



# GET TO KNOW YOUR TOWN'S BUDGET

## TOWN OF CAREFREE | FY 2023/2024 BUDGET

At a high level, the Town's 2023/2024 annual budget is a total of approximately **\$14 million**. That total is divided by annual operational expenses, at approximately **\$7 million**, and investments in our aging infrastructure at approximately **\$7 million**.

### FY 2023/2024 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

#### Key REVENUE Provisions

##### Operations

- **\$4.4 million** or **58%** is forecasted from sales tax

##### Capital Fund (Infrastructure)

- **\$3.2 million** anticipated in grants
- Approximately **\$4.3 million** is anticipated to come from the Town's Capital Reserves to pay for investments in **key infrastructure**

#### Key EXPENDITURE Provisions

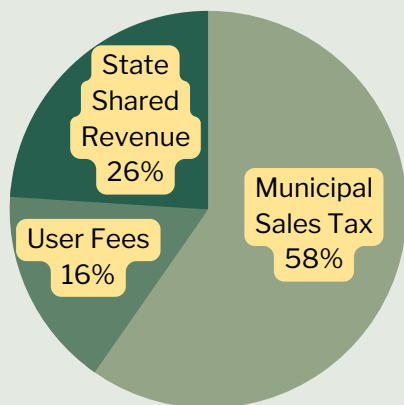
##### Operations

- Public safety is the largest investment at approximately **42%** of the operational budget or **\$2.8 million**, which includes law enforcement services as well as fire and emergency medical services
- General business expenditures are estimated at **28%**, which includes supplies, materials, utilities, regulatory permits, etc.

##### Capital Fund (Infrastructure)

- **Key infrastructure** projects include a street maintenance project which will cover approximately **25%** of the Town's **110 lane miles** of public streets, purchase of a **new fire truck**, investments in additional **fire hydrants**, a drainage improvement project, **crosswalk safety** improvements, and **town center garden improvements** such as stucco repairs

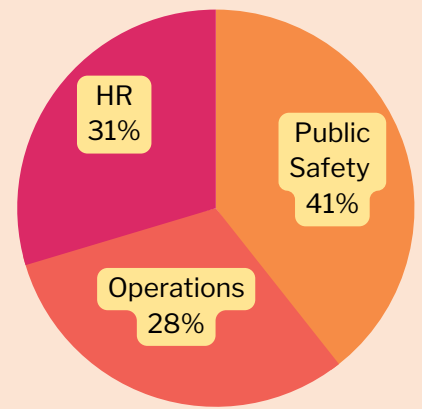
#### FORECASTED REVENUES



CAPITAL RESERVES - \$9 MM  
RAINY DAY FUND - \$2.5 MM

Expenses	Amount
Drainage Project	\$487,000
Pedestrian Project	\$405,000
Town Center Improvements	\$600,000
Street Maintenance Project	\$2,940,000
Water Infrastructure Project	\$2,000,000
Fire Infrastructure	\$950,000

#### ANTICIPATED EXPENSES



Category	Amount
Public Safety	\$2,805,849
Operations	\$1,908,435
HR	\$2,067,843
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,782,127</b>
+ \$200K contingency=\$6.98 MM General Fund	



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In part, the budget is a long-range planning tool that allows the Town of Carefree to review the community's goals and objectives, evaluate and determine what is required to meet those objectives, and develop an implementation strategy. Carefree is a small town with a small budget to match. Carefree's operational budget is designed to provide services to community members. Due to the size of our town and limited revenue raising capacity, we provide basic core services to our residents.

### HOW DOES THE TOWN FUND IT'S OPERATIONS?

The main source of revenue for our operational budget is our sales tax. Out of the 9.3 cent sales tax, **most of the tax goes to the state and county**. Carefree receives 3 cents. However, 1 cent is dedicated to our fire fund leaving 2 cents to pay for other services.

Carefree is heavily reliant on sales taxes and our sales tax is at or above neighboring jurisdictions. Sales taxes can vary tremendously year-to-year and are difficult to predict for future budgets - which is another reason to support our local businesses. Our Rural Metro and Maricopa County Sheriff contracts increased substantially last year and rental and grocery taxes have been targets in the state legislature for elimination. We are uncertain of the future for these two taxes that provide operational revenue to the town. Diversification of sales tax revenue through economic development is important to maintain services and reduce volatility.

### CAPITAL FUND

Carefree's capital fund is a dedicated fund to maintain our aging infrastructure. Our rainy-day fund is to be used in times of economic downturns or other disruptions to revenue in order to maintain services. Capital expenditures are incrementally planned through the Town's Capital Improvement Plan which forecasts future maintenance projects.

### HOW DOES THE TOWN PROVIDE SERVICES?

Within the Town of Carefree there are a total of 17 full-time positions. This includes the municipal courts, public works, community development and administration. This core staff is one of the smallest municipal staff within the state. As a result, and due to the workload, each staff member is tasked with a diversity of responsibilities.

