

FY2020-21 Budget Process Overview

Throughout the months of July, August and September, the City of Evanston prepares its budget for the upcoming year. The budget is then presented to City Council in early October for review and is finalized before December 31. This year, the City will prepare a two-year budget for FY2020 and 2021 in order to aid long-term planning.

Budget Development Timeline

- **September 17-21:** Community Budget Roundtable Discussions
- **Friday, October 4:** Proposed Budget available on City website
- **Saturday, October 26:** Budget Public Hearing at City Council Meeting
- **October and November:** Budget discussions at City Council Meetings
- **December 31:** Deadline for Budget Adoption

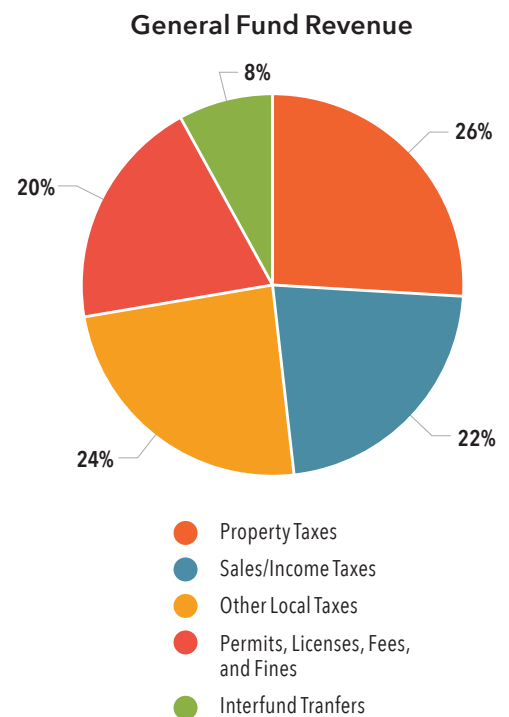
Breaking Down the Budget

What Are the City's Revenue Sources?

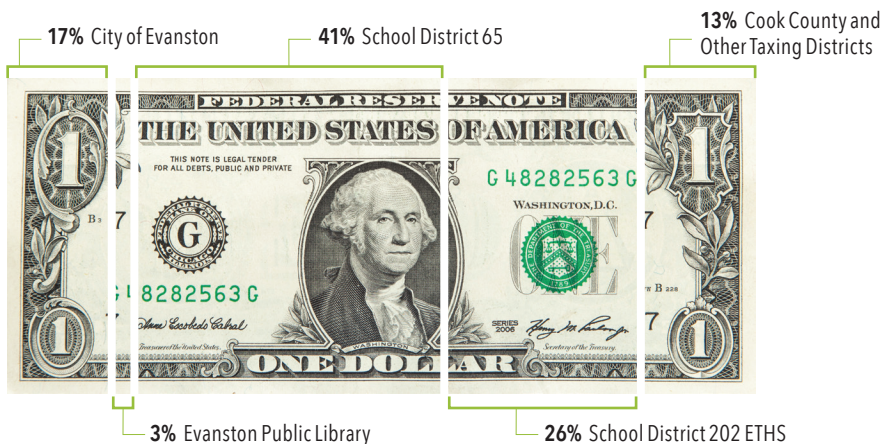
The General Fund supports many of the City's core services. In addition to property taxes, it is financed by a combination of taxes, fees, permits, fines, and state and federal funding. Property taxes account for about 26 percent of General Fund revenue.

Where Do Your Property Taxes Go?

Your property tax bill covers several taxing districts (see chart below). The City of Evanston receives 17 cents of every dollar paid in property tax, or 17 percent of the total bill. This amount funds Police and Fire Pensions, debt payments for capital projects, and General Fund operations.



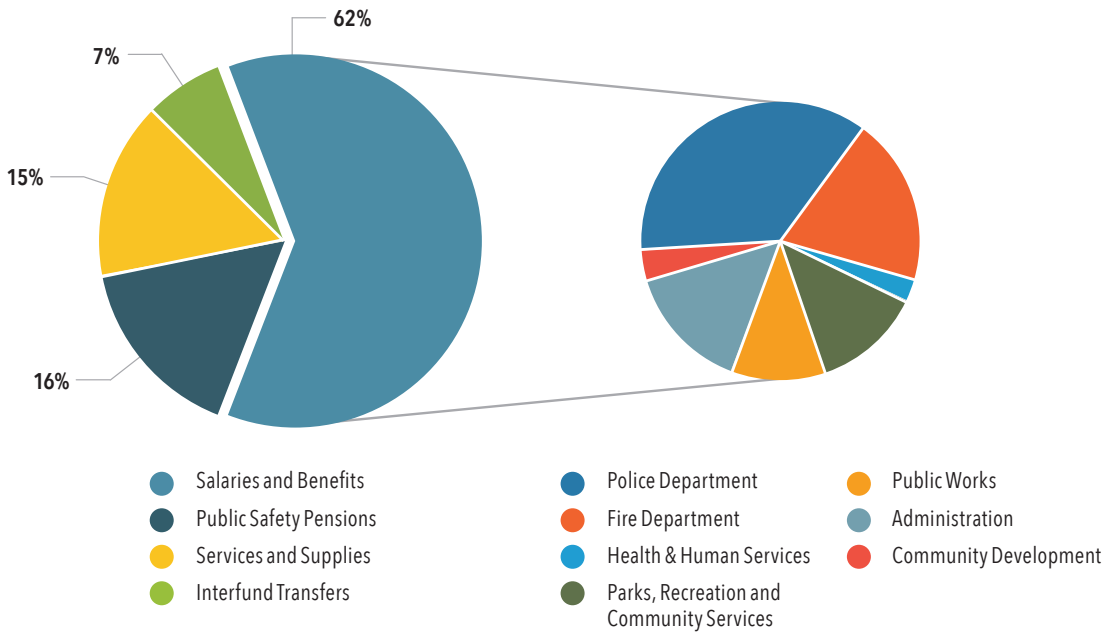
Evanston Property Taxes



What Are the City's Expenses?

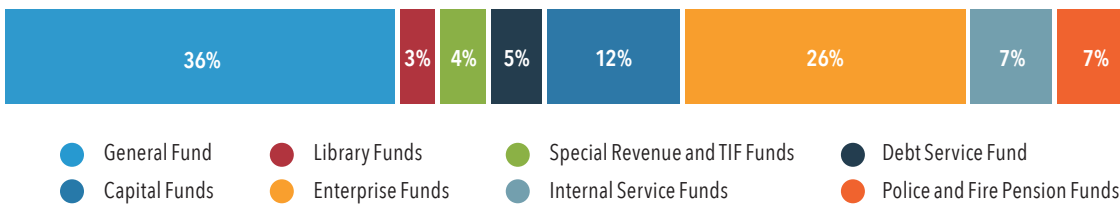
The budget is broken into multiple funds. The General Fund is the largest, making up 40 percent of the total budget. Services supported by the General Fund include public safety, recreation, health and human services, community development, public works, and administration. In 2019, the General Fund budget was \$114,153,372.

General Fund Expenses



Additional funds include: Enterprise Funds (Water, Sewer, Parking, Solid Waste), Capital Improvement Funds, Debt Service Funds, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds, and Public Safety Pension Funds. In 2019, the total budget for all funds was \$319,165,448.

All Funds Budget



FY2020-21 Budget Highlights

In 2019, the City settled contracts with its four employee unions for the years 2019–2022. Overall, personnel costs in the General Fund will increase by \$2.4 million in 2020. This includes increases to general wages, health insurance costs, and IMRF pensions.

In order to support these expense increases, City Council will consider increasing the Home Rule sales tax from

1 percent to 1.25 percent. This would change the total sales tax rate in Evanston to 10.25 percent, bringing in an expected \$1.5 million in added revenue each year. This change will be presented to City Council on September 9.

City Council will also consider other revenue and expense changes to balance the budget, including a modest increase to property taxes.