

Budget Highlights for 2016 General Fund

General Fund Budget Summary			
	2014 Actuals	2015 Approved Budget	2016 Draft Budget
Revenues	\$ 140,950,260	\$ 139,921,988	\$ 145,957,992
Transfers In	\$ 14,583,884	\$ 9,305,646	\$ 8,747,997
Use of Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ 151,053	\$ 427,000
Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources	\$ 155,534,144	\$ 149,378,687	\$ 155,132,989
Expenditures	\$ 148,121,237	\$ 152,001,058	\$ 159,431,916
Transfers Out	\$ 4,812,909	\$ 2,495,327	\$ 877,651
Total Expenditures & Other Financing Uses	\$ 152,934,146	\$ 154,496,385	\$ 160,309,567

2016 Major Revenue Changes (compared to 2015 Approved Budget):

Property Tax	2,954,070	2015 was a reassessment year in Charleston County and millage was rolled back to 78.1 from 80.3. 2016 operating millage is also 78.1. Projections anticipate 3% growth in the tax base.	Page 1
Business Licenses	1,396,335	Based on average growth of 3% for several license categories.	Page 2
Building & related Permits	352,200	Based on 2014 revenue and 2015 revenue to date (which exceeds budget), permit revenue is expected to increase.	Page 3
Local Option Sales Tax (LOST)	362,700	Slight growth is projected.	Page 1
Transfers In	(557,649)	Transfers vary from year to year, depending on specific circumstances.	Pages 9 & 10
Fund Balance	275,947	Undesignated Fund Balance is not budgeted.	Page 2
Franchise Fee	1,001,140	Based on actual revenues received year-to-date, projected revenue for 2016 will be higher. Increases result from electric/gas/cable TV rate increases and growth in number of electric/gas/cable TV customers.	Page 1
Other (Net of increases & decreases)	(30,441)		
Total increase in Revenues	5,754,302		

2016 Notable Expenditure Increases/Decreases (compared to 2015 Approved Budget):

Personnel & Fringe Benefit changes:

New Positions for 2016:				
18 positions for Firefighting Company - Cainhoy	382,646	To staff temporary Cainhoy station for 6 months for new Company; 3 shifts of 4 personnel plus 3 backup operation for water tankers already stationed in upper Cainhoy (3 Captains, 3 Engineers, 3 Assistant Engineers, 6 Firefighters).	Public Safety	Page 40
1 Assistant Fire Marshal	45,000	To provide new commercial hood cleaning inspection program (excluding benefits)	Public Safety	Page 43
1 Facilities Maintenance Manager and 1 Trades Master	100,308	For the new Gaillard Municipal complex	Gen Govt	Page 22
1 City Architect	70,569	Increase architectural staff to 2 based on recommendations from study regarding BAR processes.	Gen Govt	Page 59
1 Plan Reviewer	38,882	Add to Inspections staff to decrease turnaround time for plan reviews.	Public Safety	Page 45
2 Administrative Assistants	63,135	1 for Fire Operations, 1 for Fire Training Center (excluding benefits)	Public Safety	Pages 40 & 42
1 Part-Time Recreation Assistant	10,000	For additional programming at Arthur Christopher Community Center	Gen Govt	Page 75
COPS grant ending in 2016	119,163	Assume 100% of costs for COPS grant to add additional officers. Grant ends 8/31/2016	Public Safety	Page 35
Police - new pay plan	564,000	Change to step increase eligibility for police officers	Public Safety	Page 35
Fire - Paramedic program	60,000	additional pay for 14 paramedics to begin Advanced Life Support Program (7% increase)	Public Safety	Page 40
Reduction in Healthcare (net of employee premiums)	(588,443)	Decreasing trend in 2015 projected to continue into 2016.	All	various
2% Cost of Living adjustment	1,533,542	Not including related fringe benefits (*included below).	Gen Govt	Page 106
Decrease in funding for Workers' Comp	(207,520)	Decreasing trend - fewer and less expensive claims resulting from increased focus on safety.	Gen Govt	Page 32
*Social Security contributions	266,544	Increased contributions due to increased salaries (COLA, step increases), and additional personnel.	All	Various
*SC Retirement Systems	376,654	increased contributions due to increased rates and increased salaries (COLA, step increases) and additional personnel.	All	Various

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2016 Notable Expenditure Increases/Decreases (compared to 2015 Approved Budget):

Operating Expenditures & Capital Outlay changes:

Revenue Collections - Bank Service Charges	304,000	Increase to cover merchant service fees from online payment capability of new Government Management System.	Gen Govt	Page 7
Fire - Operations -Uniforms & Protective Clothing	71,000	Replace SCBA masks to meet new requirements.	Public Safety	Page 40
Fire - Operations - various accounts	196,606	Rent/supplies/costs associated with for Temporary Cainhoy station	Public Safety	Page 40 & 41
City Fleet Operations	43,000	Equipment for Fleet garage - heavy duty lifts for trucks, welding machine, transmission fluid exchanger	Public Service	Page 56
Information Technology	203,600	Various increases (mobile phones/datalines , software licensing, hardware and software maintenance contracts)	Gen Govt	Pages 18-20 & 48
Parks - Electrical -Street Lights (Electricity)	201,505	Street light electricity increases due to SCE&G rate increases and additional lights installed.	Gen Govt	Page 21
Parks - Facilities Maintenance	100,000	Increase in funding for general maintenance of City facilities.	Culture & Recreation	Page 22
Parks - Grounds Maintenance	100,000	Increase in funding for landscape and grounds maintenance for City parks and facilities	Culture & Recreation	Page 94
Parks - Construction	60,000	Increase in funding to start rehabilitating playground equipment in various parks.	Culture & Recreation	Page 95
Planning, Preservation & Sustainability - Studies	30,000	Increase in funding for update of Century V Plan and for West Ashley study.	Urban & Community Dev	Page 415
Final Payment to Consolidated 911 Center - Police	(911,594)	2015 was final year for payments. This reflects the decrease in contractual obligations for Fire & Police payments to Charleston County.	Public Safety	Page 35
Police - Operations	80,000	To purchased 118 Body Worn Cameras. Combined with other funding sources, this will complete outfitting of 360 patrol officers with BWCs.	Public Safety	Page 36
Police - Fleet	120,000	increase budget for upfit of new vehicles and vehicle repairs.	Public Safety	Page 35
Police - Rent for facilities	158,633	\$96,000 for Temporary Police Garage location (Savannah Hwy). Current location will be impacted by Project Zero garage development. \$50,000 anticipated rent increase for current lab space, 5% annual escalations per leases.	Public Safety	Pages 36 & 38
Police - Operations	157,490	increase funding for ballistic vests replacement plan and Civil Disturbance Unit. Also fund second installment payment for department wide TASER upgrade.	Public Safety	Page 35
Police - Operations	45,000	Increase funding for various equipment requests as prioritized by Police Department Budget Caucus process.	Public Safety	Page 36
Police - Community Outreach	40,000	To spend donation from Tbonz Foundation for Charleston Trinity Project (Camp Hope, Friday Night Lights, Turning Leaf).	Public Safety	Page 38
Public Safety Information Technology - new division	296,400	Body Camera Video Cloud Storage annual maintenance and support.	Public Safety	Page 48
Public Safety Information Technology - new division	185,000	Increase number of MDTs by 25. Includes cost of computer and software.	Public Safety	Page 48
Public Service - Engineering	24,500	Contract engineer to inspect 10 city-owned bridges. Inspections will be every other year.	Public Service	Page 44
Public Service - Trash Collections	34,825	Fund contract with Carolina Waste for e-waste that cannot be taken to landfill. Must be hauled to a recycler in Florida.	Public Service	Page 54
Recreation - Arthur Christopher Community Center	10,000	To purchase recreation equipment to support expanded programming.	Culture & Recreation	Page 75
Recreation - various programs	39,479	To fund expanded recreation program offering throughout the City.	Culture & Recreation	Various
T&T - Studies	390,000	Citywide Master Transportation Plan and Pedestrian Safety Study.	Public Safety	Page 47
T&T - Traffic Calming	40,000	increase funding for traffic calming program, including pedestrian safety improvements at 3 unsignalized intersections.	Public Safety	Page 47
T&T - Sign Shop	50,000	For relocation expenses related to move to 1906 Meeting St.	Public Safety	Page 47
Non-Departmental - Charleston County School District	225,000	City's share of HVAC system replacement at 75 Calhoun.	Gen Govt	Page 106
Non-Departmental - Charleston Digital Corridor	200,000	Provide operating support for Digital Corridor.	Gen Govt	Page 106
Non-Departmental - Emergency Fund	540,000	Consolidate and increase amount of funding available in case of emergency, which may include natural disaster, economic distress, loss of revenue, unanticipated expenses, etc. Fiscally conservation measure recommended by bond rating	Gen Govt	Pages 34 & 106

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2016 Notable Expenditure Increases/Decreases (compared to 2015 Approved Budget):				
Gaillard Municipal Office Building/Gaillard Center (Full-year)	380,630	Full year of operations for new Municipal Office Bldg - utilities, janitorial, maintenance, insurance, etc.	Gen Govt	Page 26
Decrease in lease obligations for space rental	(256,085)	Most reductions in rental space were taken in 2015 for the anticipated move into the Gaillard Municipal Office Bldg as the move occurred in mid 2015. Remaining savings result in a reduction of rent expense in total.	Various	Various
Increase in Debt Service	877,325	Increase in principal and interest payments due on bonds and capital leases, primarily the 2014 \$22m GO Bond.	Other	Page 107-114
Decrease in Transfers Out	(1,617,676)	Last payment for COP made in 2015, eliminating need for a transfer from the General Fund to the COP Fund for debt service.	Transfers Out	Page 115
Miscellaneous other increases, net of other decreases	560,064		All	Various
Total increase in Expenditures	5,813,182			