



# Popular Annual FINANCIAL REPORT



For the Fiscal Year Ended  
**AUGUST 31, 2024**

City of El Paso, Texas  
Office of the Comptroller

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## Contact



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[elpasotexas.gov/office-of-the-comptroller](https://elpasotexas.gov/office-of-the-comptroller)

## More Information



Annual  
Comprehensive  
Financial  
Report



Annual Single  
Audit Report

# LETTER FROM CITY OF EL PASO



## Office of the Comptroller

**MAYOR**  
Renard U. Johnson

Dear City of El Paso Residents,

**CITY COUNCIL**

**District 1**  
Alejandra Chávez

**District 2**  
Dr. Josh Acevedo

**District 3**  
Deanna M. Rocha

**District 4**  
Cynthia Boyar Trejo

**District 5**  
Ivan Niño

**District 6**  
Art Fierro

**District 7**  
Lily Limón

**District 8**  
Chris Canales

**CITY MANAGER**  
Dionne Mack

El Paso, the largest metro area on the Texas-Mexico border, has established itself as a thriving global manufacturing hub, driven by a business-friendly environment and a strong focus on infrastructure development. With a bilingual workforce, affordable housing, and a strategic location, the City continues to foster economic growth, supported by over \$1.5 billion in capital investments since 2020. Key initiatives, including the Meta data center and the upcoming Sunset Amphitheater, are expected to generate billions in economic impact and create thousands of jobs. Downtown revitalization projects, such as the renovation of the "Popular Building", further demonstrate El Paso's commitment to long-term sustainable growth. The City is also focusing on attracting high-wage industries, fostering innovation, and supporting local businesses to ensure economic resilience.

El Paso's strong financial management is central to its growth and sustainability. In fiscal year 2024, the City achieved a general fund budget surplus of \$11.9 million and exceeded recommended reserve levels with an 83-day fund balance. Strategic investments in infrastructure, trade, and public safety continue to strengthen the City's economic foundation, with major projects like the \$276.2 million Airport Capital Improvement Program and ongoing downtown redevelopment. The City's embrace of technology, including the Innovation Factory and AI-driven initiatives, positions El Paso as a leader in economic development. Focused investments in public safety, housing, and infrastructure modernization contribute to maintaining El Paso as a safe, vibrant, and innovative community, ensuring long-term prosperity and growth.

The information included in this report has been obtained from our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which can be found in the City's website. The ACFR includes the City's results of operations and has been audited by an independent Certified Public Accounting Firm. We hope you enjoy this report, and we thank you for entrusting us with the management of the City's finances.

**Dionne Mack**  
City Manager

**Robert Cortinas**  
Deputy City Manager  
& Chief Financial Officer

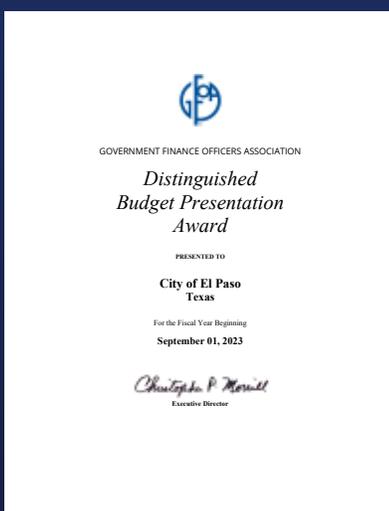
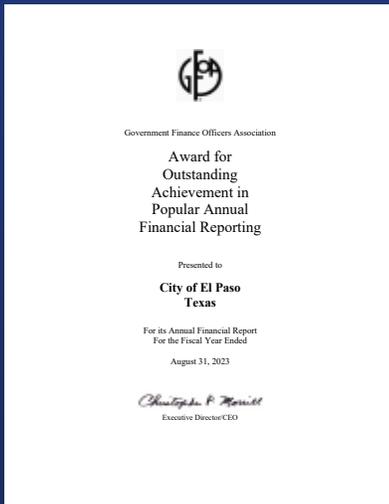
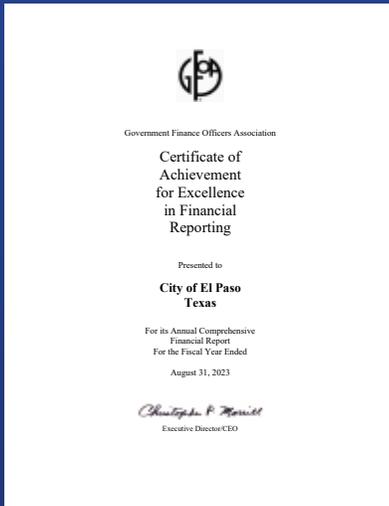
**Margarita Marin, CGFM**  
Deputy Chief Financial Officer  
& Comptroller

City 1 | 300 N. Campbell | El Paso, Texas 79901 | (915) 212-0000



DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES

# FINANCIAL REPORTING AWARDS



The City of El Paso, Texas Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023 was awarded the Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting.

In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards. Such an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current Annual Comprehensive Financial Report continues to conform to the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another Certificate.

The Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) presented to you, incorporates information from the ACFR in a way that is understandable and accessible to all citizens regardless of their background in accounting and finance. Our City is committed to transparency and keeping our citizens informed. As of the issuance date of this report, the City has earned from GFOA the *Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting* for 26 consecutive years and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 30 consecutive years. The City has achieved for three consecutive years the GFOA *Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting*.

The City of El Paso also received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its annual budget document dated September 1, 2023. To qualify for the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, the City of El Paso's budget document had to be judged proficient as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

As a result of receiving all three of GFOA's reporting awards, the City of El Paso is a GFOA Triple Crown award winner.

# DISTRICT MAP

Elected Officials Holding Office as of the Issuance Date of This Report



Mayor  
**Renard U. Johnson**



District 1  
**Alejandra Chávez**



District 2  
**Dr. Josh Acevedo**



District 3  
**Deanna Maldonado-Rocha**



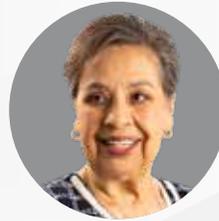
District 4  
**Cynthia Boyar Trejo**



District 5  
**Ivan Niño**



District 6  
**Art Fierro**

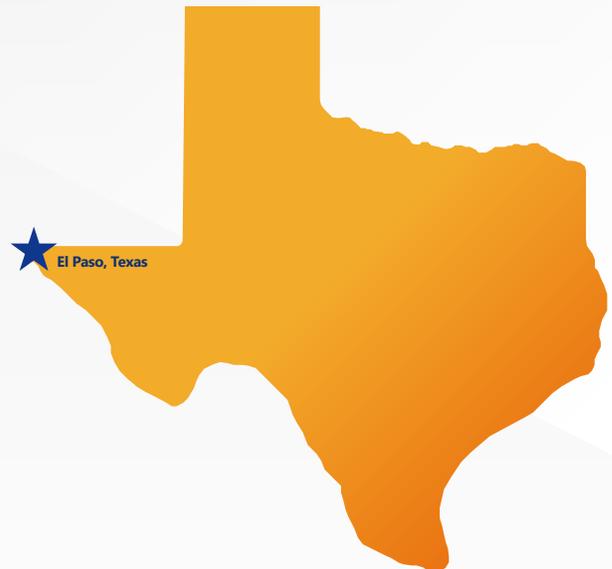
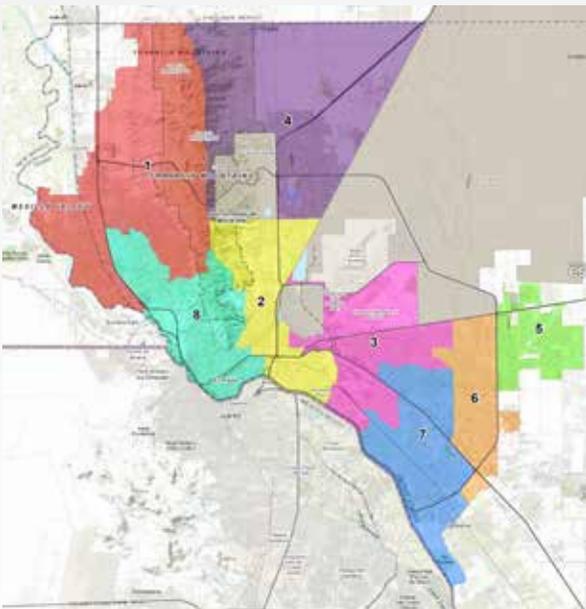


District 7  
**Lily Limón**



District 8  
**Chris Canales**

## Our Districts



# CITY EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

As of the Issuance Date of This Report



**Dionne Mack**  
City Manager



**Karla Nieman**  
City Attorney



**Robert Cortinas**  
Deputy City Manager  
& Chief Financial Officer



**Mario D'Agostino**  
Deputy City Manager



**Richard Bristol**  
Deputy City Manager



**K. Nicole Cote**  
Deputy City Manager



**Araceli Guerra**  
Deputy City Manager



**Yvette Hernandez**  
Deputy City Manager  
& City Engineer



**Laura Cruz-Acosta**  
Strategic  
Communications

# PROPERTY TAX

Pays debt service and maintenance and operations so the City can provide outstanding services. The following are tax dollars at work for the benefit of the El Paso community.

## How Your Property Taxes Are Allocated Per Dollar:



## How The City Used Their Portion in Fiscal Year 2024:

Tax Rate Per \$100 Valuation \$0.818875



## DEBT SERVICE FUND

Debt payment is 100% funded by property taxes

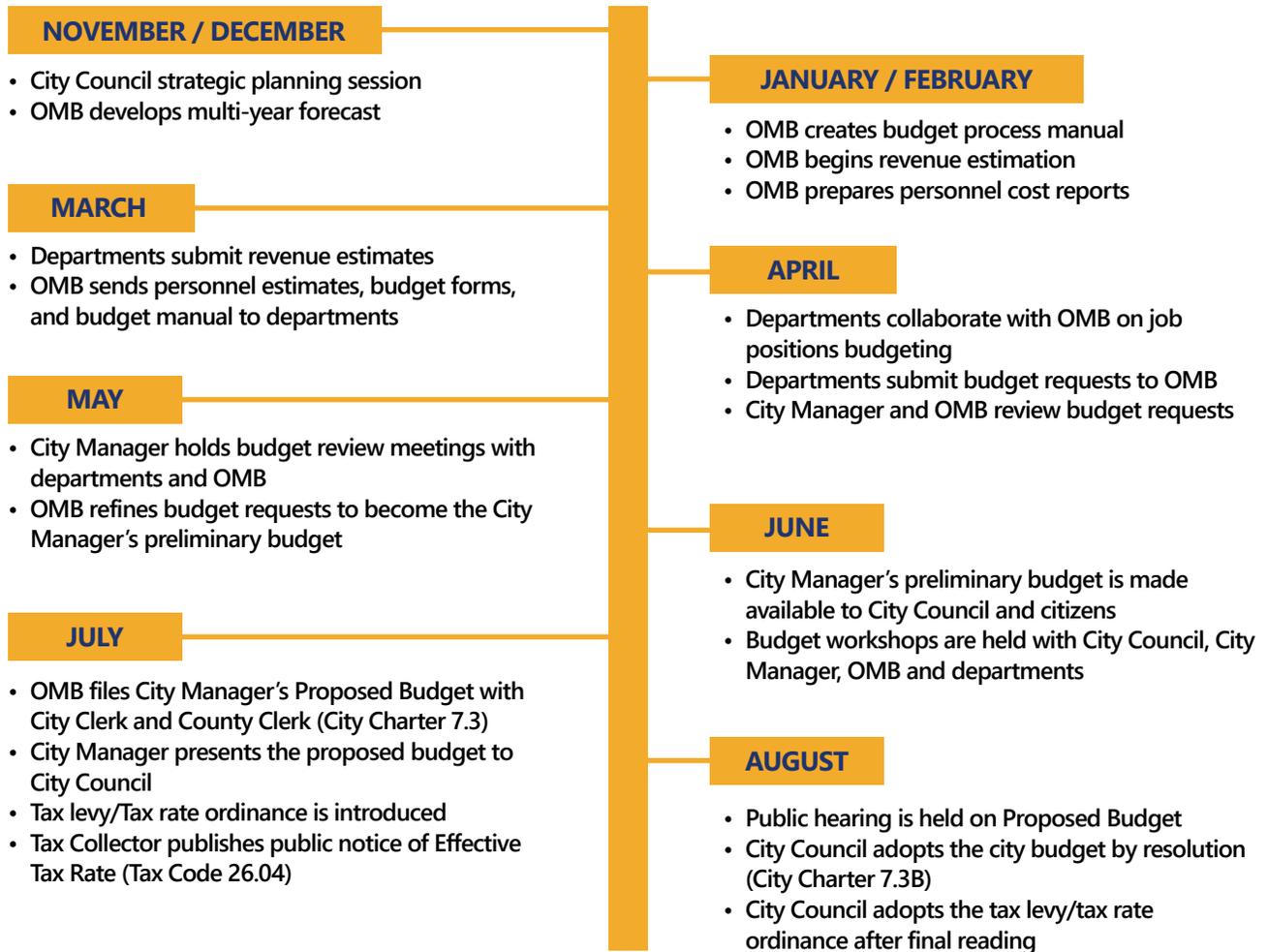
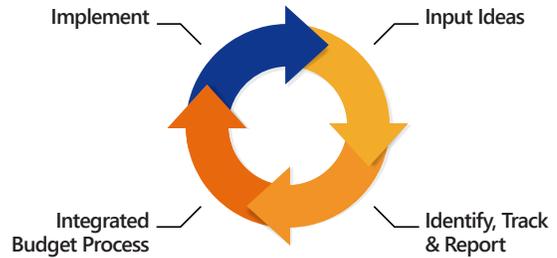
### GENERAL FUND ACTIVITIES

 General Government	 Public Safety	 Public Works	 Public Health	 Community Development
 Parks	 Libraries	 Culture	 Recreation	 Economic Development

# BUDGET PROCESS

## How the Budget Cycle Helps

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) develops and administers the budget process as a sound basis for planning, decision-making, and managing control of City resources for our community.



## Expenditure Budget Fiscal Year 2024

(Sep 1, 2023 – Aug 31, 2024)

General Fund	\$573,320,424	Governmental Funds <sup>(a)</sup>	\$876,377,659
Community Devt. Block <sup>(d)</sup>	13,147,995	Enterprise <sup>(b)</sup>	349,409,627
Debt Service	122,084,150	Internal Service <sup>(c)</sup>	92,738,804
Capital Projects	26,802,662		
Special Revenue	141,022,428		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$876,377,659*</b>	<b>ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$1,318,526,090*</b>



Scan to  
Download  
FY2024  
Budget Book

(a) These funds provide services to the general public and are funded by taxes and grants.

(b) These funds provide services to the general public for a fee, i.e. Sun Metro, Airport.

(c) These funds provide services to other departments for a fee, i.e. Fleet Department.

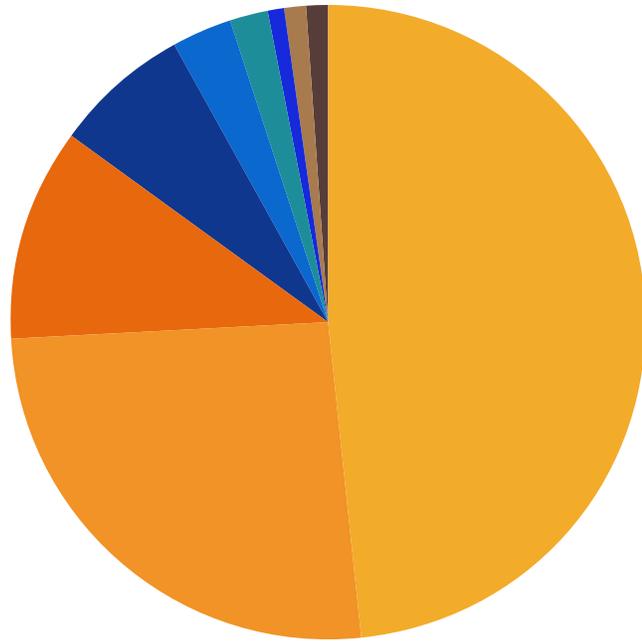
(d) Includes budget for the Empowerment Zone reported in the ACFR as Nongrants.

\*As stated in the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Book

# REVENUES – GENERAL FUND

Total Amount of Revenues:  
**\$543,451,353**

- 49 % Property Taxes
- 25 % Sales Taxes
- 11 % Franchise Fees
- 7 % Charges for Services
- 3 % Rents and Other
- 2 % Licenses and Permits
- 1 % Fines and Forfeitures
- 1 % Investment Earnings
- 1 % Intergovernmental Revenues



## Where the Money Comes From

The General Fund is the Operating fund for the City. In fiscal year 2024, the City reported revenues of \$543 million. Property taxes continue to be the largest revenue source, followed by sales tax and franchise fees.

## How We Compared to Last Year

Although the City's property tax rate decreased from the prior year, property tax revenues increased by \$15.5 million due to an increase in property values combined with an increase of properties added to the tax roll. There was a significant increase in intergovernmental revenues of \$4.6 million compared to last year. This is mainly due to a State subsidy of \$1.9 million for local governments veterans exemption relief. There was also an additional \$2.7 million in billings to other governmental agencies from the Public Health department.

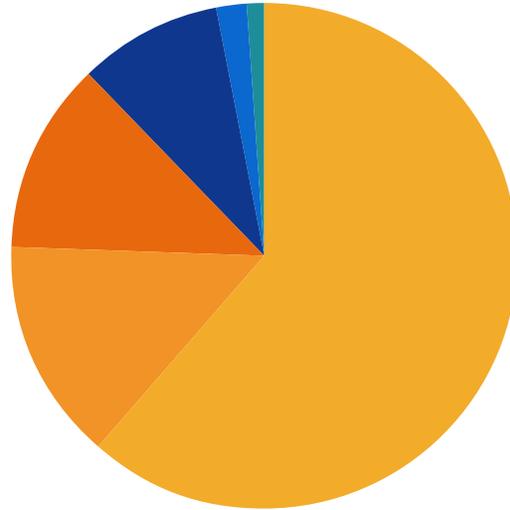
REVENUES	VARIANCE FY24 - FY23	FY24	FY23	FY22
Property Taxes	\$15,545,642	\$264,776,059	\$249,230,417	\$236,394,480
Sales Taxes	1,523,337	137,424,692	135,901,355	130,484,429
Franchise Fees	(1,854,129)	58,936,543	60,790,672	60,832,018
Charges for Services	2,879,059	34,941,421	32,062,362	30,467,689
Licenses and Permits	(1,612,333)	12,906,974	14,519,307	13,753,054
Rents and Other	2,898,032	14,343,451	11,445,419	11,036,444
Fines and Forfeitures	(401,677)	7,066,949	7,468,626	7,540,489
Intergovernmental Revenues	4,603,454	5,261,278	657,824	1,357,980
Penalties and Interest-Delinquent Taxes	105,510	1,582,472	1,476,962	1,460,492
Investment Earnings*	761,167	6,211,514	5,450,347	846,370
Sale of General Capital Assets	—	—	—	931
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$24,448,062</b>	<b>\$543,451,353</b>	<b>\$519,003,291</b>	<b>\$494,174,376</b>

\*Investment Earnings for fiscal year 2024 does not include an unrealized gain of \$2,867,883 reported in the ACFR for the purpose of recognizing changes in fair market value of investments.

# EXPENDITURES – GENERAL FUND

Total Amount of Expenditures:  
\$524,076,708

- 61% Public Safety
- 14% General Government
- 12% Culture and Recreation
- 9% Public Works
- 2% Economic Development
- 2% Public Health



## Where the Money Goes

EXPENDITURES	VARIANCE FY24 - FY23	FY24	FY23	FY22
Public Safety	\$24,062,573	\$317,133,461	\$293,070,888	\$273,244,602
General Government	1,179,543	71,691,628	70,512,085	61,669,985
Culture and Recreation	11,090,246	62,778,468	51,688,222	42,297,401
Public Works	3,095,264	49,305,489	46,210,225	41,640,969
Economic Development	293,686	11,120,123	10,826,437	8,888,461
Public Health	1,038,431	8,187,837	7,149,406	6,004,034
Capital Outlay*	602,647	1,972,343	1,369,696	740,876
Community and Human Development	772,130	1,887,359	1,115,229	682,597
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$42,134,520</b>	<b>\$524,076,708</b>	<b>\$481,942,188</b>	<b>\$435,168,925</b>

\*Capital Outlay for fiscal year 2024 does not include the accounting entry for Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 87 - Leases and GASB 96 - Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA) in the amount of \$1,675,586 as it does not affect the total amount of resources available to the City.

Presentation of expenditures in general government for fiscal year 2024 differs from the ACFR because it includes payments for leases and SBITA necessary to provide services to the community that were reported in the ACFR as principal and interest in compliance with GASB 87 and GASB 96.

## Where the Money Goes - Priorities

The City allocates the majority of its resources to public safety, ensuring that El Pasoans continue to reside in a city with decreased crime rates and timely responses from both the police and fire departments. Additionally, the City utilizes its resources to cover administrative costs which include utilities, civilian employee payroll, professional services, lease payments, and various other expenditures. These allocations are crucial in delivering exceptional services to our community and maintaining the high standards that El Pasoans expect.

## How We Compared to Last Year

In fiscal year 2024, the City's general fund expenditures increased compared to the prior year, primarily due to an increase in benefits and compensation for all City employees as an effort to recruit and retain our workforce. The emphasis on public safety led to increased staffing, plans to welcome new police and fire department graduates. Public works prioritized infrastructure with expenditures for street repairs and enhancing public access. This fiscal approach reflects the City's commitment to public safety, employee well-being, and essential infrastructure.

# FUND BALANCE – GENERAL FUND

## Restricted Funds

These are funds that the City sets aside as a cash reserve in order to provide coverage for unexpected expenditures in accordance with the City Charter. The City maintains a cash reserve of 5% of the prior year's adopted General Fund operating expenditure budget.

The total balance of the General Fund is comprised of 15% restricted funds.



## Committed Funds

- The Operating and Debt Stabilization fund serves as a reserve of surplus revenues to be used with the purpose of minimizing future tax rate impact for maintenance and operations as well as debt service, protecting against raising charges for services and fees, and providing available funding for specific circumstances as needed to maintain the same levels of service.
- The Pension Stabilization fund serves as a reserve of surplus revenues from all City funds (governmental and enterprise funds), to the extent permitted by law, to be used with the sole purpose of making payments to the civilian, firemen and policemen's retirement pension plans. The goal is to reduce the current unfunded pension liability and sustain the City's bond rating.
- The Pay for Futures fund serves as a source of funds for the City's budget with a sole purpose to support police, fire and civilian compensation increases.

The total balance of the General Fund is comprised of 55% committed funds.



## Unassigned Funds

This is the residual fund balance after restrictions and commitments have been taken into account. The City strives to maintain adequate General Fund balance to ensure liquidity in anticipation of economic downturns or natural disasters. It is a best practice for a municipality to maintain an unrestricted fund balance sufficient for 60 days to cover operating expenditures. As of August 31, 2024, the City's unrestricted fund balance was sufficient to cover operating costs for 83 days. The City has been able to grow its unassigned fund balance from \$9.2 million in fiscal year 2014 to \$40.6 million in fiscal year 2024.

The total balance of the General Fund is comprised of 24% unassigned funds.



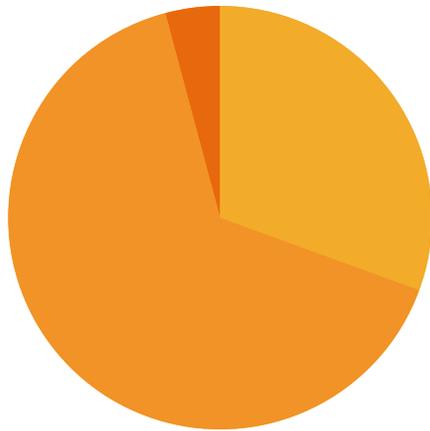
## Assigned Funds

The current year's assignment pertains to the use of fund balance to cover the cost of Mayor and Council elections in fiscal year 2025 as established by budget resolution for fiscal year 2025.

The total balance of the General Fund is comprised of 1% assigned funds.



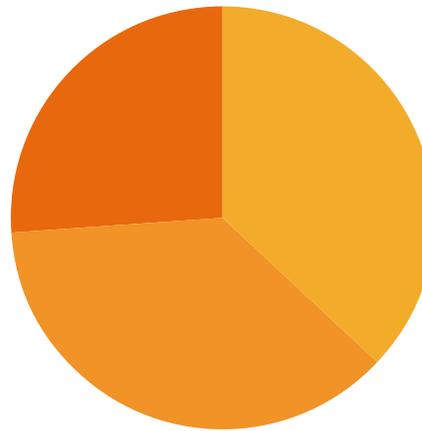
# DEBT WORKING FOR YOU



## Governmental Debt

- Certificates of Obligation  
\$438,775,000
- General Obligation Bonds  
\$927,950,000
- Special Revenue Bonds (Ballpark)  
\$59,375,000

FY24 Governmental Debt  
**\$1,426,100,000**



## Business-Type Debt

- Certificates of Obligation  
\$38,840,000
- General Obligation Bonds  
\$39,135,000
- Special Revenue Bonds (Airport)  
\$27,370,000

FY24 Bond Payable  
**105,345,000**

FY24 Total Debt: **\$1,531,445,000**

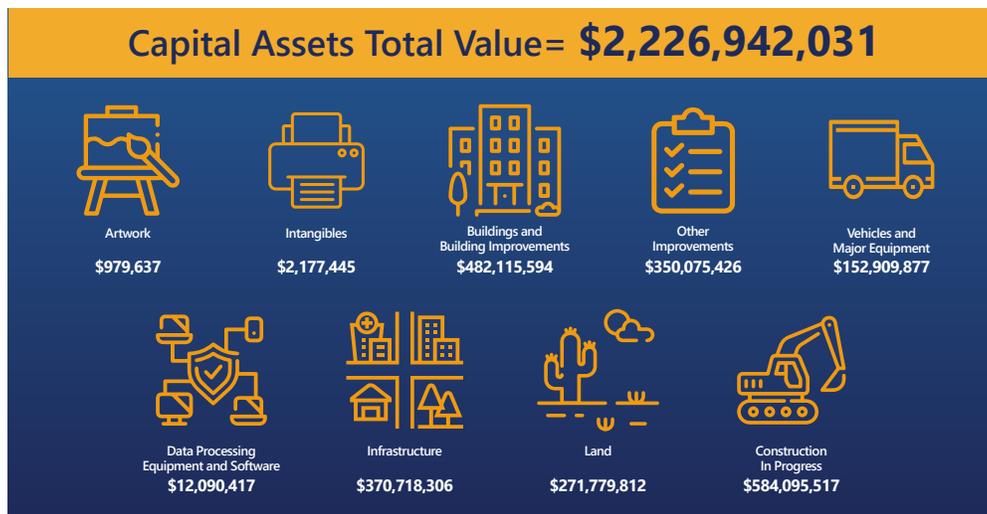
## Legend

Governmental Debt is mainly property tax supported and issued to pay for community needs such as maintaining and constructing new streets; providing quality of life amenities such as parks, recreation facilities, museums, the zoo and libraries; and constructing and equipping facilities for public safety.

Business-Type Debt is bonds issued for the Mass Transit, International Airport, and Environmental Services departments to serve their capital needs in order to continue providing excellent services to the community. The repayment of that debt comes directly from the resources of each entity and is not property tax supported.

## Bond Highlights

- During fiscal year 2024, the City strategically utilized investment earnings accumulated within its fund balance to pay down existing debt, reducing the financial burden on the community. By making a \$16.8 million cash payment toward outstanding obligations, the City effectively lowered its debt levels, reinforcing its commitment to fiscal responsibility. This proactive approach not only strengthens the City's long-term financial position but also allows taxpayers to continue benefiting from a reduced property tax rate.
- The City refinanced a portion of the General Obligation Bonds 2014 and 2014A as well as the Certificate of Obligation 2014 to reduce its total present value debt service payments by \$7.6 million.



\*Excludes Right-to-Use Assets associated with GASB 87 & 96 as it does not represent assets owned by the City.

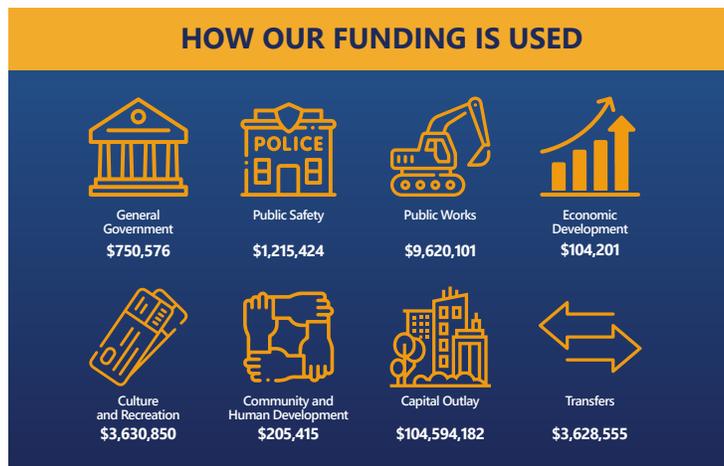
# CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

**Total Amount of  
Capital Revenues**  
**\$67,756,451**



\* Investment Earnings for fiscal year 2024 does not include an unrealized gain of \$8,785,896 reported in the ACFR for the purpose of recognizing changes in fair market value.

**Total Amount of  
Capital Expenditures**  
**\$123,749,304**



## MAJOR PROJECTS COMPLETED

- Montana Rapid Transit System
- Penguin Exhibit and Life Support Project
- Wayne Thornton Community Center Renovation
- Fire Station 10 Renovation
- Fire Station 26 Renovation
- Dorris Van Doren Library Improvements
- North Skies Park Improvements
- Landfill Maintenance Building Renovation
- Landfill Truck Scales Replacement
- Transit Operations Center Renovation
- International Bridges HVAC

## MAJOR PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- Police Department Eastside Regional Command Center
- Yarbrough South, George Dieter & Lee Trevino Roadway Lighting and Median Landscape (Phase 1)
- Pebble Hills / Airport Road / Vista Del Sol Roadway Lighting & Landscape Improvements

- South Central Phase V (Edna East of Concepcion, Cortez south of Delta)
- Fire Station 19 Renovation
- Health Department Roof Replacement
- Training & Instructional Multipurpose Center Pool
- Padilla Reconstruction
- Modesto Gomez Park
- Lowd Reconstruction
- Ted Houghton Drive Reconstruction
- Pat O'Rourke Recreation Center
- Animal Holding II Facility
- Sports Field Lighting Phase 1: Jimmy Ochoa Ball Field; Memo Villareal Ball Field; Nations Tobin Soccer Field
- Blackie Chesher Park Storage Facility Improvements
- Ysleta Middle School Safe Routes to School
- August 3rd Memorial
- Fire Department Special Team Station
- Police/Fire Department Training Academy Facility

# FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS

## VISION BLOCKS\*

### HIGH PERFORMING GOVERNMENT

- City Clerk
- Information Technology

### RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Libraries
- Museums And Cultural Affairs
- Parks And Recreation

### VIBRANT REGIONAL ECONOMY

- Airport
- Economic Development

### SAFE & BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOODS

- Capital Improvement
- Community and Human Development
- El Paso Water
- Environmental Services
- Fire
- Mass Transit
- Police
- Public Health
- Streets and Maintenance

\*Departments included in vision blocks are only those with grant expenditures in fiscal year 2024 (FY24). El Paso Water is a component unit and not a department of the City.

## WHY THE DIFFERENCE?

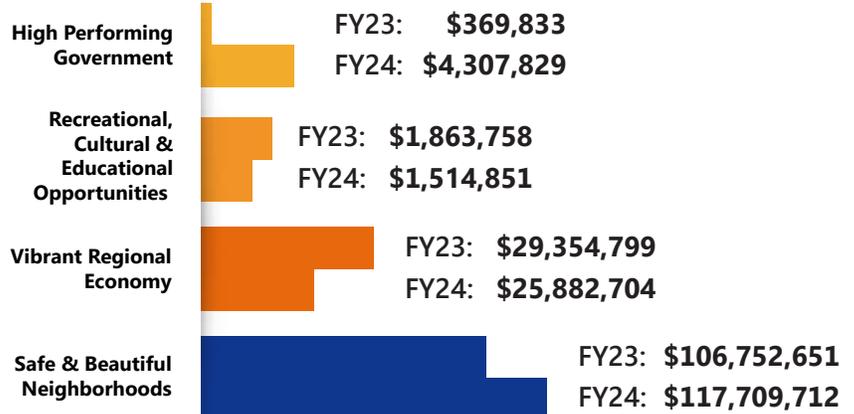
Most of the increase in federal grant expenditures is attributed to construction expenses in our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement grants and our transit cluster; many of our capital projects continue in their construction phase.

The increase in state grant expenditures is due to health prevention services and our infrastructure expenses at the Zaragoza and Bridge of the Americas (BOTA) International Bridges.

## Federal Grant Expenditures

Fiscal Year 2023 Total Amount: **\$138,341,041**

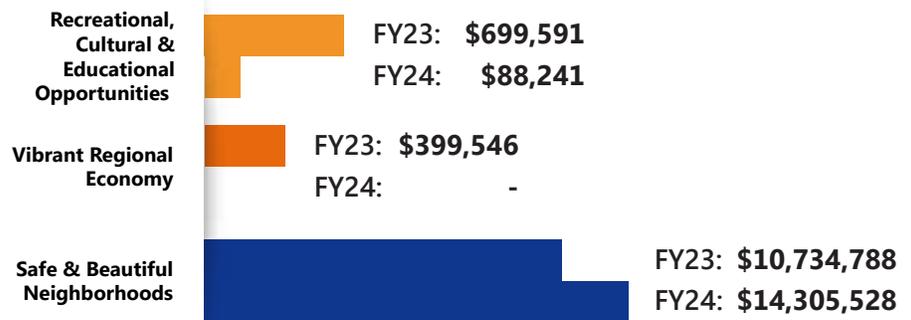
Fiscal Year 2024 Total Amount: **\$149,415,096**



## State Grant Expenditures

Fiscal Year 2023 Total Amount: **\$11,833,925**

Fiscal Year 2024 Total Amount: **\$14,393,769**



## How Do Grants Help?

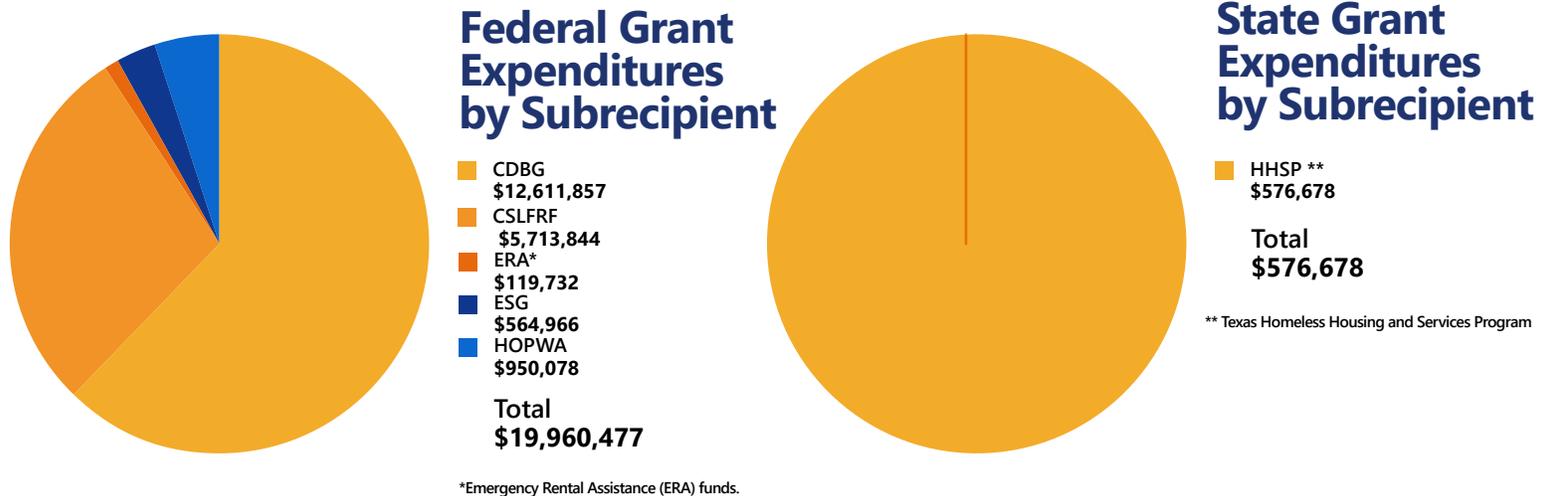
Grant funds are extremely important as these funds are utilized to pay for City programs and projects that might otherwise go unfunded. The City receives entitlement grants, which the City qualifies for, on an annual basis. City departments also apply for various grants each year. After being awarded and meeting certain requirements, departments are able to charge expenditures to the grant.

Grant funding assists the City in keeping tax rates low while enhancing the quality of life for its citizens. Each City department receiving these grants has a grants management team that ensures funding is being used efficiently and appropriately.

# GRANT SUBRECIPIENTS

The City is a prime recipient of many federal and state grants. Some of the funding is passed through to non-profit agencies to help carry-out the federal or state program and become subrecipients. In fact, in FY24 the City sub-awarded almost \$20 million federal dollars and over half a million from state funding. These non-profit agencies are an important part of our community and help deliver the services that are intended under the grant objectives. Our State sub-awards are all in the Community

& Human Development area. Whereas our Federal sub-awards include American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for different community programs, and the majority are for Housing and Urban Development (HUD) related projects such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs.

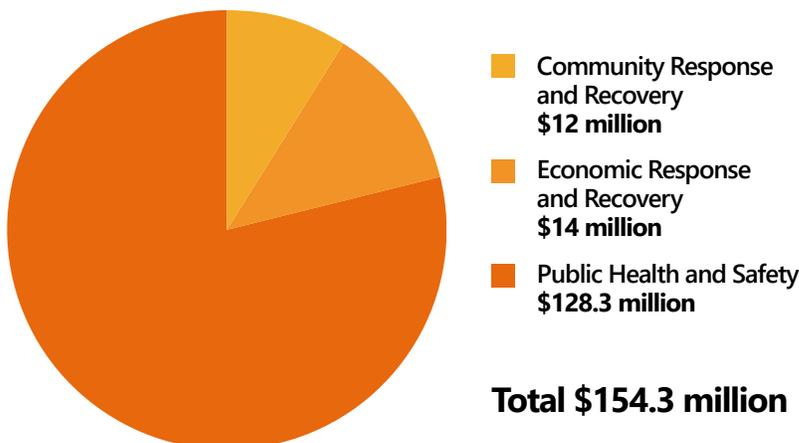


# COVID-19 RELATED FUNDING

In fiscal year 2024, the City utilized \$39.8 million of the Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF). This brings the total funds spent to \$100.6 million. In fiscal year 2022, the City Council approved a plan for distributing \$154.3 million of the CSLFRF as follows: Community

Response and Recovery Programs \$12.0 million, Economic Response and Recovery Programs \$14.0 million and Public Health and Safety \$128.3 million. A balance of \$53.8 million remains to be used through December 2026.

## Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (Approved Funding)



## Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

Spent in Fiscal Year 2021  
\$14,841,060

Spent in Fiscal Year 2022  
\$23,049,842

Spent in Fiscal Year 2023  
\$22,868,506

Spent in Fiscal Year 2024  
\$39,819,443

For use through December 2026  
\$53,766,284

**Total**  
**\$154,345,135**

# SUN CITY BEATS - DID YOU KNOW? -

## Fire Stations 10 & 26

Originally built in the early 1930s and the oldest fire station in the El Paso Fire Department, Central El Paso's Fire Station No. 10, officially reopened following the completion of a \$2.3 million reconstruction project that was funded through a 2019 voter-approved Public Safety Bond.

Some of the renovations include exterior and interior facility upgrades, new paint, flooring, and doors; construction of an additional 680-square foot space for a new gym, locker rooms, and ADA-compliant restrooms; upgrades to the electrical, HVAC, and plumbing systems; new appliances for the kitchen; and renovations to the watch office and study room.

Fire Station 26 underwent significant renovations to provide additional fire protection and reduce emergency response times in the Mission Valley area of El Paso. The upgraded station amenities include building renovations to the interior and exterior of the facility; upgrades to HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems; improvements to the parking lot and rock wall; ADA compliance improvements; and expansion of the bay opening to fit larger emergency vehicles.

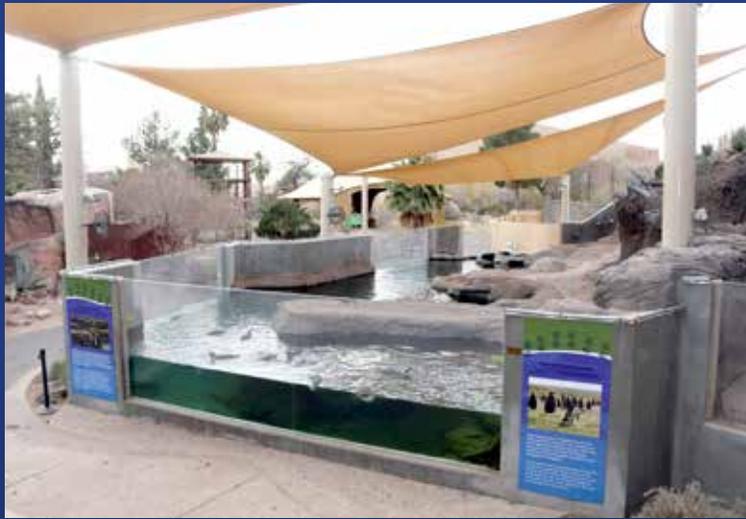
This \$1.4 million project was funded by the voter-approved 2019 Public Safety Bond and is part of the City of El Paso's commitment to maintaining its standing as one of the nation's safest cities by improving public safety operational efficiencies.



## Innovation Factory

The Innovation Factory is a groundbreaking initiative poised to transform the landscape of early-stage manufacturing technology-based businesses in El Paso. Created through a collaborative effort of local organizations, this visionary project is set to drive innovation, economic growth, and job creation in the region. Spanning 30,000 square feet within the Airport's Air Cargo Facility, the Innovation Factory provides a dynamic ecosystem tailored to the needs of burgeoning businesses. It encompasses maker spaces, offices, storage facilities, and communal zones, all meticulously designed to nurture the growth of businesses in advanced manufacturing, defense, and aerospace sectors.

Positioned within the Airport's Innovation District, the Innovation Factory collaborates seamlessly with the upcoming Advanced Manufacturing District, a sprawling 250-acre development set to break ground in the near future. The Innovation Factory marks the beginning of a transformative journey. It aims not only to bolster economic prosperity as a key City Strategic Objective but also to attract coveted high-paying jobs in advanced manufacturing, defense, and aerospace industries. By fostering innovation and expertise, the Factory seeks to enhance defense capabilities and mobility for the region and the nation.



## Penguin Exhibit and Life Support Project

The City introduced the newest exhibit at the Zoo & Botanical Gardens – a state-of-the-art penguin oasis exhibit. The display is now home to a colony of Magellanic penguins, a new animal species to the El Paso Zoo & Botanical Gardens. The \$6.25 million investment is part of the voter-approved 2012 Quality of Life Bond. The investment emphasizes the City's commitment to providing exceptional recreational and educational opportunities for the community.

Magellanic penguins were selected for the exhibit because of their roots in the warm and temperate coastal regions of South America, such as Argentina and Chile. They range in size from 24 to 30 inches tall and weigh 8 to 14 pounds. Magellanic penguins are carnivores and are birds that feed in the water. Their diet consists of fish such as cuttlefish and sardines, as well as squid and krill. The Magellanic penguins possess salt-excreting glands, which filter the seawater, allowing the animals to drink it.

The space incorporates a rocky coast that will serve as a "natural habitat" setting for the penguins and include an incredible above and underwater viewing experience for visitors.

Other key features include:

- Interactive space for penguins and visitors
- Outdoor stadium viewing
- Above and underwater viewing
- Web cameras for the exhibit
- Audio and visual educational tools



## Montana Rapid Transit System

Sun Metro's vision is to make transit a more accessible, attractive, and viable travel option and to make El Paso the least car dependent city in the nation, thereby leading to economic development and improving the quality of life for our community. The \$49.2 million investment is part of the City's vision to transition from "hub-and-spoke" to a "node" system, allowing shorter routes and faster travel times. Building new terminals throughout the city is one step toward making this vision a reality.

Montana Brio will begin at the Downtown Transit Center and travel primarily along Montana Avenue. It will include service to the Five Points Transit Center, The Eastside Transit Center and the Future Far East Transit Center.



# CITYWIDE ACHIEVEMENTS

## High Performing Government

YEAR	ACHIEVEMENT	ORGANIZATION
2024	Leading the Way Platinum Level Aetna Workplace Wellbeing Award	Aetna
2024	Distinguished Budget Presentation Award	Government Finance Officers Association
2023	Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting	Government Finance Officers Association
2023	Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting	Government Finance Officers Association



## Safe and Beautiful Neighborhoods

YEAR	ACHIEVEMENT	ORGANIZATION
2024	Public Health Awarded Best Organization Serving El Paso	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
2024	Fire Department Awarded Top 100 Best Fleets in North America	Government Fleet Magazine
2024	Animal Services Awarded Education Empowerment Award	Socorro Independent School District

## Vibrant Regional Economy

YEAR	ACHIEVEMENT	ORGANIZATION
2024	Visit El Paso Awarded Best Destination Marketing Organization	Texas Association Convention & Visitor Bureaus
2024	Best Website Design & Effectiveness Award	Texas Association Convention & Visitor Bureaus
2024	Excellence in Economic Development Gold Award	International Economic Development Council



## Recreational, Cultural and Educational Opportunities

YEAR	ACHIEVEMENT	ORGANIZATION
2024	Library Excellence Award	Texas Municipal Library Directors Association
2023	El Paso Museum of History Awarded Texas Association of Museums Gold Award	Media Innovation and Excellence

# OUR COMMITMENT

## OUR MISSION

**Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community.**

## OUR VISION

**Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government.**

## OUR VALUES

**Integrity, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, People**



[www.ElPasoTexas.gov](http://www.ElPasoTexas.gov)