asset replacement was frozen. City Hall was paid off to reduce the annual debt expense, turf was installed at Joe Becker Stadium and Wendell Redden to reduce maintenance costs, the transfer to emergency communications and liability insurance were decreased. Many of these measures were short-term in nature and do not solve long-term financial constraints.

Looking beyond 2023, with an uncertain economy, the City's economic resources will be even more strained. This means, as an organization, careful thought will need to be given to any expenditure.

GENERAL FUND FIVE-YEAR MODEL					
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	ESTIMATED	BUDGET	ESTIMATED	ESTIMATED
Total Revenue	\$ 33,999,243	\$ 33,893,608	\$ 33,957,258	\$ 34,296,831	\$34,639,799
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 24,153,518	\$ 25,729,405	\$ 25,661,133	\$ 26,944,190	\$28,156,678
Total Capital Expenses	\$ 1,052,862	\$ 1,968,032	\$ 2,035,250	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 800,000
Total Transfers Out	\$ 5,786,421	\$ 5,638,626	\$ 5,314,126	\$ 5,650,000	\$ 5,500,000
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 3,006,442	\$ 557,545	\$ 946,749	\$ 202,641	\$ 183,121



5. General Fund Overview

The overall general fund budget will increase over \$2 million from 2021 actual expenditures but decrease approximately \$325,000 from the estimated 2022 actuals. The City's General Fund accounts for the bulk of the city's operating revenue and expenditures. It is within this fund where you can see most of the daily operating costs for the city. As such, it is important to understand the forecasts and estimates for revenues and expenditures.

General Fund Revenue:

Sales Tax: Sales tax is the primary source of funds for all general city services, capital projects, and capital equipment. Sales tax collections in FY21 reached the highest level ever due to the impact of COVID-19 on our local economy. As a result, monthly sales tax collections in the current fiscal year (FY22) have decreased from last year, while settling in at a new higher level from previous years due to inflationary price increases. Over the last 5 years, year-to-year growth in sales tax averaged 3.9%. In comparison, sales tax is expected to decrease from FY21 to FY22 by nearly 1%. This decrease is attributed to the record level of sales in FY21. As such, forecasting sales tax revenue has an added degree of difficulty compared to past fiscal years. For FY23, the budgeted amount for general sales tax is \$17,442,000 which amounts to a 2% increase over the FY22 projected amount.



Franchise Tax: Franchise tax is the second largest source of funds for city services and is levied as a percentage of gross receipts on utility bills. The city has five different kinds of franchise taxes with those being assessed on electric, telephone, water, natural gas, and cable utilities. Franchise tax is also difficult to budget for several reasons. As a tax on utilities, these collections are extremely dependent upon weather. Telephone and cable franchise taxes have been severely impacted over the last several years as cell phone plans have changed drastically and as internet-based television options are impacting the demand for traditional cable television. Over the last ten years, there has been an average annual decrease of nearly 10%. A new issue

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emerged in FY21 following the approval of state legislation that will incrementally decrease cable franchise taxes from a rate of 5% to 2.5% by 2027. This could result in a decrease of \$110,000 in annual revenue by the time the new maximum rate is in effect. This obviously exacerbates the issues surrounding a weak revenue stream. As a result, the FY22 budget reflects a decrease in overall franchise tax revenue of 1.3% compared to the estimated collections for FY22.

Licenses & Permits: License and permit fees reimburse the costs associated with regulating, on behalf of citizens, the businesses and construction activity occurring within the city. Other than overhead transfers in, licenses and permits represent the next highest revenue source in the general fund. While large building projects drive this category from time to time, this revenue source is fairly consistent over the long-term. As such, the proposed budget reflects an anticipated decrease of 8% from estimated collections in fiscal year 2022.

General Fund Expenditures:

Personnel Services: Personnel services represents the largest percentage of the overall general fund budget at 57% with transfers or 68% without transfers. Personnel services is increasing 2.7% over 2021 actuals. However, it should be noted that no wage adjustments have been included in the proposed budget pending the final recommendation from the Internal Equity Study. Capacity has been preserved in the general fund to implement the Internal Equity Study recommendation.



Operational Supplies, Other Purchases/Services: A key element of the FY23 budget is the reduction in non-personnel expenditures, even during a time of rising fuel costs and inflation driving up the cost of supplies and materials. The organization continues to reorient its focus and effort towards achieving goals set by the Council. The FY22 budget included one-time costs associated with various assessments and planning tools that will serve as the foundation for further development of the Action Plans to accomplish the goals set by Council. As a result of the one-time costs included in the FY22 budget, operational supplies in

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY					
CATEGORY	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	PROPOSED CHANGE	
	ACTUAL	ESTIMATED	BUDGET	AMOUNT	%
Personnel Services	\$ 18,379,505	\$ 18,714,699	\$ 18,873,285	\$ 158,586	0.8%
Operational Supplies	\$ 4,346,179	\$ 5,842,934	\$ 4,698,000	\$ (1,144,934)	-19.6%
Other Purchases/Services	\$ 1,427,834	\$ 1,171,772	\$ 2,089,848	\$ 918,076	78.3%
Capital Outlay	\$ 1,052,862	\$ 1,968,032	\$ 2,035,250	\$ 67,218	3.4%
Transfers Out	\$ 5,786,421	\$ 5,638,626	\$ 5,314,126	\$ (324,500)	-5.8%
Total GF Expenditures	\$ 30,992,801	\$ 33,336,063	\$ 33,010,509	\$ (325,554)	-1.0%

the FY23 budget are decreasing nearly 20%. The use of one-time general fund reserves for the Housing Revitalization Action Plan in the amount of \$1 million is included in other purchases/services in the FY23 proposed budget, increasing this area by more than 78%. With the replacement of Fire Engine 4, the Fire Department Frontline Attack Hose and Nozzles, Police Vehicles, and the addition of a Time and Attendance Software System along with an HRIS System, capital expenditures are increasing by 3.4%. With the anticipated payoff of the Northpark Crossing TIF near the end of the calendar year, transfers out are decreasing by 5.8%.

6. Key Initiatives

More important than the financial information contained within the budget is communicating what the financial resources will bring to the community. The budget serves as an operational plan for the organization. As City Manager, it is my duty to align operational efforts to support the City Council's goals. The major initiatives planned for the 2023 fiscal year are:

- Development of a community based homeless strategic plan – Issues related to homelessness continue to be a concern voiced by the Council and community. Funding has been allocated to develop a Joplin-centric plan that is actionable with clear metrics and, most importantly, a defined outcome. This plan will bring area non-profits and service providers together to collaborate and develop a plan to guide future



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involvement, if any, by the City of Joplin. This plan, budgeted in the amount of \$95,000, will be funded by the general fund portion of the use tax proceeds

- Time and Attendance and Human Resources Information System (HRIS) – Supporting a workforce of nearly 598 FTEs has become increasingly difficult when considering the regulatory, compensation, and benefit needs of employees. A Time and Attendance and HRIS system will bring efficiency to City processes and allow for benefits such as automated timekeeping, paperless applications, ADA/508 compliance, better protection of an employee's data, integrated e-verify for I9 compliance, and a more robust employee development curriculum. This package is included in the general fund budget in the amount of \$247,000.
- Addition of Park Rangers – In 2020 voters approved "Proposition Action", which created revenue to fund the hiring of Park Ranger positions. This proposal is aimed at improving security at the City's parks and reducing the burden for patrol by the Police Department. The proposed budget includes the addition of two park rangers at an annual cost of \$113,158, which will be funded by the parks/stormwater portion of the use tax proceeds. Additionally, there will be one-time capital costs related to this service in the amount of \$66,000.
- Renovation of City Hall – As the City looks to improve services through the Action Plans, more workspace is needed to accommodate future employees. City Hall has open space on the first floor and mezzanine that can provide workspace for additional Police Officers working in the Community Policing division and space for Neighborhood Improvement Officers. The renovation of City Hall is a sensitive project and one that must be done carefully to protect the beauty of a historically important building. The total budgeted cost for the remodel is \$375,000, funded both by the general fund and public safety portions of the use tax proceeds.
- Continue compensation and staffing improvements – Improving compensation remains one of the most important issues facing the City. Compensation is a key factor in attracting and retaining City employees. Funding has been allocated within this budget to improve wages but will fall well short of compensation levels provided by other cities and in the private sector. One key goal in the development of the FY23 budget was to preserve funding capacity to implement the Internal Equity Study recommendation. Decisions about implementation of the recommendation will be included in the FY23 final adopted budget.

7. Capital Improvement Projects and Capital Equipment



The annual budget also includes funds for capital projects that were previously approved by voters and/or the Mayor and Council. Funding for these projects has been "earmarked" or dedicated solely for each project. A few significant projects are highlighted below:

CAPITAL PROJECTS OVER \$100,000			CAPITAL PROJECTS OVER \$100,000		
Category	Project Name	Cost	Category	Project Name	Cost
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	McClelland to Town Green via Tin Cup Trail	\$ 300,000	Capital Improvement	6th Street & Virginia Parking Garage Modifications	4,000,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Low Water Bridge to Grand Falls Trail	1,135,000	Capital Improvement	Existing Traffic Signal Upgrades - 4th & Murphy	400,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Minor System Improvements	200,000	Capital Improvement	Intersection Improvements - 4th & Murphy	700,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Ditch & Culvert, Connecticut b/t 32nd & 35th	656,000	Infrastructure Improvements	Replacement Box Culvert - Cox Avenue	340,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Ditch & Culvert, Connecticut b/t 35th & 37th	518,000	Infrastructure Improvements	Streetscape Project - Main Street - 8th to 15th	5,500,000
Transportation Sales Tax	Street Maintenance	150,000	Sanitary Sewer	East 20th Street Sewer Extension	400,000
Transportation Sales Tax	Neighborhood Improvement	500,000	Sanitary Sewer	Re-Route 4th & Highview Sewer	350,000
Transportation Sales Tax	Street Projects	1,000,000	Sanitary Sewer	East 7th Street Sewer Extension	800,000
Capital Improvement	Zora-Rangeline to MO 249	6,100,000	Sanitary Sewer	East Baker's Branch Sewer Extension	900,000
Capital Improvement	20th Street - Schifferdecker to Country Club Road	1,220,000	Sanitary Sewer	I & I Rehabilitation	1,500,000
Capital Improvement	Neighborhood Transportation Improvements	150,000	Sanitary Sewer	Tin Cup Parallel Line	4,000,000
Capital Improvement	32nd Street - Schifferdecker to Country Club Rd	3,250,000	Sanitary Sewer	Crane Road & Arbor Hills Lift Station Elimination	2,000,000
Capital Improvement	32nd Street - Country Club to Central City Road	3,250,000	Sanitary Sewer	Cleveland Lift Station Consolidation	400,000
Capital Improvement	Street Surface Repair	675,000	Sanitary Sewer	Replacement Freeman Interceptor	105,000
Capital Improvement	Connecticut - 32nd to 44th	5,100,000	Sanitary Sewer	20th & Malang Force Main to Shoal Creek	500,000

Equipment and technology are important assets for a service organization. These tools allow our dedicated workforce to be more efficient and productive in their work which creates a multiplier effect. Similar to funding for maintenance, it is important for the organization to plan for the replacement of equipment at the end of its useful life. Without planning, the City is vulnerable by not having the necessary funding to replace the needed equipment. Additionally, delayed replacement can create additional maintenance needs and consume capacity within the organization. The fiscal year 2023 budget includes funding for the following capital equipment purchases. However, not all equipment requests can be funded at this time without using monies from the reserve balance. Using reserve monies is a risk that could threaten the City's finances and operations during emergencies. Additional resources are necessary to fully equip City employees for service delivery.



CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASES OVER \$10,000

Department	Capital Asset	Cost
General Fund		
Human Resources-Personnel Services	Integrated HRIS System and Benefits Management Software	\$ 115,000
Comm. Planning - Building Regulations	Replacement 1/2-Ton Extended Cab 4x4 Truck	28,000
Finance-Accounting Services	Time and Attendance System	132,000
Information Technology-Administration	Replacement Server	15,000
Public Works-City Facility Maintenance	Replacement Floor - Jail Booking Area	20,500
Public Works - Engineering	Replacement 1/2-Ton Regular Cab 4x4 Truck	27,500
Police - Uniform Services	Replacement K9 SUV and Equipment (3)	175,500
Police - Uniform Services	Replacement K9 and Kennel	19,500
Fire - Operations	Replacement SUV and Equipment	43,000
Fire - Operations	Replacement Fire Engine 4	900,000
Fire - Operations	Replacement Air-Pack Fill Station/Compressor	85,000
Fire - Operations	Replacement Truck Emergency Operating Equipment	13,000
Fire - Operations	Replacement Frontline Attack Hose/Nozzle (7)	150,000
Parks & Recreation - Cemeteries	Replacement Zero Turn Mower	20,000
Neighborhood Improvement-Prop Action	City Hall, 1st Floor Remodel	183,900
Public Safety Sales Tax Fund		
Police	Replacement SUV and Equipment (11)	\$ 590,500
Police	Audio Visual HD System - Interview Rooms (4)	33,000
Police	Replacement Server for Body Camera/In-Car Video System	30,000
Police	Replacement Body Camera (13)	26,260
Police	Central Square Pro Suite Upgrade	350,000
Police	Ruggedized Laptop (29)	87,000
Police	City Hall, Mezzanine Remodel	191,100
Fire	Fire Brush Truck #7	50,000
Fire	Replacement Fire Engine 6	900,000
Fire	Confined Space Equipment - Engine 7	27,000
Fire	Cardiac Monitor - Engine 7	33,500
Training Center	Replacement Projector Screen	15,000
Training Center	Replacement Laptop (10)	12,000
CVB Fund		
Special Projects	Grand Falls Wayfinding	25,000



CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASES OVER \$10,000

Department	Capital Asset	Cost
Health & Welfare Fund		
Administration	Replacement Minivan	\$ 31,000
Administration	Replacement Sedan	\$ 18,500
Environmental Health	Replacement Tablet (4)	\$ 10,000
Animal Control	Replacement 3/4-Ton Cab & Chassis	31,500
Federal Grants	Electronic Medical Records System	22,000
Parks & Recreation Fund		
Pools	Replacement Chemical Controller (2) Schifferdecker	\$ 18,000
Museum Operations	Replacement Roof - Phase 3 of 3	46,000
Athletic Complex	Replacement Field Groomer	28,000
Athletic Complex	Replacement Zero-Turn Mower	20,000
Stadium Maintenance	Replacement Clubhouse Floor - Joe Becker	12,000
Stadium Maintenance	Replacement Sports Field Mower	55,000
Parks & Public Grounds	Replacement Truck Mounted Dumpster with Lift	29,400
Parks & Public Grounds	Replacement 1/2-Ton Regular Cab 4x4 Truck	27,500
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax Fund		
Parks - Proposition Action	SUV (2)	\$ 56,000
Transportation Sales Tax Fund		
Street Maintenance	Replacement 3/4-Ton 10-Wheeler Dump Truck	\$ 250,000
Street Maintenance	Replacement 20-Ton Flat Bed Trailer	40,000
Street Maintenance	Replace Tractor with Long Arm Mower	230,000
Traffic Control	Paint Grinder	22,000
Traffic Signal Maintenance	Replacement Traffic Signal Controller (10)	35,000
Traffic Signal Maintenance	Replacement Traffic Signal Control Box (3)	25,000
Paratransit System	Carpet Replacement	12,000
Paratransit System	Replacement 22' MAPS Vehicle (2)	250,000
Paratransit System	Replacement Trolley Vehicle	135,000
Paratransit System	Ride Scheduling/Dispatch Software	125,000
Regional Airport Fund		
Airport	Replacement Carpet - Terminal Building - Phase 2 & 3 of 3	\$ 90,000
Airport	Replacement Roof - Tamko Hangar	35,000
Airport	Paint - Tamko Hangar	25,000
Airport	Replacement 1/2-Ton Regular Cab 2WD Truck w/ Extended Cab 4x4	27,500
Airport	Replacement Tractor	75,000
Airport	Replacement Utility Vehicle with Dump Bed	20,000
Airport	Electronic Finger Printing Device	12,000



CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASES OVER \$10,000

Department	Capital Asset	Cost
Golf Course Fund		
Grounds Maintenance	Replacement Fairway Mower (2)	\$ 160,000
Sanitary Sewer Fund		
Sewer Treatment	Replacement Nova Filter (4) - Shoal Creek	\$ 3,500,000
Sewer Treatment	Replacement Intermediate Screw Pump (1) - Turkey Creek	500,000
Sewer Treatment	Replacement Exhaust System - Turkey Creek Press Building	75,000
Sewer Treatment	Replacement Tractor	85,000
Sewer Treatment	Replacement Zero-Turn Mower	20,000
Sewer Treatment	Replacement 1/2-Ton Regular Cab 4x4 Truck	28,000
Sewer Treatment	Replacement Generator - Tin Cup Lift Station	75,000
Sewer Treatment	Replacement SCADA Software - Turkey Creek & Shoal Creek	580,000
Emergency Communications Fund		
Dispatch Services	Replacement Dispatch Console (2)	\$ 44,358
Radio Services	Replace Portable XTS5000 Radio with APX6000 (Police Radios) (39)	200,070
Radio Services	Replace Mobile XTL5000 Radio with APX6500 (Police Radios) (34)	176,460
Radio Services	Replace Mobile XTL2500 Radio with APX6500 (Fire Radios) (10)	51,900
Radio Services	Replacement Radio Repeater (2)	31,450
Radio Services	Radio Repeater (3)	47,175
Radio Services	Replacement Base Station (11)	100,650

Workforce, or employee counts, is described as a ratio of full-time equivalents (FTE) where one full-time employee is estimated to work 2,080 hours annually or 2,912 hours for certain fire department personnel. In the FY23 budget, funding is allocated for a total of 597.95 FTE.

FY 2023 POSITIONS BY FUND SUMMARY

FUND TYPE	FY 2021 ACTUAL	FY 2022 ACTUAL	FY 2023 PROPOSED	PROPOSED CHANGE
General Fund	258.95	259.90	259.90	-
Special Revenue Funds	221.75	225.00	234.00	9.00
Enterprise Funds	76.25	76.25	77.25	1.00
Internal Service Funds	27.60	26.80	26.80	-
Total Positions by Fund	584.55	587.95	597.95	10.00

FTE Proposed Changes:

Special Revenue Funds: Public Safety Sales Tax-Add 3 Firefighters and 3 Fire Captain positions for Additional Station; Health-Add Grant-Funded WIC Administrative Assistant position; Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax-Add Use Tax funded Park Ranger (2) positions

Enterprise Funds: Sewer Fund-Add Wastewater Plant Technician position funded through Sewer Rate Study

As of August 1, 2022, the City has over 75 open, but funded full-time positions. This represents a significant shortage of personnel, or 14%, to provide City services. Without competitive pay and better working conditions, the City of Joplin will continue to face hiring challenges.

On August 2, 2022, voters turned down Proposition Public Safety which would have directed nearly \$3.7 million in funding towards improved pay for the Police and Fire Departments. Additionally, the proposed property tax would have allowed the City to hire an additional 22 Police Officers and staff a new fire station within the geographic center of the City. Providing the Police and Fire Departments with the resources that they need remains the greatest issue facing the City. Without well-equipped and well-staffed public safety departments, the community will suffer.

The proposed budget includes funding for two new positions and eight additional existing authorizations, for a total of ten additional FTE. As previously discussed, funding is included within this budget to hire two full-time park rangers. Additionally with the construction of Fire Station #7 under way, the final six fire positions for this station are included through Public



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Safety Sales Tax funding. WIC services within the Health Department is 100% grant funded. A new administrative assistant for the WIC program is being added through the grant. Finally, a wastewater plant technician position is being added within the sewer treatment division. Funding for this position was provided as part of the sewer rate study in 2019. Adding an additional employee in the sewer division will help maintain the critical equipment necessary for properly functioning sewer treatment operation.

9. Summary

During the community conversations regarding Proposition Public Safety, many questions were raised about the City's financial condition. It is clear that there needs to be more citizen engagement in the budget process. This engagement would provide a two-way form of communication to discuss solutions to community problems. This will be absolutely necessary if the City is going to change the community's trajectory. Anecdotally, what determines the City's level of services provided is what the citizens are willing to fund through taxes. My hope for the next fiscal year is to continue work on the strategic priorities identified by the Mayor and Council and get the best and most effective return on what the citizens have invested in the community.

I believe the community has a lot to look forward to in the next fiscal year. While some big problems remain unsolved, I know they will be overcome because Joplin is a community of grit, determination, and strength. The resources allocated in this budget will advance improvement of the Community. To accelerate improvement, more resources will be necessary.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas Edwards". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nicholas Edwards
City Manager | City of Joplin