



PROPOSED CITY OF BEXLEY

2026 BUDGET

AS PRESENTED NOVEMBER 11, 2025
BUDGET REVISION 2.0



REVISION 2.0: SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- **Revenue Assumptions**

- Revised projected income tax revenue for 2025 and 2026

- **Expenditure Detail**

- Decreased Fire Contract cost reflecting updated information from City of Columbus
- Incorporated minor increase to Development account for newsletter printing/mailing and a new \$10,000 line item for a DARN grant for food insecurity
- Moved Capital cost for a portion of the Senior Center build out to Recreation Fund and Pool Capital to Pool Fund (in place of Capital Fund)
- Increased IT related Capital requests
- Decreased transfer to Capital Fund to \$1.4 million (from \$2.05 million)

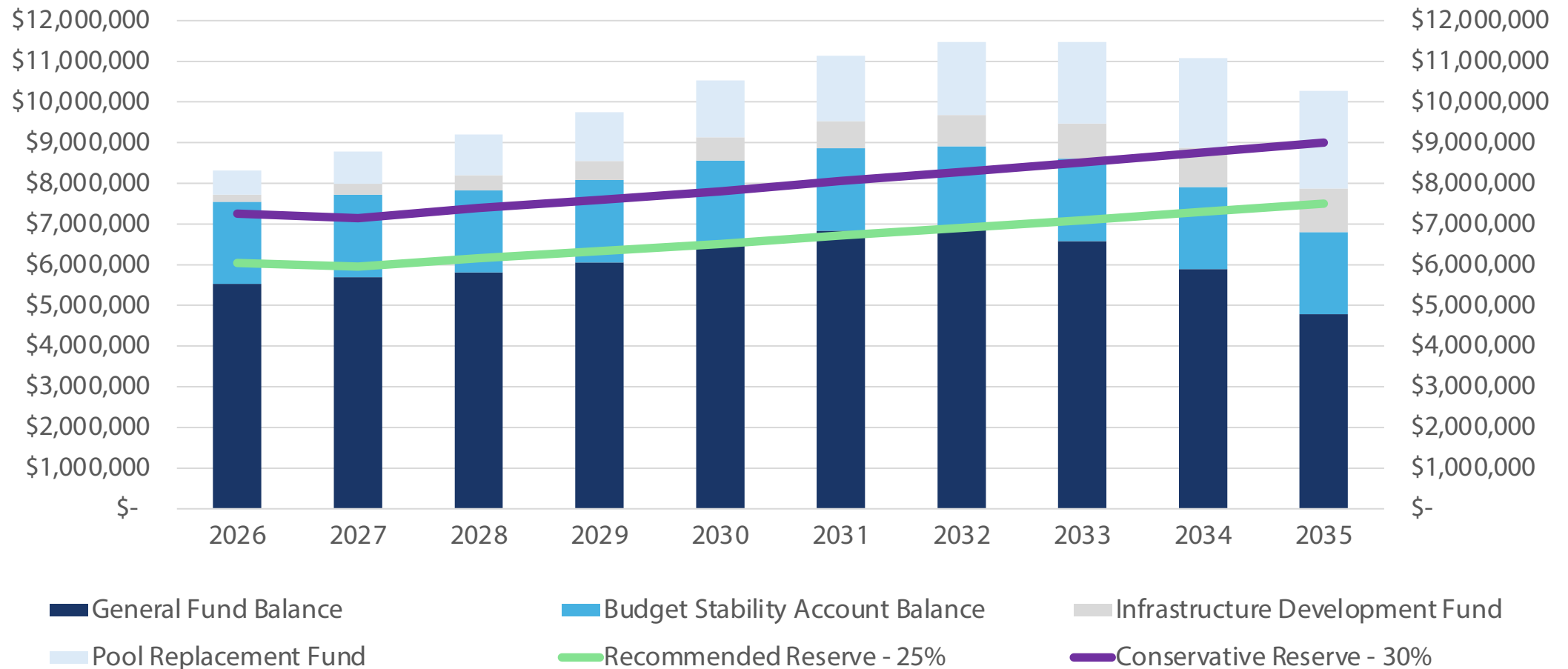
- **Addition of General Fund Summary/introduction section to budget book**

10-YEAR PROJECTION ASSUMPTIONS

- 3% income tax revenue increase projection for 2026
- Slight increase in income tax in 2028 to account for The Fitzgerald
- Increase in property tax in 2030 to account for reassessment
- Lower interest earnings
- 3.0% year-over-year wage increases (COLAs)
- 5% year-over-year health insurance cost increases

10-YEAR FUND BALANCE PROJECTIONS

Change from Budget Revision 1.0: Reflects More Conservative Income Tax Projections



DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS

- **General Government Operating Expenditures (General Fund)**
 - Mayor's Office / City Hall
 - Auditor's Office
 - Building and Planning
 - City Attorney
 - Development
 - Finance
 - Grants Reimbursed
 - Human Resources
 - Mayor's Court
 - Technology (and Technology Capital)
 - Boards and Commissions
 - City Council
- **Public Health and Safety Operating Expenditures (General Fund)**
 - Police (and Police Capital)
 - Health and Human Services (*New*)
 - Fire and Emergency
- **Police and Technology Capital Expenditures (Capital Fund)**

MAYOR'S OFFICE/CITY HALL

- **Staffing Summary:** No proposed changes.
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Continued funding for the City's continued membership in regional partnerships such as the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and the Central Ohio Mayor's and Manager's Association (COMMA);
 - Increased funding for training and professional development;
 - Tuition reimbursement and employee awards line items have been moved to Human Resources Budget in 2026;
 - A **decrease of 10.92%** in Mayor's Office operating expenditures.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE

- **Staffing Summary:** No proposed changes
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Salary for the City Auditor;
 - Audit fees for annual audit;
 - Audit fees for ongoing internal audits.

BUILDING AND PLANNING

- **Staffing Summary:** Addition of a part time Code Enforcement Officer
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - The funding for subconsultants includes:
 - Chief Building Official and building inspectors, Mike Boryca and Associates
 - City Planner, Jason Sudy
 - Staff Consultant Architect, Karen Bokor
 - Franklin County Public Health, Plumbing Inspection Services
 - Landscape Consultant, Walter Reins
 - City Engineer, Dave Koch
 - An increase in funding for abatement services to support expanded code enforcement including new year-round part time Code Enforcement Officer;
 - An increase in funding for contract professionals in anticipation of increased construction activity and corresponding plan review and field design reviews of ARB approved projects.

CITY ATTORNEY

- **Expenditure Highlights:**

- Continued funding for contracted City Attorney position;
- Continued funding for legal support for appeals, litigation, and special projects.

DEVELOPMENT

- **Staffing Summary:** No proposed changes.
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Funding for regional associations and conferences;
 - Increased funding in the Tax Incentive Grant line item to account for the first year of COhatch's grant eligibility;
 - \$36,000 for strategic planning, including funds for a community survey;
 - A continuation of the increased marketing budget to allow for additional print publications and videography assistance, as well as funds for updated camera equipment to aid in digital communications efforts;
 - \$40,000 to support The One Bexley Project as well as other initiatives to support inclusion in Bexley including an accessibility audit;
 - \$20,000 in sustainability funding for a newly formed food council, recycling drop-off days, air quality monitoring, and other green initiatives.

FINANCE

- **Staffing Summary:** No proposed changes.
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Continued funding for investment management;
 - Funding for staff training and conferences;
 - Property and Casualty Insurance charges;
 - Income Tax Collection fees, paid to the Regional Income Tax Authority (RITA);
 - Increase in Bank Fees due to restructuring of account types along with enhanced fraud protection measures (also impacting Interest Income in Revenue);
 - Charges for Franklin County Auditor for Property Tax Collection Fees.

GRANTS

- **Expenditure Highlights:**

- Funding from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and State Capital Fund for the pedestrian and cyclist bridge, connecting the Schneider Park to the Alum Creek Trail (a carry over of unspent funds);
- Continued funding for Bexley Celebrations and Events (BC&E), the main source of resources for the City's signature community event series such as The Main Event, Fourth of July and Jazz in the Park;
- \$75,000 for the final phase of the "Year of the Parks" grant appropriation to support community-enhancing initiatives like the outdoor reading room at the Bexley Public Library and the skate spot in Schneider Park;
- \$100,000 for design-engineering for various initiatives supported by the Transit Supportive Infrastructure Fund including the Calm Corridors project and pedestrian/cyclist safety improvements to the Alum Creek bridge on East Main Street;
- \$18,000 in "Greenbacks" from the City's electrical aggregation program supplier to support various green initiatives throughout the community.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- **Staffing Summary:** No proposed changes.
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Recruiting and on-boarding expenses, including job posting advertisements, background checks, and specialized testing;
 - Employee tuition reimbursement and employee awards (previously in Mayor's Office budget);
 - Specialized HR expertise, including legal consultation and HR contracts;
 - All-employee learning events, including catering and outside facilitators, which will provide accessibility to important learning opportunities that increase employee engagement;
 - Accounted for in the Information Technology budget, continued funding for HR technology that streamlines the recruiting and on-boarding process across the City;
 - A new Learning Management System which will integrate with our existing HR software and provide on-demand access to 1,200+ courses, including leadership skills, compliance topics, cybersecurity skills, government-focused training, technology upskilling, and more.

MAYOR'S COURT

- **Staffing Summary:** No proposed changes.
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Continued funding to support the City's contracted prosecutor to represent the City's interests in Franklin County courts;
 - An increase in funding to support Court Interpreter services, which have seen an increase in use, resulting in a mid-year supplemental appropriation of \$2,800 in 2025 (incorporated here in the 2025 Budget column for the Court Interpreter account);
 - Funding for training for the Clerk of Court position;
 - Notably, outside of the Mayor's Court administrative budget is funding to support the upgrade of the core court software, CMI. Funding for this initiative is included in the Technology budget.

TECHNOLOGY

- **Staffing Summary:** Addition of new full-time IT Support Analyst
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Funding for ongoing telecommunications and hardware requirements;
 - New telecommunications to support dedicated connectivity for the new Police Department Radio System recently approved by City Council;
 - Software costs anticipated for, but not limited to, departmental line of business software for Police, Finance, Water Department, Mayor's Court, Building and Zoning, Service, as well as Citywide Productivity Software Suites;
 - Software costs expected to rise substantially due to contractual services moving from Police Department to IT, support for the new CentralSquare CAD/RMS system for Police;
 - Advancing already sustained **cybersecurity Initiatives** with upgraded endpoint protection, security information and event management, expanded multifactor authentication, and ongoing policy development and compliance;
 - Emphasizing training and professional development.

TECHNOLOGY: CAPITAL FUND

Meraki Wireless End of Life Replacements	\$14,200
Jeffrey Mansion Front Camera and Intercom Upgrades	\$28,276
VIP Migration (Water Billing System)	\$50,000
Jeffrey Mansion Copier	\$16,648
Skate Park Cameras (2)	\$11,020
Community Garden Cameras (2)	\$11,020
Technology Capital Fund Total	\$131,164

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- **Expenditure Highlights:**

- Continued funding for overtime for clerical support of the various boards and commissions.

CITY COUNCIL

- **Staffing Summary:** No proposed changes.
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Continued funding for Council compensation;
 - Continued funding related to making the City's Codified Ordinances available online.

POLICE: GENERAL FUND

- **Staffing Summary:** Proposes funds to hire a Police Captain, and to add new Dispatcher and a Police Officer positions to the table of authorized strength
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Increased patrol equipment funding (to outfit new officers once hired);
 - Funding to support year three of four towards national CALEA accreditation;
 - Continued funding for Emergency Management Program, including notification system;
 - Continued funding for community events such as National Night Out, Citizens Policy Academy, Safety Town, and Shop with a Cop.

POLICE: CAPITAL FUND

K9 Cruiser (F-150 Hybrid)	\$68,000
Cruiser (Explorer Hybrid)	\$81,000
Police Department Exterior Security (Bollards)	\$10,750
Urban SDK - Speed and Traffic Metrics (Slow Down Bexley)	\$12,000
Speed Warning Trailer (Slow Down Bexley)	\$33,064
Police Call Box (Skate Park and Dog Park)	\$10,000
Facility Capital Improvements (Brickwork; Ballistic Glass; HVAC)	\$31,000
Police Department Capital Total	\$245,814

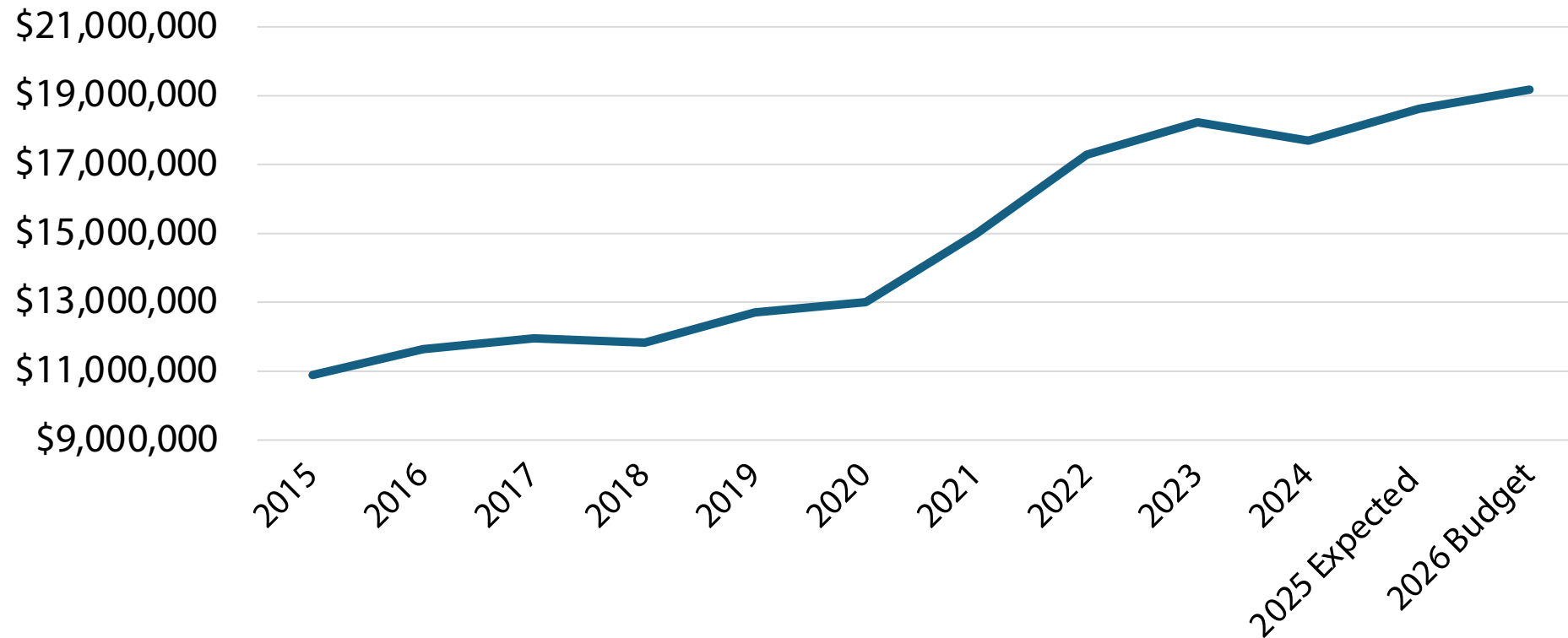
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **Staffing Summary:** Proposes new part-time Social Services Coordinator
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - New funding for new part-time Social Services Coordinator, as well as a contracted case management supervisor (in addition to internal supervision);
 - \$10,000 for a food insecurity grant to DARN;
 - Continued funding for contract with Franklin County Public Health for various health safety services and mosquito program;
 - New funding for new Mosquito Advisory Group.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY

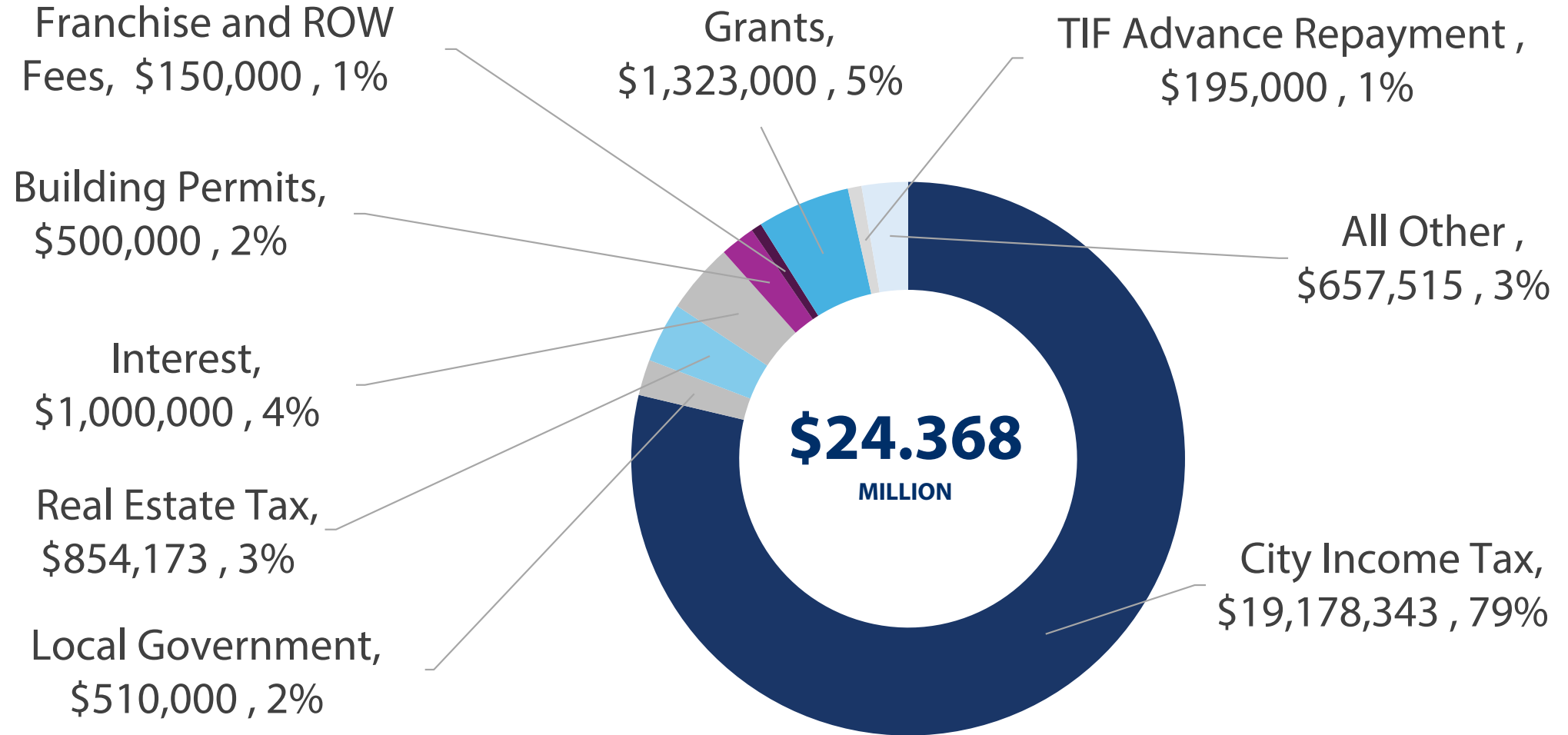
- Includes City of Columbus Division of Fire and Franklin County Emergency Management contracts
- **Expenditure Highlights:**
 - Due to prior overpayment to City of Columbus for fire and emergency medical services, Bexley received a credit in 2025 toward the annual contract amount (credit is reflected in 2025 operating revenue);
 - 4.48% decrease in Fire Contract compared to 2025 Budget (although 2025 was overbudgeted);
 - 2.56% increase in disaster relief contract (FC&HS).

10-YEAR INCOME TAX SUMMARY

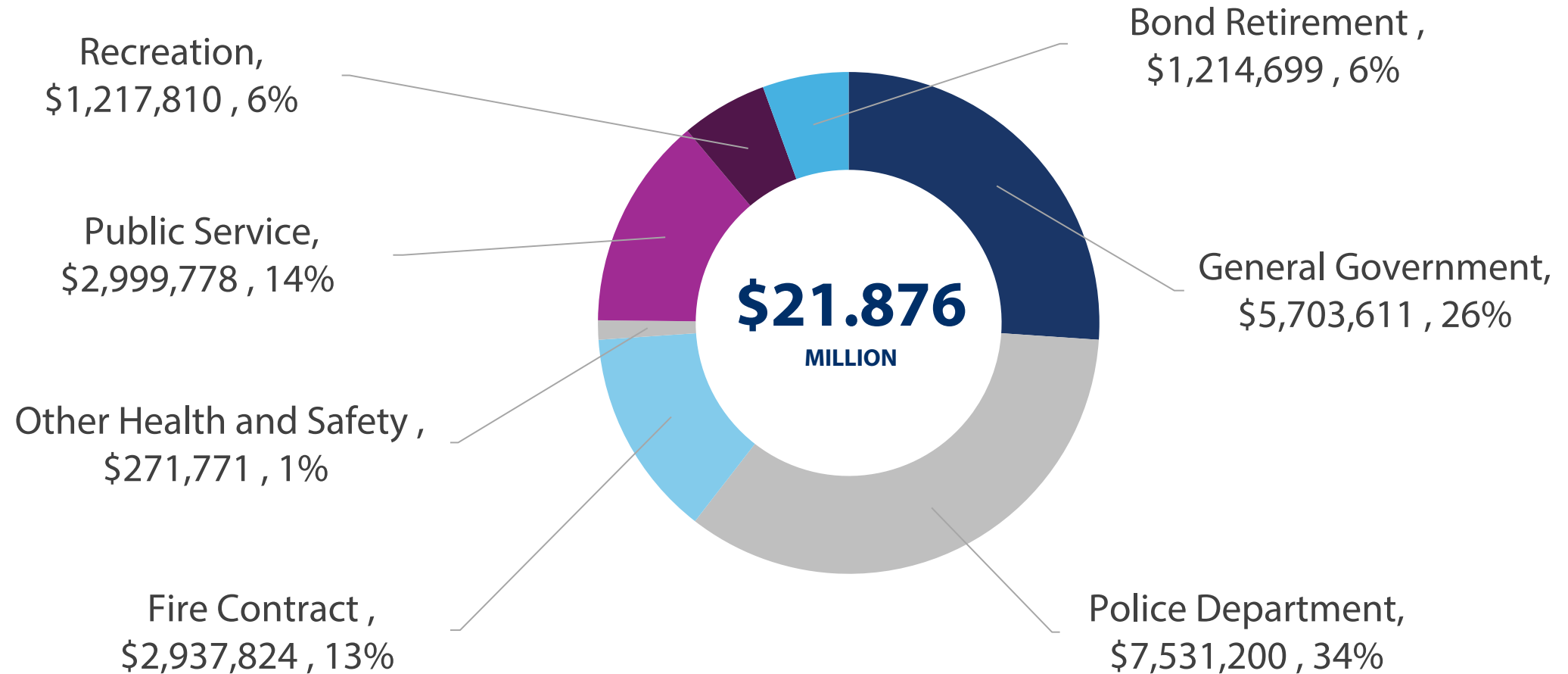


- Removing 2021/2022 (COVID-19 outliers), Bexley has approx. 4% annual income tax revenue growth
- 2026 Budget projects conservative 3% growth over 2025 expected income tax revenue
- Expected 2025 income tax revenue over \$2 million higher than budgeted

GENERAL FUND REVENUE



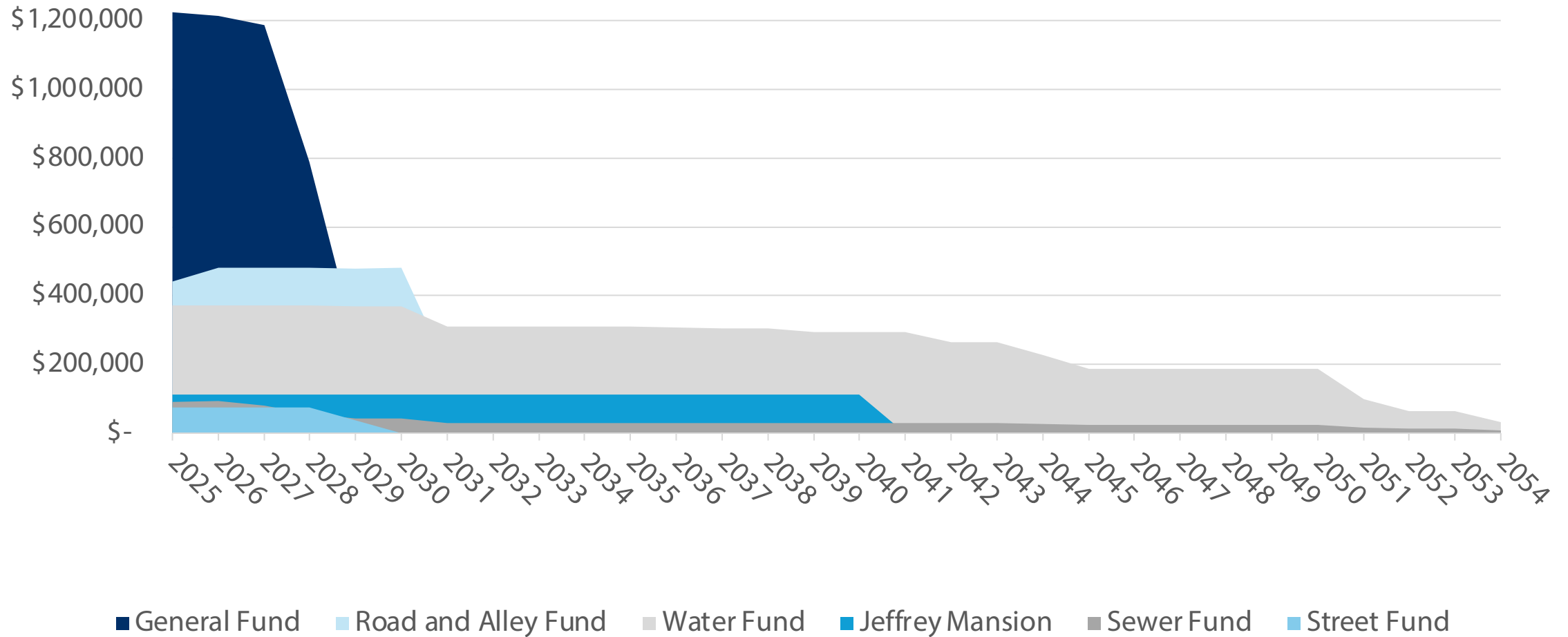
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

General Fund Transfers	Late 2025	2026 Budget
Capital Improvement Fund	\$750,000	\$1,400,000
Street Fund		\$250,000
Recreation Fund Transfer		\$270,000
Infrastructure Development Fund	\$3,300,000	\$100,000
Pool Fund		\$125,000
Pool Replacement Fund		\$200,000
Employee Severance Payout Fund		\$30,000
Water Fund		\$295,000

DEBT SERVICE



BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS: GENERAL FUND

- Higher than expected 2025 year-end fund balance projected due to increases in income tax revenue and savings on City of Columbus Fire Contract
- Incorporates minor operating spending increases, mostly due to staff cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) and rising material costs
- Includes \$1.3 million in grant reimbursed expenses (with some carry over of grant funds not yet spent from prior years)
- 4.5% decrease for contract with Columbus Division of Fire
- Includes contracted COLAs for bargaining unit employees (ranging from 3.5% to 4% depending on the unit)
- Expands code enforcement investment
- Includes new Social Services Coordinator position to advance mental health and resource navigation support goals
- Invests in expanded financial controls and cyber security
- Continues support for premium health and public safety services

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS: ALL FUNDS

- Maintains healthy reserves across all funds, including the General Fund, Budget Stabilization Fund, and Pool Replacement and Infrastructure Development Fund (which can be used in emergency situations for operational needs)
- Advances goals and objectives of the City's strategic plans
- Includes new positions to support code enforcement, social services, and moving pool operations in-house ; 3% COLAs for non-bargaining unit employees
- Supports staff training and development
- Includes significant transfer to Infrastructure Development Fund to support environmental remediation efforts
- Incorporates funding for major capital improvement projects
- Invests in design and build out of the new senior center at 420 N. Cassady and includes rent for a temporary senior center location