



Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

BUDGET IN BRIEF



City of Bloomington, Illinois
Jewel of Midwest Cities

On the Cover

The Miller Park Zoo opened in 1891 and is one of the smallest accredited zoos in the country. An average of over 100,000 people enjoy the animal exhibits and programs each year. A master plan for the Zoo needs to be developed to provide a dynamic vision and realistic plan for facility development and improvement over the next 20 years. The Master Plan will reflect current zoo trends and best practices to enhance guest experiences and the Zoo's conservation and educational programming.

A strategic plan for our Zoo will demonstrate how the institution needs to grow and what improvements are needed for the fiscal and physical operation of the facility. The strategic plan will function as a business plan. The strategic plan and master plan will also help reinforce community support for the Zoo and aid in the exploration of funding options for the improvements. The strategic plan and master plan will help reignite community support for the Zoo and aid in the discovery of future funding for the build-out of the plan.

The Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) strongly encourages the use of master plans and strategic plans, and such planning is a vital consideration for zoos that seek to achieve and maintain professional accreditation. The Bloomington City Council has not approved a master plan for the Miller Park Zoo for many years. With a new Zoo Superintendent, new Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Director, and new City Manager, this is a good time to complete such plans. New leadership has brought new ideas and procedures for the operation of the Zoo. These changes have helped create a positive outlook for the Miller Park Zoo.



Miller Park Zoo Main Entrance
1020 South Morris Avenue
Bloomington, IL 61701



The Bloomington City Council adopted its fiscal year 2013 budget on April 23, 2012. The budget is the City’s spending plan that reflects the community’s priorities and values through funding the services, programs, and projects that maintain the quality of life in Bloomington. The City’s total budget of \$167 million funds essential services while continuing important one-time initiatives and critical utility infrastructure repair and upgrade projects.

The FY 2013 budget is the fourth annual spending plan developed during the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. During periods of slow growth, minimal development activity, and high unemployment, there is still a demand for consistent, reliable, and quality local government services. However, like many cities dealing with these conditions, we face a persistent challenge of operating in an environment where the growth of expenditures outpaces the growth in revenues. A continuous review of our baseline services and the realignment of resources to fund the needs and priorities of the community at the appropriate level will be an ongoing requirement of staff, city administration, elected officials, and you, the citizens.

As we look toward the challenges ahead, the City’s budget and finance teams will monitor changing conditions so that the quality of life our residents expect can be sustained in a timely and financially prudent manner for the City of Bloomington for the next one hundred years.

This Budget in Brief document presents summary information which you can find in greater detail in the FY 2013 Adopted Budget document. Within these pages you will find high-level information about City revenues and expenditures, departmental budget information, and planned capital improvement projects. The full budget document can be viewed online at www.cityblm.org or you can request to pick up a hard copy by contacting our Finance Department at 434-2331.

We hope you find this document informative. On behalf of the City Council and staff team, I look forward to implementing your financial plan this fiscal year.

Sincerely,

David A. Hales
City Manager

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The City of Bloomington at a Glance

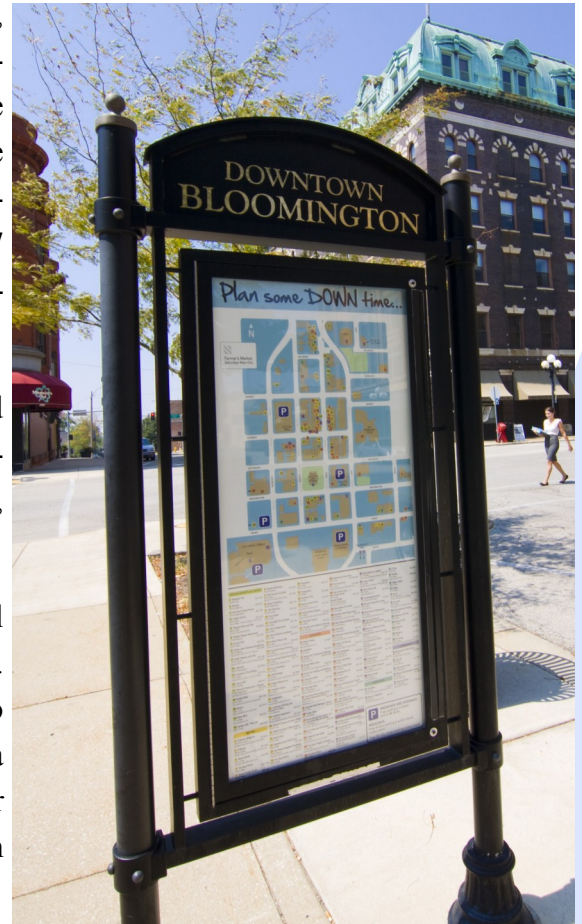
The City of Bloomington is located in the heart of Central Illinois, approximately 125 miles southwest of Chicago, 155 miles northeast of St. Louis, and 64 miles northeast of Springfield, the State Capital. Bloomington is the County Seat of McLean County, the largest county in Illinois (approximately 762,240 acres). Bloomington is a twin city with the Town of Normal (pop. 52,497 2010 Census). Interstates 39, 55 and 74 converge in Bloomington-Normal, as well as US Route 51 and State Route 9.

The Twin Cities are also serviced by two major railroad lines and Amtrak, as well as air transportation at the Central Illinois Regional Airport, one of the fastest growing airports in the country, which serves commuter, corporate, and private aircraft.

Bloomington is located in one of the most productive agricultural areas in the nation, but the economy is diverse and well-balanced. In addition to major manufacturers and industries there are two universities, two colleges, two hospitals, a convention center, a coliseum, a recreational ice center, one indoor mall, one outdoor mall, and many banks and savings and loan associations located in Bloomington-Normal.

The City of Bloomington is organized and operates under a council/manager form of government. The nine Alderman on the council are elected by their nine respective wards and the Mayor is elected at-large. Collectively, the council serves in a leadership capacity, providing policy direction that is responsive to citizens' needs and wishes, approving the allocation of City resources and appointment of the City Manager.

The City Manager serves the Mayor, City Council and the community, and provides the benefits of training and experience in administering local government projects and programs on behalf of the governing body. The manager prepares a budget for consideration by the Mayor and Council; recruits, hires, and supervises the City staff; serves as the chief adviser to the Mayor and Council; and carries out policies. The Mayor, City Council and citizens rely on the manager to provide complete and objective information, pros and cons of alternatives, and long-term consequences.



City Services

The City of Bloomington is a full service city providing Police, Fire & EMS, Public Works, Planning & Code Enforcement, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts, Library, and Water services to all residents. The City is comprised of 11 unique departments which work collectively to accomplish the goals of the City Council and citizens. City Departments include: Office of the City Manager, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts, Planning and Code Enforcement (PACE), Information Services (IS), Clerk, Legal, Human Resources, Finance, Public Works, Fire, Police and Water.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the City of Bloomington is to be financially responsible providing quality, basic municipal services at the best value. The city engages residents and partners with others for community benefit.

Strategic Plan

The City's Strategic Plan was formally presented and unanimously adopted by the City Council on January 25, 2010. The City's Strategic Plan comprises 6 goals which serve as a guide toward the allocation of City resources: 1) Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services 2) Upgrade City Infrastructure and Facilities 3) Strong neighborhoods 4) Grow the Local Economy 5) Great Place to Live—Livable, Sustainable City 6) Prosperous Downtown

Demographics

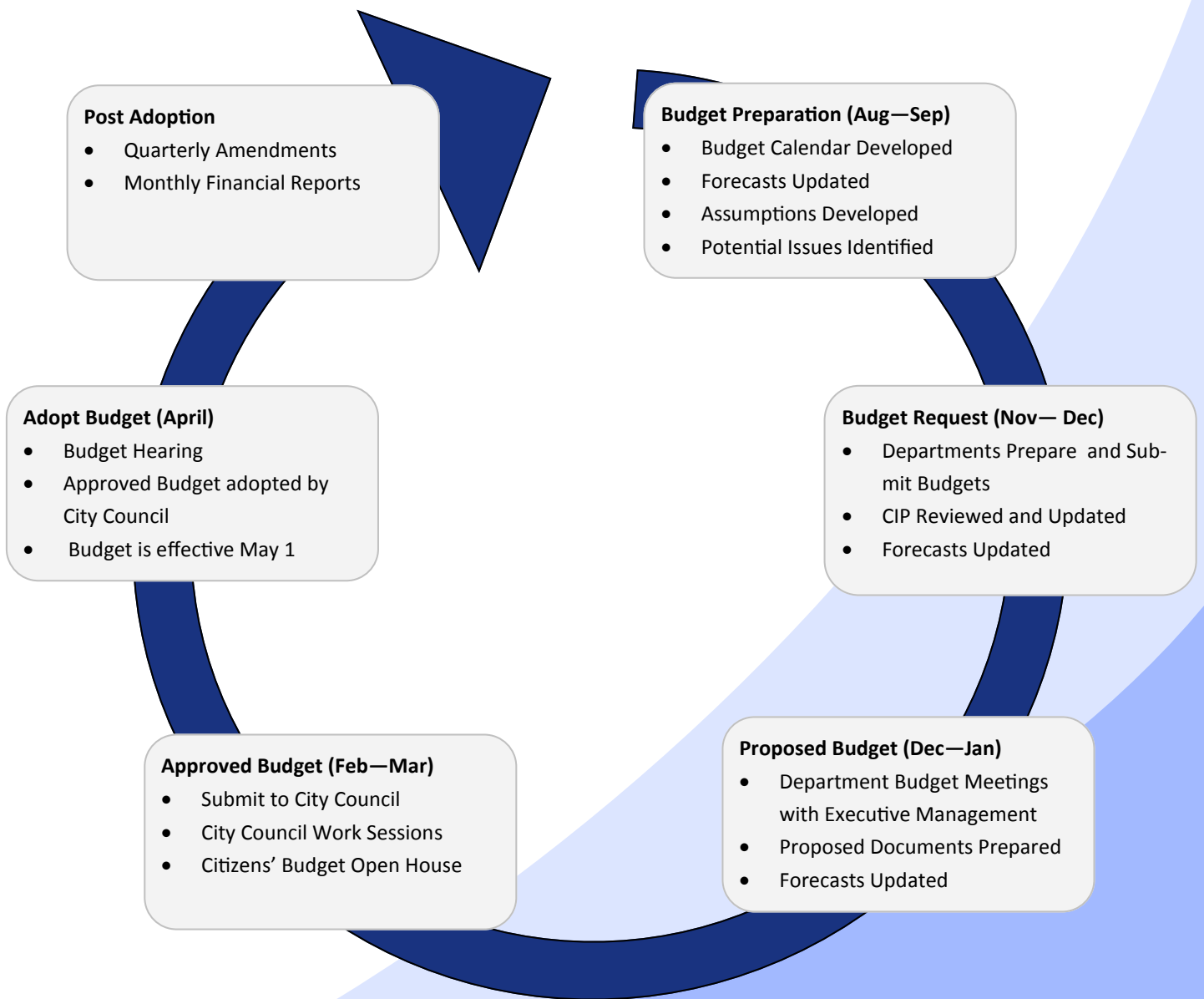
Bloomington Population Facts	Cost of Living
Population (2010):	76,610 Average Household Income (2011): \$80,200
Median Age (2011):	32.1 Average Home Sales (2011): \$169,413

Top Ten Employers in Bloomington

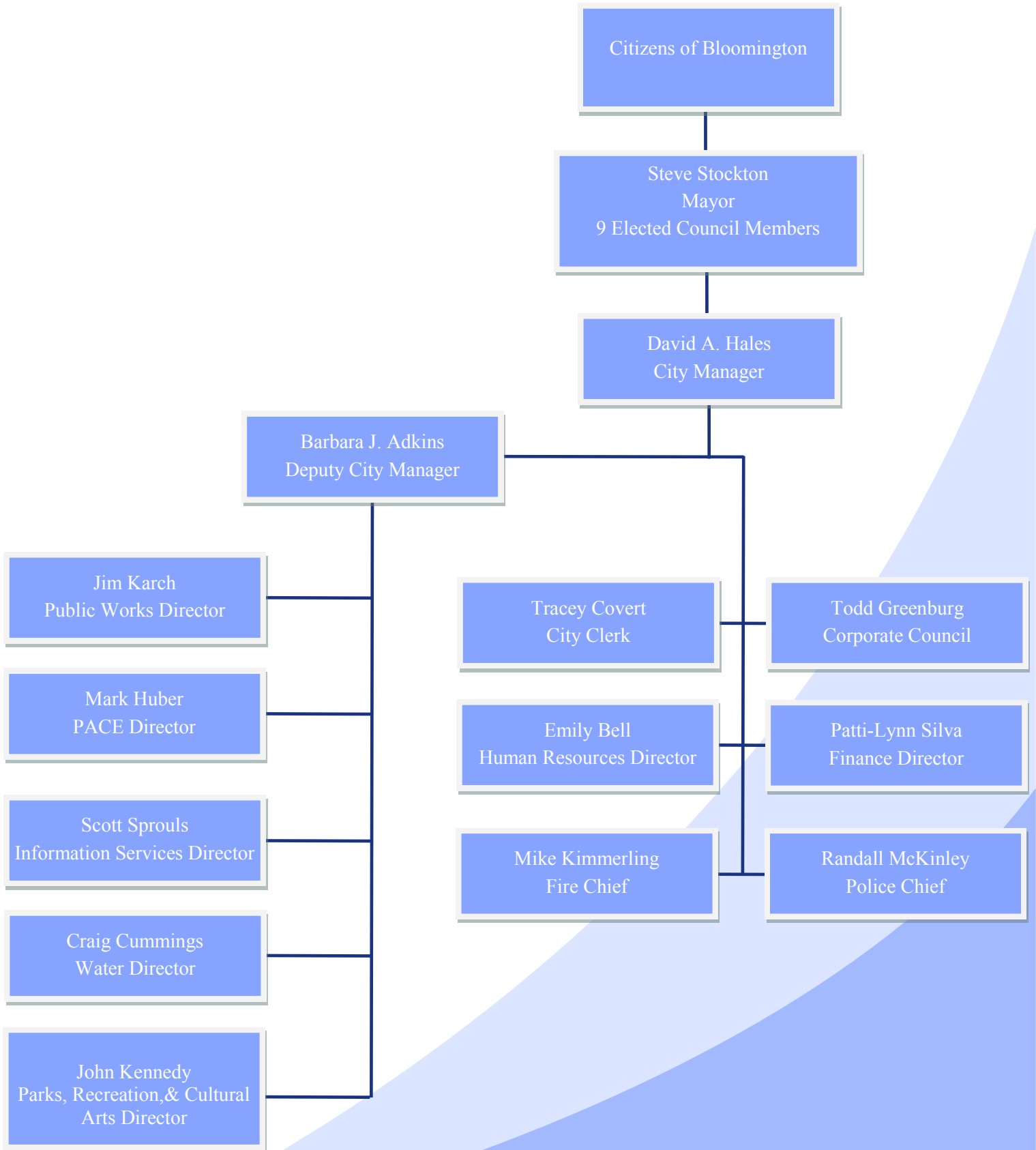
Employer	Employees	Percentage of Total City Employment
State Farm Insurance Company	15,509	20.69%
COUNTRY Financial	2,178	2.90%
Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.	1,418	1.89%
OSF St. Joseph Medical Center	1,122	1.50%
Afni, Inc	883	1.18%
McLean County Government	820	1.09%
School District #87	680	0.91%
City of Bloomington	645	0.86%
Illinois Wesleyan University	540	0.72%
GROWMARK, Inc.	533	0.71%

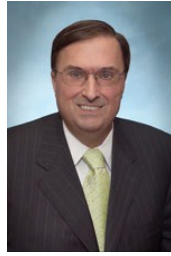
The Budget Process

The City's Fiscal Year runs from May 1 to April 30. The City's budget serves as a roadmap for the fiscal year's expenditures and reflects the goals and priorities of the City's elected officials. The budget is formulated with the aid, support and input of the citizens of Bloomington, City staff and various boards and committees. The City's budget process begins in August with the formation of a budget calendar and ends in April with the final budget adoption by the City Council. Formulation of the budget is a critical and difficult process that involves analyzing citizen input and data, projecting available revenue sources, identifying priorities, allocating resources and expenditures, reviewing City performance data, negotiating and anticipating department budgets and establishing the fees, charges and taxes necessary to provide adequate levels of services to the citizens of Bloomington.



Organizational Chart





Mayor Stephen Stockton
(2009—2013)



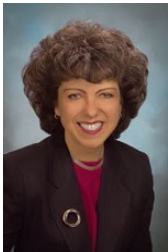
Ward 1—Bernie Anderson
(2009—2013)



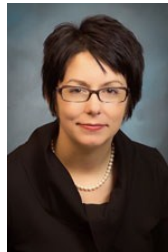
Ward 2—David Sage
(2011—2015)



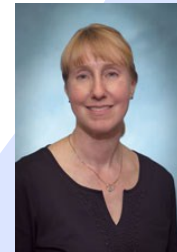
Ward 3—Mboka Mwilambwe
(2011—2013)



Ward 4—Judy Stearns
(2011—2015)



Ward 5—Jennifer McDade
(2009—2013)



Ward 6—Karen Schmidt
(2011—2015)



Ward 7—Steven Purcell
(2009—2013)



Ward 8—Rob Fazzini
(2011—2015)



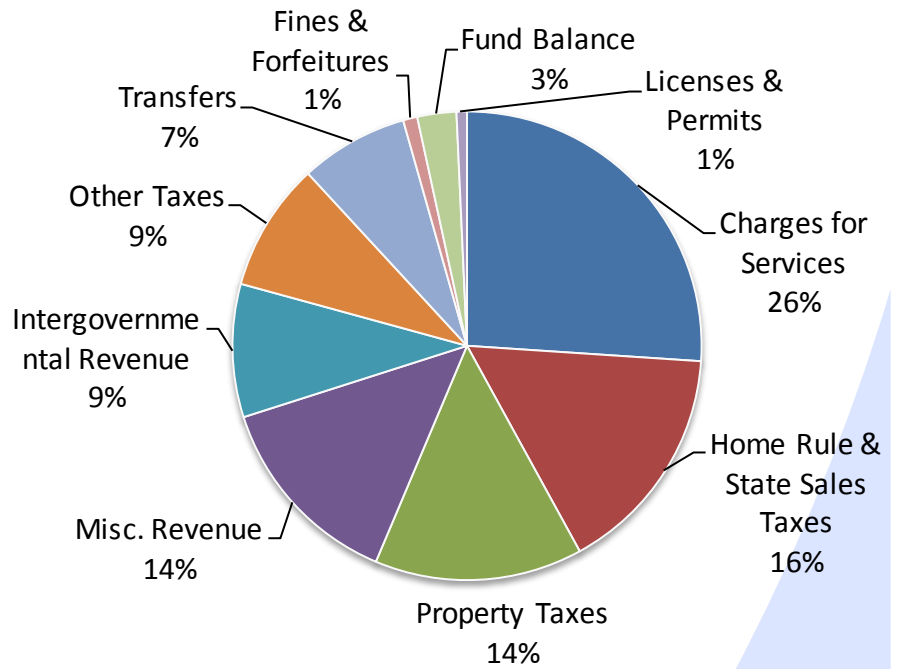
Ward 9—Jim Fruin
(2009—2013)



Where the Money Comes From

Resources Combined by Category

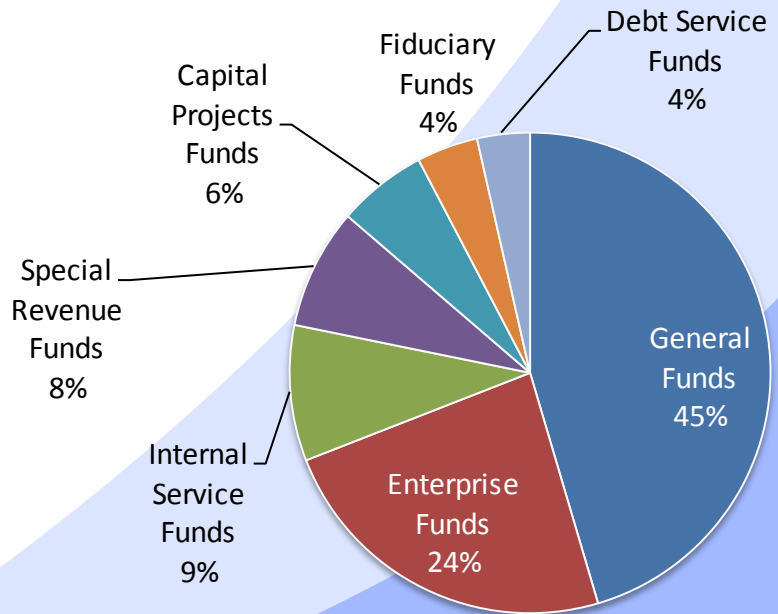
Charges for Services	\$43,504,811
Home Rule & State Sales Taxes	\$26,668,648
Property Taxes	\$23,934,348
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$22,920,163
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$15,343,841
Other Taxes	\$14,836,331
Transfers	\$12,469,204
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,635,025
Fund Balance	\$4,491,703
Licenses & Permits	\$1,201,075
Total	\$167,005,149



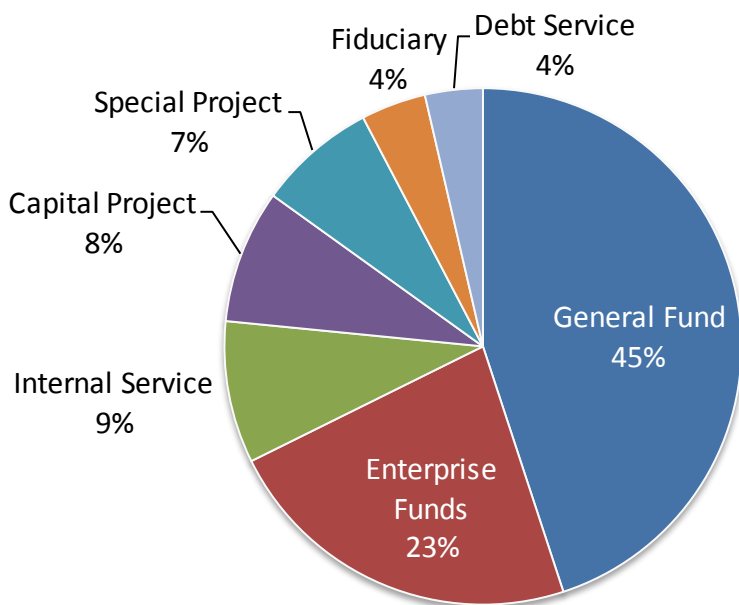
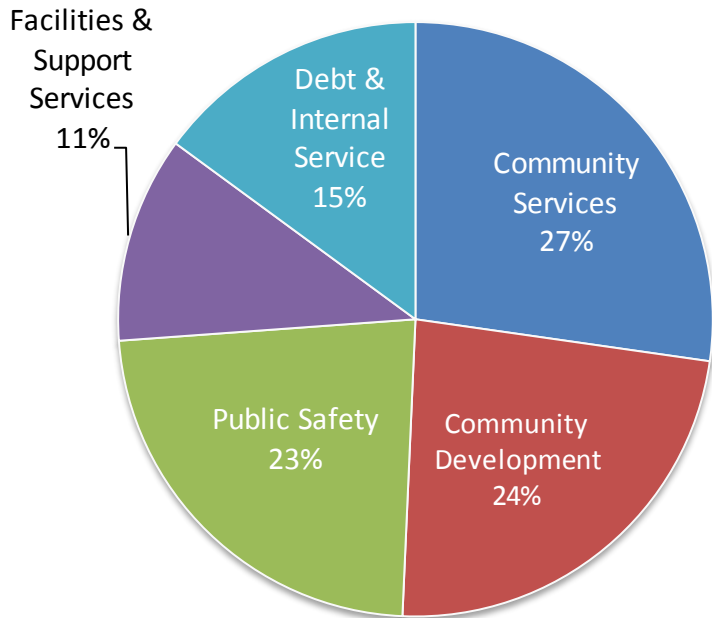
Resources by Fund Group

General Funds ¹	\$74,543,699
Enterprise Funds	\$38,776,900
Internal Service Funds	\$14,981,282
Special Revenue Funds	\$13,290,110
Capital Projects Funds	\$9,893,635
Fiduciary Funds	\$6,760,204
Debt Service Funds	\$5,817,616
Total	\$164,063,446

¹ - Fund balance drawdown not reflected by Fund Category



Where the Money Goes



Expenditures by Service Area

\$18,337,708	Fire
\$20,320,869	Police
\$38,658,577	Public Safety
\$561,438	Public Transit
\$975,431	Other ¹
\$1,032,365	Parking
\$5,750,087	Library
\$13,589,571	Parks & Recreation & BCPA
\$23,614,138	Public Works
\$45,523,030	Community Services
\$1,664,467	US Cellular Coliseum
\$2,558,904	Economic Development
\$3,322,198	Building Safety
\$6,063,200	Capital Projects
\$7,897,202	Capital Lease
\$17,641,207	Water
\$39,147,178	Community Development
\$301,786	City Clerk
\$817,581	Legal
\$884,179	Administration
\$1,095,038	Finance
\$1,219,715	Human Resources
\$2,166,601	Other ²
\$3,393,349	Information Services
\$3,695,000	Risk Management
\$5,176,815	Facilities & Fleet
\$18,750,064	Facilities & Support Services
\$6,032,121	Debt Service
\$7,739,151	Transfers
\$8,861,742	Employee Health Care
\$2,293,286	Retiree Health Care
\$167,005,149	Total

¹ - Sister City & Board of Elections & Unemployment & JM Scott Health Resources

² - Non-Departmental & Contingency & Health Savings Flex Cash

Expenditures of All Funds Combined by Category

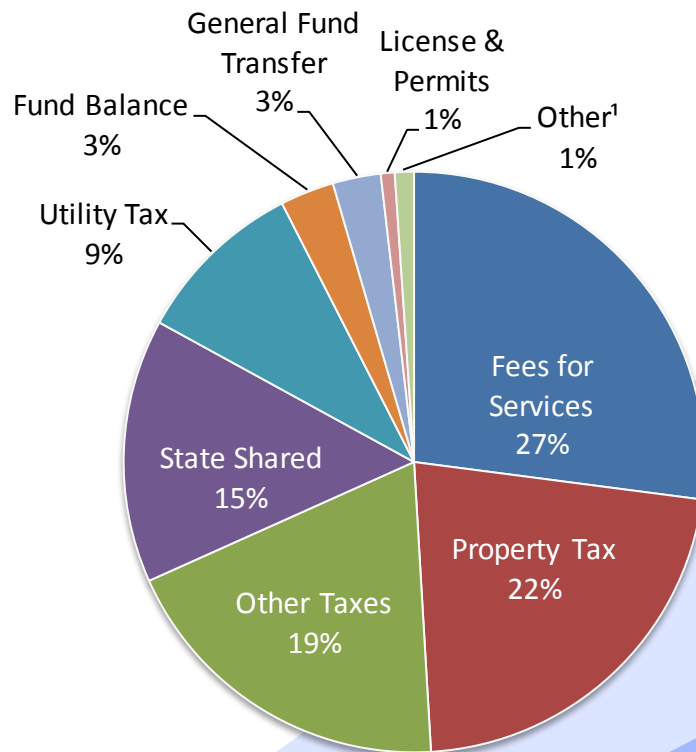
\$75,092,630	General Fund
\$37,927,595	Enterprise Funds
\$14,850,028	Internal Service
\$13,960,402	Capital Project
\$12,362,407	Special Project
\$6,779,966	Fiduciary
\$6,032,121	Debt Service
\$167,005,149	Total

The City's General Fund

The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the City. It accounts for the resources used to pay for the services traditionally associated with local government. Included are police and fire protection, parks and recreation, planning and economic development, general administration of the City and any other activity for which a special fund has not been created. The water, sewer, storm water, golf operations, US Cellular Coliseum, and parking funds are self-supporting, so the revenue from and expenses incurred by these funds are excluded from the General Fund. Revenues that exceed the cost of providing General Fund services are added to the General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance. This excess revenue can be used to finance future capital improvements and/or provide a reserve for future emergencies.

General Fund Resources by Category	
Sales Tax	\$ 23,459,117
Fees for Services	\$ 13,973,946
Property Tax	\$ 11,362,041
Other Taxes	\$ 9,925,310
State Shared	\$ 7,582,888
Utility Tax	\$ 4,911,022
Fund Balance	\$ 1,550,000
General Fund Transfer	\$ 1,380,600
License & Permits	\$ 398,775
Other ¹	\$ 548,931
Total	\$75,092,630

¹ - Other includes Health Savings Flex Cash and Judgement



General Fund Expenses by Department and Category

Police	\$16,989,596
Fire	\$15,221,156
Public Safety	\$32,210,752
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts	\$7,238,026
Public Works	\$10,929,222
Public Transportation	\$561,438
Community Services	\$18,728,686
Transfers	\$7,739,151
Information Services	\$3,393,349
Planning & Code Enforcement	\$3,044,076
Economic Development	\$2,558,904
Human Resources	\$1,219,715
Finance	\$1,095,038
City Manager's Office	\$884,179
Legal	\$817,581
City Clerk	\$301,786
Non-Departmental	\$2,236,601
Government Center	\$812,812
Contingency	\$50,000
Other	\$3,099,413
Total	\$75,092,630

Library



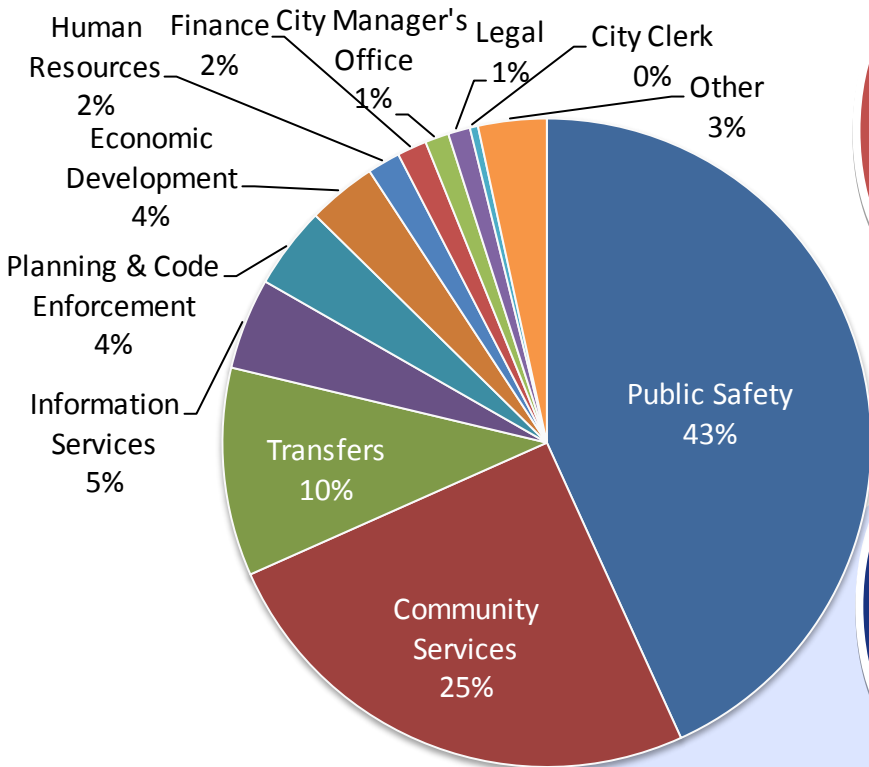
Fire



Parks



Police



Property Taxes

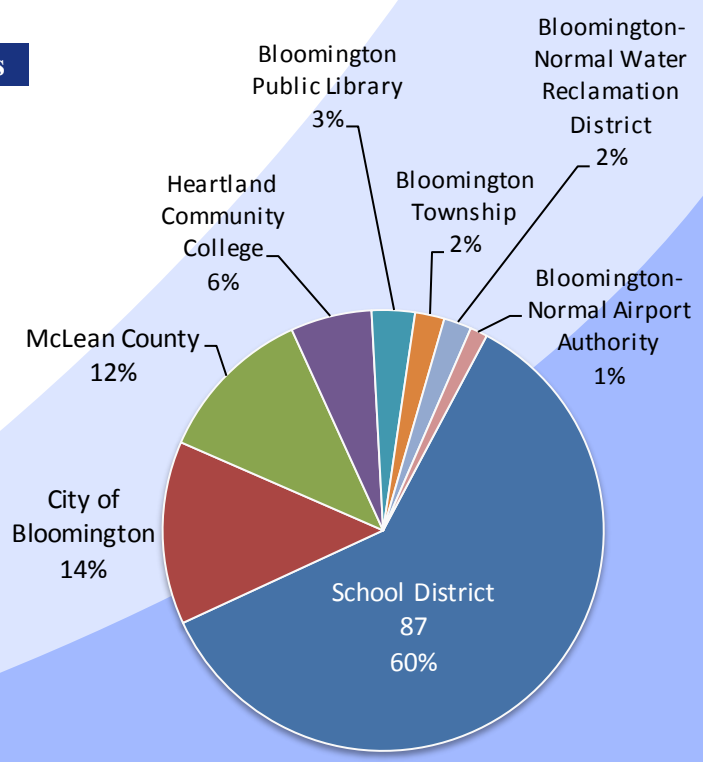
The amount you pay in property taxes is based on the fair cash value of your home as identified by the Bloomington Township Assessor. The Property Tax Code states that each property shall be assessed at 33.33% of fair cash value. This means that property owners pay taxes on one-third of their respective property. The taxable value is then calculated by the tax rates established by the various taxing bodies within corporate limits. The City of Bloomington's 2010 tax rate payable in 2011 was 1.06. Therefore, City taxes collected in FY 2011 on a \$169,413 home, which is the City average, was \$598.53 based on the adopted tax rate of \$1.06 per \$100 valuation. The total amount of property taxes paid based on a \$169,413 home was \$4,455.



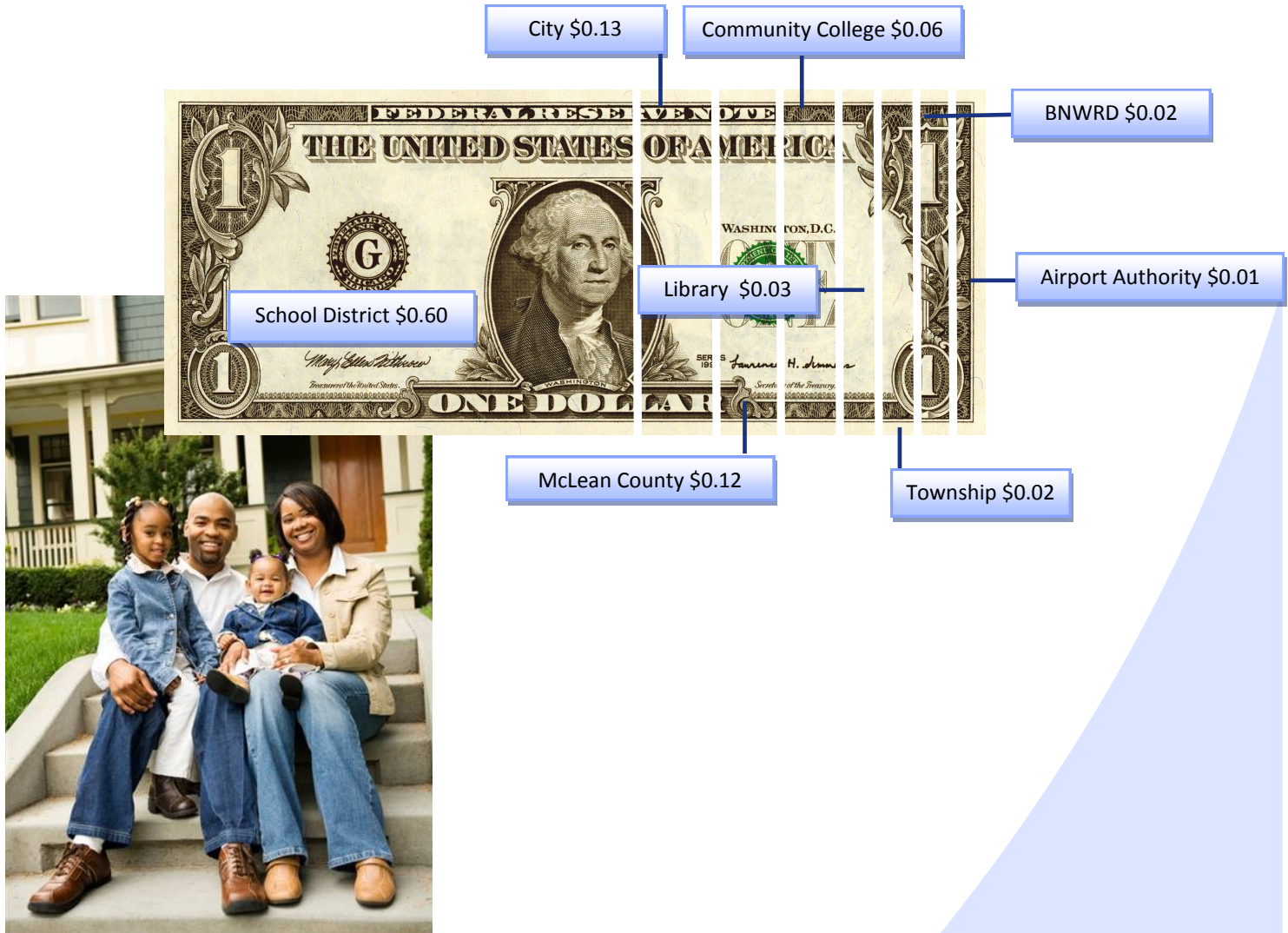
Taxing Body	Tax Rate	Amount Collected
School District 87	4.76	\$2,687.75
City of Bloomington	1.06	\$598.53
McLean County	0.92	\$519.48
Heartland Community College	0.47	\$265.39
Bloomington Public Library	0.25	\$141.16
Bloomington Township	0.17	\$95.99
Bloomington-Normal Water Reclamation District	0.16	\$90.34
Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority	0.1	\$56.47
Total	7.90	\$4,455.12

2011 Payable 2012 City of Bloomington Fund Levy Rates

Fund Name	Levy Rate	Levy Amount
General Corporate	0.17	\$2,973,867
Bonds and Interest	0.12	\$2,179,980
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund	0.14	\$2,502,956
Fire Protection	0.07	\$1,183,182
Fire Pension	0.17	\$3,111,552
Police Protection	0.08	\$1,354,332
Police Pension	0.18	\$3,306,933
Public Parks	0.06	\$1,001,487
Social Security	0.08	\$1,459,097
	1.06	\$19,073,386



For Every Property Tax Dollar



Top Ten Property Tax Payers in Bloomington 2010

Tax Payer	Taxable Assessed Value	Rank	Percentage of Total City Taxable Assessed Value
State Farm Insurance Company	\$171,620,170	1	9.54%
Eastland Mall	\$17,666,667	2	0.98%
COUNTRY Financial	\$13,503,698	3	0.75%
Illinois Agricultural Association	\$9,566,667	4	0.53%
Brickyard Complex	\$8,497,070	5	0.47%
Wingover Apartments	\$6,570,667	6	0.37%
Westminster Village	\$5,884,302	7	0.33%
US REIF Parkway Fee LLC	\$5,745,450	8	0.32%
Wal-Mart	\$5,574,685	9	0.31%
Apartment Investors	\$4,903,994	10	0.27%
Totals	\$249,533,370		13.87%

* Latest figures taken from 2011 audit

Capital Improvement Plan

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) details the City’s investment in large construction, acquisition, and maintenance projects as well as large capital expenditures for replacement equipment. The expenditures in the CIP are not accounted for in the General Fund expenses and are kept separate from routine operational costs. This separate fund structure enhances an understanding of the City’s capital activities, and helps to avoid confusion in financial resource trend information when capital and operating activities are mixed.

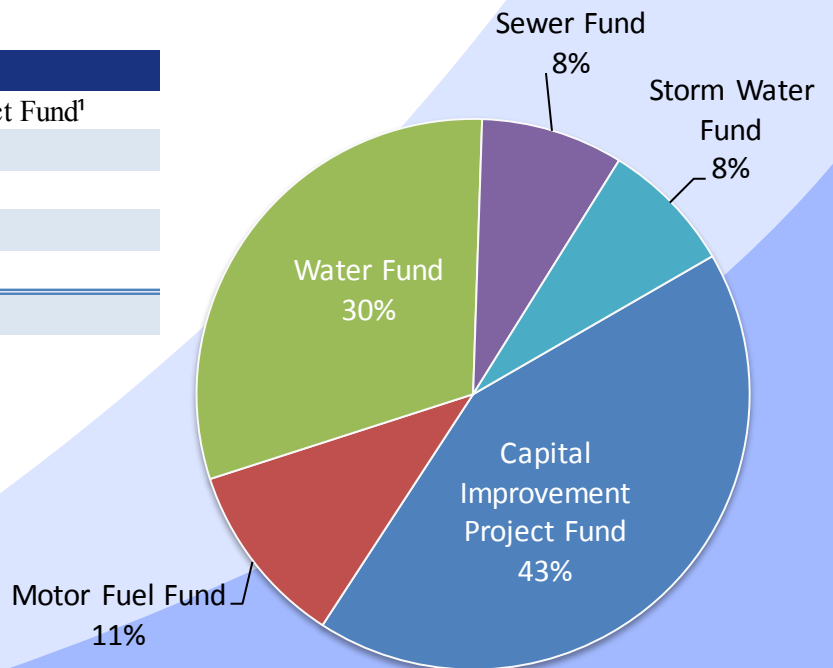
The City has five capital project funds which represent the City’s Capital Improvement Plan in the 2013 fiscal year budget. The following provides a brief description of each fund:

- **Capital Improvement Project Fund**—This fund accounts for revenue and expenditures related to infrastructure projects financed as part of the City’s capital improvement plan.
- **Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Fund** - This fund accounts for the revenue and expenditures related to motor fuel tax collected by the State of Illinois and distributed to the City of Bloomington based on population.
- **Water Fund** - This fund accounts for revenue and expenses related to infrastructure projects financed as part of the City’s water improvement plan.
- **Sewer Fund** - This fund accounts for revenue and expenses related to infrastructure projects financed as part of the City’s sewer improvement plan.
- **Storm Water Fund** - This fund accounts for revenue and expenses related to infrastructure projects financed as part of the City’s storm water improvement plan.

Capital Improvement Plan	
\$6,053,200	Capital Improvement Project Fund ¹
\$1,544,000	Motor Fuel Fund ²
\$4,412,000	Water Fund ²
\$1,189,000	Sewer Fund ²
\$1,109,000	Storm Water Fund ²
\$14,307,200	Total

¹- Does not include 2011 - 2012 Capital Lease and TIF Fund

²- Located in Enterprise Funds



Capital Improvement Plan: Morris Avenue

Among multiple capital projects scheduled in the City's Fiscal Year 2013 Capital Improvement Plan, and detailed in the City's FY 2013 Budget Document, is the Morris Avenue reconstruction project which will be funded from the Motor Fuel Tax Capital Fund, the Storm Water Capital Fund, the Sewer Capital Fund, and the Water Capital Fund representing a \$1,465,000 investment. The plan includes the widening of portions of Morris Avenue, south of the Park Hill Cemetery, from a two lane rural highway design with shoulders and open ditches to a three lane urban design, installation of new curb and gutter, and replacement of aging water and sewer mains. The new road reconstruction design will match previous improvements the City made to Morris Avenue north of the cemetery and will compliment the work being performed by the Illinois Department of Transportation on Veteran's Highway as part of their "Veterans/Morris/Six Points/Springfield/Greenwood reconstruction project".

The new road design will be wider, less rough, have a bi-directional center turn lane and convey traffic more efficiently. Completion of this last section will provide a street which conforms to the latest standards and has a consistent urban cross section with curb and gutter between Hamilton Road and Washington Street. The Morris Avenue reconstruction project will address the issues of poor pavement conditions which require routine pothole patching and maintenance. Driveway culverts often plug in this area and cause storm water to fill the ditches and run down the pavement.

The project proposes to replace the existing water main located under Morris Avenue. The current water main in this location has aged and is made from a now antiquated cast iron material which is susceptible to ruptures and has been the site of numerous water main breaks. The City plans to utilize modern ductile iron water mains to replace the older mains in this location hopefully alleviating a lot of the breaks the City has previously experienced.



Existing 2 lane section of Morris Avenue near Miller Park Zoo with cracking asphalt and open storm water ditches



Previously completed section of Morris Avenue with wider lanes and bi-directional turn lane. This design will be extended to southern portions of Morris Ave.

Capital Improvement Plan: Fire Training Tower



Example of a Fire Training Tower

The Regional Fire Training Tower (FTT) is part of a larger training facility project located behind existing Fire Station #2 at 1911 East Hamilton Road. The purpose of the live fire training simulator is to provide realistic training for fire suppression personnel while on duty. Some of the areas of training include hose advancement, fire suppression, ventilation, search and rescue, tactics and officer training. This facility may be able to help with fire prevention by incorporating its use into programs such as a Juvenile Firesetters Program or other public education programs. Unlike non-habitable structures (commonly referred to as acquired structures) the fire simulator is designed to comply with the National Fire Protection Agency standards. This is to ensure the safety of firefighter personnel when training under these conditions. Acquired structures are not designed to burn and do not provide the safest training environment.

Through the legislative support of State Representative Daniel P. Brady, the City was successful in securing a \$405,000 Capital Grant for the construction of a Fire and Rescue Training Tower (FTT). The cost of the FTT superstructure is \$258,367. Engineering, site work, and installation of the FTT are estimated to cost \$638,853. The total estimated cost of the project is \$897,220. The investment for the project on the City's behalf is estimated to be \$492,220. The Fire Department will be developing policies and a fee structure for area emergency service providers who wish to utilize the FTT. These fees will provide funds to help deflect direct cost such as maintenance of the structure and replacing consumables such as pallets and straw. These fees will also cover additional Fire Department personnel needed onsite while outside agencies use the FTT.

The FTT will be the center piece of the Multiple Hazards Training Facility. This multi-phased project will incorporate training aids such as a railroad tank car, roof and floor simulators, props for vehicle/machinery extrication, forcible entry, and hazardous materials. Another part of the training facility is the development of a 'Dirty' classroom structure. This building will allow firefighting personnel an area to prepare for training ground activities and hold classes.



Example of rescue Training Performed at a Fire Training Tower



Frequently Asked Questions

What do my property taxes Pay For? Property Taxes pay for Police, Fire, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, Library, and Planning.

Who is responsible for assessing my property’s value? Your property value is assessed by the County. For more information on your property assessment visit: <http://www.wevaluebloomington.org/>

Why do my property taxes increase when the market value of my house has decreased? Property taxes are assessed by the County and are based on your property’s assessed value, not your property’s real market value at any given time.

Why has my property assessment changed?

Illinois law requires the assessor to update values at least once every four years. The tax year 2008 falls in the four-year cycle. When your property was reviewed, the assessor may have found updates not previously on the record that added to value. Your property appraisal was completed using the most recent sales transaction in your area. If the old value was out of line with transactions over the past three years, your value was changed to reflect changes in market condition since your property was last valued.

What are the legal requirements for my assessment?

The Property Tax Code states that each property shall be assessed at 33 1/3% of “Fair Cash Value”.

What method (s) are used by the assessor to value my property?

The process and methods used by the assessor are very similar to those used by private appraisers. Property transactions over the past three years are studied in the market area where your property is located. These transactions are then compared to your property to help the appraiser estimate your property value.

For more information please visit: <http://www.wevaluebloomington.org/>

Contact Information

City of Bloomington
109 East Olive Street
Bloomington, IL 61701
www.cityblm.org

City Hall General Information	309-434-2509
City Management	309-434-2210
City Clerk	309-434-2240
Finance	309-434-2331
Human Resources	309-434-2215
Legal	309-434-2213
Library	309-828-6091
Fire (non-emergency)	309-434-2500
Police (non-emergency)	309-434-270
PR&CA	309-434-2260
Public Works	
Engineering	309-434-2225
Streets & Solid Waste	309-434-2220
Water Department	
Water Billing	309-434-2495
Water Payment	309-434-2338
Inquiries	



Glossary

Adopted Budget: The budget as finally adopted by the City Council and representing the financial plan of the City for the fiscal year identified, which forms a basis for appropriations. The adopted budget document includes Budget Committee and City Council revisions; however, certain changes to the adopted budget are allowed during the fiscal year via resolution or ordinance. The adopted budget becomes effective May 1st and is submitted to the State for filing within 30 days after adoption of each year.

Approved budget: The budget that has been approved by the City Council. The data from the approved budget is published in the Budget Message before the budget hearing.

Assessed Valuation (AV): The value set on taxable property determined by the Bloomington Township Assessor as a basis for levying property taxes.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP): Annual appropriations from specific funding sources are shown in the City's budget for certain capital purposes such as street improvements, building construction, and some kinds of facility maintenance. These appropriations are supported by a multi-year allocation plan detailing all projects, fund sources, and expenditure amounts including many multi-year projects that require funding beyond the one-year period of the annual budget.

Charges for Service: Revenues received as compensation for a service provided or cost recovery for mandated compliance, such as fire inspection fees.

Fees: General term used for any charge levied by local government in connection with providing a service, permitting an activity, or imposing a fine or penalty. Major types of fees include building permits, business and non-business taxes, fines, and user charges.

Fiscal Year: A 12-month period to which the annual operating budget applies. The fiscal year is May 1 through April 30 for The City of Bloomington.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE): A calculation used to convert part-time hours to equivalent full-time positions. Full time employee salaries are based on 2,080 hours per year. The full-time equivalent of a part-time employee is calculated by dividing the number of hours budgeted by 2,080. For example, a .5 FTE budgeted position will work 1,040 hours. Staffing levels are measured in FTE's to give a consistent comparison from year to year. In most cases, 1.00 FTE is one full time position filled for the entire year; however, in some instances an FTE may consist of several part time positions.

Fund: A fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Records cash and other financial resources together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances and changes therein. These are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, or limitations.

Levy: Gross amount of property taxes imposed on taxable property. The net amount received by a government will be less than the gross levy as a result of delinquent or uncollectible payments or early payment discounts. Budgets are developed on the basis of the projected amount of property taxes to be received.

Proposed Budget: Financial and operating plan proposed and submitted by City Staff for Council consideration and adoption.

Resources: Total of revenues, interfund transfers in, and beginning fund balance.

Revenue: Monies received during the year to finance City services. Such as property taxes, franchise fees, license and fees, charges for services, revenues from other governmental agencies, fines and forfeitures, and transfers.

Working Capital: The amount carried over from year to year. It is based on the difference between estimated revenues to projected expenditures.

Volunteer Opportunities

Have you ever thought about using your unique skills and talents to serve your community and make Bloomington a better place? Perhaps you're interested in personal and professional growth and want additional networking opportunities. Or maybe you just love Bloomington and want to engage your community to enhance your civic pride. Volunteering may be just what you are looking for.

Bloomington is seeking volunteers who can make a commitment to bettering our community by serving on our standing boards and commissions. These groups serve as advisory bodies and make recommendations to the City Council. Please consider joining the group of dedicated volunteers who help our City run smoothly.

How to Apply

Appointments are made as vacancies occur. Call 309-434-2210 for a list of current openings, the application form, or for answers to questions you may have about the appointment. Appointments are at the discretion of the Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, and are made at a Council meeting.

Applications are also available online at our website and can be downloaded electronically and submitted by hand, fax, e-mail, or postal mail. Once you submit your application, you will be contacted by a member of City Staff, and he or she may want to schedule an interview.

Boards and Commissions

Beautification Committee: Recommends to the City Council all programs of any description or variety calculated to enhance the appearance of the City of Bloomington, including but not limited to recommendations for priorities of City action, and changes in both the Bloomington city or other ordinances adopted by the City Council". 12 - member committee which meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Bloomington Library Community Room.

Building Construction Board: Reviews appeals of the building code, demolition orders, repair orders, and updates to City building codes. 7-member committee which meets the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00 pm at the Bloomington City Hall.

Cultural District Committee: Recommends programs calculated to enhance the viability of the Cultural District, working in conjunction with appropriate City personnel to elicit public participation and support. 14-member committee which meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 am at the BCPA.

Fire and Police Commission: Appoints all ranks of the Fire and Police Departments of the City. 5 - member board which meets the first of the month of each month at 4:00 pm in the Police Conference Room.

Historic Preservation Commission: Issues certificates of appropriateness. Certificates are required for work being conducted on the exterior of homes in the historic district. 7 - member commission which meets the third Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm at the Bloomington Council Chambers.

Library Board: Serves as the governing body for the Library functions and budget. 9 - member board which meets the third Tuesday of each month at 4:30 pm in the Library Conference Room.

Liquor Commission: Serves as an advisory commission to the Mayor and City Council. 6 - member commission which meets the second Tuesday of each month at 4:00 pm in the City Hall Conference Room.

Planning Commission: Prepares and recommends to the City Council changes or alterations in the City's Comprehensive Plan. 10 - member commission which meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers.

For More Information: Contact Us

Website: www.cityblm.org

Phone: 309-434-2210

