

Mayor & Council Department Overview



Mission Statement

To establish public policy and develop programs as mandated by the Tucson City Chamber, represent community interests, and work with City management to effectively meet the community's current and long-term needs.

The following divisions are included in this department:

The **Administration** division provides the necessary operating expenses to support the Mayor and Council. Key responsibilities include providing support for the Mayor's Office and six Council Offices.

The six **Ward Offices** work together with the mayor's office as the policymaking body for the City of Tucson. Key responsibilities are as follows:

- Enact ordinances, set policies, and develop an annual Legislative Agenda for the City of Tucson.
- Oversees the city budget and capital improvements program.
- Hold [weekly council meetings](#) to address issues and concerns in the community.
- Respond to constituents' concerns at neighborhood meetings, through written correspondence, and telephone communication, and staff assistance.
- Serve on Mayor and Council Subcommittees to deal with specific issues such as public safety, youth and family issues, and community services.

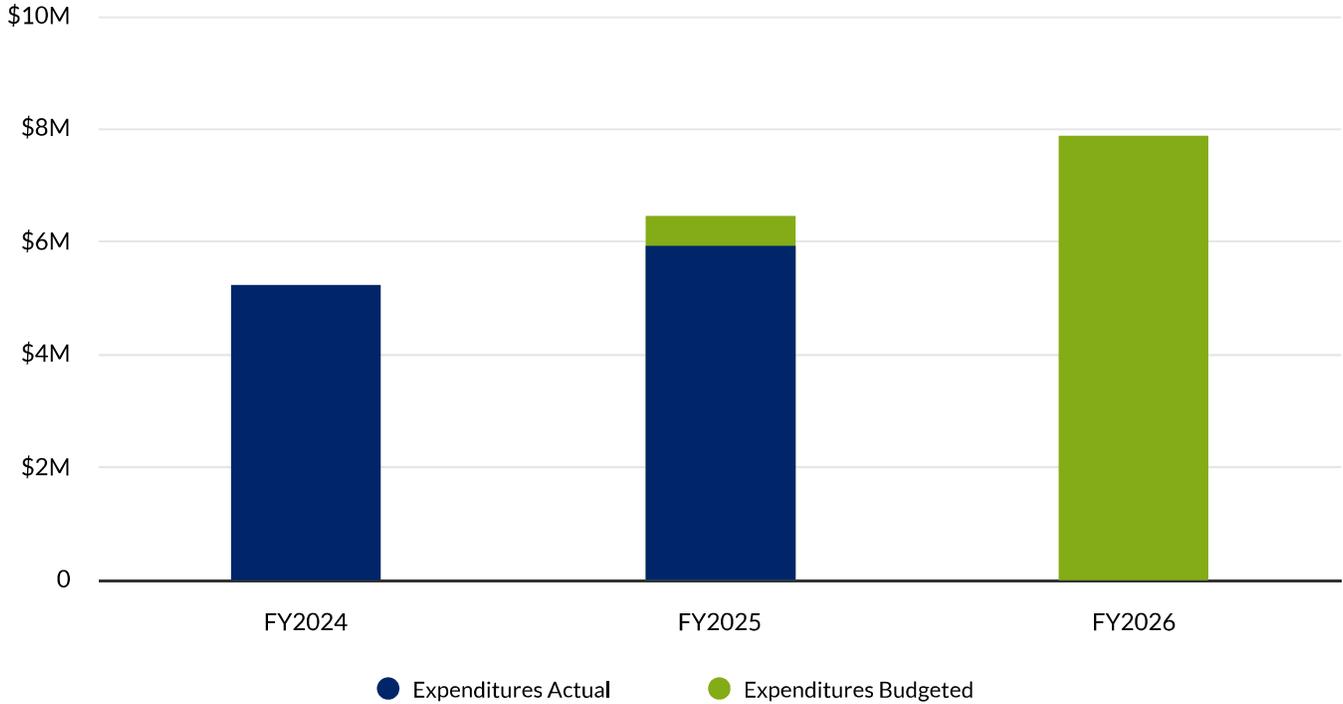
The Department's **Investment Plan** segment allows for the utilization of the available General Fund, balance strategically to address the city's needs and foster impactful investments that enhance community well-being. The key task is to prioritize and allocate funds to support various city initiatives and projects. This includes conducting thorough assessments of community needs, engaging with stakeholders, and ensuring transparency in the funding process. The funding will be monitored and adjusted as necessary to align with changing priorities and to ensure that investments lead to tangible improvements within the community.

Expenditure Summary

\$7,870,926.00

\$1,425,471 / 22% Higher Than the Prior Year's Budget

Historical Expenditures Across Department



Note: Amounts shown in the graphs are rounded up.

Significant Changes

In Fiscal Year 2026, the Mayor and Council Department is budgeted at \$7.9 million, reflecting a 22.12% increase compared to the Fiscal Year 2025 budget of \$6.4 million.

In Fiscal Year 2025, actual expenditures were \$5.9 million, which was 12.84% higher than the prior year and represented 91.83% of the budgeted amount.

The Fiscal Year 2026 budget therefore represents a substantial upward adjustment when compared to both the Fiscal Year 2025 budget and actual expenditures. This trend highlights a planned expansion in departmental resources, signaling an emphasis on strengthening governance, supporting Council operations, and advancing community priorities.

Trends

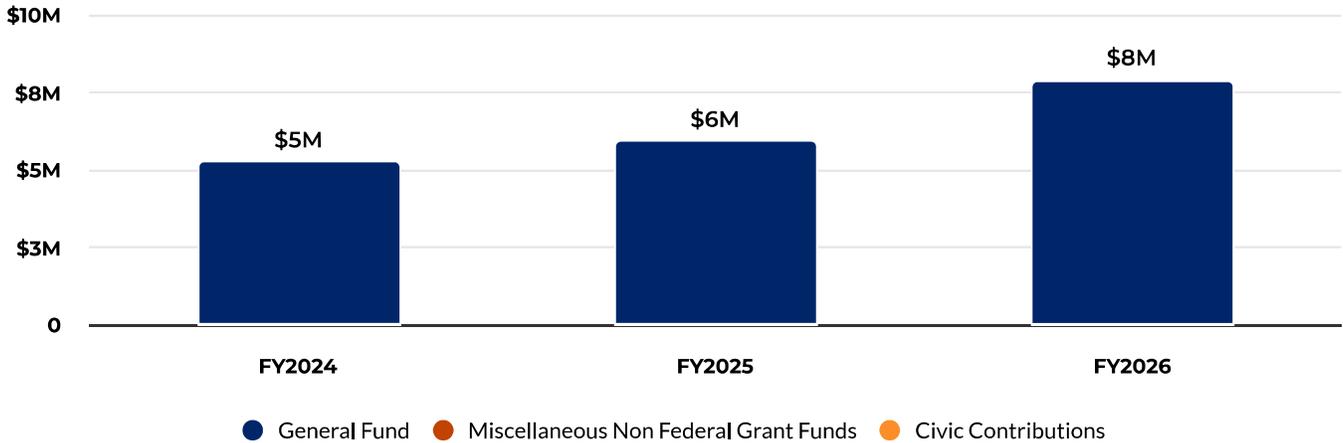
The Mayor and Council's expenditures have grown steadily year-over-year, with Fiscal Year 2026 marking the most significant increase in recent years. The rising budget suggests a shift toward greater investment in policy development, constituent services, and operational support for elected leadership.

Expenditures by Fund

The Mayor and Council’s expenditures are primarily funded through the General Fund, which has made up nearly the entire budget over the past three years.

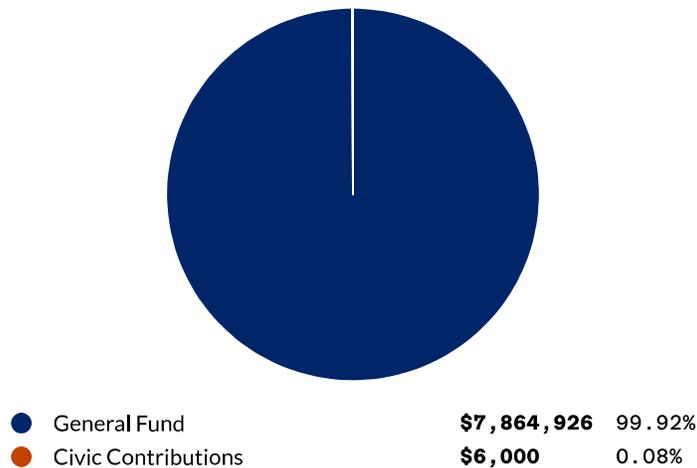
- In Fiscal Year 2023, expenditures totaled approximately \$4 million.
- In Fiscal Year 2024, spending rose significantly to \$6 million, reflecting increases primarily in personnel costs.
- For Fiscal Year 2025, the budget remains steady at just over \$6 million, continuing to support Council priorities and salary adjustments approved by voters in late 2023.

Historical Expenditures by Fund



Note: Amounts shown in the graphs are rounded up.

Fiscal Year 2026 Expenditures by Fund



Notes: Charts may not total 100% due to rounding.

Expenditures by Type

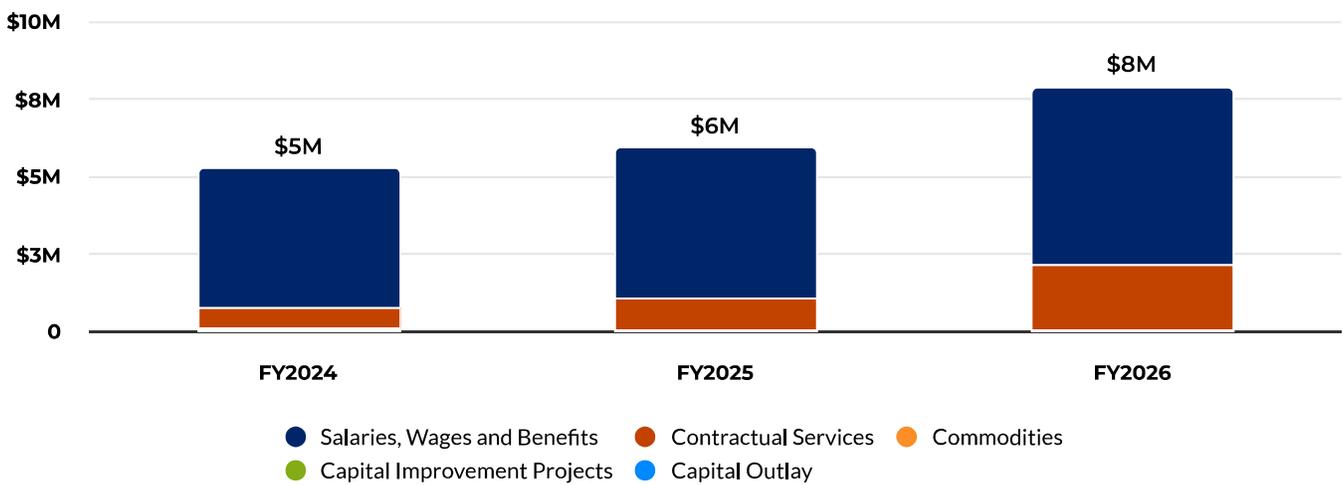
Over the past three fiscal years, our expenditures have steadily increased to support the growing needs of our operations.

In Fiscal Year 2023, total expenses were approximately \$4 million, with the majority going toward Salaries, Wages, and Benefits, followed by Contractual Services.

By Fiscal Year 2024, expenditures rose to about \$6 million, largely driven by increases in both personnel costs and contracted services. This trend reflects our investment in staffing and critical support functions.

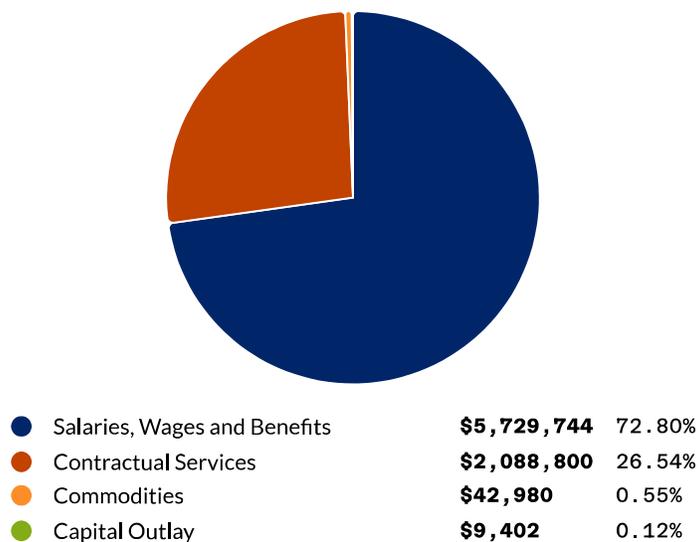
In Fiscal Year 2025, expenditures remained consistent overall at around \$6 million. Salary increases for the Mayor and Council members were approved in November 2023 and took effect in December 2023. The \$460,728 increase in personnel costs is primarily due to increased staffing levels and higher salary amounts.

Historical Expenditures by Type



Note: Amounts shown in the graphs are rounded up.

Fiscal Year 2026 Expenditures by Type



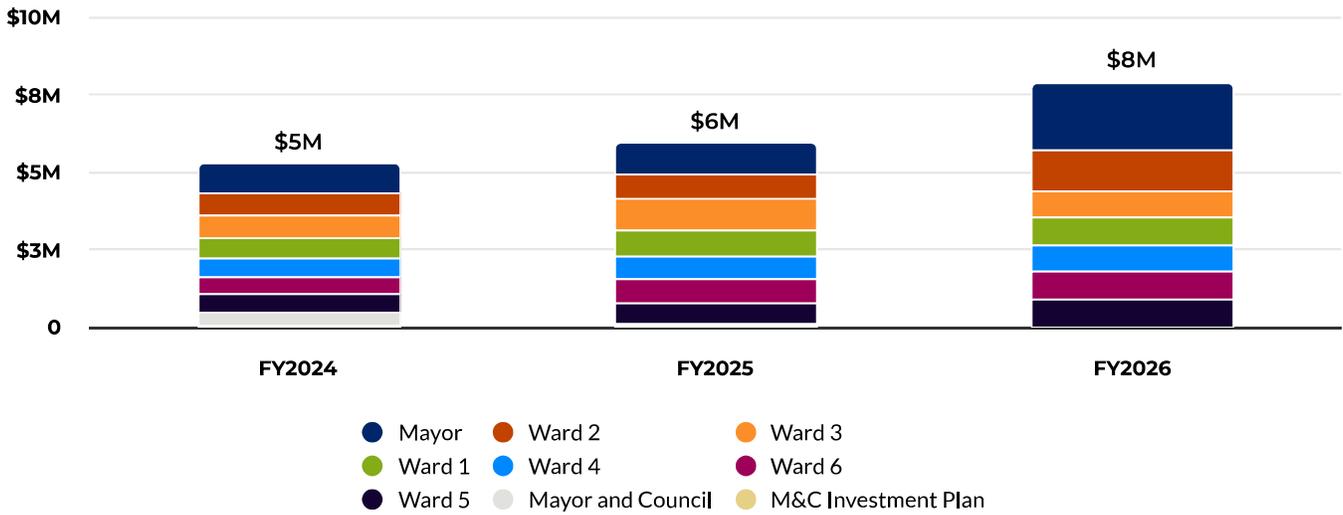
Expenditures by Cost Center

Spending for the Mayor and City Council has gradually increased over the past three years to better support community needs and priorities.

In FY2024, total expenditures were about \$5 million, rising to \$6 million in FY2025, and are projected at \$8 million for FY2026.

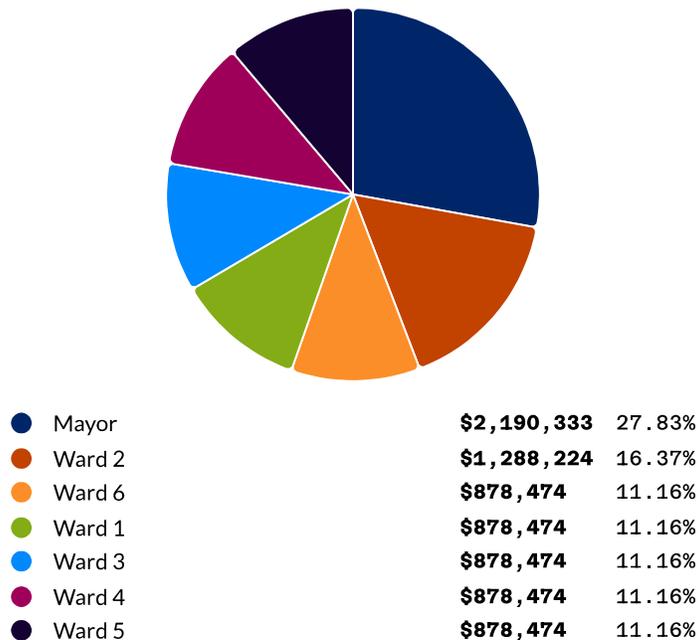
This steady growth reflects ongoing investments in community outreach, neighborhood projects, and the Mayor's Council's strategic initiatives to better serve Tucson residents.

Historical Expenditures by Cost Center



Note: Amounts shown in the graphs are rounded up.

Fiscal Year 2026 Expenditures by Cost Center



Notes: Charts may not total 100% due to rounding.

Highlights

The City of Tucson's Amazon Motel is the first of two phases that will create 89 units of affordable housing in Ward 3.

Amazon Motel will provide permanent supportive housing for individuals experiencing homelessness in 30 refurbished studio apartments. These units will house individuals earning up to 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI). There will be no time limit on tenancy to ensure residents can remain housed while accessing the supportive services they need until they are ready to transition to independent living.

"The Amazon Motel celebrates the type of significant investment that the City of Tucson has been bringing into the Thrive in the '05," said Tucson Mayor Regina Romero. "It's important to me that the City of Tucson continues investing in resources that help to stabilize people and families. Having affordable, accessible housing and a variety of shelter options is what will help keep Tucsonans housed. This has been a priority for residents and the Mayor and Council in the '05," said the Mayor.

Amazon Motel is located across the street from Pima County's new Northwest Service Center facility featuring a health clinic and employment assistance services. Project amenities include a laundry room and a community space. The property acquisition and rehabilitation of Amazon Motel was largely funded by a \$6.2 million Arizona Department of Housing Hotels to Housing grant using federal American Recovery Plan Act funds. Additional funding for the project was provided by the City of Tucson Framework Affordable Housing Acquisition and Programming as well as Pima County gap funding.

Old Pueblo Community Services, an experienced provider of services for unsheltered people, will provide long-term support for Amazon Motel residents.

Amazon Motel is the first of two developments on the property. The second project, called Amazon Flats, will include a new building with 59 new one-bedroom affordable housing units on a vacant lot adjacent to the motel.

"The Amazon Motel rehabilitation is a key example of efforts by the Mayor and Council, and Housing and Community Development to increase the number of beds and apartments to the City's growing inventory of permanent supportive housing," said HCD Director Ann Chanecka. "HCD has been laser focused on collaborating with community partners to work with individuals experiencing homelessness and to ensure their paths to permanent supportive housing."

The future development project Amazon Flats is part of the HUD Choice Neighborhood Implementation Housing Strategy in the Thrive in the '05. In 2023, the City received a \$50 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The eight-year grant is centered around residents, housing and neighborhoods in the Thrive in the '05, a neighborhood reinvestment initiative which began in 2018.

The bulk of the funds will be directed at rehabilitating Tucson House, and to create additional affordable and transitional housing. Other housing projects include Sugar Hill on Stone, 108 bedrooms in 66 affordable housing units under construction, and future developments at Stone and Speedway and South 10th Avenue.

The City purchased Amazon Motel in April 2023 and initially used the motel as a low-barrier shelter for 140 people during the development planning process. Of the 140 people who used the shelter, 86 found permanent housing.

Construction at Amazon Motel began in February 2025.

Position Resources

Fiscal Year 2026 Adopted FTE Count

