

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



JOHN COOPER
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
750 S. 5TH STREET
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37206

From: Public Works Department

To: Budget & Finance Committee

Subject: Public Works Responses to the Budget & Finance Committee

Date: May 5, 2020

Councilmembers,

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful and diligent consideration of the FY21 Public Works budget as submitted by the Mayor. Public Work's budget is not a reduction or elimination of services but will still present challenges as the continued growth and increased demand for services in our city has not been mitigated by additional Public Works employees and equipment.

Public Works respectfully submits the following answers to the questions asked by the Budget & Finance Committee.

1. What is the amount of the proposed funding decrease from the previous year?
Public Works is primarily a service provider to the citizens of Nashville and as such has received a continuity of effort budget allocation. Public Works budget has increased \$10.6m year over year which is primarily driven by contractually obligated increases. Were Public Works not to receive these contractual increases, we would need to reduce services and layoff employees to cover the cost. Please refer to PW answer for item 4.c. for more details.
2. Please provide a statement regarding the impact the proposed reductions will have on your department's operations. Specifically, please be sure to address the following questions:
 - a. What services currently provided by your department do you anticipate will be reduced/eliminated?
Public Works will not be reducing or eliminating any current services under the Mayor's proposed budget.

- b. What impact will such reduction or elimination have on the residents and businesses of Davidson County?
There will be no reduction or elimination impact on residents/businesses from the services provided by the Public Works department, however, there will not be any increases in services that the Council and citizens continually request.
 - c. How many department employees do you anticipate will be impacted by the reduction in funding?
There will be no Public Works employees impacted by continuity of effort funding in the Mayor's proposed budget.
3. Regarding the number of FTE employees in your department:
- a. How many budgeted employees do you have for the current fiscal year?
Public Works has 447.50 FTEs in the FY20 budget.
 - b. How many unfilled FTE employees does your department currently have?
Public Works currently has 39 unfilled FTE positions.
 - c. How many FTE positions are included in the Mayor's proposed budget?
Public Works has been allocated 447.50 FTEs in the Mayor's proposed budget.
4. Regarding your department's "departmental savings":
- a. What is the amount of your department's 'targeted savings' for FY2020?
Public Works was given a 'targeted savings' of \$686,400 for FY2020.
 - b. What was your department's budget for FY2020 after the targeted savings?
Public Works total expenditures and transfers are \$108,554,500 for FY2020 after the targeted savings.
 - c. How does that compare with the Mayor's proposed FY2021 budget?
The Mayor's proposed FY2021 budget is \$10,600,100 higher than the FY2020 budget. Solid Waste contractual increases for FY2021 are anticipated to be \$3,537,800 for items such as trash collection contracts, refuse disposal contracts and mulching contracts. Solid Waste also has increases in insurance billings and internal service fee charges for a total of \$517,900. The Surplus Parking fund and the In-lieu Sidewalk fund both show an increase in expenses of \$316,600 but these are offset by increased revenue projections in these funds. Longevity and out of town travel money was deducted from the FY2020 budget for a total of <\$232,200>. The Solid Waste special revenue fund does not have enough revenue income to cover the annual expenditures, accordingly funding is transferred from the GSD and USD fund to cover the annual appropriated expenditures which increased by \$6,460,000 for FY2021.

5. Regarding any previous audits in which your department has participated:
- a. What operations or expenditures have been audited within the last three years?
 - 02/19/2020: A & E Vendor Audits
 - 12/05/2019: Unusual Fuel Transactions
 - 06/12/2019: Development Conditions (SP Zoning)
 - 10/10/2017: General Government Occupational Safety Program
 - 09/18/2017: Office Fleet Management (Fleet Utilization)

Five years?

 - 12/08/2016: Public Works Traffic Signalization Improvement Projects
 - 06/26/2015: Public Works Parking Management

Ten years?

 - 10/26/2012: General Services Department Fuel Management
 - 10/02/2012: Public Works Department Contract Monitoring
 - 09/30/2011: Transportation Licensing Commission (Compliance with Financial and Operational Policies)
 - 07/01/2010: Finance Department Accounts Payable Process
 - 06/18/2010: Circuit Court Clerk Traffic and Parking Citation Process
 - 03/16/2010: General Services Capital Projects
 - b. Has any capital spending been audited during the last five years? Ten years?
 - 10/02/2012: Public Works Department Contract Monitoring
 - 03/16/2010: General Services Capital Projects
 - 2010-2019: Single Audit by the State Comptroller's Office of Federal and State provided funds expenditures by the Metropolitan Government.
 - c. Are there any prior audit recommendations still shown as pending/outstanding? If so, please identify these recommendations and provide a response regarding your department's plan to address the recommendation(s).
 - 06/12/2019: Development Conditions (SP Zoning) – Pending: Due 12/31/20
The Planning Department is coordinating with Public Works to create a written policy that addresses the principle that the developer will have the cost responsibility for the infrastructure specified in the SP conditions.