



A Citizen's Guide to the Operating Budget

Producing an annual operating budget for the City of Suwanee is a challenging process. It requires input from many people, consolidation of information from numerous sources, and tough decisions. The result is a thorough document that reflects the City's vision and identifies priorities for the upcoming year. It is filled with useful information for those who helped produce the budget and work with it on a regular basis. For everyone else, at 400 pages and full of accounting terminology, it can be an overwhelming document to try to use. The purpose of the Citizen's Guide to the Operating Budget is to present citizens interested in their local government with an easy-to-read summary of Suwanee's operating budget. It explains where the City's money comes from and how it is spent.

An operating budget is a yearly plan for the City. It illustrates how much money is anticipated (revenues) and how that money will be spent (expenditures). It represents the City Manager's and City Council's commitment to meet the citizens' needs within the boundaries of available revenue funds. The budget is not just an accounting tool. City officials use the budget to determine which objectives have the highest priority and will produce a positive impact in the community. The budget is broken down by departments and, once adopted, the various City departments are able to plan day-to-day spending and make decisions within the boundaries of the annual operating budget. Because the budget is based on anticipated revenue, the City is able to track revenue over the course of the year and modify spending if revenues are different than expected.

With the collaboration of the Mayor, City Council and staff, an annual budget is developed and adopted every year. Elected officials stay in touch with community needs in order to provide appropriate and responsive government services while implementing the City's vision, anchor points and goals. The budget year runs from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

The City is required by law to produce a balanced budget; by definition revenues must equal expenditures. Throughout the year the budget is monitored and adjusted to ensure the City's resources are in line with its spending. The City of Suwanee is proud to present to our citizens the Citizen's Guide to the Operating Budget.



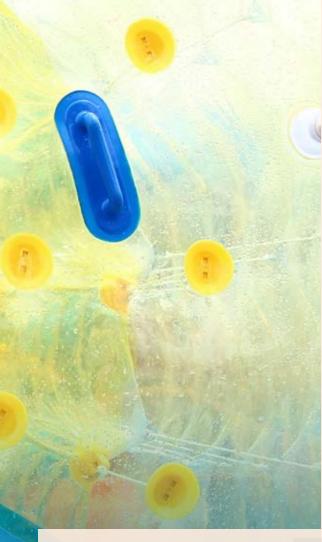
FY 2018 Highlights

Recap of FY 2018 adopted General Fund Budget

- Maintained the same millage rate as FY 2017 of 4.93 mills.
- 3.6% increase in operating revenues as compared to FY 2017.
- Property tax revenues were anticipated to increase by 6.5%.
- 3.5% increase in operating expenditures as compared to FY 2017.
- 100 full-time and 16 part-time employees.
- Pay for **performance increases**, approximately **\$173,000**.
- Benefit change: **0%** group health insurance **renewal increase**.
- Funding for 2040 Comprehensive Plan update, second year, \$66,000.
- Website Overhaul, \$55,000.
- Fundraising feasibility study, \$25,000.
- Employee development program, \$20,000.
- Multi-family inspections, \$18,000.
- Capital Funding, **\$338,000**.
- Capital Transfers, \$100,800.

FY 2018 Adopted Budget	\$	12,926,090
Budget adjustments:		
Police Donation, uniforms		500
4th Quarter capital transfers	_	972,500
Final FY 2018 Budget	\$	13,899,090





Adopted City Manager's FY 2019 General Fund Budget

Financial Status

- Current millage is 4.93 mills.
- Current fund balance is \$8,226,867.

Adopted FY 2019 Budget Highlights

- 3.4% increase in operating revenues as compared to FY 2018.
- Maintain the same millage rate as FY 2018 of 4.93 mills.
- Property tax revenues are anticipated to increase by 6.9%.
- 3.4% increase in operating expenditures as compared to FY 2018.

General Information

- 104 full-time and 17 part-time employees.
- Position requests:
 - 1. Upgraded one Patrol Officer to Corporal Selective Enforcement Unit (SEU), \$4,000.
 - 2. **Upgraded** part-time Administrative Assistant to Special Projects Coordinator, \$4,000.
 - 3. Environmental Manager and Environmental Operator I position (six months) to help with environmental beautification and enhancements to litter control, \$154,000.
 - 4. Communications Assistant Supervisor to allow for two dispatchers to be in the call center 24/7 and to provide additional supervision during the night time shift, \$75,000.
 - 5. Administrative Secretary part-time and Code Enforcement Officer (six months) to help with development growth in the Planning Department, \$95,000.
- Pay for performance increases, approximately \$175,000.
- Implementation of the Compensation and Classification Study, \$205,000.
- 5% Group health insurance renewal.
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan update, \$20,000.
- · 20/20 Strategic Plan update, \$20,000.
- Right of way permitting, \$17,000.

Total Adopted FY 2019 Budget	\$ 13,366,910
Final FY 2018 Budget	\$ 13,899,090
Difference*	\$ (532,180)
Percent of Change	-3.8%

*Note: The majority of the difference is due the 4th quarter FY 2018 capital transfers, \$972,500.

Capital Funding, \$308,000

- Public Works equipment, \$33,000.
- Public Works two **vehicles** (one new and one replacement), **\$70,000**.
- Police three vehicles (replacement), \$131,000.
- Planning vehicle (new), \$34,000.
- Police **equipment** (laptops, radios, and in car video systems), **\$40,000**.

Capital Transfers

• Capital transfers \$111,000.



Summary of General Fund Revenues

	A	ctual	FY 2018 Final	FY 2019 Adopted	FY 2019	Change
Description	FY 2016	FY 2017	Budget*	Budget	Amount	%
Property Taxes	\$ 3,913,759	\$ 4,224,380	\$ 4,390,560	\$ 4,693,000	\$ 302,440	6.9%
Franchise Taxes	1,880,182	1,757,052	1,851,610	1,791,760	(59,850)	-3.2%
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes	835,419	831,638	841,700	829,000	(12,700)	-1.5%
Business Taxes	2,096,080	2,159,357	2,241,000	2,385,600	144,600	6.5%
Other Taxes & Penalties	34,869	22,034	31,420	34,810	3,390	10.8%
Licenses & Permits	728,018	674,097	890,770	801,870	(88,900)	-10.0%
Intergovernmental Revenues	1,121,942	837,594	865,000	916,000	51,000	5.9%
Charges for Services	141,591	153,808	146,520	161,720	15,200	10.4%
Court Fines	1,396,755	1,091,579	1,385,010	1,448,350	63,340	4.6%
Investment Income	39,717	38,916	41,000	50,000	9,000	22.0%
Donations	125	23,860	23,500	23,500	-	0.0%
Miscellaneous Revenues	59,061	17,455	40,000	40,000	-	0.0%
Sale of Capital Items	13,343	7,361	5,000	10,000	5,000	100.0%
Transfer In	203,045	181,307	173,500	181,300	7,800	4.5%
Total Revenues	12,463,905	12,020,438	12,926,590	13,366,910	440,320	3.4%
Other Financing Sources						,
Budgeted Fund Balance*			972,500		(972,500)	n/a
Total Other Financing Sources			972,500		(972,500)	n/a_
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$ <u>12,463,905</u>	\$ <u>12,020,438</u>	\$ <u>13,899,090</u>	\$ <u>13,366,910</u>	\$ (532,180)	<u>-3.8%</u>

^{*}FY 2018 final column includes 4th quarter capital transfers of \$972,500.

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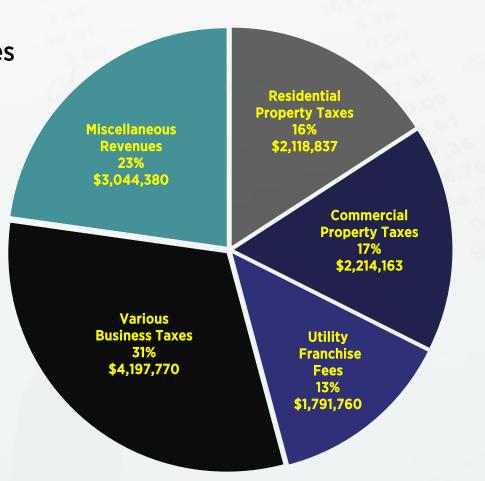


Various Business Taxes include:

- * alcoholic beverage
- * business
- * hotel/motel
- * licenses and permit taxes

Miscellaneous Revenues include:

- * motor vehicle
- * other taxes and penalties
- charge for service
- * court fines
- * investment income
- * contributions
- * intergovernmental
- * miscellaneous revenues





Property Taxes

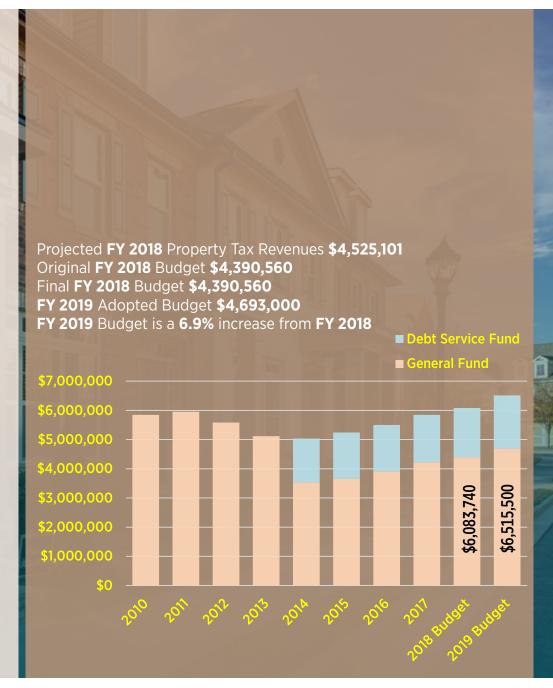
Property taxes include taxes on real and personal property, motor vehicle, mobile homes, and intangible taxes. This category represents 35.1% of the total FY 2019 budgeted general fund revenues. These taxes are projected based on estimated growth of the state approved tax digest at millage rates adopted by Council. Current economic conditions have shown property values increasing. Values have been increasing due to rising property values (re-assessments) and growth due to new construction.

To determine the value due to re-assessments, fiscal year 2018 projected total collections was used as the base and then a 3% increase was applied on real and personal property.

To determine the value added due to new construction growth, calendar year 2017 building permit activity was reviewed. Based upon this review, \$116,000 of assessed value was added to the current digest. In total, approximately 5% increase in property taxes from projected current year collections has been predicted for fiscal year 2019.

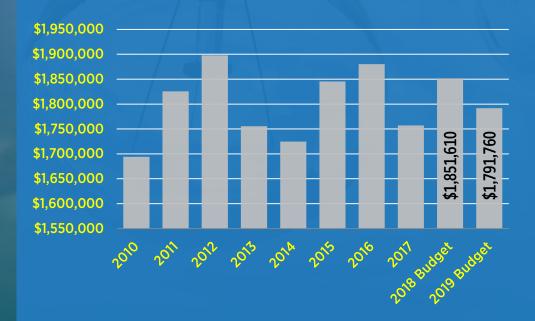
Change in accounting practice: During fiscal year 2014, Suwanee implemented a new accounting system. The new accounting system appropriately receipts property tax collections based on operating and debt service millage rates into the general fund and the debt service fund respectfully. Based on this change in technology, fiscal year 2014 budget was amended to remove the debt service millage rate receipts and transfer to the debt service fund. Comparisons to fiscal year 2010-2013 include both operating and debt service millage rates. The reduction noted in fiscal years ending after 2014 is due to the technology change and not a decline in property tax values.

Real estate transfer tax revenues were projected using a rolling three-year average of change applied to the fiscal year 2018 collections. Motor vehicle used the lowest monthly collection value to predict a twelve month value. The new title tax, included in other taxes and penalties but combined with property taxes for budget analysis, used the calendar year 2017 values. These restated values were used to predict same monthly values for fiscal year 2019. Motor vehicle taxes will continue to decline as new vehicles are purchased and the title tax is applied. In total motor vehicle revenues from title tax and ad valorem are increasing by \$9,600 from the final FY 2018 budget amounts.



Projected **FY 2018** Franchise Fees **\$1,740,841**Original **FY 2018** Budget **\$1,851,610**Final **FY 2018** Budget **\$1,851,610 FY 2019** Adopted Budget **\$1,791,760**

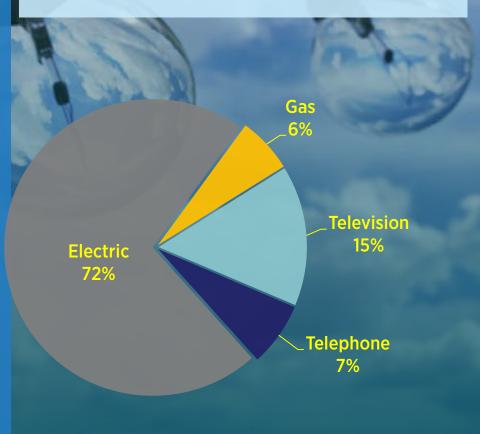
FY 2019 percentage of change from **FY 2018** budget is a 3.2% decrease Note: Current trends is showing a decrease in fees collected for electric. The City is anticipating future periods (FY 2020) for franchise fees to increase as new development that is in the planning stages is completed.



Utility Franchise Fees

Franchise taxes are the fees charged to utility companies for use of City streets and rights-of-way to conduct their private business of delivering natural gas, telephone, cable television, water, and other fiber optics cable services. This category represents 13.4% of the total FY 2019 general fund revenues. Revenue projections are typically based on historical trends in conjunction with current economic indicators and past climate conditions. A cold winter and a hot summer will produce additional power usage and cause the fees to increase. These fees are deposited in the general fund and are used along with other sources to support City operations.

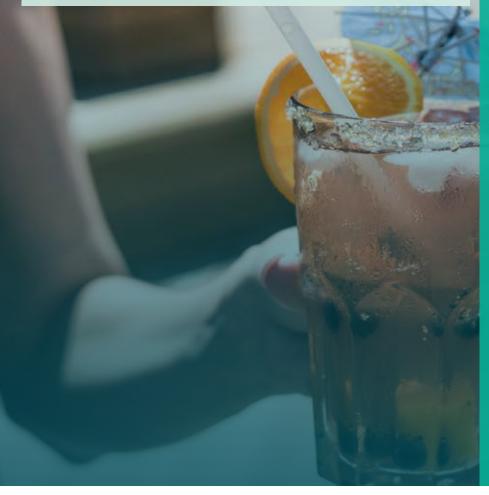
The various utilities conducting business in the City are Atlanta Gas Light, Georgia Power, Jackson EMC, AT&T Communications, Birch Telecom, Charter Communications, and Time Warner.





Alcoholic Beverage Taxes

Alcoholic beverage taxes are levied on the sale, distribution, or consumption of selected goods and services. Included in this category are taxes imposed on the distribution of distilled spirits, malt beverages, and wine. Taxes are also imposed on the sale of distilled spirits by the drink. This category represents 6.2% of the total FY 2019 general fund revenues. Revenue projections are based on historical trends in conjunction with current economic indicators. Current economic trends have noted a stabilization of these revenue sources. Based on current trends, these revenues were projected to remain the same as 2018 projected actuals.

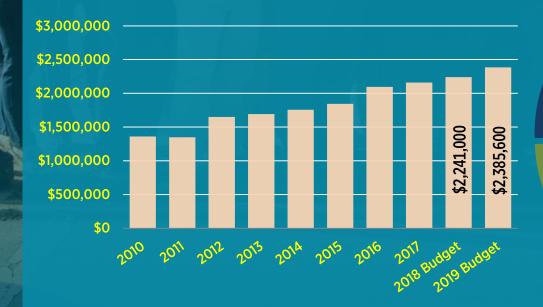


Projected FY 2018 Alcoholic Beverage Taxes \$825,250
Original FY 2018 Budget \$841,700
Final FY 2018 Budget \$841,700
FY 2019 Adopted Budget \$829,000
FY 2019 percentage of change from FY 2018 budget is a 1.5% decrease



Projected FY 2018 Business Taxes Revenue \$2,299,133 Original FY 2018 Budget \$2,241,000 Final FY 2018 Budget \$2,241,000 FY 2019 Adopted Budget \$2,385,600 FY 2019 percentage of change from FY 2017 budget is a 6.5% increase

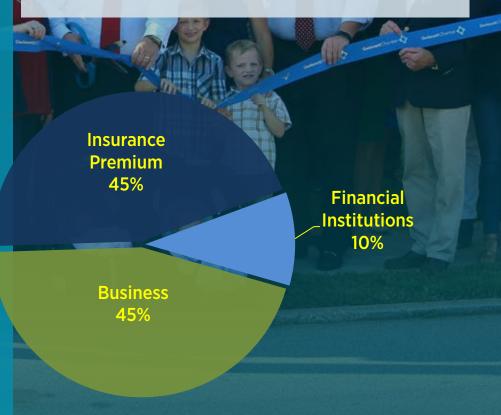
FY 2012 revenues included a one-time increase from the state insurance



Business Taxes

This category includes revenues realized from business and financial institutions' occupational licenses and excise taxes on insurance premiums written by insurance companies conducting business within the City. This category represents 17.8% of the total FY 2019 general fund revenues. Projections are based on historical trend analysis, economic indicators, and anticipated economic growth. Current estimates for business and financial institutions' occupational licenses assume a 3.7% growth based on projected FY 2018 collections.

Excise taxes on insurance premiums written by insurance companies conducting business within the City are allocated from the state to local governments based on current census data. Official Census data is updated every ten years. This tax will grow at a modest rate until the next official census.

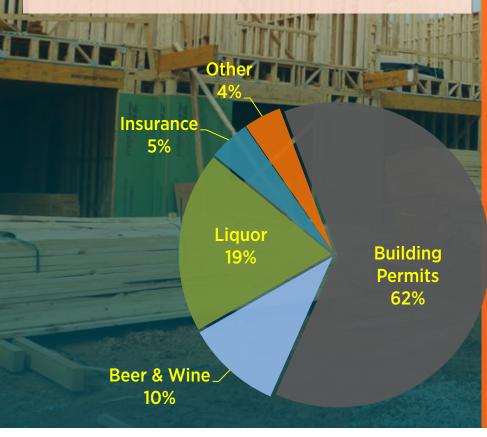


premium tax as a result of the 2010 census.

Licenses and Permits

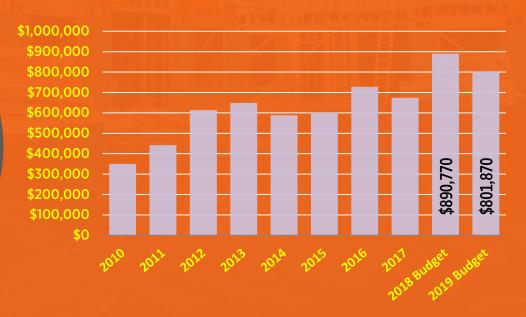
Licenses and permit fees include revenues realized from alcoholic privilege licenses, peddler license fees, fees for issuance of licenses to insurance companies that sell policies within the City, fees received from applications for zoning amendments, site plan reviews, special use and variance, and fees for sign permits.

Regulatory fees charged for building permits and inspections also are included in this section. The revenue projections in this category are based on historical growth trends. Some of the larger changes in prior years are due to a new business receiving two alcohol licenses during one fiscal year. In fiscal year 2011, the City changed its alcohol ordinance to allow for pro-rated licenses. There have been no other changes to the rate structure. This category represents 6.0% of the total FY 2019 general fund revenues.



Projected FY 2018 Licenses and Permits Revenues \$1,104,767
Original FY 2018 Budget \$890,770
Final FY 2018 Budget \$890,770
FY 2019 Adopted Budget \$801,870

FY 2019 percentage of change from FY 2018 budget is a 10.0% decrease



Projected FY 2018 Court Fines \$966.801 Original FY 2018 Budget \$1,385,010 Final FY 2018 Budget \$1,385,010 FY 2019 Adopted Budget \$1,448,350 FY 2019 budget is a 4.6% increase from FY 2018 **Court Fines** \$2,000,000 \$1.800.000 \$1,600,000 \$1,400,000 \$1,200,000 \$1,000,000 \$800,000 \$1,385,010 \$1,448,350 \$600,000 \$400,000 \$200,000

Intergovernmental

This category includes the annual negotiated settlement from Gwinnett County regarding service delivery. These payments are annual payments and will continue until fiscal year 2019, when the next service delivery strategy will be negotiated. The current projected amount of \$916,000 is an increase of \$51,000 from fiscal year 2018. This projected increase is based on anticipated increases in dispatch expenditures. These funds are a reimbursement of actual cost spent on 911 dispatch services.

This category represents 6.9% of the total FY 2019 general fund revenues.

Court Fines

Revenues in this category consist of fines and charges imposed by the City's Municipal Court. This category represents 10.8% of the total FY 2019 general fund revenues. Council sets some of the charges while others are mandated by the State and adopted by Council. Projections are based on rates set by the City Council and historical trends.

Fiscal year 2019 projections used a rolling two year average of receipts received from fiscal year 2014 and 2016. Prior periods (FY 2017 and 2018) revenue for fines are lower than the usual fine amounts collected due to staffing vacancies.



General Fund Expenditures by Department

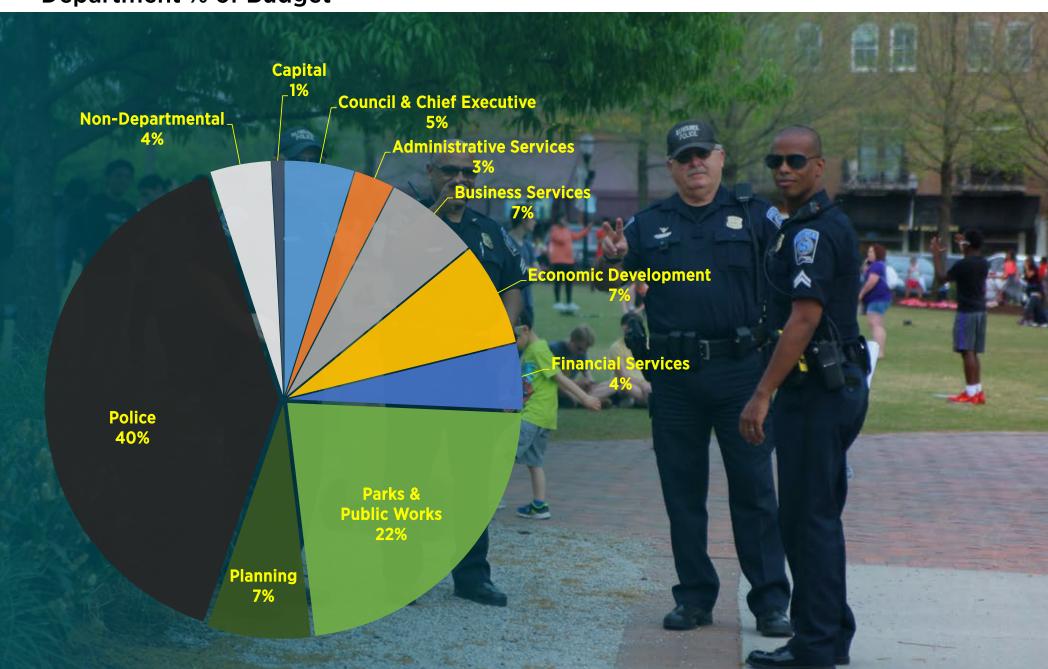
	Act	ual	FY 2018	8 Budget	FY 2019 Adopted	FY 2019 (Change
Description	FY 2016	FY 2017	Original	Final	Budget	Amount	%
Council & Chief Executive	\$ 506,432 \$	546,936	\$ 586,650	\$ 611,650	\$ 644,020 \$	32,370	5.3%
Administrative Services	293,600	269,450	374,810	374,810	368,000	(6,810)	-1.8%
Business Services	753,232	798,714	877,750	877,750	870,090	(7,660)	-0.9%
Economic Development	793,206	791,524	972,720	984,720	948,810	(35,910)	-3.6%
Financial Services	479,150	539,455	560,250	572,250	606,160	33,910	5.9%
Parks & Public Works	2,202,356	2,347,151	2,644,020	2,620,920	2,991,100	370,180	14.1%
Planning	711,965	818,901	914,750	924,750	953,570	28,820	3.1%
Police	4,915,528	4,610,902	5,291,890	5,243,390	5,314,580	71,190	1.4%
Non-Departmental	488,755	525,292	602,450	607,450	559,580	(47,870)	7.9%
Total Operating	11,144,224	11,248,325	12,825,290	_12,817,690	_13,255,910	438,220	3.4%
Capital Transfers*	1,794,065	668,442	100,800	1,081,400	111,000	(970,400)	-89.7
Total Expenditures & Transfers	\$ <u>12,938,289</u> \$	11,916,767	\$ <u>12,926,090</u>	\$ <u>13,899,090</u>	\$ <u>13,366,910</u> \$	(532,180)	<u>-3.8%</u>

^{*}The difference in FY 2018 Final Budget and the FY 2018 Original Budget is due to fourth quarter FY 2018 capital improvement prefunding of \$972,500. Prefunding Suwanee's capital improvement program is part of Suwanee's pay-as-you go financing for capital projects.

^{*}FY 2018 final column includes 4th quarter capital transfers of \$972,500.



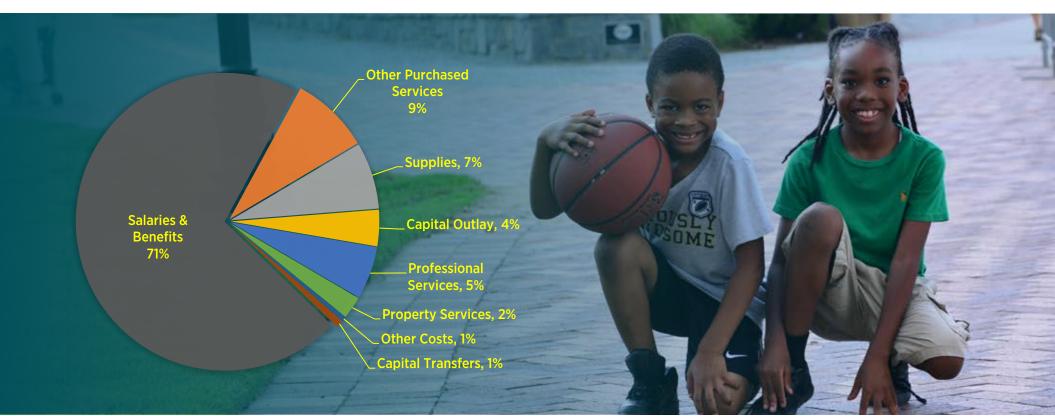
Department % of Budget





General Fund Expenditures by Category

	Act	:ual	FY 201	18 Budget	FY 2019 Adopted	FY 2019 C	nange
Description	FY 2016	FY 2017	Original	Final	Budget	Amount	%
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 7,542,207	\$ 8,049,932	\$ 8,878,920	\$ 8,832,520	\$ 9,447,950	\$ 615,430	7.0%
Other Purchased Services	902,581	955,179	1,214,410	1,231,510	1,148,010	(83,500)	-6.8%
Supplies	795,153	820,530	987,930	1,000,830	968,830	(32,000)	-3.2%
Capital Outlay	1,070,235	487,111	544,800	546,800	527,510	(19,290)	-3.5%
Professional Services	556,492	648,818	838,080	839,880	768,100	(71,780)	-8.5%
Property Services	213,889	221,306	292,250	297,250	325,010	27,760	9.3%
Other Costs	63,667	65,449	68,900	68,900	70,500	1,600	2.3%
Capital Transfers	1,794,065	668,442	100,800	1,081,400	111,000	(970,400)	-89.7%
Total	\$ <u>12,938,289</u>	\$ <u>11,916,767</u>	\$ <u>12,926,090</u>	\$ <u>13,899,090</u>	\$ <u>13,366,910</u>	\$ <u>(532,180)</u>	-3.8%





FY 2019 General Expenditures Summary

During the budget forecast process, all department directors submit their performance and expenditure requests for the next fiscal year. Based on this information, the budget development team reviewed all departmental operations and budget requests in order to propose a recommended City Manager budget to City Council.

The following is a summary of larger dollar items (\$10,000 and above) for FY 2019 that were included in the City Manager's adopted budget.

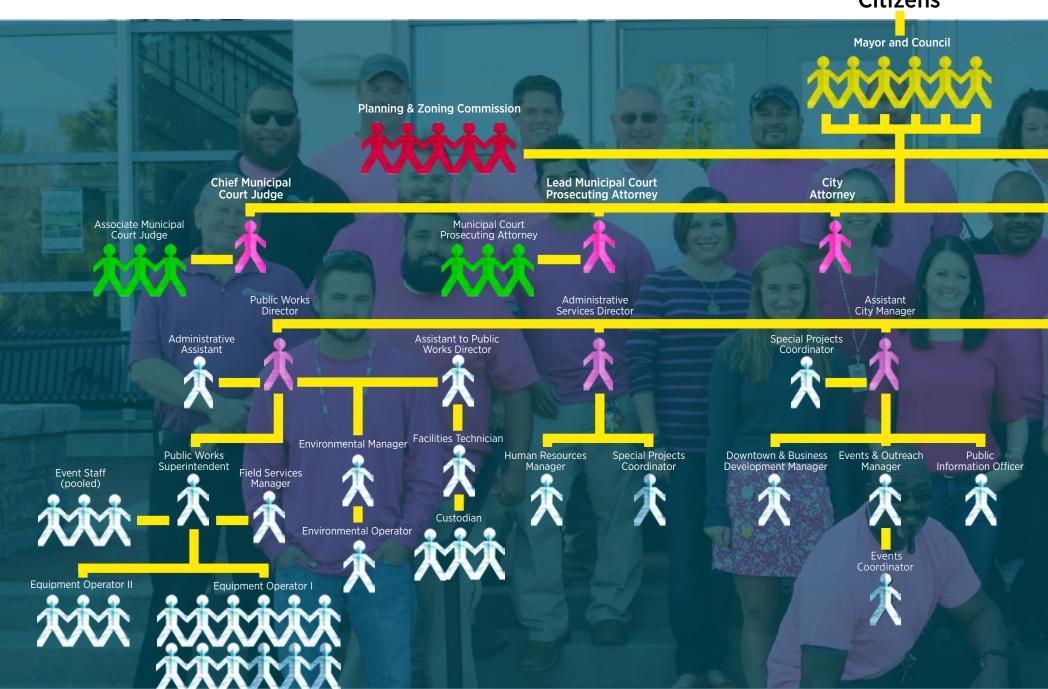
Department	Description	Amount
All	Salaries \$	6,367,000
All	Overtime	158,000
All	FICA	405,000
All	Medicare	96,000
All	Retirement	468,000
All	Group health	1,557,000
All	Wellness program	16,000
All	Other employee benefits	69,000
All	Workers compensation	108,000
All	Gasoline fuel usage	135,000
All	Property/casualty insurance	220,000
Council & Chief	GwMA City contribution	27,000
Council & Chief	20/20 Strategic Plan update	20,000
Administrative	Human Resource consultants	37,000
Business Srv	Court operating cost	21,000
Economic	Newsletter production & printing	61,000
Economic	Events	164,000
Economic	Public Art consultant	10,000
Economic	Suwanee Youth Leadership program	10,000
Economic	Partnership Gwinnett	20,000
Economic	Downtown Suwanee funding	115,000
Finance	Annual audit	39,000
Parks & PW	Environmental Division funding	522,000
Parks & PW	Repairs (Public Works)	73,000
Parks & PW	Park repairs	50,000
Parks & PW	Park site improvements	22,000
Parks & PW	MS4 permit requirements	45,000

Department	Description	Amount
Parks & PW	Electricity outdoor lighting (street lights) \$	248,000
Parks & PW	Park water usage	50,000
Parks & PW	Public Works vehicle (replacement)	35,000
Parks & PW	Public Works equipment	33,000
Planning	Multi-family inspections program	18,000
Planning	Professional services (planning)	64,000
Planning	Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan update	20,000
Planning	Right-of-way permitting	17,000
Planning	Planning vehicle (new)	34,000
Police	Police equipment	40,000
Police	Police annual software fees	27,000
Police	Police education	10,000
Police	Police station operating cost	65,000
Police	Police sub-station operating costs	37,000
Police	Fleet repairs	60,000
Police	3 Police Vehicles (replacements)	131,000
Police	Dispatch software fees	140,000
Police	CodeRed	12,000
Non-departmental	Annual attorney fees	51,000
Non-departmental	Information technology consulting	109,000
Non-departmental	Software annual license fees	46,000
Non-departmental	Software and server support	77,000
Non-departmental	City Hall operating costs	182,000
Non-departmental	Capital projects transfer	111,000
	Summary Total \$	12,452,000
	Total Budget \$	13,366,910
	% Summarized	93%

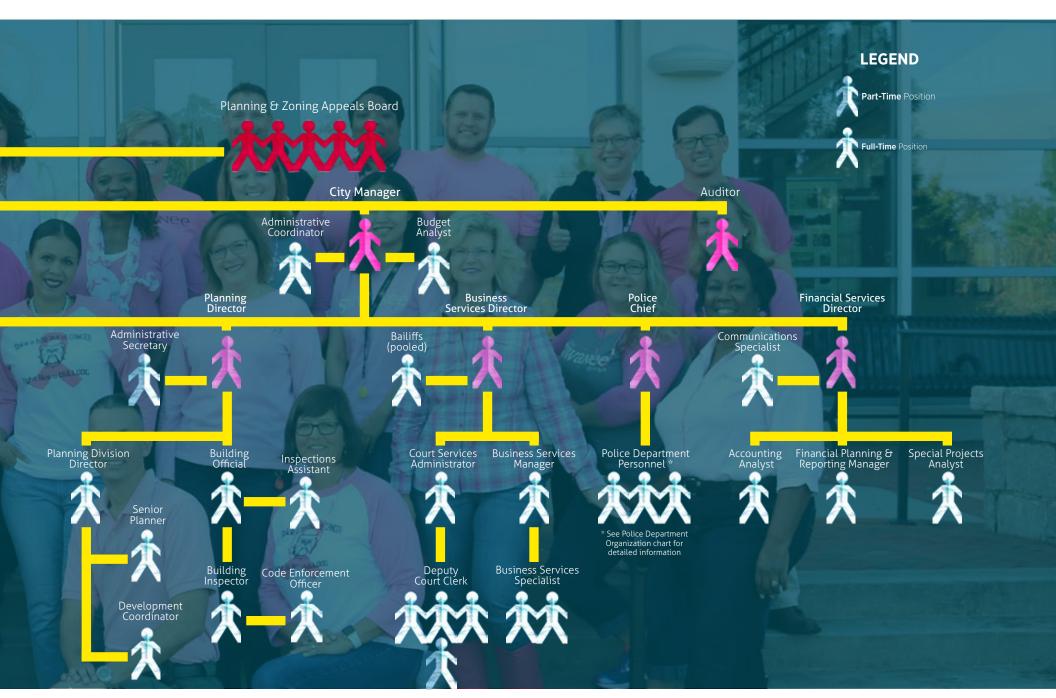
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Citizens

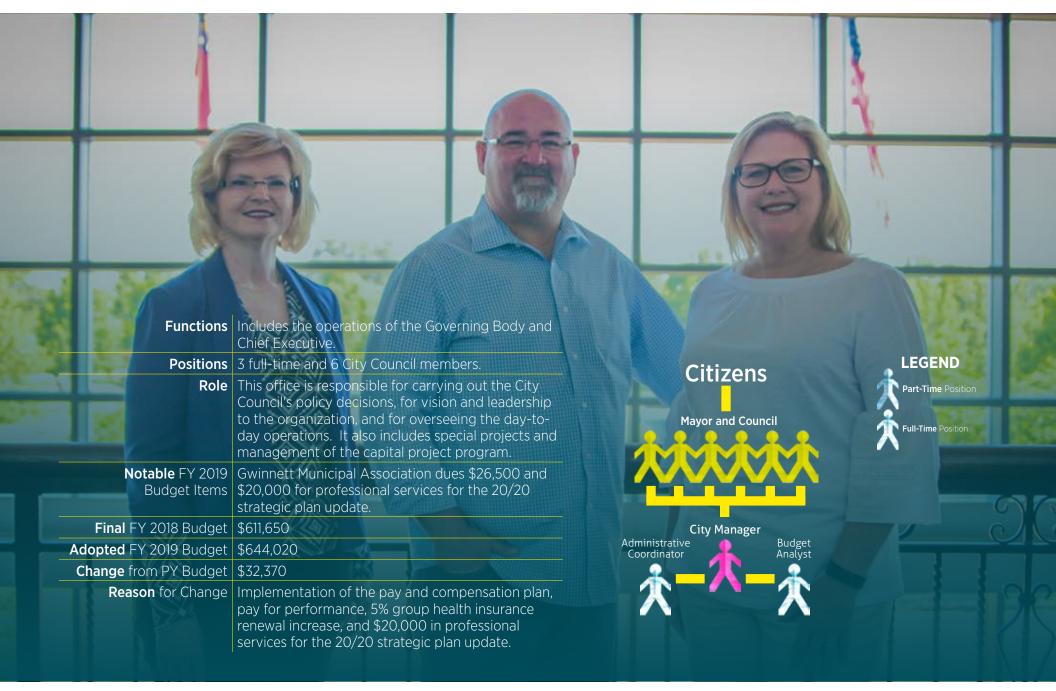


Suwanee

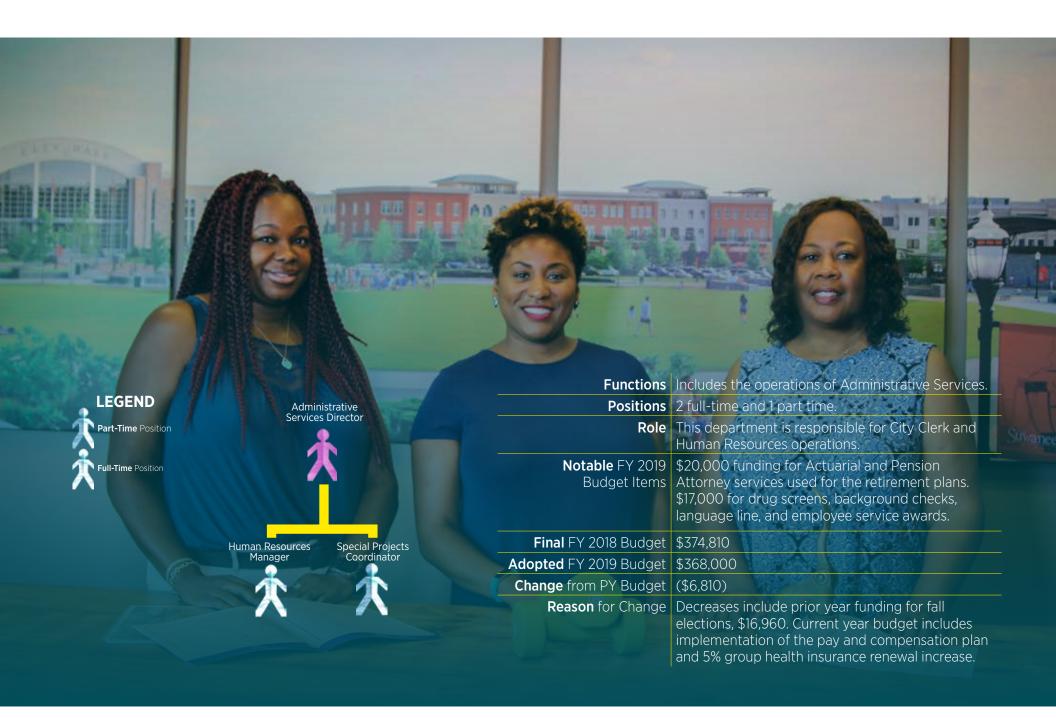


COUNCIL & CHIEF EXECUTIVE





ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

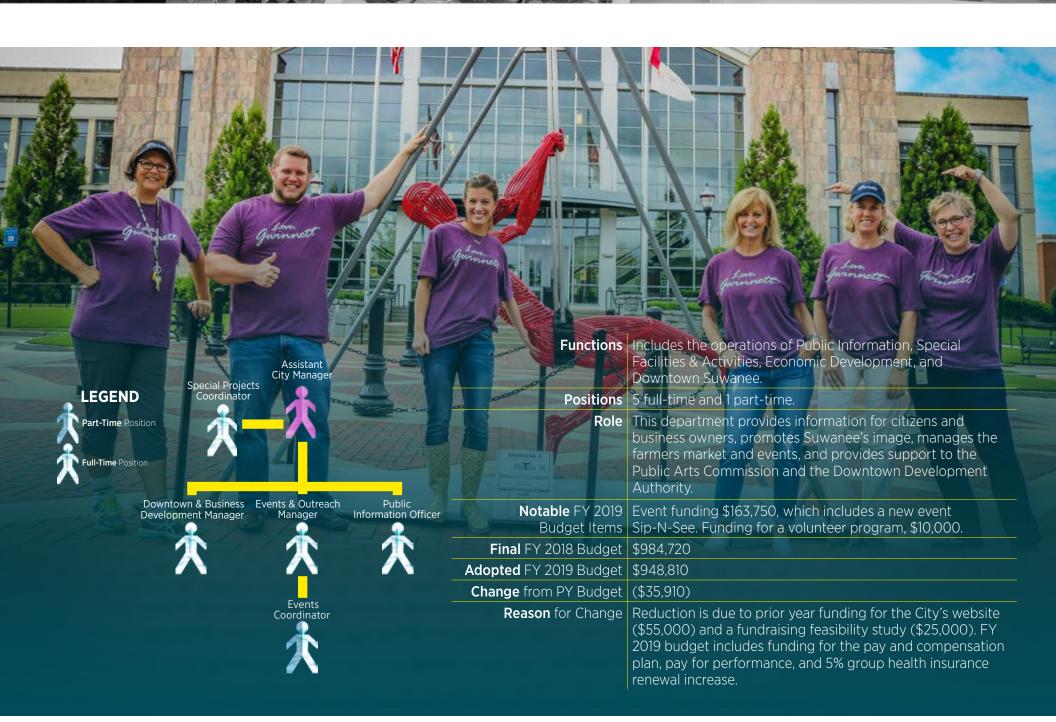


BUSINESS SERVICES





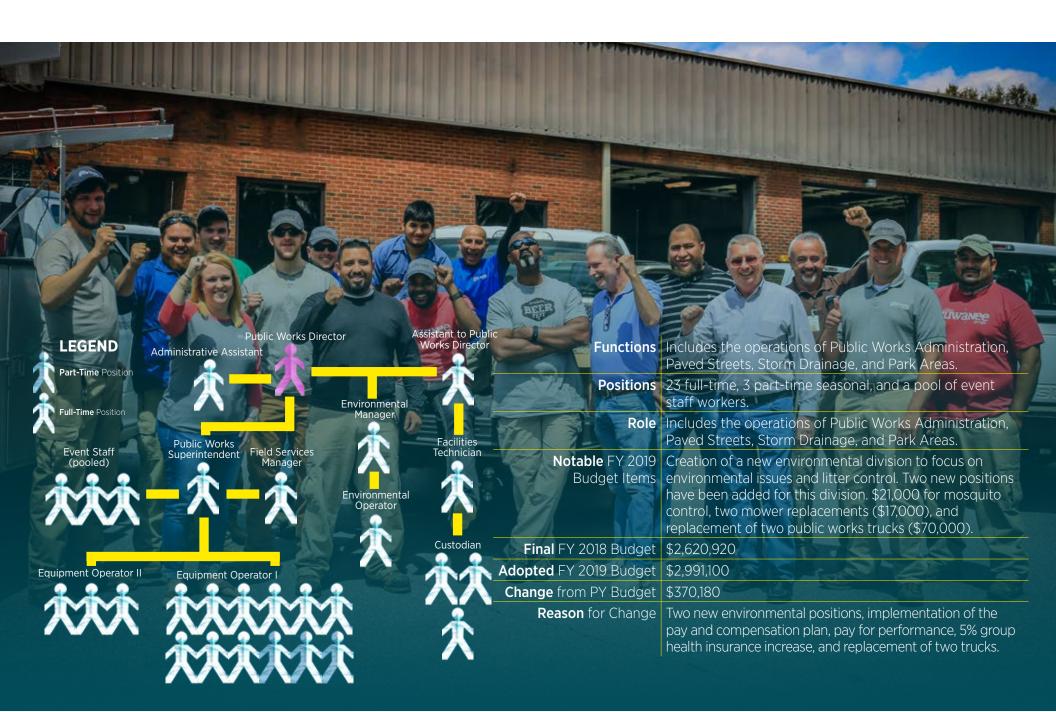
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT







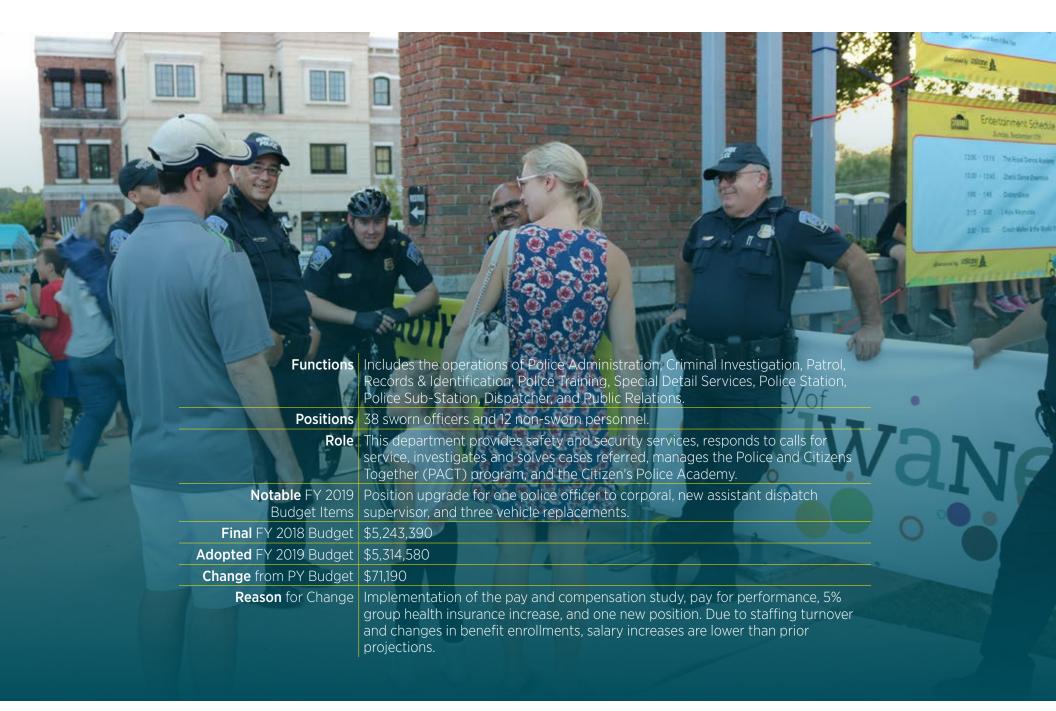
PARKS & PUBLIC WORKS



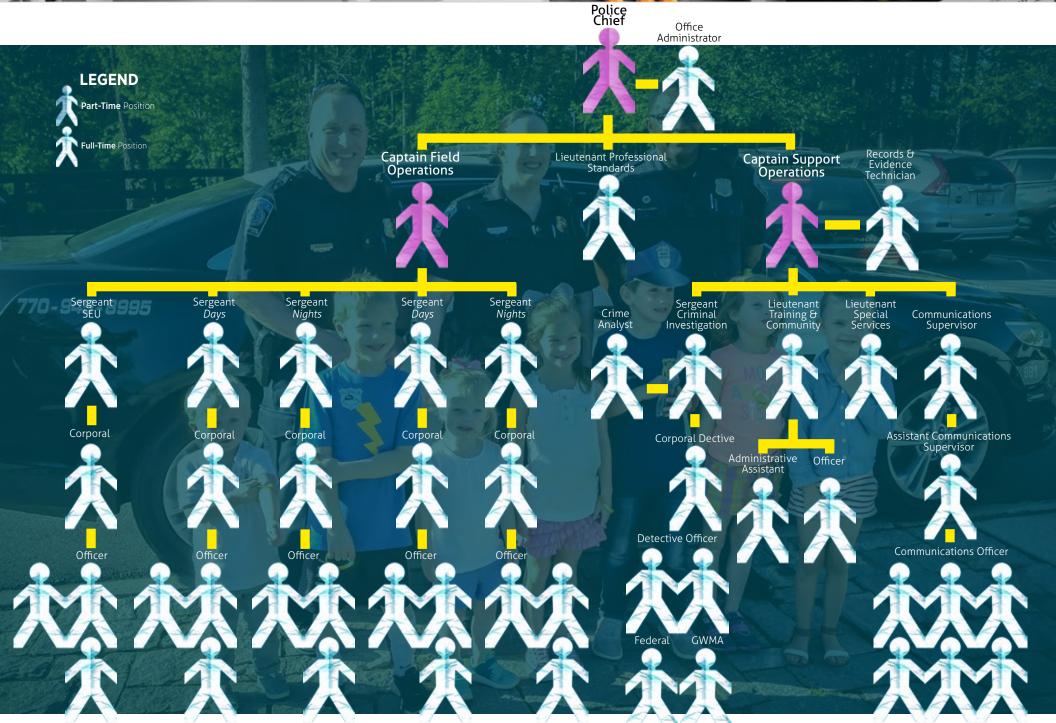


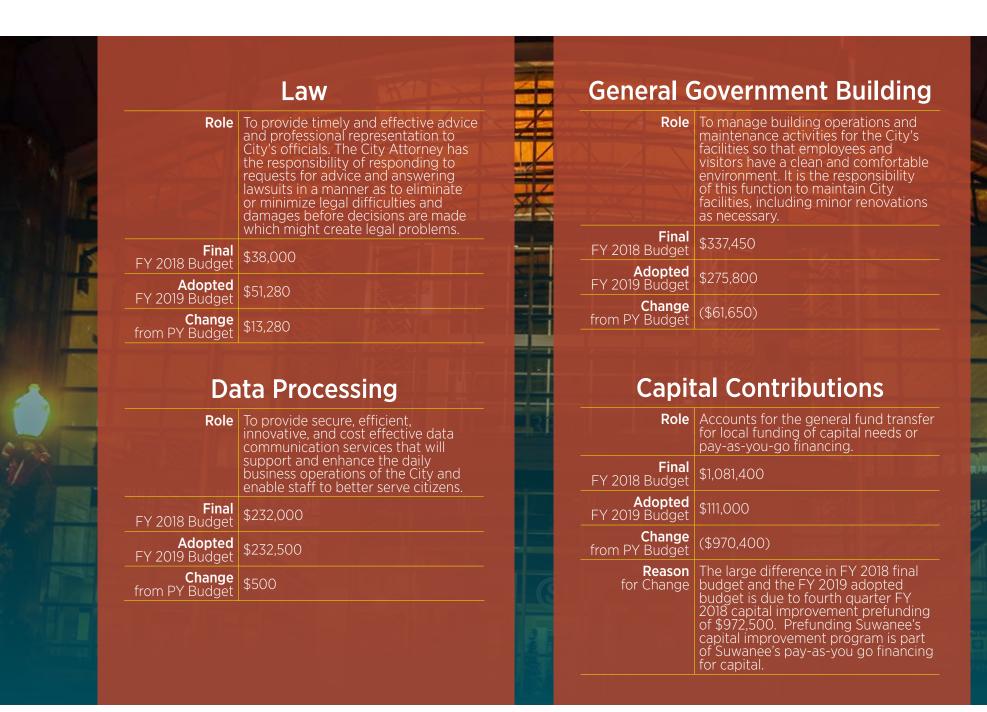


suwanee











Conclusion

The City appreciates any comments from citizens relative to the budget. All citizens are invited and encouraged to attend budget hearings held in June of each year.

Anyone interested in attending or receiving additional information, should contact the Financial Services Department at 770-945-8996.

