



PRESS RELEASE

City of Camarillo

Office of the City Manager

601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo CA 93010 • (805) 388-5300/Fax (805) 388-5318

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PRESS CONTACT:

Genie Rocha, Director of Finance
(805) 388-5320

Fiscal Year 2017/18 Adopted Budget of \$126.6 Million Maintains Service Levels and Healthy Fund Balance

On June 28, 2017, the City Council adopted a structurally balanced \$126.6 million annual budget for Fiscal Year 2017/18, which provides for services and projects important to Camarillo citizens.

The City Council's Budget and Fiscal Policy provides guidance for budget development, implementation and periodic reporting. In establishing annual goals and objectives, the City Council has further maintained the City of Camarillo's commitment to *maintain sound and conservative financial practices*, with the objective of ensuring the City's ability to *provide a safe and enriched environment, increase effective communication with the community, provide cost-effective efficient services to the public*, and to *maintain a positive environment for new business and business retention*. Those goals provided the backdrop for development of the Proposed FY 2017/18 Budget.

Proposed Spending Plan Highlights

- ◆ **Public Safety: \$17.6 Million.** The City will continue to deliver the same high level of law enforcement services through its contract relationship with the County of Ventura Sheriff's Department. This relationship allows us to maximize our fiscal resources and provide effective police services. For FY 2017/18, one new sworn officer and one new report writer position are added.
- ◆ **Library Operations: \$3.4 Million.** The Library continues to experience growth in the number of patrons, programs and collections offered. The services provided continue to be enhanced and improved, including the construction of a new Young Adult Center.
- ◆ **Community Service Grants, Community Support and Community Development Block Grant Programs: \$1.3 Million.** The City Council awarded grants totaling \$52,350 to community service organizations for programs or projects that directly benefit the community. In addition, the budget includes \$290,810 to continue support of City-sponsored programs and annual community events in FY 2017/18 such as Holiday Parade, 4th of July Celebration, Fiesta, Concerts in the Park, Vietnam Veterans' Recognition, and Senior Meals on Wheels. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) federal funding allocations programmed for FY 2017/18 total \$921,453. CDBG funding supports programs for seniors and youth, and housing rehabilitation programs.
- ◆ **Citywide Lighting, Landscape & Street Maintenance: \$6.7 Million.** The City will continue to maintain streets, lighting, and landscaping to ensure an aesthetically pleasing environment for those that live, work, and play in Camarillo, while minimizing water usage.

◆ **Capital Outlay Planned: \$31.1 Million.** The City plans and pre-funds capital projects over five years, thus ensuring that when a project is scheduled to begin it has the funding available to move forward; very few cities have the financial capacity to do this. Thirty-nine projects for FY 2017/18 are included in the FY 2017/18 Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as presented at the April 12, 2017 CIP Study Session. These projects include:

- **Transportation Improvements: \$13.2M** – Several projects to improve City streets are planned, including continuation of the annual pavement maintenance program, Daily Drive sidewalk replacement, Pleasant Valley Road bike lanes, and a utility undergrounding project.
- **Water Repairs/Improvements: \$2.6M** – Various projects are planned, including the regional groundwater desalter, to reduce reliance on imported water; well and reservoir rehabilitation, water infrastructure repairs, and energy efficient electrical upgrades to the reclaimed water pumps.
- **Sewer Improvement Projects: \$5.7M** – Rehabilitation and upgrades at Pump Station #3 will include higher capacity pumps and electrical wiring upgrades, improving operations efficiency, and reducing the potential of sewer spills. Sewer improvements on Adolfo Road from Lewis Road to Flynn Road will upgrade the system and improve safety.

General Fund. The General Fund accounts for the revenues and expenditures related to the various general municipal services provided, such as police, public works, community development, library services and city administrative services. The overall General Fund spending plan totals \$39.3 million, and provides for a projected fund balance at June 30, 2018, of \$56.1 million. In addition, the General Fund transfers funds to the Citywide Lighting/Landscape Maintenance Fund (\$2,400,000), Gas Tax Fund (\$670,000), Library Debt Service Fund (\$492,200), Vehicle & Equipment Fund (\$152,896), and Transit Fund (\$25,000).

General Fund revenues are projected at \$40.3 million, a \$116,818 increase from FY 2016/17 levels. The City is projecting modest growth in Property Tax revenue, \$530,084, due primarily to increasing home sale prices. Sales Tax is increasing slightly by \$213,925 or 2%. These year-over-year increases are offset by a reduced level of revenue in Development Services with the absence of one-time development fee revenues received in FY 2016/17 as development activity moves from the planning stages to the building phase.

Enterprise Funds. Revenues and expenditures are consistent with prior year trends.

- The **Solid Waste Fund** budget of \$6.7 million provides for collection of solid waste, yard waste, composting, and curbside recycling services.
- The **Transit Fund** budget of \$2.8 million provides for operating the City's transit system, including Fixed Route and Dial-A-Ride (DAR) services.
- The **Water Utility Fund** budget of \$19.2 million provides for the City's water services. This fund is fully self-supporting, and derives the majority of its revenue from ratepayers. The City provides water and associated maintenance to approximately 13,200 customers.
- The **Camarillo Sanitary District** is a separate governmental entity that provides sewer services for approximately 14,450 residential and commercial customers within its boundaries, with a budget of \$18.6 million. The CSD Operating Fund expenditures increase by 7% for special studies and Sewer System Management Plan updates.

Reserves Projected at Appropriate Levels. The Reserve Policy goals for the majority of funds will be met or exceeded in FY 2017/18, providing the City a cushion against short-term reduced revenues, while maintaining effective and efficient municipal services and a high quality of life for the citizens of Camarillo.

Fiscal Outlook. Overall, the City's financial position remains in excellent condition. As stated in its goal of Fiscal Management, the City affirms its commitment to sound and conservative financial practices to ensure the City's fiscal sustainability.