



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – April 3, 2019

Agenda Item 1

Presentation

Presentation of the Proposed FY 2020 Budget

Recommended Council Action

Receive Presentation

Context with Key Issues

The City's new fiscal year will begin July 1, 2019. In accordance with Article VIII of the Charter of the City of Takoma Park, the City Manager has prepared a proposed budget for consideration by the City Council.

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2020 accounts for the City's financial activities in four major funds or fiscal entities. They are the General Fund, the Stormwater Management Fund, the Special Revenue Funds, and the Speed Camera Fund.

Public hearings on the proposed budget will be held during the Council meetings on Wednesday, April 10 and Wednesday, April 24 at 7:30 pm. The Wednesday, April 24 meeting will include the public hearing on the Constant Yield Tax Rate. Two informal, drop-in budget open houses are scheduled for Monday, April 8 in the Takoma Park Community Center Hydrangea Room and Monday, April 15 in the Takoma Park Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue, both beginning at 6:00 pm. The open houses are an opportunity for residents to engage with staff regarding the proposed budget.

Budget Work Sessions are scheduled for 7:30 pm on the following Mondays: April 8, 15 and 22.

The First Reading of the Budget Ordinances is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8. The Second (final) Reading of the Budget Ordinances is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15.

Council Priority

A Livable Community for All

Fiscally Sustainable Government

Environmentally Sustainable Community

Engaged, Responsive & Service-oriented Government

Community Development for an Improved & Equitable Quality of Life

Environmental Considerations

The proposed budget recommends substantial continued investment in improving the environment, including, but not limited to stormwater system improvements, general sustainability efforts, continued efforts towards increasing tree canopy, continued work on library renovations to meet the highest green standards possible, and the construction of a major street project that both advance environmental sustainability. The budget also reflects about \$100,000 in reduced energy costs for streetlighting resulting from the transition to LEDs.

Fiscal Considerations

Total revenues (all funds) of \$31,366,327. Total expenditures (all funds) of \$35,100,930. Total General Fund revenues of \$25,970,116. Total General Fund expenditures of \$29,758,028. Real property tax rate is proposed to increase from \$0.5291 to \$0.556 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Racial Equity Considerations

This budget includes funds to address racial equity through implementation of the housing and economic development strategic plan to expand access to affordable housing, assistance to small businesses, community grants and partnerships, racial equity training for staff, and continued funding for bias training for Council board and committee members. The Police Department is also better poised to implement community policing and build a closer partnership between officers and residents of color in Takoma Park.

Staff will be expending considerable energy on major construction projects (like the Flower Avenue Green Street and Library Renovation and Expansion). Flower Avenue is located in a ward with a majority of residents of color. In addition, continuing programs for young people in the Recreation Department, Police Department, and Library are geared towards assisting residents of color. Some of the sustainability programs of the Public Works Department are geared towards assisting residents with lower incomes with energy efficiency improvements.

Attachments and Links

Proposed FY 2020 Budget (document will be posted when available)