



# FACT SHEET

## MUNICIPAL BUDGET 101

The Municipality of Anchorage **operating budget** provides for local services like fire, police, parks, libraries, roads, building permits and health, as well as utilities and enterprises like the Port of Alaska, Merrill Field Airport, AWWU and Solid Waste Services. The Municipality's **capital improvement budget** and **capital improvement plan** consist of capital projects for the upcoming fiscal year, and for the next six fiscal years, and identify funding sources such as future bond propositions and state and federal funding requests.

**The municipal budget is a reflection of the values, vision and priorities of our community, so it's important for community members to be involved.**

### Why care about the budget?

The approval of the municipal budget affects everyone – **from the number of books on the shelves at libraries, playgrounds in our parks, and immunizations provided at health clinics, to the quality of the roads we drive on and the response times of emergency services**, there are few things we interface with in our daily lives that aren't impacted by the municipal budget.

When community members provide input on the budget, it helps the Mayor and Assembly shape the budget to meet the current needs of our community.

### How can I learn more about the budget?

The best way to learn how the budget affects the things you care about is to get involved with your community council and organizations that represent your hobbies and interests. Many organizations have staff and volunteers who know the MOA budget inside and out and share information with their members on relevant budget items.

If you want to go right to the source, the Municipality of Anchorage's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) website has tons of resources and information at [ancgov.info/budget](http://ancgov.info/budget).

### 2023 Budget Timeline

- Sept 30 OMB submits budget to Assembly
- Oct 11 Budget introduced at Assembly meeting
- Oct 14 Worksession #1: general government budget
- Oct 21 Worksession #2: utilities & enterprise budgets
- Oct 25 Public hearing #1
- Nov 9 Public hearing #2
- Nov 18 Worksession #3: proposed amendments
- Nov 22 Approval of budget & amendments at Assembly meeting

*Note: Anchorage School District budget information can be found at [www.asdk12.org/Page/18726](http://www.asdk12.org/Page/18726).*

**DIVE IN**

Find **budget documents** going back to 1953: [ancgov.info/budget](http://ancgov.info/budget)

Learn how to **have your voice heard** in the Assembly process: [ancgov.info/participate](http://ancgov.info/participate)



## When is the budget decided?

Every fall, OMB submits the Mayor's budget to the Assembly, typically around the first of October (the legal requirement is 90-days before the end of the year). After that, the Assembly holds two worksessions in October for budget presentations from municipal departments, utilities and enterprises, and one worksession in November to discuss possible budget amendments. Public hearings on the budget are held in October and November and then the budget is amended and approved by the Assembly, typically at their last meeting in November.

**Since the current year budget is based on projections from the previous fall, a 1st Quarter Budget Revision is conducted each April to make budget adjustments if needed once the prior year's actual revenue and expenses are known.**

## How can I give input on the budget?

There are several opportunities to provide input. During the summer, before the budget is submitted to the Assembly in early October, you can provide input to the Mayor at [mayor@anchorageak.gov](mailto:mayor@anchorageak.gov). Once the budget is before the Assembly, you can testify for up to 3-minutes during the budget public hearings at Assembly meetings and you can also submit written testimony at any time. Visit [ancgov.info/participate](http://ancgov.info/participate) to learn more. The public is welcome to attend Assembly worksessions, but will not have an opportunity to speak.

## A quick guide to [ancgov.info/budget](http://ancgov.info/budget):

The screenshot shows the website navigation for the Municipality of Anchorage. The breadcrumb trail is: Muni.org > Departments > Management & Budget. The main menu includes: Management and Budget, Operating Budgets, Capital Budgets, Utilities & Enterprise Budgets, Budget Advisory Commission, and More. The page content is organized by year:

- 2023**: 2023 Proposed Budget Calendar, 2023 Preliminary Revenue and Budget; (submitted September 1, 2022)
- 2022**:
  - 2022 Revised Budget: AR 2022-98(S), General Government Revised Budget; AO 2022-45, General Government Mill Rates; AO 2022-46, Anchorage School District Mill Rates; AR 2022-99, Municipal Utilities/Enterprise Activities Operating and Capital Improvement Revised Budgets; AIM 51-2022, Utility Revenue Distribution; Tax Limit Calculation
  - 2022 Approved General Government Operating Budget
  - 2022 Approved Capital Improvement Budget and 2022 - 2027 Capital Improvement Program
  - 2022 Approved Municipal Utilities/Enterprise Activity and Anchorage Community Development Authority Operating and Capital Budgets

Annotations with arrows point to specific elements:

- An arrow points to the '2023' year header with the text: *Budgets and information for the current year will be added here as it becomes available*
- An arrow points to the '2022' year header with the text: *The Revised Budget is the most recent budget and includes a summary of funding for each department, as well as the history of any amendments that have been made*
- An arrow points to the '2022 Approved General Government Operating Budget' with the text: *In the Approved Budget, look at the Overview section to find pie charts of revenues and expenses. You can also find organizational charts and budgets for each department (Note: these can be out of date if there have been subsequent budget amendments)*
- An arrow points to the '2022 Approved Capital Improvement Budget and 2022 - 2027 Capital Improvement Program' with the text: *The Capital Improvement Budget has the anticipated capital projects and requests for bonds, state & federal funds for the year; the Capital Improvement Plan is the six-year outlook (including the upcoming year) of what projects the municipality plans to begin and to seek funding for in the future*
- An arrow points to the 'More' dropdown menu with the text: *Search the menu bar for past budgets and more information*