# **GFOAT Budget 101 Webinar**



#### Introductions



John Zagurski Finance Director, City of Northlake Treasurer, GFOAT



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## **BUDGET 101- Agenda**

- Budget Overview
  - Budget Strategies
  - Budget Roles & Environment
  - Budget Calendar
- What We Budget
  - Fund Types
  - Revenue Types
  - Expenditure Categories

- Forecasting Techniques
- Revenue Projections
  - Property Tax
  - Sales Tax
  - Other Revenue
- Expenditure Projections
  - Salary & Benefits Projections
  - Operating Expenditures
- Capital Improvement Program



## Why Budget?

It's the Law

Hearings and Notices

Inspection

Authorized by Ordinance

Structurally Balanced



## **Budget Development: Types of Budgets**

Traditional, or line item budgeting

Target based budgeting

Program based budgeting

Zero Based Budgeting **Priority Based Budgeting** 

**Hybrid Approach** 

Most municipalities



## **Key Actors and Their Roles**

#### **BUDGET ROLES**

Budget Office City Manager Department Heads

City Council

Citizens



### Phases of the Budget Cycle

#### Budget Preparation: January - June

- Prepare Strategic Plan with City Council
- Establish Budget Focus
- Financial Forecast 3, 5, or 10 year
- Revenue Estimates
- Develop Proposed Budget
- Preliminary Appraisal Roll Information Received

# **Budget Approval:** July - September

- City Manager Recommended Budget & CIP submitted to Council
- Work with Counties on TNT Rates
- City Council reviews and approves budget & tax rate
  - Adoption of the Budget & CIP first
  - Tax Rate second

#### **Execution & Implementation:**

October thru December Really all Year Long

- Periodic reporting and monitoring
- Publish and submit Budget & CIP
- Plan for Tax Rate Election if over Voter Approved Rate

# **Annual Audit:**January

 The purpose of the audit is to ensure that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City and have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and governmental accounting standards.



## **Fund Accounting Basics**

- Focuses on funding source and acceptable uses
- The use of funds determined by entity
  - Implement when legally or logistically needed
- The number of funds determined by entity
  - Minimize when possible
- Audit includes all funds, even if "rolled-up"
- Budget includes budgeted funds + others as wanted



### **Overall Fund Types**

Governmental

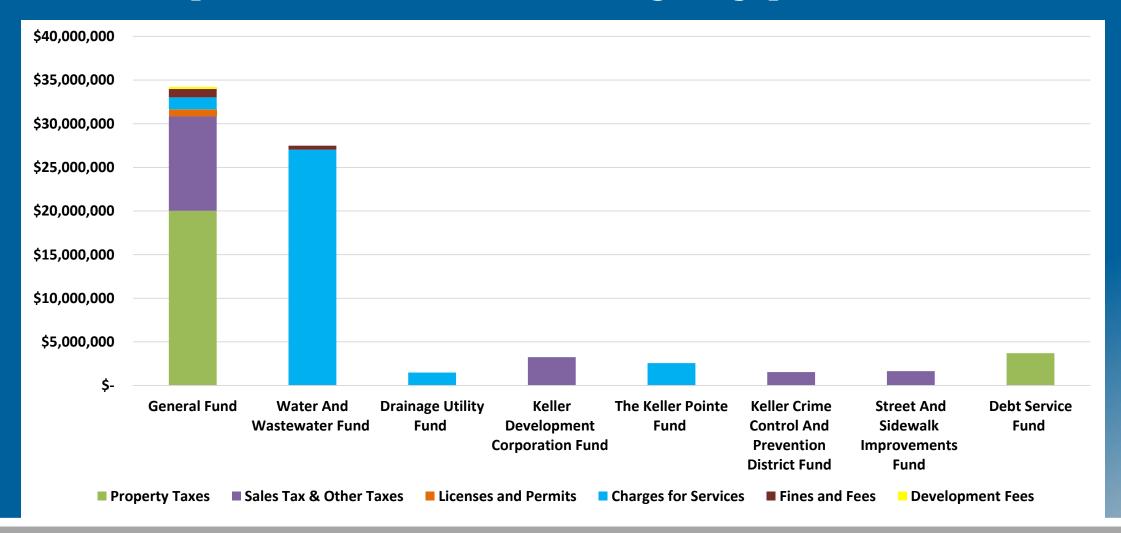
**Proprietary** 

**Fiduciary** 

- Funds through which most governmental functions of the City are financed Ex. General Fund, Debt Fund
- Operations that are financed in a manner similar to private business enterprises Ex. Water and Wastewater Fund
- Contain resources held by a government but belonging to individuals or entities other than the government Ex. Employee Health Trust



## **Example - Revenues by Type and Fund**





## Levels of Forecasting

Technique	Definition
Naïve forecasting	Projecting revenues based on based on the most recent, typical (or normal) period. Alternatives include using:  • The absolute change from the last period  • The percent change from the last period  • The value of the last similar period
Judgmental forecasting	Making forecasts based on one's expertise, intuition, and knowledge about the revenue source.
Expert forecasting	Process of producing estimates based on informed opinion of experts, such as economists, demographers, market researchers, etc.



# Revenue Projections



# **Expenditures Projections**



## Capital Improvement Program



#### What is a CIP

<u>Capital Improvement Project</u>: Construction, major maintenance and improvement projects. Includes infrastructure upgrades and replacement

- Capital Improvement Plan: A 5 to 10 Year Plan
  - Update Annually Not "One and Done"
  - Approved by Council
  - Future Capital Improvement Projects





#### What qualifies as a Capital Improvement Project?



MAINTAINS/ IMPROVES A CITY ASSET



NEW CONSTRUCTION



**EXPANSION** 



RENOVATION



**REPLACEMENT** 



USUALLY COMPLETED OVER MULTI-YEARS



#### Words of Wisdom from the Panelists



"If You Fail to Plan, You Plan to Fail"

Benjamin Franklin



### **Contact Information**

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