



Central Fire District of Santa Cruz County

FINAL BUDGET



FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024

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photo: Steve Kuehl

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CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Chair Radliff and Members of the Board:

I am pleased to present to you the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Final Budget for Central Fire of Santa Cruz County. The District's primary objective is to provide the highest possible level of service to our communities which consists of Aptos, Capitola, La Selva Beach, Live Oak, Rio Del Mar, and Soquel, while demonstrating fiscal responsibility and providing adequate reserves. The District's goal is to present and maintain a balanced budget while addressing changes to our operational needs.

During the past fiscal year, the District developed a 20-year Master Plan and three-to-five-year Strategic Plan. These plans, along with the annual budget will be the guiding documents that provide direction for the District in the years ahead. Bolstered with this information, the District will be equipped to plan for station relocations or renovations, and apparatus replacement schedules to better prepare the District for future response and support needs. There have been multiple unforeseen challenges that the District is working to overcome. The winter storms of 2022/2023 battered the county and took special aim at our District. While we are still working through the details of repairing and replacing facilities and equipment that were damaged in the storms, our ability to provide a fiscally responsible budget in the past several years have allowed us to have modest flexibility in those repairs/replacements.

This budget has been prepared to provide a realistic financial plan, ensuring the District will continue to deliver exceptional, yet cost-effective fire protection, emergency medical services, and community risk reduction services, while remaining receptive to our community and the current economy. As pension, healthcare, and workers compensation costs continue to rise over time, the District is committed to good financial stewardship through efficient operational and budgetary management processes, including cutting costs whenever feasible.

Due to the District's strong housing market, we will continue to see growth in revenue. Property Tax Revenues for FY 2023-24 have been forecasted to increase by approximately 4%. The 4% projection represents 89.01% of total revenues.

Highlights of the budget include projected revenues of \$47.2 million and projected expenditures of \$49.4 million. This includes \$2.1 million in transfers to our Capital Replacement Fund. Our projected ending fund balance is \$35.6 million.

In conclusion, I am proud of the collaborative method in which we develop our budget. I would like to thank the District Program Leads, Program Managers, and supporting staff for their continued efforts in the improvement of the budget process and preparation of the annual budget document. I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the Board of Directors and Management Staff for their leadership, direction and initiative with the dedication and commitment to serving the community. I encourage you to review this budget to learn more about the District and our commitment to providing exemplary service to the communities we serve.

Sincerely,



Jason Nee
Fire Chief



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



George Lucchesi

Term of Office
2016 - 2024



Michael Hushaw

Term of Office
2022 - 2026



John Lucchesi

Term of Office
2022 - 2026



Ken Radliff

Term of Office
2020 - 2024



Dave Ronco

Term of Office
2020 - 2024

EXECUTIVE STAFF



Jason Nee

Fire Chief



Chad Akin

Assistant Fire Chief



Scott Cullen

Operations Division Chief



Anthony Cefaloni

Logistics Division Chief



Nancy Dannhauser

Finance Director



Gena Finch

Human Resources Director



Mike DeMars

Fire Marshal



Scott Vahradian

EMS Chief EMSIA



Patrick Winters

Battalion Chief
Training & Safety



Nigel Miller

Battalion Chief
A Shift



Michael Kretsch

Battalion Chief
B Shift



Ryan Peters

Battalion Chief
C Shift



photo: Steve Kuehl

OUR MISSION

To improve quality of life by protecting the community from the risks and consequences of fire, medical, rescue, hazardous material, and natural disaster incidents.

OUR VALUES

Safety

We value safety as a priority in all our actions and take appropriate steps to maintain and improve the well-being of the community and our personnel.

Service

We value service by being prepared to serve with respect and compassion at any moment, with knowledgeable and committed personnel.

Professionalism

We value professionalism through our readiness, leadership and work ethic to provide the highest standards of service with dedication, teamwork and respect.



photo: Steve Kuehl

DISTRICT OVERVIEW

In 1986, the Aptos Fire Department and La Selva Beach Fire Department merged to become Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District. In 1987, Central Fire Protection District was created from the consolidation of the Capitola, Live Oak and Soquel Fire Districts.

On February 4, 2021, Central Fire Protection District and Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District consolidated into Central Fire District of Santa Cruz County, with 55 square miles served.

Central Fire District serves the communities of Aptos, Capitola, La Selva Beach, Live Oak, Rio Del Mar, and Soquel. The resident population is approximately 90,000, with a seasonal influx during the summer. The District responds to requests for service for fire, water rescue, emergency medical services, hazardous materials calls, and assorted alarms.

The District operates seven fire stations, an Administrative Office, Community Risk Reduction Division, and Fleet Services Facility. The District has several robust program areas including Community Risk Reduction, Community Education, Emergency Medical Services, Water Rescue, Fire Investigation, Hazardous Materials, Training, Urban Search and Rescue.

Central Fire District has a publicly elected Board of Directors consisting of five members who are elected to four year, staggered terms.

CENTRAL

FIRE DISTRICT FACILITIES



Live Oak Station 1
930 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062



Thurber Station 2
3445 Thurber Lane
Santa Cruz, CA 95062



Soquel Station 3
4747 Soquel Drive
Soquel, CA 95073



Capitola Station 4
405 Capitola Avenue
Capitola, CA 95010



Aptos Station 5
6934 Soquel Drive
Aptos, CA 95003



Rio Del Mar Station 6
300 Bonita Drive
Aptos, CA 95003



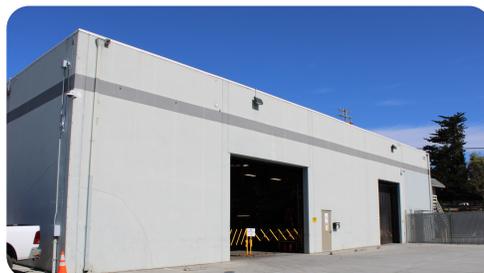
La Selva Beach Station 7
312 Estrella Avenue
La Selva Beach, CA 95076



Administration Office
930 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

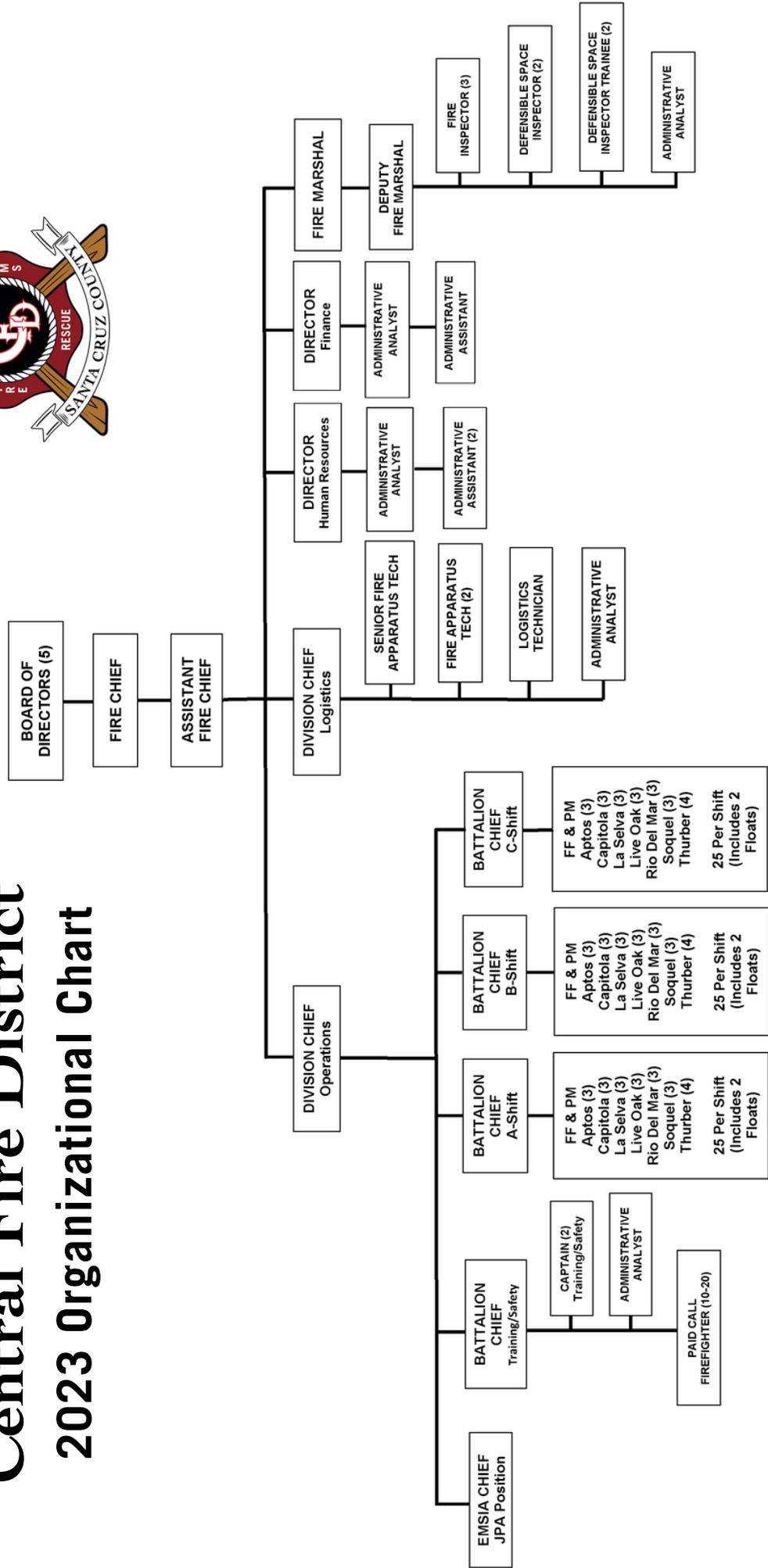


Training Division
6934 Soquel Drive
Aptos, CA 95003

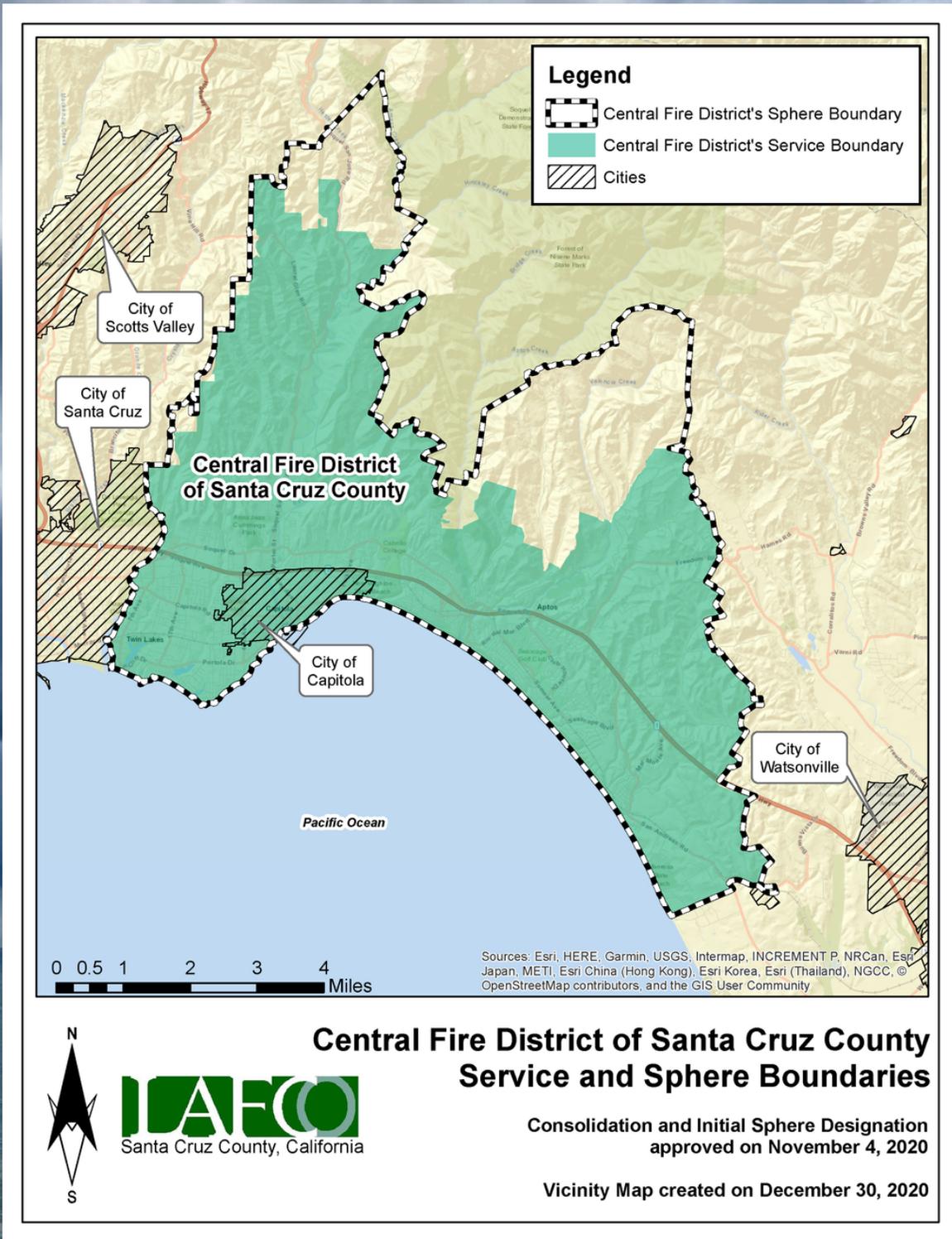


Fleet Services
410 Kennedy Drive
Capitola, CA 95010

Central Fire District 2023 Organizational Chart



CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



BUDGET SUMMARY

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The primary revenue sources of the General Fund are Property Taxes, Intergovernmental Revenue, and Other Revenue relating to permit and inspection fees, interest revenue, and other miscellaneous revenue. General operating expenditures are primarily related to salary & benefits, services & supplies and operating fund transfers to the District’s reserve funds to cover expenses for capital improvement, equipment, mobile vehicle replacement, and Fleet Maintenance services.

The FY 2023-24 Final Budget includes projected operating revenues of \$47.2 million and expenditures of \$49.4 million with an estimated ending fund balance of \$35.6 million.

FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 BUDGET SUMMARY	OPERATIONS	FLEET SERVICES	CAPITAL OUTLAY	TOTAL
REVENUE				
Property taxes	\$ 42,021,446	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,021,446
Inter-Gov Revenues	\$ 659,874	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 659,874
Other Revenue	\$ 1,086,343	\$ 590,586	\$ 2,850,000	\$ 4,526,928
Total Revenues	\$ 43,767,663	\$ 590,586	\$ 2,850,000	\$ 47,208,249
EXPENDITURES				
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 34,275,924	\$ 776,130	\$ -	\$ 35,052,054
Services and supplies	\$ 6,204,702	\$ 614,128	\$ -	\$ 6,818,830
Fixed Assets	\$ 765,880	\$ -	\$ 7,632,560	\$ 8,398,440
Operating Transfers - OUT / (IN)	\$ 2,100,000	\$ (799,672)	\$ (2,100,000)	\$ (799,672)
Total Expenditures	\$ 43,346,506	\$ 590,586	\$ 5,532,560	\$ 49,469,652
TOTAL SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$ 421,157	\$ -	\$ (2,682,560)	\$ (2,261,403)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE				
July 1, 2023	\$ 30,796,113	\$ 311,924	\$ 6,821,396	\$ 37,929,433
PROJECTED ENDING FUND BALANCE				
June 30, 2024	\$ 31,217,270	\$ 311,924	\$ 4,138,836	\$ 35,668,030

BUDGET SUMMARY

The following table reflects the proposed 2023-24 Final budget, prior year 2022-23 budget, and 2021-22 actual results.

FY 2022-23 resulted in a surplus of \$2.7 million. The prior fiscal year 2021-22 resulted in a favorable surplus of \$3.6 million due to higher than anticipated property tax revenue related to RDA residual income.

				<i>FY 2022-23 vs FY 2023-24</i>	
	Actual FY 2021-22	Actual FY 2022-23	Final Budget FY 2023-24	Favorable / (Unfavorable) \$	Percentage Change %
REVENUES					
Property taxes	\$ 37,217,438	\$ 40,277,993	\$ 42,021,446	\$ 1,743,453	4.33%
Inter-Gov Revenues	\$ 2,742,918	\$ 1,341,284	\$ 659,874	\$ (681,410)	-50.80%
Other Revenue	\$ 1,894,173	\$ 3,172,253	\$ 4,526,928	\$ 1,354,676	42.70%
Total Revenues	\$ 41,854,530	\$ 44,791,530	\$ 47,208,249	\$ 2,416,719	5.40%
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 33,556,437	\$ 33,962,350	\$ 35,052,054	\$ 1,089,704	3.21%
Services and supplies	\$ 4,621,882	\$ 5,785,107	\$ 6,818,830	\$ 1,033,723	17.87%
Fixed Assets	\$ 482,498	\$ 2,819,161	\$ 8,398,440	\$ 5,579,279	197.91%
Operating Transfers - OUT / (IN)	\$ (450,441)	\$ (537,390)	\$ (799,672)	\$ (262,282)	48.81%
Total Expenditures	\$ 38,210,375	\$ 42,029,228	\$ 49,469,652	\$ 7,440,424	17.70%
TOTAL SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$ 3,644,154	\$ 2,762,302	\$ (2,261,403)	\$ (5,023,705)	-181.87%



photo: Scott Lewis

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenues

The District's primary revenue source is property taxes. Intergovernmental revenue, which comprises the District's second largest revenue source, results from homeowner's property tax relief, RDA pass through, mutual aid recoveries and grants. While other revenue represents the third largest revenue source relating to plan checks, inspection fees and other fees for service and miscellaneous revenue.

The chart below illustrates the District's dependency on property tax revenue. Property taxes are the most significant source of the District's revenues, representing over 89.01% of total revenues. Intergovernmental revenues and all other non-tax related sources comprise of less than 11% of total revenue.

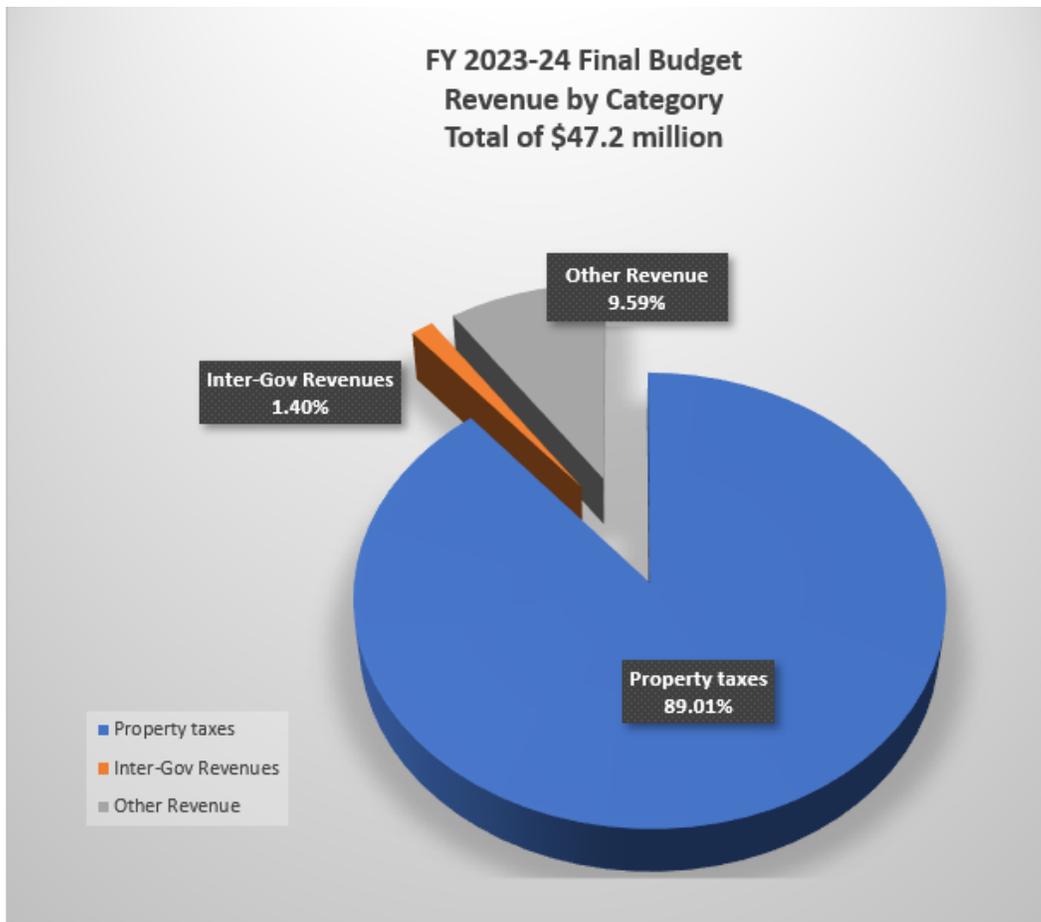


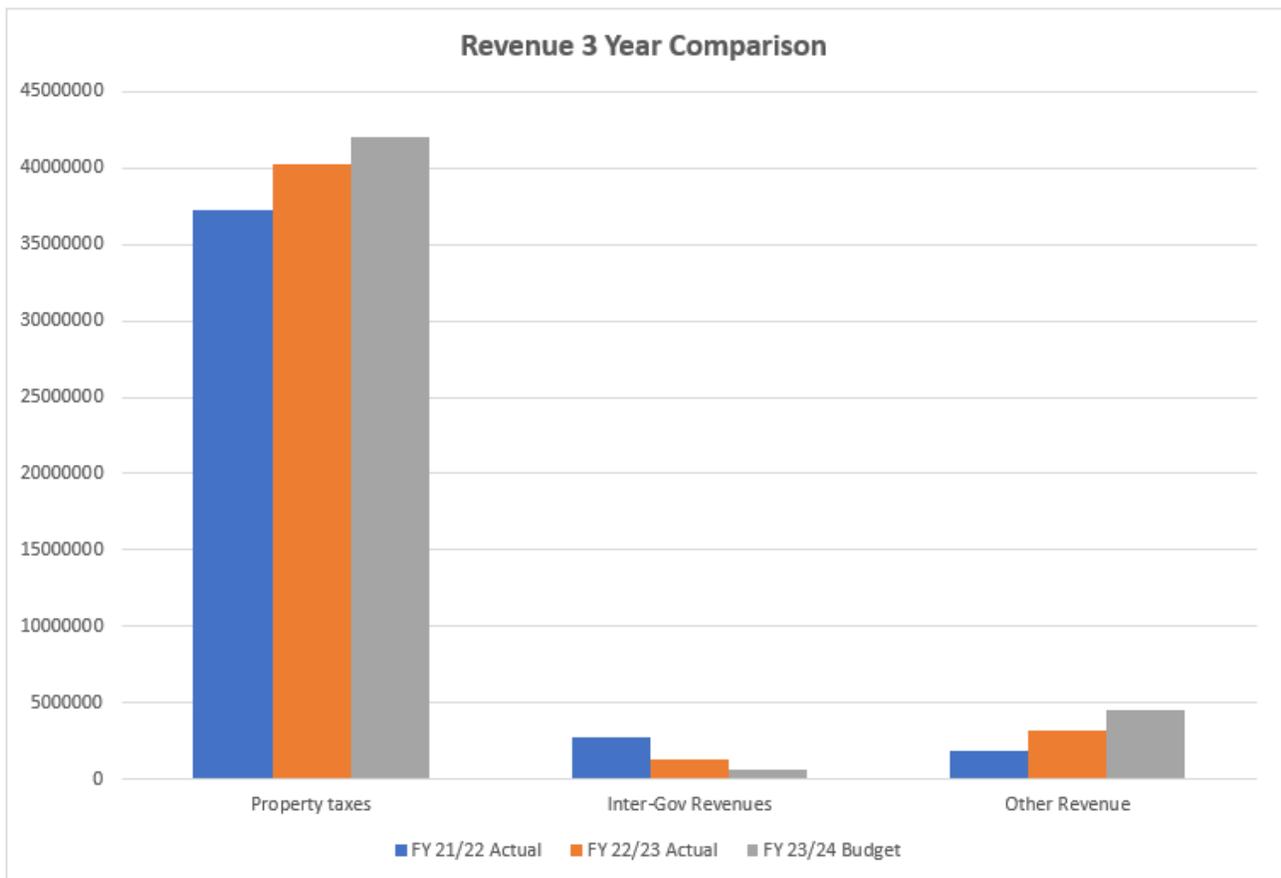


photo: Gena Finch

Revenues

Significant Highlights:

- Property tax related revenue is projected at a 4.33% projected growth rate.
- Exclusion of \$750,000 of Strike Team OES reimbursements from prior year due to unpredictability of mutual aid activity.
- Total Revenue growth is forecasted to increase versus the prior year with a net change of \$2.4 million or 5.4%.



BUDGET SUMMARY

Property Taxes

The District's tax revenue is levied through the County of Santa Cruz and is distributed on the teeter plan, 50% is distributed in December; 45% in April; and remaining 5% in June. During the past few years property tax revenue has increased modestly due to annual valuation changes, projected additions of new development to the tax rolls, and other property tax adjustments. Property tax revenue has grown in 2022 at a rate of 4.8%, in 2023 at a growth rate of 8.22% and in 2024 with a projected growth rate of 4.33%, respectively.

GENERAL FUND	Actual	Actual	Final	FY 2022-23 vs FY 2023-24	
				Increase / (Decrease)	Percentage Change
<i>Property Tax Revenue</i>	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Budget FY 2023-24	\$	%
Property Tax - Secured	\$ 32,614,681	\$ 34,609,593	\$ 36,340,072	\$ 1,730,480	5.00%
Residual Distribution	\$ 2,935,682	\$ 3,944,595	\$ 3,900,000	\$ (44,595)	-1.13%
Property Tax - Unsecured	\$ 605,762	\$ 638,927	\$ 670,874	\$ 31,946	5.00%
Property Tax - Prior Unsecured	\$ 69,294	\$ 63,808	\$ 65,000	\$ 1,192	1.87%
Supplemental Property Tax	\$ 853,498	\$ 880,645	\$ 905,000	\$ 24,355	2.77%
Fire Protection Tax	\$ 130,927	\$ 130,927	\$ 130,000	\$ (927)	-0.71%
Delinquent Taxes / Other	\$ 7,594	\$ 9,497	\$ 10,500	\$ 1,003	10.56%
Total	\$ 37,217,438	\$ 40,277,993	\$ 42,021,446	\$ 1,743,453	4.33%
\$ Net Change Year over Year	\$ 1,703,146	\$ 3,060,555	\$ 1,743,453		
% Net Change Year over Year	4.80%	8.22%	4.33%		

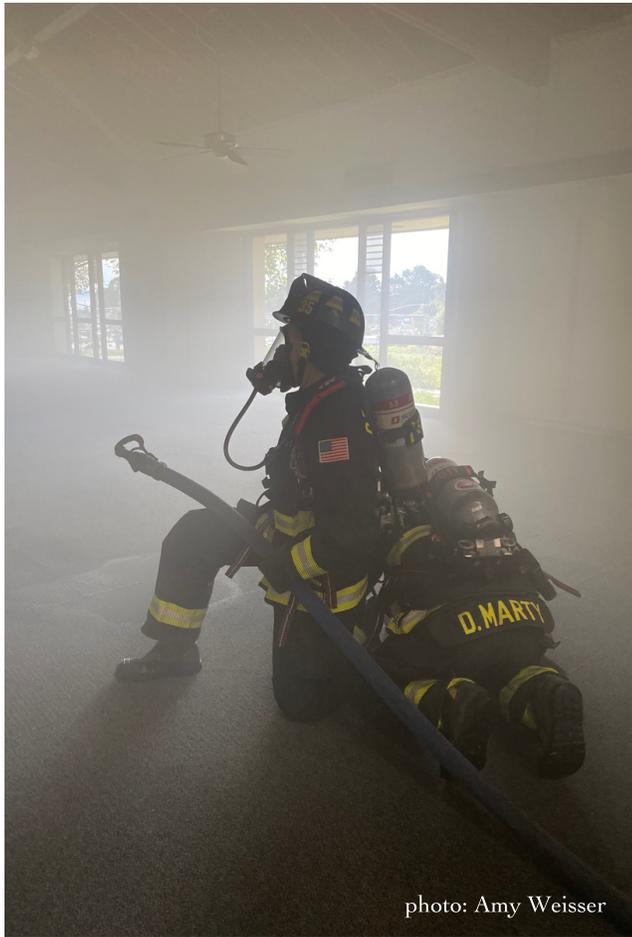


BUDGET SUMMARY

Intergovernmental Funds

The overall decrease in Intergovernmental funds of \$(763,875) is primarily driven by the omission of strike team reimbursements. Homeowner Property Tax Relief which provides a \$7,000 exemption on the value of owner-occupied homes is projected to remain flat versus prior year. As previously discussed, mutual aid recoveries are related to Strike Team reimbursements from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (OES) which vary each year. Revenue is typically not projected due to the unreliability of this revenue source. RDA pass thru is also projected to remain flat based on an average of the past three years.

	Actual	Actual	Final	<i>FY 2022-23 vs FY 2023-24</i>	
	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Budget	<i>Increase / (Decrease)</i>	<i>Percentage Change</i>
				<i>\$</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Intergovernmental Revenues</i>					
Homeowners Property Tax Relief	\$ 166,096	\$ 166,547	\$ 174,874	\$ 8,327	5.00%
Mutual Aid Recoveries & Grants	\$ 2,114,497	\$ 763,875	\$ -	\$ (763,875)	-100.00%
RDA Pass Throughs	\$ 462,326	\$ 410,862	\$ 485,000	\$ 74,138	18.04%
Total	\$ 2,742,918	\$ 1,341,284	\$ 659,874	\$ (681,410)	-50.80%
\$ Net Change Year over Year	\$ (410,404)	\$ (1,401,634)	\$ (681,410)		
% Net Change Year over Year	-13.01%	-51.10%	-50.80%		



Other Revenue

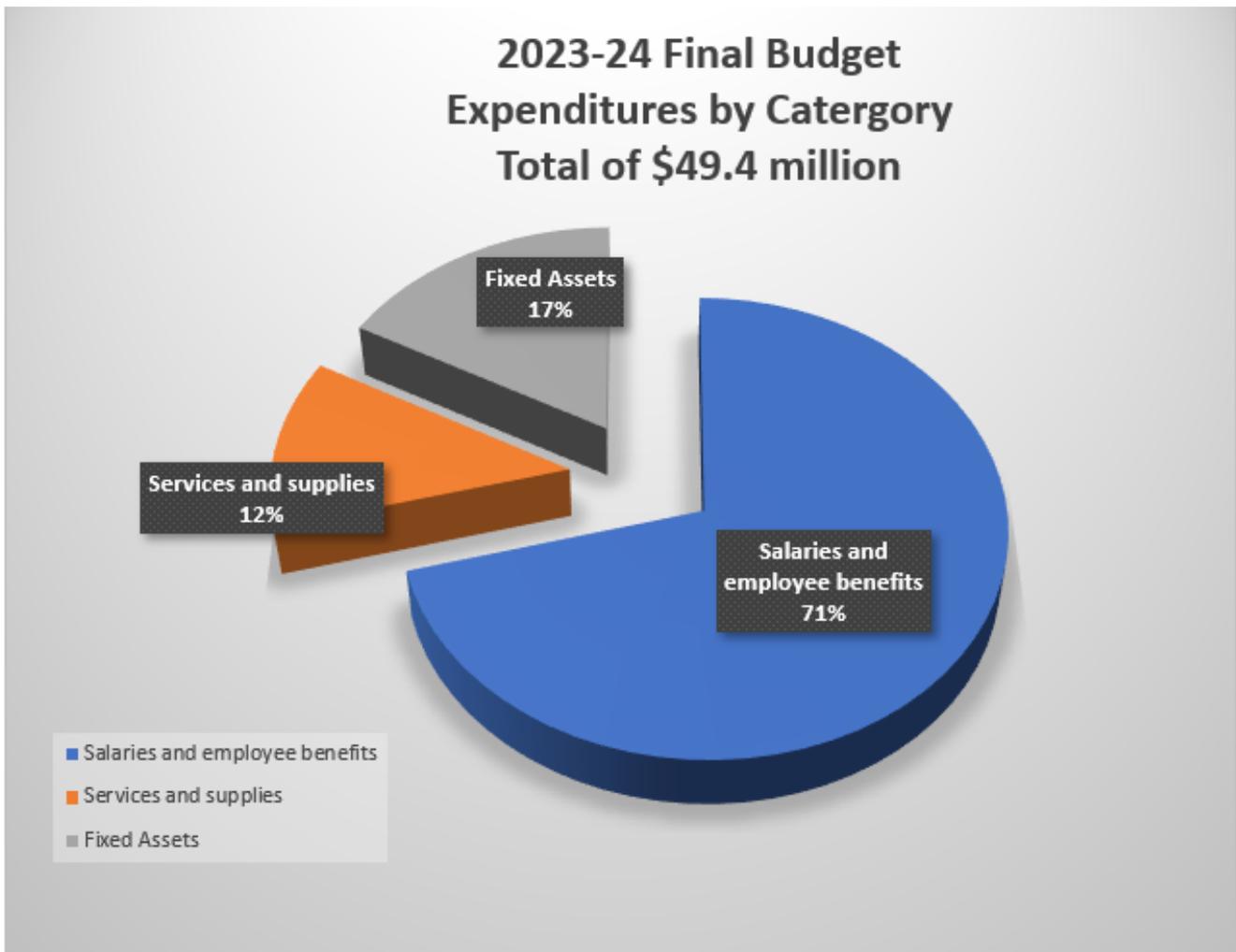
Other revenue is projected to increase \$1.8 million due to anticipated financing for the District's apparatus purchases this fiscal year. Other revenue is primarily driven by revenue earned from our Fleet Services Division and charges for services related to inspections and plans checks.

	Actual FY 2021-22	Actual FY 2022-23	Final Budget FY 2023-24	FY 2022-23 vs FY 2023-24	
				Increase / (Decrease) \$	Percentage Change %
Other Revenue					
Charges for Services	\$ 1,532,139	\$ 1,550,221	\$ 1,300,586	\$ (249,635)	-16.10%
Insurance Proceeds	\$ 114,351	\$ 452,652	\$ -	\$ (452,652)	-100.00%
Financing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,800,000	\$ 2,800,000	0.00%
Misc Revenue	\$ 247,683	\$ 631,396	\$ 426,343	\$ (205,053)	-32.48%
Total	\$ 1,894,173	\$ 2,634,269	\$ 4,526,928	\$ 1,892,660	71.85%
\$ Net Change Year over Year	\$ 120,276	\$ 740,095	\$ 1,892,660		
% Net Change Year over Year	6.78%	39.07%	71.85%		

BUDGET SUMMARY

Expenditures

Total general fund expenditures are projected to increase from \$42 million for 2022-2023 to \$49.4 million for the 2023-24 Final Budget – an overall increase of \$7.4 million or 17.7%. Salary & benefits increased by \$1 million due to an increase in salary and benefit cost for recently approved memorandums of understating (MOUs). Below is an illustration of expenditures by category with salaries and benefits representing 71% of total expenditures, services & supplies representing 12% and operating transfers to other reserves and designations representing 29% of total expenditures.

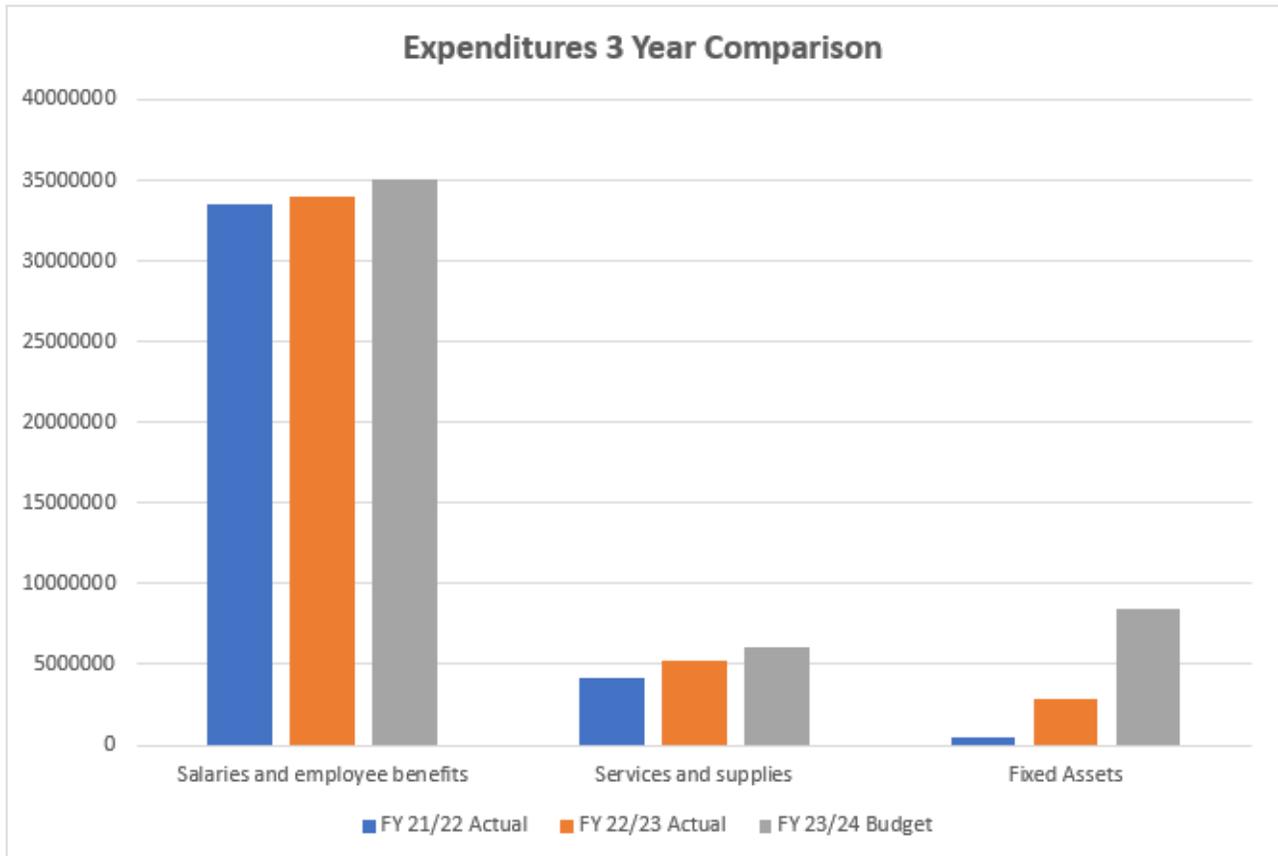




Expenditures

Significant Highlights:

- Total expenditures are forecasted to increase versus the prior year, increasing by \$7.4 million or 17.7%.
- Expenditures include salary and benefit adjustments of \$1 million attributed to recently approved Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) for all labor groups
- Total Salary & Benefits as a percentage of Recurring Revenue is projected at 81.46%. The District's goal is 85% of total recurring revenue.





BUDGET SUMMARY

Salary & Benefits

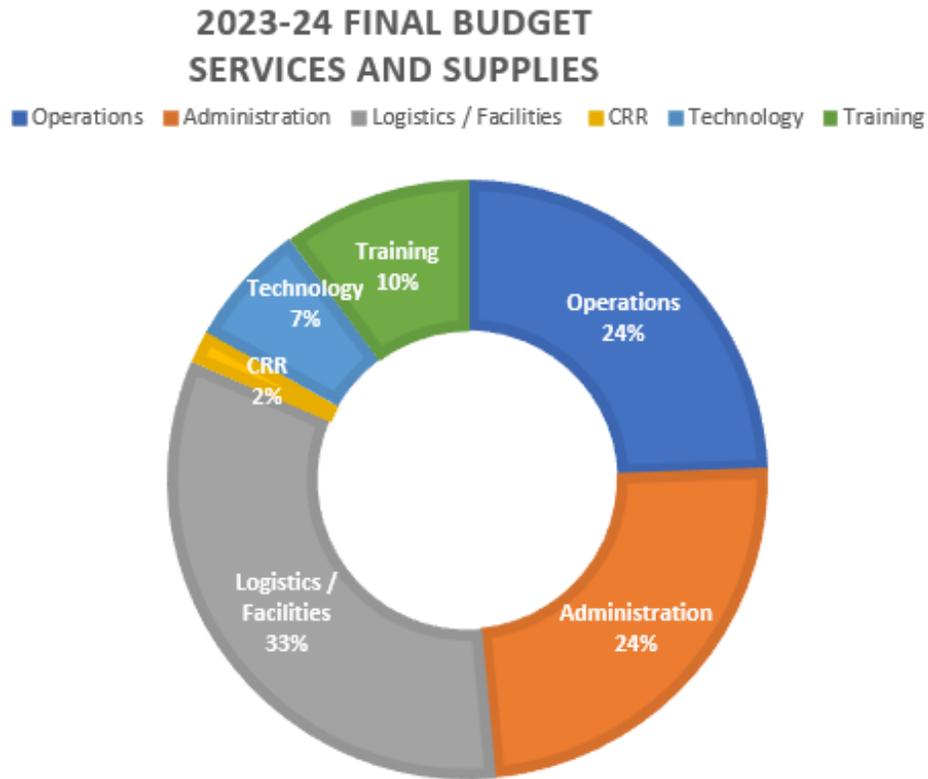
For the 2023-24 Final Budget, salary cost increased as a result of anticipated wage increases, rise in pension costs and workers comp. The decrease in overtime is related to the exclusion of strike team overtime.

	Actual	Actual	Final	<i>FY 2022-23 vs FY 2023-24</i>	
	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Budget	Increase / (Decrease)	Percentage Change
				\$	%
SALARY & BENEFITS					
Regular Salary	\$ 14,372,818	\$ 14,653,640	\$ 15,344,202	\$ 690,562	4.71%
Holiday, Taxes, Extra Help, Etc	\$ 2,840,850	\$ 2,453,724	\$ 2,539,327	\$ 85,603	3.49%
Overtime	\$ 3,358,746	\$ 3,216,728	\$ 2,918,727	\$ (298,002)	-9.26%
PERS	\$ 6,828,411	\$ 7,289,787	\$ 7,546,498	\$ 256,711	3.52%
Health Benefit	\$ 4,524,876	\$ 4,640,939	\$ 4,951,013	\$ 310,074	6.68%
Workers Compensation	\$ 1,630,735	\$ 1,707,532	\$ 1,752,287	\$ 44,755	2.62%
Total	\$ 33,556,437	\$ 33,962,350	\$ 35,052,054	\$ 1,089,704	3.21%
\$ Net Change Year over Year	\$ 3,741,142	\$ 405,913	\$ 1,089,704		
% Net Change Year over Year	12.55%	1.21%	3.21%		

BUDGET SUMMARY

Services & Supplies

The District’s Services & Supplies budget is developed largely due to its Program Management approach which focuses on outcomes to better control costs and lead to attainment of District goals. Services and supplies are budgeted by Divisions which serve a function within the District. Below is an illustration of the services and supplies expenditures as a percentage budgeted by Division.



The 2023-24 Final Budget expenditures for services and supplies increased \$6.3 million over the prior year due to an increase in capital asset purchases.

	Actual FY 2019-20	Actual FY 2020-21	Final Budget FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23 vs FY 2023-24	
				Increase / (Decrease) \$	Percentage Change %
SERVICES & SUPPLIES					
Services and supplies	\$ 4,171,441	\$ 5,247,717	\$ 6,019,158	\$ 771,441	14.70%
Fixed Assets	\$ 482,498	\$ 2,819,161	\$ 8,398,440	\$ 5,579,279	197.91%
Total	\$ 4,653,938	\$ 8,066,878	\$ 14,417,598	\$ 6,350,720	78.73%
\$ Net Change Year over Year	\$ (1,555,355)	\$ 3,412,940	\$ 6,350,720		
% Net Change Year over Year	-25.05%	73.33%	78.73%		

BUDGET SUMMARY

Capital Outlay

The Capital Projects Fund is used to account for financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays including the acquisition of equipment, machinery, apparatus, vehicles, building construction, building improvements, and land acquisition. A capital outlay is defined as a tangible or intangible fixed asset with a value of over \$5,000 that is used in operations of the District and that has an initial useful life extending beyond one year. Primary revenue sources are transfers from the General Fund, however the fund will also receive loans or grant proceeds.

The Capital Replacement Schedule dictates the annual budgeted expenditures. This schedule is reviewed annually and revised if needed during the budget. Transfers from the General Fund provide funding for the budgeted requirements. The Capital Replacement Schedule identifies a committed minimum transfer amount each fiscal year in order to meet targeted expenditures. Capital expenditures considered routine in nature are those that are identified in the Capital Replacement Schedule and planned out ten years for replacement based on their expected life span and rotation schedule.

Total expenditures of \$7.6 million are to the purchase of new apparatus and the purchase of 11 LP-15 units under equipment at \$3.3 million. Under the Capital Improvement, the Fleet Building Floor and Mezzanine is projected at \$4.3 million. Below is a 5-year forecast of upcoming replacement purchases by category.

Fiscal Year	2023-24
Total Fund Balance	\$ 6,821,396
Transfer to Capital Improv Fund	\$ (4,300,000)
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 2,521,396
Annual Contribution	\$ 2,100,000

	Year 1 2024	Year 2 2025	Year 3 2026	Year 4 2027	Year 5 2028
CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND					
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 2,521,396	\$ 4,138,836	\$ 2,788,016	\$ 760,911	\$ 1,103,984
Transfers in from General Fund	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 2,785,620	\$ 2,785,620	\$ 2,785,620	\$ 2,785,620
Other Revenue*	\$ 2,850,000	\$ 2,950,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Expenditures	\$ 3,332,560	\$ 7,086,440	\$ 4,862,726	\$ 2,492,547	\$ 2,322,664
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 4,138,836	\$ 2,788,016	\$ 760,911	\$ 1,103,984	\$ 1,616,940

*surplus, loans, grants, strike team

Capital Expenditures by Category	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Apparatus & Vehicles	\$ 3,038,338	\$ 7,086,440	\$ 4,808,089	\$ 2,468,547	\$ 2,322,664
Equipment	\$ 294,222	\$ -	\$ 54,636	\$ 24,000	\$ -
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,332,560	\$ 7,086,440	\$ 4,862,726	\$ 2,492,547	\$ 2,322,664

BUDGET SUMMARY

Fund Balance

The District's Fund Balance Reporting Policy was developed in conjunction with the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 to clearly articulate the use of the District's existing fund balances and provide a structured approach to funding levels. The Fund Balance Policy is designed to strengthen the District's oversight of its reserve funds to ensure adequate financial resources and its long-term financial health in economic downturns. Classifications of fund balance maintained by the District per policy are set forth as follows:

NON-SPENDABLE FUND BALANCE – amounts that are not in a spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact (e.g., prepaid items and deposits on file with other agencies).

1. **Deposit & Prepaid Items** - Imprest Cash Amount to be used as either a Change Drawer (make change for customers); or a Petty Cash Drawer (make small purchases and later replenish the cash through A/P).

RESTRICTED FUND BALANCE – amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by external parties either constitutionally or through enabling legislation (e.g., grants or donations).

COMMITTED FUND BALANCE – amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Board of Directors, either through ordinance or resolution.

ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE – amounts intended to be used by the government for specific purposes. Intent is expressed by the Board of Directors or by a designee to whom the governing body delegates the authority.

1. **Capital Fund** - For the purpose of providing funds for the replacement of apparatus and support vehicles, funding capital improvement projects and acquisitions and improvement of capital equipment utilized in the delivery of emergency services. Fund balance requirements shall be based on the Replacement Schedules and reviewed biennially by the Fire Chief and Finance Committee to determine proper level of funding. For 2023-24, a total of \$7.6 million will be expensed.

In preparation for the upcoming capital improvement plan, the existing capital outlay fund which accounted for all apparatus, facilities and equipment will be split into two funds. The existing capital

BUDGET SUMMARY

Fund Balance

fund will be dedicated to apparatus and equipment, which is based on a 10-year replacement schedule totaling \$3.3 million. A new capital fund will be created for capital improvements and facilities. Below is the transfer in/out of \$4.3 million to the new fund related to the Fleet Improvement Project.

UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE – includes all amounts not contained in other classifications and is the residual classification of the general fund.

1. **Minimum Fund Balance** - It is the goal of the District to achieve and maintain an unassigned fund balance in the general fund at a minimum of five (5) Months of the General Fund Operating Expenditures at the end of each fiscal year to ensure the District has adequate cash flow and avoid short-term borrowing during the “Dry Tax Period” which typically occurs from July to December. For 2023-24, the minimum fund balance is projected at 8.38 months (excludes the California Class Fund).
2. **California Class fund** - Accounted for in the General Fund balance due to its liquidity as an investment fund. Reporting will be done separately each quarter and interest will be transferred as revenue to the General Fund interest account within the respective fiscal year. A total of \$2 million is invested in California CLASS per our policy, which specifies that the District can only invest surplus funds.

FUND BALANCES	Estimated Fund Balance					Estimated Fund Balance
	7-1-2023	Revenues	Expenditures	Transfer Out	Transfers In	6-30-2024
NONSPENDABLE:						
Deposits & Prepaid items	\$ 500					\$ 500
ASSIGNED:						
Capital Fund	\$ 6,821,396	\$ 2,850,000	\$ (3,332,560)	\$ (4,300,000)	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 4,138,836
Capital Improvement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (4,300,000)		\$ 4,300,000	\$ -
UNASSIGNED:						
Minimum Fund Balance	\$ 17,323,533					\$ 17,323,533
General Fund	\$ 11,472,080	\$ 43,767,663	\$ (41,246,506)	\$ (2,100,000)	\$ -	\$ 11,893,237
California CLASS	\$ 2,000,000					\$ 2,000,000
Fleet Services	\$ 311,924	\$ 590,586	\$ (1,390,258)		\$ 799,672	\$ 311,924
Total	\$ 37,929,433	\$ 47,208,249	\$ (50,269,324)	\$ (6,400,000)	\$ 7,199,672	\$ 35,668,030

<i>Minimum Fund Balance</i>	<i>Total Months</i>
Per Fiscal Policy	5.00
Projected Balance	8.38



BUDGET SUMMARY

Division Program Budgets

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administration Division includes the functions of the Fire Chief, Administrative Services, Human Resources, and Finance. The Fire Chief serves as the Chief Executive Officer and provides direction, supervision, and general support to the District's overall operations and its Board of Directors.

Budget Highlights:

- Budget of \$400,000 in professional and specialized services towards long range master plan and customer -centered strategic plan.
- Total of \$33,000 in financial reports and software to provide District with tools to assist with strategies to manage its unfunded liabilities.
- Budget of \$56,000 for recruiting based program, Lexipol for managing the district policies, performance review software and implementation of a new payroll system.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

The Fire Prevention Division is responsible for life safety inspections, community outreach, public information, and plan reviews. Community fire and life safety education is the first line of defense in risk management.

Budget Highlights:

- Approximately \$34,000 budget for community events and education.



photo courtesy of Captain Rick Andrews

BUDGET SUMMARY

Division Program Budgets

LOGISTICS

The Logistics Division is responsible for the District’s facilities, ground support and supplies as well as the District’s Fleet Services Division. The Fleet Services Division is responsible for maintaining the operational readiness of the District’s apparatus fleet and support vehicles. The Division also provides contract services for fleet maintenance to other fire agencies located within Santa Cruz County.

Budget Highlights:

- Total of \$1.2 million for the repairs and maintenance for the upkeep of all facilities.
- Budget of \$1.5 million for the maintenance of the District’s fleet which includes internal repairs conducted by the District’s fleet services.

OPERATIONS

Operations Division consists of EMS, special operations, and suppression. Its mission is to protect life and property through effective emergency response services. Much of this is achieved through preparation, accomplished by training, and ensuring that our apparatus, equipment, and facilities are properly maintained and in a ready state.

Budget Highlights:

- Total budget of \$210,000 for EMS related cost and supplies.
- Total budget of \$290,000 for special operations includes cost for programs such as aquatic rescue, disaster preparedness, hazardous materials, marine safety division (junior lifeguards) and rescue techs.
- Suppression costs consist of apparel, communication, required suppression equipment, and health & wellness. Total budget is \$1.4 million.



photo: Battalion Chief Patrick Winters

BUDGET SUMMARY

Division Program Budgets

TECHNOLOGY

The Technology Division consists of information technology and mobile technology. The Division is responsible for supporting the District’s computing infrastructure. IT manages the District’s computer workstations, servers and file systems, email system, network equipment, cloud storage, phone systems, internet access, audio/visual equipment, and all software and database programs. In addition, IT manages the District’s communications equipment including mobile display computers.

Budget Highlights:

- Total technology budget \$400,000, approximately \$105,000 for PC Software and applications for the District and \$188,000 in professional and specialized services for an IT contractor.

TRAINING

The Training Division is a critical element of the District, tasked with providing high quality training, instruction, career development, and evaluation to all District personnel. These training activities prepare our personnel to serve our community in the most efficient and effective means possible, and to ensure the safety of all our responders.

Budget Highlights:

- Total budget of \$707,000 with \$520,000 dedicated to employee education and training.



photo: Division Chief Anthony Cefaloni

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Central Fire District Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Summary

682500- OPERATIONS		6/30/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	Vs. 2023
OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Actual	Final Budget	Prior Year Change
Revenues					
40100	PROPERTY TAX-CURRENT SEC-GEN	32,614,681	34,609,593	36,340,072	1,730,480
40106	RESIDUAL DISTRIBUTION	2,935,682	3,944,595	3,900,000	(44,595)
40110	PROPERTY TAX-CURRENT UNSEC-GEN	605,762	638,927	670,874	31,946
40130	PROPERTY TAX-PRIOR UNSEC-GEN	69,294	63,808	65,000	1,192
40150	SUPP PROP TAX-CURRENT SEC	824,367	792,680	850,000	57,320
40151	SUPP PROP TAX-CURRENT UNSEC	10,189	33,877	20,000	(13,877)
40160	SUPP PROP TAX-PRIOR SEC	13,192	45,187	30,000	(15,187)
40161	SUPP PROP TAX-PRIOR UNSEC	5,750	8,902	5,000	(3,902)
40196	FIRE PROTECTION TAX	130,927	130,927	130,000	(927)
40197	IN-LIEU TAXES OTHER	3,163	470	500	30
44142	PENALTIES FOR DELINQUENT TAXES	1,561	4,896	5,000	104
44143	REDMPTN PNLTIES FOR DELINQ TXS	2,870	4,130	5,000	870
40430	INTEREST	99,028	438,142	350,000	(88,142)
40830	ST-HOMEOWNERS' PROP TAX RELIEF	166,096	166,547	174,874	8,327
40894	ST-OTHER	2,114,497	763,875	-	(763,875)
41095	FED-MISC GRANTS	-	-	-	-
41162	RDA PASS-THROUGHS	462,326	410,862	485,000	74,138
41617	EMERGENCY RESPONSE RECOVERY	287,357	298,883	300,000	1,117
42020	COPY CHARGES	366	411	-	(411)
42022	COST RECOVERY-OTHER	3,989	1,747	-	(1,747)
42033	HOMELAND SECURITY REVENUE	-	-	-	-
42047	OTHER CHARGES CURRENT SERVICES	286,108	372,181	375,000	2,819
42055	SCHMIT REVENUE	-	35,000	35,000	-
42072	WEEDS/LOT CLEARING	-	-	-	-
42117	PERSONNEL SERVICES	-	-	-	-
42375	INSURANCE PROCEEDS	114,351	452,652	-	(452,652)
42380	NSF CHECKS	-	-	-	-
42384	OTHER REVENUE	92,355	62,683	26,343	(36,340)
42462	OPERATING TRANSFER IN	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues		40,843,911	43,280,977	43,767,663	486,686

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Central Fire District Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Summary

682500- OPERATIONS

61425	OTHER HOUSEHOLD EXP-SERVICES	62,489	73,946	78,490	4,544
61535	OTHER INSURANCE	89,609	119,212	121,336	2,124
61720	MAINT-MOBILE EQUIPMENT-SERV	7,454	9,323	18,200	8,877
61725	MAINT-OFFICE EQUIPMNT-SERVICES	6,715	6,622	8,400	1,778
61730	MAINT-OTH EQUIP-SERVICES	73,886	110,963	260,213	149,250
61845	MAINT-STRUCT/IMPS/GRDS-OTH-SRV	96,874	432,256	271,550	(160,706)
61920	MEDICAL, DENTAL & LAB SUPPLIES	69,551	42,462	51,350	8,888
62010	Empl Certificates & Licenses	12,209	6,727	12,250	5,523
62020	MEMBERSHIPS	10,046	12,457	16,549	4,092
62219	PC SOFTWARE PURCHASES	123,745	209,192	212,700	3,508
62221	POSTAGE	13,907	1,944	2,000	
62223	SUPPLIES	127,411	126,640	179,066	52,426
62301	ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING FEES	211,938	211,557	222,900	11,343
62327	DIRECTORS' FEES	23,942	19,758	25,600	5,842
62328	911 Dispatch Services	215,560	234,557	255,183	20,626
62358	LAUNDRY SERVICES	-	-	-	-
62360	Legal Services	20,397	183,034	250,000	66,966
62367	MEDICAL SERVICES-OTHER	93,997	65,214	65,000	(214)
62378	PERSONNEL SERVICES	-	-	-	-
62381	PROF & SPECIAL SERV-OTHER	513,573	652,545	769,413	116,868
62420	LEGAL NOTICES	3,621	1,601	1,800	199
62500	EQUIPMENT LEASE & RENT	15,970	18,572	21,580	3,008
62715	SMALL TOOLS & INSTRUMENTS	47,045	58,801	42,900	(15,901)
62826	EDUCATION AND/OR TRAINING	246,155	303,961	531,728	227,767
62888	SPEC DIST EXP-SERVICES	14,264	37,142	16,270	(20,872)
62890	SUBSCRIPTIONS BOOKS & ED MATER	6,655	36,859	36,150	(709)
62914	EDUCATION & TRAINING(REPT)	-	-	-	-
62920	GAS, OIL, FUEL	142,867	161,478	173,000	11,522
62928	TRAVEL-OTHER(NON-REPT)	10,655	7,025	11,000	3,975
62935	SERVICE CENTER CHARGES	955,542	993,788	1,229,798	236,010
63070	UTILITIES	113,912	125,744	169,900	44,156
Total		3,829,210	5,063,107	6,083,139	1,020,032
OTHER CHARGES					
74110	PRINCIPAL ON LONG-TERM DEBT	-	-	-	-
74425	INTEREST ON LONG-TERM DEBT	-	-	-	-
75231	CONTRIB TO OTHER AGENCIES-OTH	38,691	40,702	21,563	(19,139)
Total		38,691	40,702	21,563	(19,139)
FIXED ASSETS					
86110	BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS	49,942	190,939	586,180	395,241
86203	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	-	-	150,000	150,000
86204	EQUIPMENT	11,517	73,957	29,700	(44,257)
86209	MOBILE EQUIPMENT	19,566	-	-	-
Total		81,026	264,896	765,880	500,984
OTHER FINANCING USES					
90000	OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT	2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	-
Total		2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	-
APPROP FOR CONTINGENCIES					
98700	APPROP FOR CONTINGENCIES	-	-	100,000	100,000
Total		-	-	100,000	100,000
Total Expenditures		42,700,824	40,732,965	43,346,506	2,613,541
Total GL Key 682500		(1,856,913)	2,548,012	421,157	(2,126,855)

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Central Fire District Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Summary

682510- FLEET		6/30/2022	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	Vs. 2023
OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Actual	Final Budget	Prior Year Change
Revenues					-
40430	INTEREST	(3,582)	(1,696)	-	1,696
40894	ST-OTHER	-	-	-	-
42122	SERVICE CENTER CHGS	957,900	843,694	590,586	(253,108)
Total Revenues		954,318	841,998	590,586	(251,412)
Expenditures					-
SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS					-
51000	REGULAR PAY-PERMANENT	387,824	437,173	460,991	23,818
51005	OVERTIME PAY-PERMANENT	11,652	12,185	-	(12,185)
51015	REGULAR PAY-SICK LEAVE	-	-	-	-
51040	DIFFERENTIAL PAY	234	209	-	(209)
52010	OASDI-SOCIAL SECURITY	5,781	6,587	6,684	98
52015	PERS	94,059	43,671	105,108	61,437
53010	EMPLOYEE INSURANCE & BENEFITS	68,864	103,860	115,284	11,424
53015	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	714	448	448	-
54010	WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE	81,537	85,377	87,614	2,237
55020	SICK LEAVE RESERVE	115	8,580	-	(8,580)
Total		650,779	698,090	776,130	78,040
SERVICES AND SUPPLIES					-
61110	CLOTHING & PERSONAL SUPPLIES	819	927	1,500	-
61221	TELEPHONE-NON TELECOM 1099	8,151	11,448	12,620	1,172
61425	OTHER HOUSEHOLD EXP-SERVICES	15,213	15,713	17,650	1,937
61312	Inventoriable Items	19,749	5,168	250	-
61535	OTHER INSURANCE	33,576	33,457	51,970	18,513
61720	MAINT-MOBILE EQUIPMENT-SERV	557,618	494,525	368,900	(125,625)
61730	MAINT-OTH EQUIP-SERVICES	7,765	8,670	10,465	1,795
61845	MAINT-STRUCT/IMPS/GRDS-OTH-SRV	11,117	15,991	20,970	4,979
62020	MEMBERSHIPS	295	571	875	304
62219	PC SOFTWARE PURCHASES	25,292	15,894	10,405	(5,489)
62221	Postage	538	235	500	-
62223	SUPPLIES	14,254	13,560	28,700	15,140
62367	MEDICAL SERVICES-OTHER	-	-	-	-
62381	PROF & SPECIAL SERV-OTHER	2,190	2,981	2,600	(381)
62500	EQUIPMENT LEASE & RENT	10,664	11,290	12,350	1,060
62715	SMALL TOOLS & INSTRUMENTS	5,723	3,613	5,500	1,887
62826	EDUCATION AND/OR TRAINING	17,252	20,461	30,000	9,539
62888	SPEC DIST EXP-SERVICES	1,525	1,495	7,223	5,728
62890	SUBSCRIPTIONS BOOKS & ED MATER	185	265	-	(265)
62914	EDUCATION & TRAINING(REPT)	-	(518)	-	518
62920	GAS, OIL, FUEL	2,067	121	3,650	3,529
63070	UTILITIES	19,987	25,431	28,000	2,569
Total		753,162	680,371	612,628	(67,743)
FIXED ASSETS					-
86203	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-
86204	EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-
INTRAFUND TRANSFERS					-
95225	INTRA-FUND TRF-OTHER	(450,441)	(537,390)	(799,672)	(262,282)
Total Character 95		(450,441)	(537,390)	(799,672)	(262,282)
Total Expenditures		954,318	841,998	590,586	(251,412)
Total GL Key 682510		-	-	-	-



photo: Kaitlyn Lucchesi

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Central Fire District Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Summary

682550- CAPITAL OUTLAY

OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	6/30/2022 Year-To-Date Actual	6/30/2023 Year-To-Date Actual	6/30/2024 Final Budget	Vs. 2023 Prior Year Change
Revenues					
40430	INTEREST	30,290	113,466	50,000	(63,466)
40894	ST-OTHER	-	-	-	-
42384	OTHER REVENUE	-	-	2,800,000	2,800,000
42450	SLS OF FIXED ASSETS-NONTAXABLE	26,010	17,105	-	(17,105)
42462	OPERATING TRANSFER IN	2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	-
Total Revenues		2,156,300	2,230,571	4,950,000	2,719,429
Expenditures					
OTHER CHARGES					
74230	PRINCIPAL ON LEASE PURCHASES	311,145	320,420	284,899	(35,521)
74420	INTEREST ON LEASE PURCHASES	38,793	29,518	65,039	35,521
Total		349,938	349,938	349,938	0
FIXED ASSETS					
86110	BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS	-	123,703	4,300,000	4,176,297
86204	EQUIPMENT	5,707	-	294,222	
86209	MOBILE EQUIPMENT	45,827	2,080,625	2,688,400	
Total		-	123,703	4,300,000	4,176,297
Total Expenditures		401,472	2,554,265	7,632,560	5,078,295
Total GL Key 682550		1,754,828	(323,694)	(2,682,560)	(2,358,866)



photo: Gena Finch

CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY



COVER PHOTOS: STEVE KUEHL
DESIGN BY: CHARLOTTE CAMBRIDGE WEBB
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DISTRICT BUDGET 2023/24