

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.

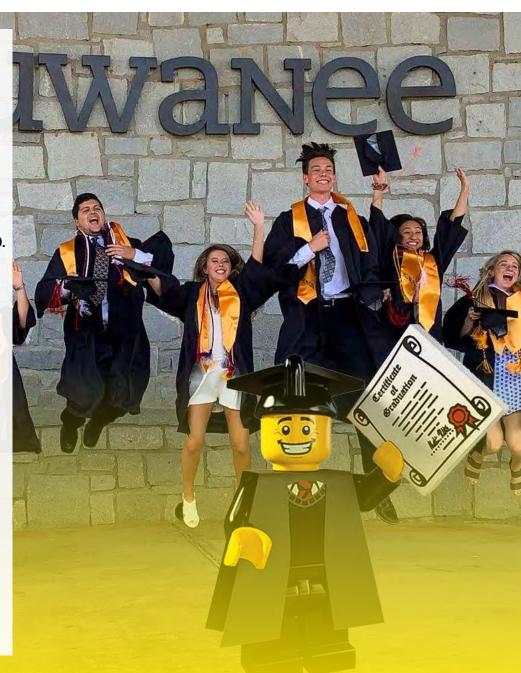


FY 2019 Highlights

Recap of FY 2019 adopted General Fund Budget

- Maintained the same millage rate as FY 2018 of 4.93 mills.
- 3.4% increase in operating revenues as compared to FY 2018.
- Property tax revenues were anticipated to increase by 6.9%.
- 3.4% increase in operating expenditures as compared to FY 2018.
- 104 full-time and 17 part-time employees.
- Pay for **performance** increases, approximately \$175,000.
- Implementation of the Compensation and Classification Study, \$205,000.
- Benefit change: 5% group health insurance renewal increase.
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan update, \$20,000.
- Right of way permitting, \$17,000.

FY 2019 Adopted Budget	\$	13,366,910
Budget adjustments:		
Budget reclassifications		105,000
4th Quarter capital transfers		625,000
Final FY 2019 Budget	\$_	14,096,910





Adopted City Manager's FY 2020 General Fund Budget

Financial Status

- Current millage is 4.93 mills.
- Current fund balance is \$8,051,312.

Adopted FY 2020 Budget Highlights

- 2% increase in operating revenues as compared to FY 2019.
- Maintain the same millage rate as FY 2019 of 4.93 mills.
- Property tax revenues are anticipated to increase by 10.4%.
- 2% increase in operating expenditures as compared to FY 2019.

General Information

- 106 full-time and 17 part-time employees.
- Position requests:
 - 1. Public Works Crew Member to help the Public Works staff with ongoing and expanding operations, \$72,510.
 - 2. Upgraded the Accounting Analyst position to Senior Accounting Analyst, \$2,100.
 - 3. Upgraded one Public Works Crew Member to Crew Leader, \$3,730.
 - 4. Upgraded the Custodian positions grade level from 7 to 8, \$2,370.
 - 5. Upgraded one Custodian position to Lead Custodian, \$1,470.
- Pay for performance increases, approximately \$258,000.
- Implementation of the 2% Employer 50% Matching 401A, \$12,780.
- 5% Group health insurance renewal, approximately \$156,000.
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan update, \$20,000.
- · Pilot trash project, \$9,600.
- Right of way permitting, \$17,000.
- Cyber security program, \$40,000.

Total Adopted FY 2020	Budget	\$ 13,766,780
Final FY 2019	Budget	\$ 14,096,910
Diff	erence*	\$ (330,130)
Percent of	Change	-2.3%

*Note: The majority of the difference is due to 4th quarter FY 2019 capital transfers, \$625,000.

Capital Funding, \$181,000

- Public Works equipment, \$30,000.
- Police two vehicles (replacement), \$79,000.
- Police **equipment** (laptops, radios, audiolog, and in car video systems), **\$72,000**.

Capital Transfers

• Capital transfers \$145,000.



Summary of General Fund Revenues

Description		A	ctua			FY 2019 Final		FY 2020 Adopted		FY 2020	Change
		FY 2017 FY		FY 2018		Budget*		Budget		Amount	%
Property Taxes	\$	4,224,380	\$	4,608,937	\$	4,693,000	\$	5,179,260	\$	486,260	10.4%
Franchise Taxes		1,757,052		1,715,558		1,811,760		1,837,120		25,360	1.4%
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes		831,638		812,385		829,000		830,700		1,700	0.2%
Business Taxes		2,159,357		2,211,948		2,410,600		2,466,700		56,100	2.3%
Other Taxes & Penalties		22,034		27,987		34,810		32,330		(2,480)	-7.1%
Licenses & Permits		674,097		1,084,964		801,870		814,120		12,250	1.5%
Intergovernmental Revenues		837,594		831,645		916,000		723,950		(192,050)	-21.0%
Charges for Services		153,808		148,967		161,720		166,590		4,870	3.0%
Court Fines		1,091,579		1,064,522		1,448,350		1,414,510		(33,840)	-2.3%
Investment Income		38,916		61,326		50,000		65,000		15,000	30.0%
Donations		23,860		17,079		23,500		10,000		(13,500)	-57.4%
Miscellaneous Revenues		17,455		52,312		100,000		40,000		(60,000)	-60.00%
Sale of Capital Items		7,361		10,481		10,000		10,000		-	0.0%
Transfer In		181,307		185,579		181,300		176,500	_	(4,800)	-2.6%
Total Revenues	_	12,020,438	_	12,833,690	_	13,471,910	_	13,766,780	_	294,870	2.2%
Other Financing Sources											
Budgeted Fund Balance*		1917		-		625,000		_		(625,000)	n/a
Total Other Financing Sources		-		-		625,000		-		(625,000)	n/a
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$_	12,020,438	\$_	12,833,690	\$_	14,096,910	\$	13,766,780	\$_	(330,130)	-2.3%

^{*}FY 2019 final column includes 4th quarter capital transfers of \$625,000.



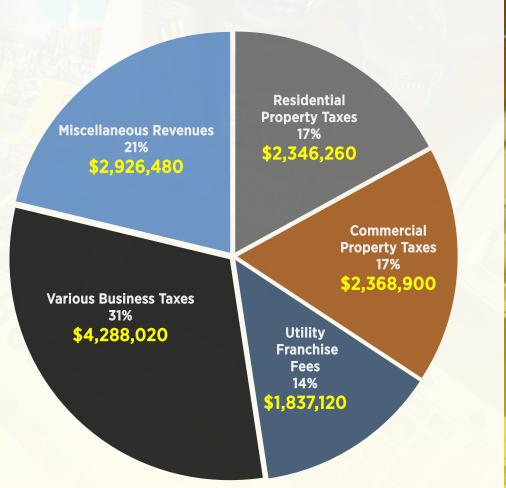
FY 2020 General Fund Revenues

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



REVENUES

Property Taxes

Property taxes include taxes on real and personal property, motor vehicle, mobile homes, and intangible taxes. This category represents 37.6% of the total FY 2020 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 2019 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 2018 building permit activity was reviewed. Based upon this review, \$68,800 of assessed value was added to the current digest. In total, approximately 6.6% increase in property taxes from projected current year collections has been predicted for fiscal year 2020.

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 2011-2013 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.

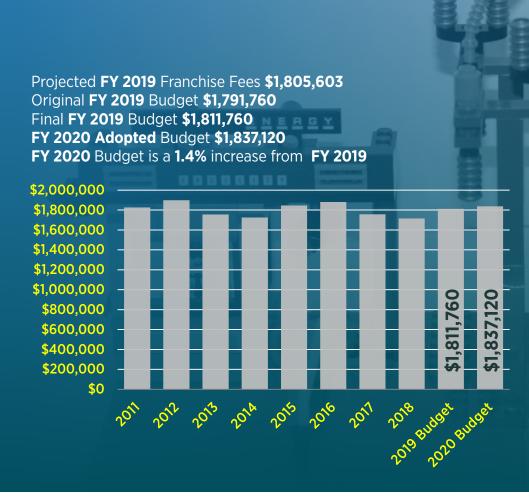
Real estate transfer tax revenues were projected using a rolling three-year average of change applied to the fiscal year 2019 collections. Motor vehicle used the lowest monthly collection value to predict a twelve month value. The new title tax, included in other taxes and penalties but combined with property taxes for budget analysis, used the calendar year 2018 values. These restated values were used to predict same monthly values for fiscal year 2020. 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 \$104,100 from the final FY 2019 budget amounts.

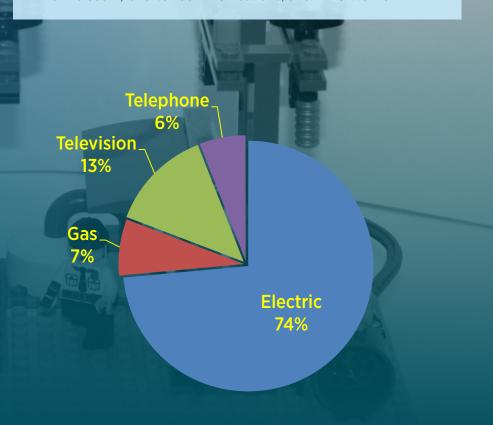


Utility Franchise Fees

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 electric, natural gas, telephone, cable television, and other fiber optics cable services. This category represents 13.3% of the total FY 2020 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.



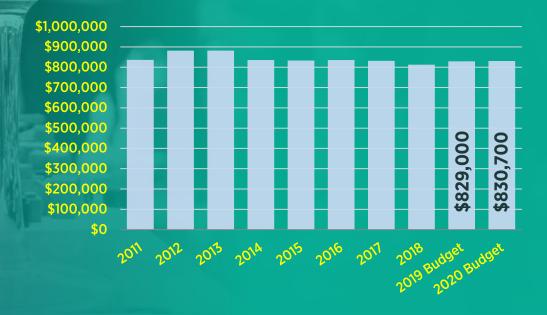


REVENUES

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 6.1% of the total FY 2020 general fund revenues. Revenue projections are based on historical trends in conjunction with current economic indicators. Current economic trends, based on projected new business growth, are projecting these revenues to be similar to the FY 2019 budget.





Business Taxes

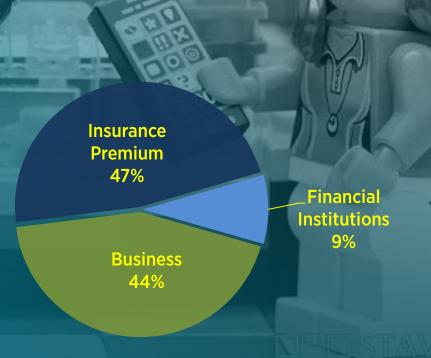
This category includes revenues realized from business and financial institutions' occupational licenses and excise taxes on insurance premiums written by insurance companies conducting business within the City. This category represents 17.9% of the total FY 2020 general fund revenues. Projections are based on historical trend analysis, economic indicators, and anticipated economic growth. Current estimates for business and financial institutions' occupational licenses assume a 7.1% growth based on projected FY 2019 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 in 2020.



FY 2012 revenues included a one-time increase from the state insurance premium tax as a result of the **2010** census.



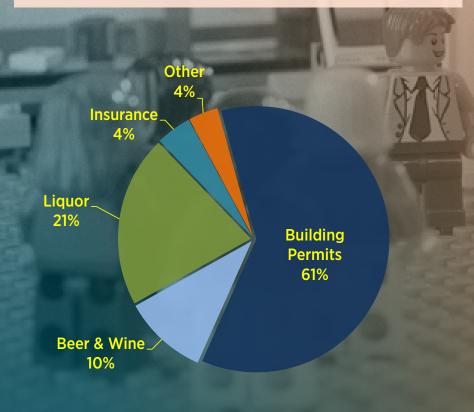


REVENUES

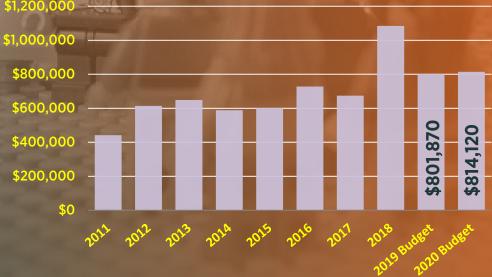
Licenses and Permits

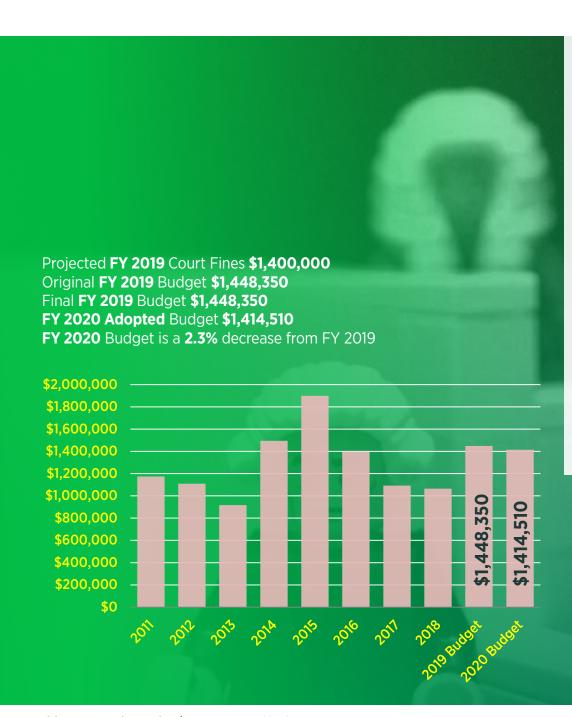
Licenses and permit fees include revenues realized from alcoholic privilege licenses, peddler license fees, fees for issuance of licenses to insurance companies that sell policies within the City, fees received from applications for zoning amendments, site plan reviews, special use and variance, and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

Regulatory fees charged for building permits and inspections also are included in this section. These revenue projections are based on known development growth that should be permitted in the next twelve months. Building permit revenues vary from year to year based on the economic environment and size of planned developments. This category represents 5.9% of the total FY 2020 general fund revenues.









Intergovernmental

This category includes the annual negotiated settlement from Gwinnett County regarding service delivery. These payments are annual payments and will continue until calendar year 2019, when the next service delivery strategy will be negotiated. The current projected amount of \$723,950 is a decrease of (\$192,050) from fiscal year 2019 budgeted. FY 2020 estimates are based on the budgeted 911 dispatch services. These funds are reimbursed from Gwinnett County for actual cost spent on 911 dispatch services.

This category represents 5.3% of the total FY 2020 general fund revenues.

Court Fines

Revenues in this category consist of fines and charges imposed by the City's Municipal Court. This category represents 10.3% of the total FY 2020 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 2020 projections used a six month average for fiscal year 2019.



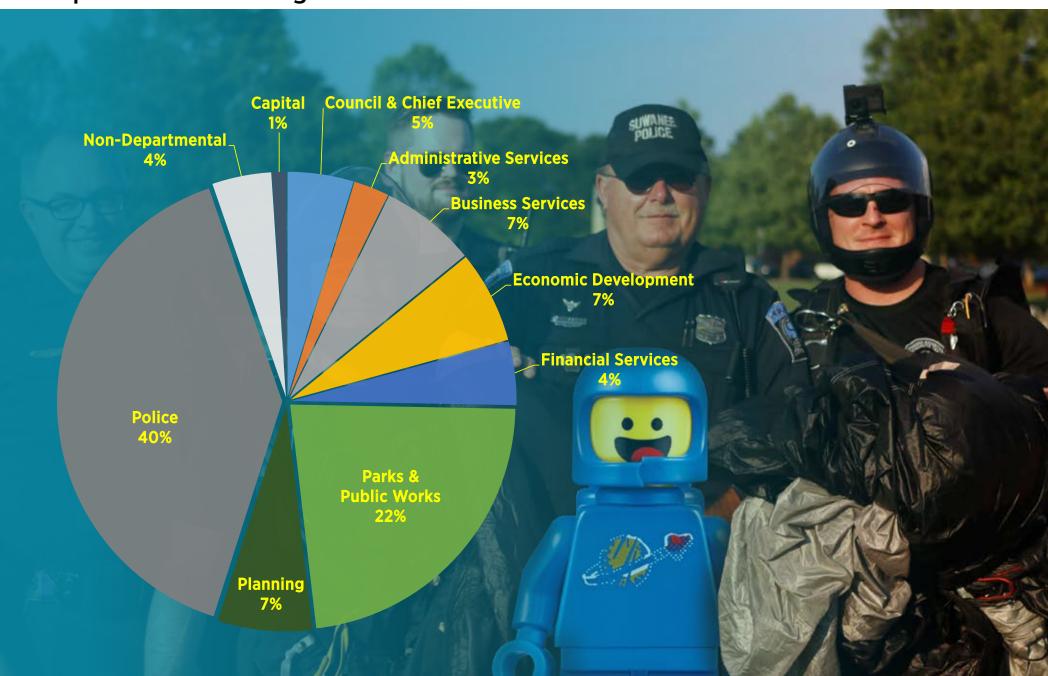
General Fund Expenditures by Department

	A	ctual	FY 201	9 Budget	FY 2020 Adopted	FY 2020 (Change
Description	FY 2017	FY 2018	Original	Final	Budget	Amount	%
Council & Chief Executive	\$ 546,936	\$ 562,752	\$ 644,020	\$ 661,020	\$ 651,460	(9,560)	-1.4%
Administrative Services	269,450	302,198	368,000	329,400	351,050	21,650	6.6%
Business Services	798,714	809,780	870,090	919,390	942,380	22,990	2.5%
Economic Development	791,524	890,453	948,810	973,810	908,800	(65,010)	-6.7%
Financial Services	539,455	549,201	606,160	632,160	630,500	(1,660)	3%
Parks & Public Works	2,347,151	2,353,312	2,991,100	2,927,400	3,144,610	217,210	7.4%
Planning	818,901	808,947	953,570	956,570	932,060	(24,510)	-2.6%
Police	4,610,902	4,763,566	5,314,580	5,316,580	5,479,370	162,790	3.1%
Non-Departmental	525,292	482,696	559,580	611,580	581,550	(30,030)	4.9%_
Total Operating	11,248,325	11,522,905	_13,255,910	_13,327,910	13,621,780	293,870	2.2%
Capital Transfers*	668,442	1,531,331	111,000	769,000	145,000	(624,000)	-81.1%
Total Expenditures & Transfers	\$ <u>11,916,767</u>	\$ <u>13,054,236</u>	\$ <u>13,366,910</u>	\$ <u>14,096,910</u>	\$ <u>13,766,780</u> \$	(330,130)	<u>-2.3%</u>

^{*}The difference in FY 2019 Final Budget and the FY 2019 Original Budget is due to fourth quarter FY 2019 capital improvement prefunding of \$625,000. Prefunding Suwanee's capital improvement program is part of Suwanee's pay-as-you go financing for capital projects.

^{*}FY 2019 final column includes 4th quarter capital transfers of \$625,000.

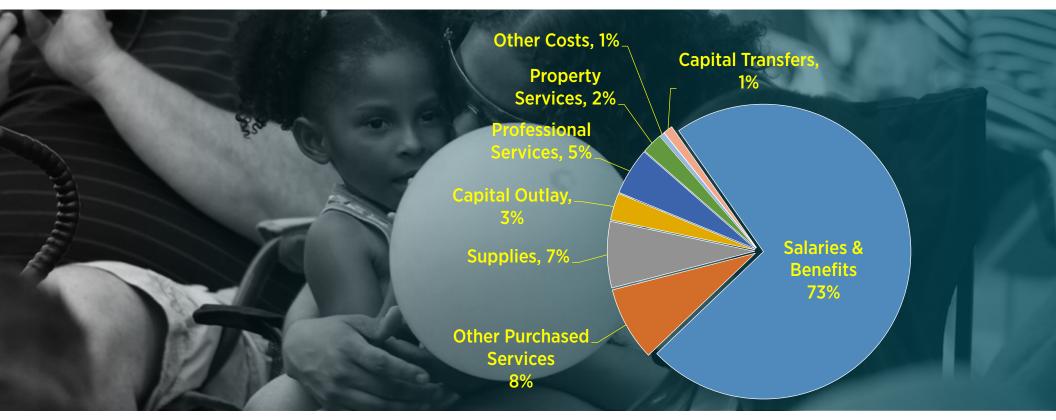
Department % of Budget



EXPENDITURES

General Fund Expenditures by Category

	Actual		FY 2019 B	udget	FY 2020 Adopted	FY 2020 Ch	ange
Description	FY 2017	FY 2018	Original	Final	Budget	Amount	%
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 8,049,932 \$	8,149,284 \$	9,447,950 \$	9,164,950 \$	9,993,750 \$	828,800	9.0%
Other Purchased Services	955,179	980,183	1,148,010	1,196,460	1,120,570	(75,890)	-6.3%
Supplies	820,530	897,466	968,830	1,071,780	998,840	(72,940)	-6.8%
Capital Outlay	487,111	510,718	527,510	717,760	409,450	(308,310)	-42.9%
Professional Services	648,818	700,322	768,100	726,750	711,650	(15,100)	-2.1%
Property Services	221,306	216,136	325,010	355,810	314,520	(41,290)	-11.6%
Other Costs	65,449	68,796	70,500	94,400	73,000	(21,400)	-22.7%
Capital Transfers	668,442	1,531,331	111,000	769,000	145,000	(624,000)	-81.1%
Total	\$ <u>11,916,767</u> \$	13,054,236 \$	<u>13,366,910</u> \$	14,096,910 \$	<u>13,766,780</u> \$	(330,130)	<u>-2.3%</u>





FY 2020 General Expenditures Summary

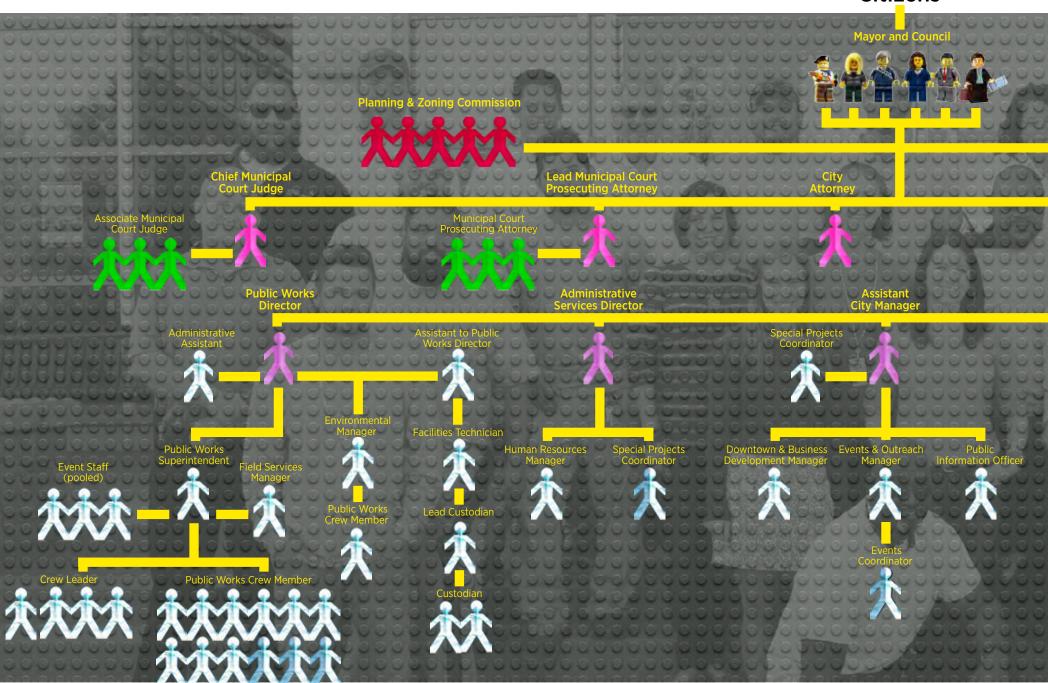
During the budget forecast process, all department directors submit their performance and expenditure requests for the next fiscal year. Based on this information, the budget development team reviewed all departmental operations and budget requests in order to propose a recommended City Manager budget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

The following is a summary of larger dollar items (\$10,000 and above) for FY 2020 that were included in the City Manager's adopted budget.

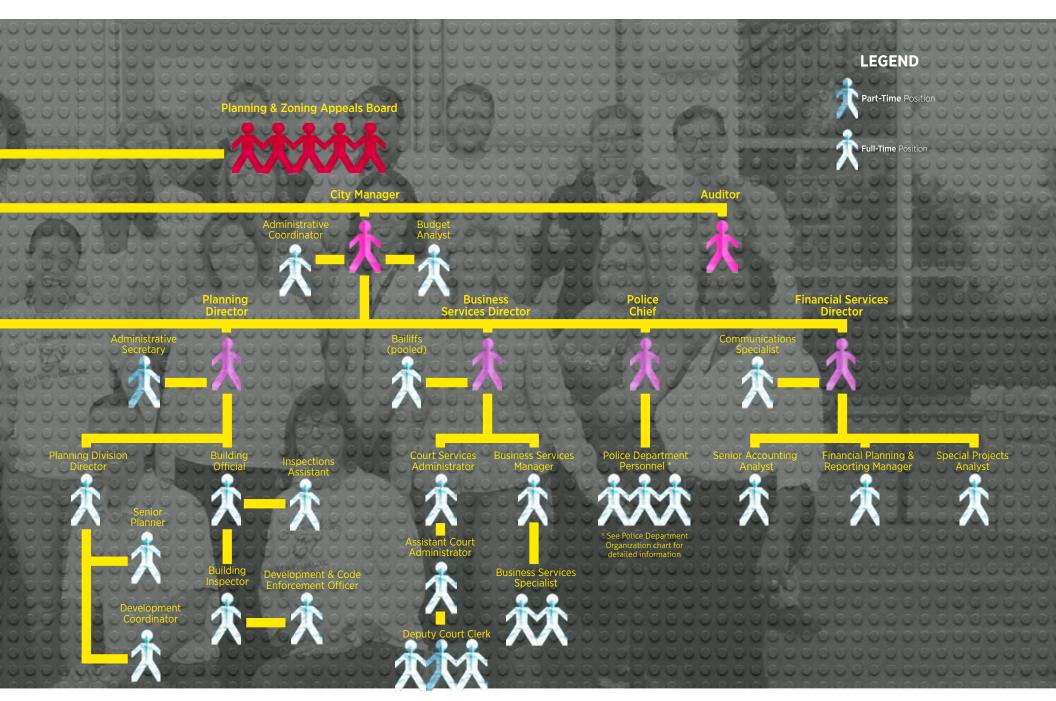
Department	Description	Amount	Department	Description	Amount
All	Salaries	\$ 6,518,000	Parks & PW	Electricity outdoor lighting (street lights)	252,000
All	Overtime	167,000	Parks & PW	Park water usage	48,000
All	FICA	417,000	Parks & PW	Solid waste disposal	31,000
All	Medicare	99,000	Parks & PW	Public Works equipment	30,000
All	Retirement	489,000	Parks & PW	Public Works contracted services	52,000
All	Group health	1,661,000	Planning	Professional services (planning)	60,000
All	Wellness program	16,000	Planning	Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan update	20,000
All	Other employee benefits	68,000	Planning	Right-of-way permitting	17,000
All	Workers compensation	140,000	Police	Dispatch equipment	83,000
All	Gasoline fuel usage	149,000	Police	Police equipment	57,000
All	Property/casualty insurance	220,000	Police	Dispatch software fees	94,000
Council & Chief	GMA/GwMA City contribution	27,000	Police	Police software fees	11,000
Council & Chief	Dues and fees (Geek Space)	12,000	Police	Code Red	12,000
Council & Chief	Studies, cost estimates, and appraisals	28,000	Police	Police training	256,000
Administrative	Human Resource consultants	41,000	Police	2 Police Vehicles (replacements)	79,000
Business Srv	Court operating cost	34,000	Police	Fleet repairs	69,000
Economic	Newsletter production & printing	64,000	Police	Police station operating cost	64,000
Economic	Events	102,000	Non-departmental	Annual attorney fees	45,000
Economic	Suwanee Youth Leadership program	10,000	Non-departmental	Information technology consulting	109,000
Economic	Partnership Gwinnett	20,000	Non-departmental	Software annual license fees	46,000
Economic	Downtown Suwanee funding	121,000	Non-departmental	Software and server support	85,000
Finance	GMA telecom consultants	10,000	Non-departmental	Cyber security	40,000
Finance	Annual audit	38,000	Non-departmental	City Hall operating costs	172,000
Parks & PW	Environmental Division funding	515,000	Non-departmental	Capital projects transfer	145,000
Parks & PW	Repairs (Public Works)	90,000			
Parks & PW	Park repairs	52,000		Summary Total S	13,057,000
Parks & PW	Park site improvements	23,000			
Parks & PW	MS4 permit requirements	49,000		Total Budget 9 % Summarized	13,766,780 95%

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

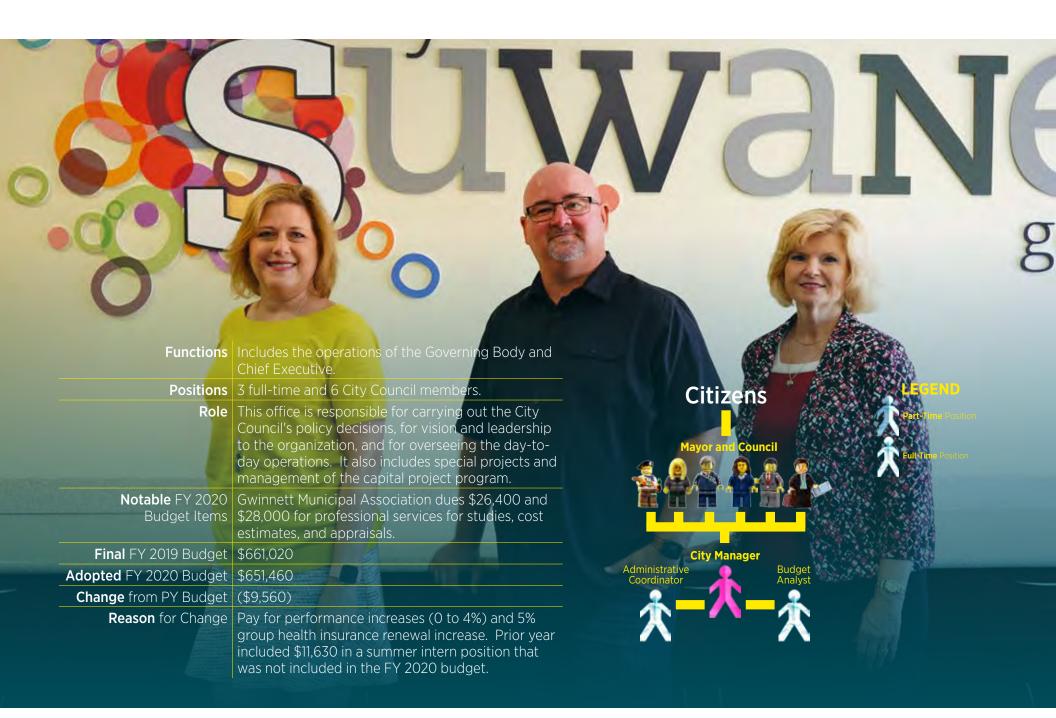
Citizens



suwanee



COUNCIL & CHIEF EXECUTIVE



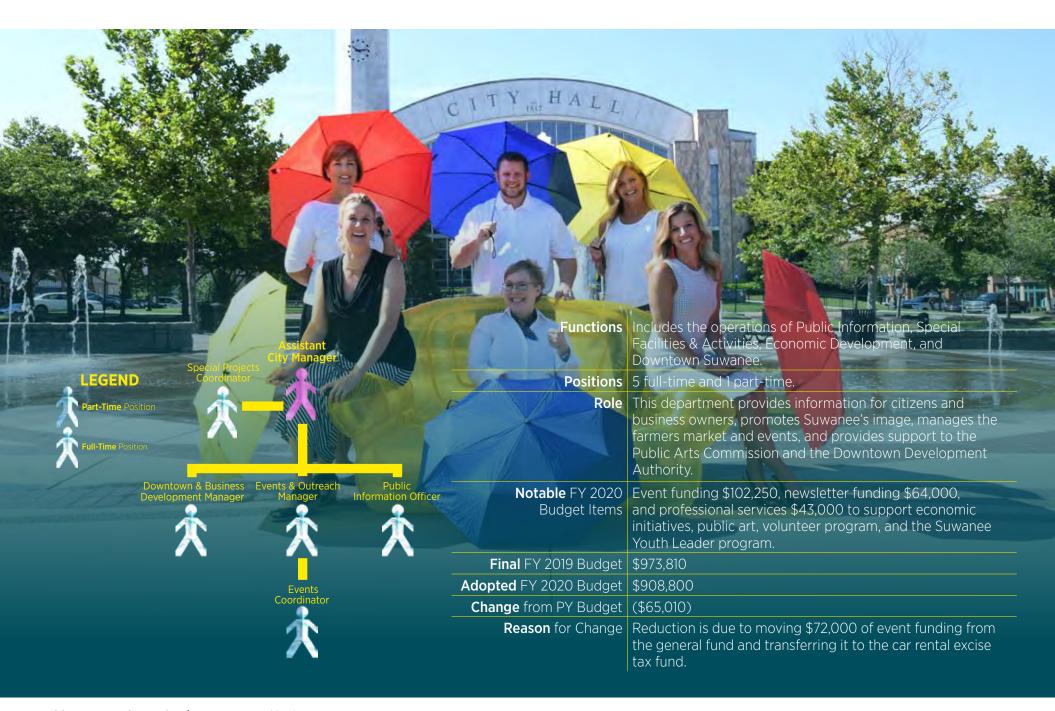
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



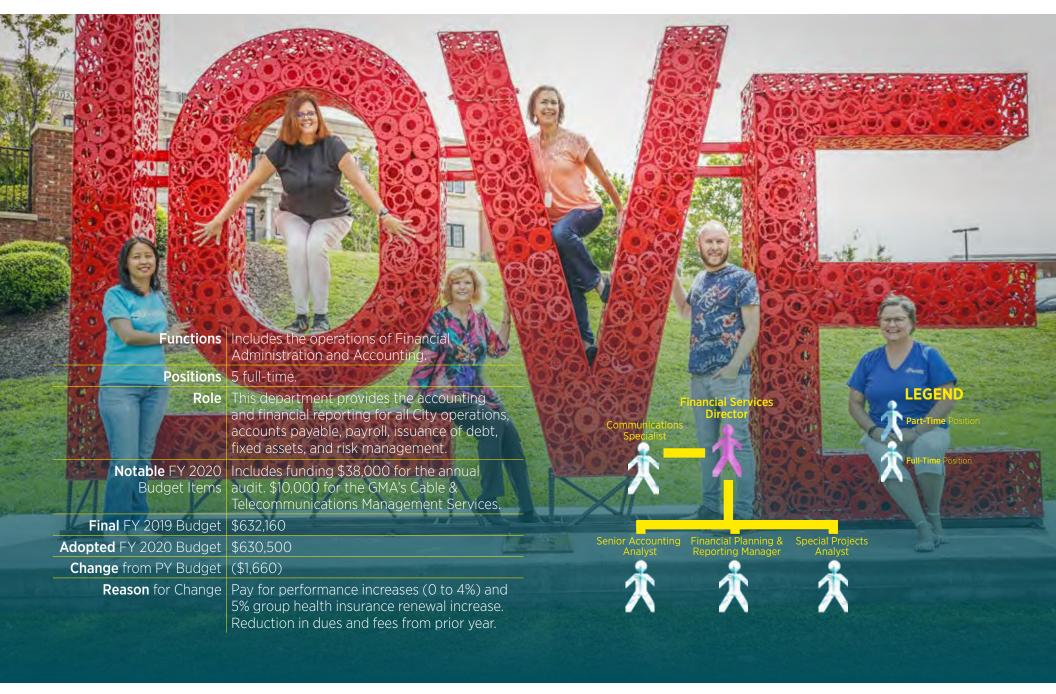
BUSINESS SERVICES



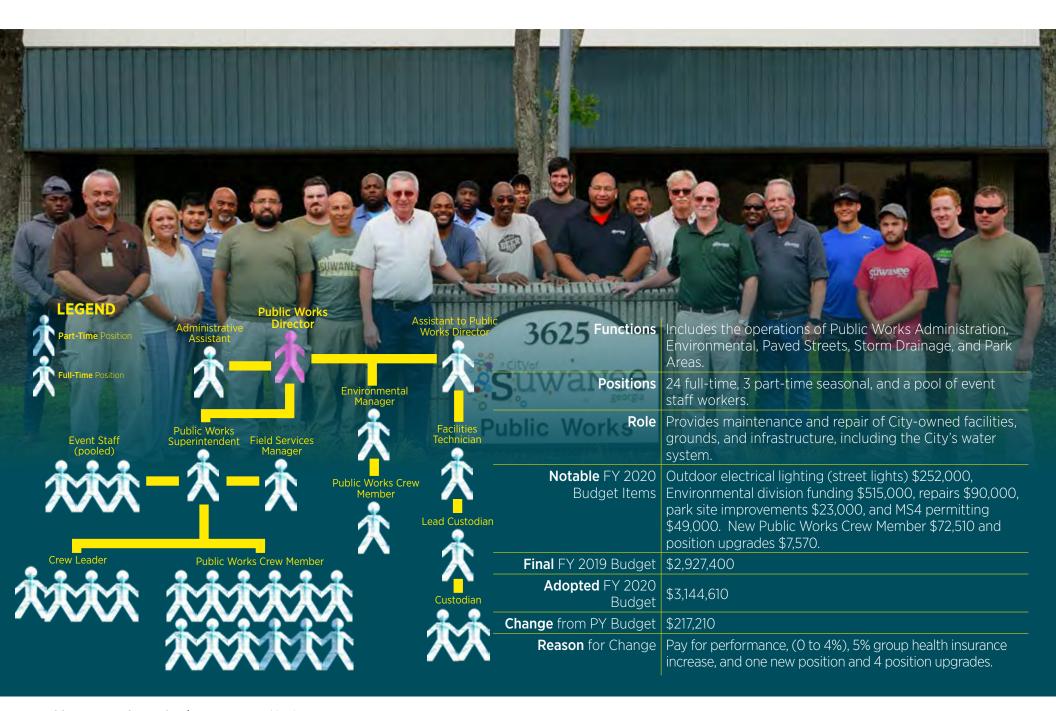
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



FINANCIAL SERVICES



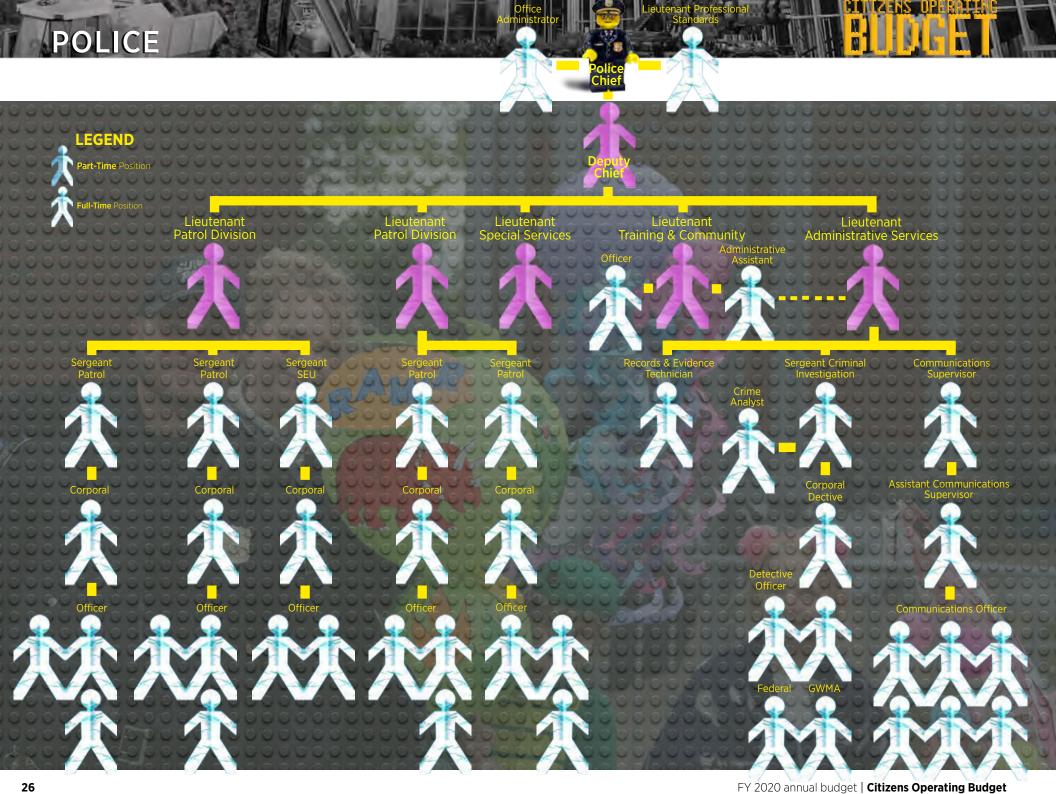
PARKS & PUBLIC WORKS



PLANNING







Law Role To provide timely and effective advice and professional representation to City's officials. The City Attorney has the responsibility of responding to requests for advice and answering lawsuits in a manner as to eliminate or minimize legal difficulties and damages before decisions are made which might create legal problems. FY 2019 Budget \$41,280 Adopted \$45,000 FY 2020 Budget Change \$3,720 from PY Budget **Data Processing** Role To provide secure, efficient, innovative, and cost effective data communication services that will support and enhance the daily business operations of the City and enable staff to better serve citizens. FY 2019 Budget \$249,500 Adopted FY 2020 Budget \$280,150

General Government Building

Role	To manage building operations and maintenance activities for the City's facilities so that employees and visitors have a clean and comfortable environment. It is the responsibility of this function to maintain City facilities, including minor renovations as necessary.
Elect.	

FY 2019	Final Budget	\$320,800

Adopted FY 2020 Budget \$256,400

Change (\$64.400)from PY Budget

Capital Contributions

Role	Accounts for the general fund transfer for local funding of capital needs or
-	pay-as-you-go financing.

Final FY 2019 Budget

\$769,000

Adopted FY 2020 Budget

\$145,000

Change from PY Budget

(\$624,000)

for Change

Reason Change The large difference in FY 2019 final budget and the FY 2020 adopted budget is due to fourth quarter FY 2019 capital improvement prefunding of \$625,000. Prefunding Suwanee's capital improvement program is part of Suwanee's pay-as-you go financing for capital.

Change

from PY Budget

\$30.650

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.

The normal solution is not the solution in Suwanee.

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

Suwanee Quality Remarkable High standards. Attracting attention by being special, unusual or extraordinary. Others take notice. Worthy of remarks from others, both supportive and critical. Not done to receive awards, but awards are likely to follow. **Unique Visionary** Bold, risky, quirky, artsy, cool, different, innovative, eye-catching. * Lasting beyond those who make the decisions. It hasn't been done before and if it has it will be different in Suwanee.

