



Color of Money – Fund Accounting

Many of the City’s revenues are restricted and can only be spent on specific functions or expenditures. Fund accounting is used to ensure proper tracking of those revenues and related expenditures.

City fiscal policies require that each fund must be balanced on an ongoing basis for a minimum of five years. In addition, each fund must maintain a minimum fund balance. Minimum fund balance is required to ensure liquidity and cash flow as well as provide financial stability should the City experience declining operating revenues. Minimum fund balance amounts vary by fund and range from 10% to 25% of operating revenues.

Below is background information on the various City’s funds and their restricted revenues.

Special Revenue Funds

Used to account for revenues derived from specific taxes or other earmarked revenue sources. They are usually required by statute, charter provision, or ordinance to finance a particular function or activity.

- Library - Secondary property tax and general fund transfer
- HURF (Streets) - Gasoline tax
- Transportation tax - 1.281% sales tax
 - » Transportation Improvements (.426%)
 - » Road Repair & Street Safety (.33%)
 - » Transit (.295%)
 - » Route 66 to Butler Overpass (.23%)
- BBB tax - 2.0% tax on bed, board & beverage
 - » Beautification (.40%)
 - » Economic Development (.19%)
 - » Arts & Science (.15%)
 - » Tourism (.60%)
 - » Recreation (.66%)
- ParkFlag
- Water Resource & Infrastructure Protection
- Housing & Community Services - Grants

Enterprise Funds

Self-supporting thru User Fees adopted by ordinance such as Water/Wastewater/Trash billings, Rent and Airport lease and fees.

- Water
- Wastewater
- Reclaim
- Stormwater
- Sustainability and Environmental Management
- Airport
- Solid Waste
- Flagstaff Housing Authority

Capital Project Funds

Used to account for major capital acquisition separate from ongoing operations

- Restricted Funding Sources -Voter Approved Bonds, Grants, Third Party Restricted Fees
- General Obligation Bond Projects:
 - » FUTS/Open Space
 - » Watershed Protection
 - » Courthouse
 - » Prop 441 & 442 (Infrastructure & Housing)
- USGS campus expansion
- Downtown Mile



Debt Service Funds

Used to account for the accumulation of resources and payments of the long-term debt

- **Restricted revenues**
 - » **General obligation bond fund - Secondary Property Tax**
 - » **Pension Bond Fund - Transfers from General Fund, Water Resource & Infrastructure Protection Fund & Airport**



General Fund

Accounts for all revenues and expenditures used to finance the traditional services associated with a municipal government that are not accounted for in other funds and most revenues are unrestricted.

- **In other words,...everything else**

General Fund Revenues include:

- **1% City Sales Tax**
- **Franchise Tax**
- **Primary Property Tax**
- **State Shared Revenue (Sales, Income, Vehicle Tax)**
- **Licenses and Permits**
- **Fines and Forfeitures**
- **User Fees-Charges for Services**
- **CD, Recreation, Police, Fire, Cemetery**