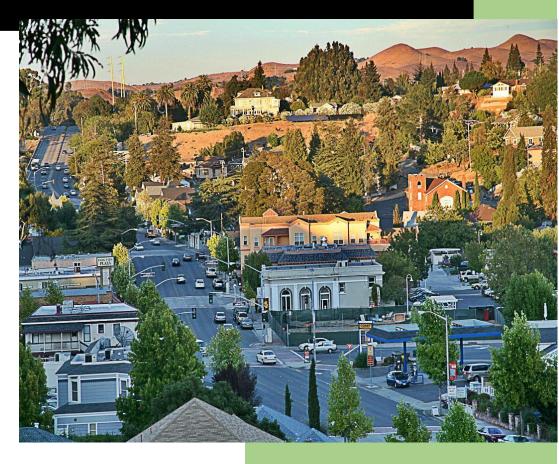
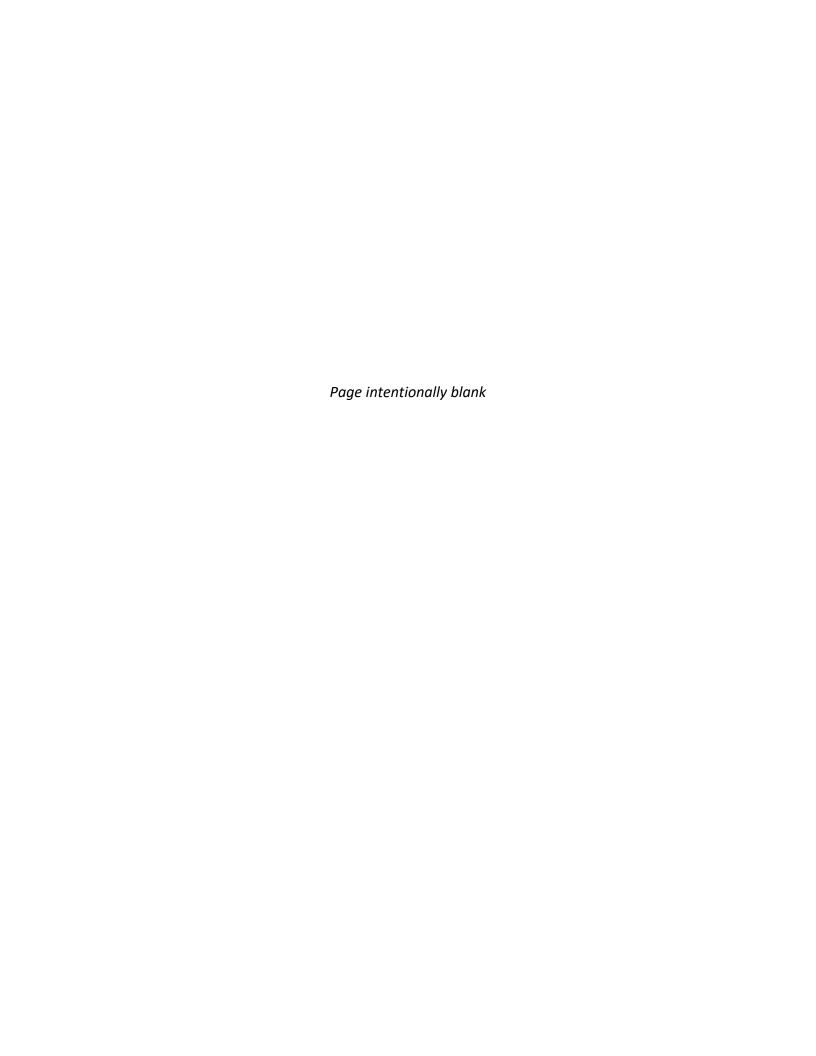
# City of Pinole

# Long-Term Financial Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022/23 - FY 2026/27



Adopted June 15, 2022





# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Table of Contents	1
Elected Officials and Department Heads	3
Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025 Vision, Mission, and Goals	4
Executive Summary	1
Introduction	2
Background	2
Purpose	2
Scope	2
Development Process	2
Long-Term Financial Forecast	4
Introduction	4
Forecast Methodology	4
Major Economic and Demographic Trends	4
Demographic and Cultural Changes	4
Economic Changes	5
Status Quo Forecast	6
Revenues	8
Expenditures	10
Fund Balance	11
Non-General Funds	12
Gas Tax Fund	12
Restricted Real Estate Maintenance Fund	13
Public Safety Augmentation Fund	13
Traffic Safety Fund	14
Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund	14
Storm Water Fund	14
Recreation Fund	15
Building and Planning Fund	15

	Refuse Management Fund	. 16
	Solid Waste Fund	. 16
	Measure C/J Fund	. 17
	Rate Stabilization Fund	. 17
	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund	. 18
	Parkland Dedication Fund	. 18
	Growth Impact Fund	. 19
	Housing Assets Fund	. 19
	Landscape & Lighting District Fund	. 19
	City Street Improvements Fund	. 20
	Arterial Streets Rehabilitation Fund	. 20
	Sewer Enterprise Fund	. 20
	Pinole Community Television Fund	. 21
	Information Systems Fund	. 22
Maj	or Challenges and Opportunities Over the Next Five Years	.23
Ν	Najor Challenges	. 23
Ν	lajor Opportunities	. 24
Poli	cy Alternatives - Additional Discretionary Expenditures	.26
U	nfunded/Deferred Liabilities	. 26
	Unfunded Liabilities	. 27
	Deferred Maintenance and Renewal	. 28
S	ervice and Program Expansion	. 29
	Expansion of Existing Services	. 29
	New Services	. 31
	Capital Expansion	. 31
	Additional Reserves	. 32
Poli	cy Alternatives – Additional Revenue and Expenditure Reduction Options	.33
Α	dditional Revenue	. 33
	New Local Revenue	. 33
	New Federal Funding	. 37

Grants	38
Additional Cash from Debt	38
Expenditure Reductions	39
Optimal Service Levels and Revenues	40
Recommendations	41
Summary and Next Steps	42

# **ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

#### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Vincent Salimi Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem **Devin Murphy** 

Council Member Norma Martinez-Rubin

Council Member **Anthony Tave** 

Council Member Maureen Toms

> Treasurer Roy Swearingen

#### **DEPARTMENT HEADS**

City Manager Andrew Murray

City Attorney (Contract) Eric Casher

> City Clerk Heather Bell

Community Development Director Lilly Whalen

> **Community Services Director** Vacant

> > Finance Director Markisha Guillory

> > > Fire Chief Chris Wynkoop

**Human Resources Director** Stacy Shell

> Police Chief **Neil Gang**

Public Works Director Sanjay Mishra

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2020 – 2025 VISION, MISSION, AND GOALS

In February 2020, the City of Pinole adopted a Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025. The Strategic Plan established the following vision, mission, and goals for the City, as well as 22 specific "strategies" (special projects), to be completed over a five-year timeframe, that would help the City achieve the goals.

#### **VISION**

Pinole is a safe, vibrant, and innovative community with small town charm and a high quality of life.

#### MISSION

Pinole will be efficient, ethical, and effective in delivering quality services with community involvement and fiscal stewardship.

#### **GOALS**

- 1. Safe and Resilient Pinole: Develop and communicate resilience through quality public safety service delivery, property maintenance policies and practices, and disciplined investment in community assets.
- 2. Financially Stable Pinole: Ensure the financial health and long-term sustainability of the City.
- 3. Vibrant and Beautiful Pinole: Facilitate a thriving community through development policies and proactive relationship building.
- 4. High Performance Pinole: Build an organization culture that is efficient, ethical, and effective in delivering quality services with community involvement and fiscal stewardship.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The City of Pinole's Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022/23 - FY 2026/27 has been created to help implement the City's Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025. It has been developed in conformance with public finance best practices.

The LTFP identifies the major economic and demographic trends that might impact future demands for City services and future City revenues. It includes a five-year forecast of all City funds, including the General Fund and Non-General Funds, based on the City's current services and revenue sources and assumptions about the future. The forecast anticipates that the General Fund will be essentially balanced throughout the five-year timeframe.

The LTFP identifies the major challenges and opportunities that the City will likely face over the planning horizon, as well as the main discretionary service level/expenditure options and new revenue options that the City can consider and should bear in mind as it makes future financial and operational decisions.

The LTFP for FY 2022/23 - FY 2026/27 recommends that the City generally maintain its current service and staffing levels and begin to explore new revenue generation options to fund its unfunded liabilities, primarily capital asset renewal and replacement and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB).

#### INTRODUCTION

#### BACKGROUND

In February 2020, the City Council adopted the City of Pinole Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025. The Strategic Plan identified four goals for the City (safe and resilient, financially stable, vibrant and beautiful, and high performance), and 22 individual strategies (special projects) to complete over a five-year timeframe.

One of the strategies under the goal of a financially stable Pinole is to "develop a long-term financial plan (LTFP) and use it to guide budget and financial decisions (including policies regarding reserves and management of liabilities)." The City of Pinole's inaugural Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22 - FY 2025/26 was adopted in June 2021 to address this Strategic Plan strategy.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the LTFP is to inform the City's financial and operational decision making. The LTFP can be used as a guide to many planning and decision-making processes, such as the development of future budgets and Capital Improvement Plans (CIP). The LTFP also marks the beginning of the FY 2022/23 annual budget development process.

#### **SCOPE**

The LTFP for FY 2022/23 - FY 2026/27 covers the revenues and expenditures of the City's General Fund and Non-General Funds over a five-year period.

#### **DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**

City staff (the City Manager, Finance Director, Finance Department staff, and other department heads and staff) began developing the LTFP in winter 2021/2022. The LTFP was created using public finance best practices, which are well summarized in the key publication on municipal long-term financial planning, the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Financing the Future: Long-Term Financial Planning for Local Government. GFOA, one of the leading professional associations in the public finance field, defines financial forecasting and long-term financial planning as follows:

 Financial forecasting is the process of projecting revenues and expenditures over a longterm period, using assumptions about economic conditions, future spending scenarios, and other salient variables.

 Long-term financial planning is the process of aligning financial capacity with long-term service objectives. Financial planning uses forecasts to provide insight into future financial capacity so that strategies can be developed to achieve long-term sustainability in light of the government's service objectives and financial challenges.

The main tasks required to create the LTFP were the following:

- Forecast revenues and expenditures using key assumptions about the City's operating environment;
- Identify the major challenges and opportunities that the City will face over the next five vears:
- Identify policy alternatives, including changes to revenue sources and expenditures, that will result in a sustainable, long-term balance between desired service levels and City financial resources; and
- Gather feedback on a draft LTFP and gain Council approval of the final LTFP.

City staff has completed the necessary tasks using best practices. This has resulted in a LTFP that is consistent with GFOA's Long-Term Financial Planning best practice, which requires that a longterm financial plan:

- Use a planning horizon of at least five years;
- Include an analysis of the financial environment, revenue and expenditure forecasts, debt position and affordability analysis, strategies for achieving and maintaining financial balance, and plan monitoring mechanisms; and
- Be visible.

The process of developing the inaugural Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22 - FY 2025/26 was structured to support participation from a variety of stakeholders. Staff shared information and received input from Council Members and the public at multiple Finance Subcommittee and City Council meetings in spring 2021. Staff also gathered input from interested stakeholders through an online survey that specifically focused on identifying the most important challenges and opportunities that the City will face over the five-year planning period. The participatory development process resulted in a LTFP that reflected the interests and priorities of the City Council and community. City staff used similar mechanisms to create the LTFP for FY 2022/23 - FY 2026/27.

#### LONG-TERM FINANCIAL FORECAST

#### INTRODUCTION

One of the key steps in creating a LTFP is to create a long-term financial forecast. A long-term financial forecast estimates future revenues and expenditures based on assumptions about the City's future operating environment. Over the past few years, the City has included a long-term financial forecast covering the General Fund, including the Measure S funds, in the annual budget.

#### **FORECAST METHODOLOGY**

As noted above, City staff followed public finance best practices when creating the LTFP, including when designing the forecast methodology. Staff reviewed the City's past forecasting work, the work of peer jurisdictions and other leading municipalities, and academic and professional materials on the topic. Staff used the FY 2021/22 revised mid-year budget as the base year of the five-year forecast and applied quantitative and qualitative methods. Quantitative methods involve using historic numerical data to forecast future numeric values. As an example, staff looked at average annual historic growth rates for various revenues and expenditures, then used those average growth rates to forecast future values for those revenues and expenditures. Qualitative forecasting methods involve using information other than historic numerical data to conduct forecasting. This might involve factoring into a forecast the opinions of experts regarding issues such as future economic conditions and changes in the regulatory environment. Staff incorporated some qualitative forecasting into the LTFP.

#### MAJOR ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Forecasting future conditions requires identifying the major current trends that will shape the future. The primary determinants of a city's financial sustainability are the demands for city services, the city's revenues, and service delivery methods. These are primarily driven by demographic and cultural changes as well as economic changes.

# **Demographic and Cultural Changes**

City staff is not anticipating any significant changes to the demographics or cultural characteristics of Pinole's population over the five-year period covered by the LTFP. The City's total population has remained very stable over the past decade, growing less than 1% annually on average. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) projects that Pinole's population will increase by 1,775 residents between 2020 and 2040, to a total of 21,280, which represents an annual growth rate of 0.44%. According to the 2020 American Community Survey (latest available), the City's median age is 42.8 years. According to the 2020 Decennial Census, its race and ethnic composition are as follows: White alone (33%), Asian alone (26%), Black or African American alone (11%), American Indian and Alaska Native alone (1%), Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (0.4%), Some Other Race alone (15%), and two or more races (14%). According to the 2020 American Community Survey, the share of Pinole's population that is Hispanic or Latino (may be of any race, so also included in applicable race categories) (24%). The percentage of the population that is female is 53%. There are approximately 6,792 households with an average of 2.83 persons per household. Pinole's median household income is \$104,904.

The City has received applications for some new housing projects at infill sites, but it is not possible at this point to forecast how many new housing units will be created as a result, nor to forecast how such projects, if constructed, might impact the City's population and service demands.

The City's demographics have also remained fairly stable, and staff is not anticipating any significant changes to demographics over the five-year planning horizon that would impact longterm financial planning.

#### **Economic Changes**

Prior to the onset of COVID-19 in early 2020, the City was experiencing a steady, modest economic expansion, similar to that experienced by many other cities in the aftermath of the Great Recession. COVID-19 created an unanticipated shock to the national economy. Many of Pinole's businesses were significantly impacted by the shelter-in-place health orders, which disrupted many retail, restaurant, entertainment, and personal service activities. Due to public health interventions and the availability of vaccines, the local and national economies have largely recovered and are expected to resume the steady, modest growth of the pre-COVID period. Therefore, City staff is not anticipating any economic changes during the five-year planning horizon that would significantly influence the City's finances.

City staff expects that City operations will generally experience modest productivity gains consistent with those realized in the economy generally over the next five years. The federal government has made a significant new investment in infrastructure. City staff does not have a precise sense of how that might impact the cost of City capital projects, and therefore has not included any related increased cost in the LTFP. Forthcoming CIPs will incorporate the City's estimate of any increase in the cost of capital projects due to additional federal investment.

Inflation has significantly increased over the course of the last year. Since spring 2021, inflation has steadily grown from around 3% annually to around 8% annually. It is unclear how inflation will change over the five-year planning horizon of the LTFP. Staff has assumed a 3% rate of inflation in the LTFP.

# **STATUS QUO FORECAST**

The following five-year forecast is a "status quo" forecast. A "status quo" forecast assumes that the City continues current (status quo) staffing levels, service levels, and programs in the future and that the City does not establish any new revenue-generating mechanisms.

City staff has created an updated status quo five-year forecast for the General Fund, including Measure S funds, for FY 2022/23 through FY 2026/27. This forecast will be used as the basis of the development of the FY 2022/23 budget. For the status quo forecast, staff assumed that future City service levels would remain at the levels of FY 2021/22. Staff then forecasted revenues and expenditures for the five succeeding years by applying assumptions about future changes in economic conditions that impact revenues and expenditures.

Based on specific assumptions, detailed below, the City forecasts that the General Fund and the Measure S funds will be essentially structurally balanced over the five-year planning horizon, with small surpluses or deficits. Although the City's revenues are sufficient to cover normal operating costs, the revenues and reserves are not sufficient to cover the City's two large unfunded liabilities, deferred maintenance of capital assets (streets, sidewalks, parks, City buildings, etc.) and other postemployment benefits (OPEB), primarily retired City employee medical insurance coverage.

It is important to note that the status quo forecast for FY 2022/23 through FY 2026/27 includes the organizational changes that were made in FY 2021/22 and the associated additional positions that were included in the FY 2021/22 budget. The new positions included a dedicated Human Resources Director, Community Services Director, Community Development Director, and Public Works Director as well as an Administrative Fire Captain, Fire Prevention Captain, Deputy City Clerk, Management Analyst in Public Works and other new maintenance positions in Public Works.

Below find a table illustrating the five-year forecast for the City's General Fund (including Measure S 2006 and 2014).

Table 1 – General Fund Status Quo Financial Forecast

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
INCLUDES MEASURE S 2006 & 2014	Actual	Actual	Actual	Revised Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
INCLUDES INLASURE S 2000 & 2014	Actual	Actual	Actual	Revised Budget	Forecast	rorecast	rorecast	Torecast	rorecast
REVENUE									
PROPERTY TAX	3,837,167	4,514,755	4,091,345	4,230,122	4,776,626	5,649,469	5,801,568	5,959,970	6,138,769
SALES TAX	3,994,720	3,788,080	4,303,800	4,483,848	4,582,095	4,695,271	4,803,262	4,913,737	5,026,753
MEAS S 2006 & 2014 LOCAL SALES TAX	4,286,328	3,901,837	4,623,561	4,840,000	4,902,000	5,022,000	5,122,440	5,224,889	5,329,387
UTILITY USERS TAX	1,812,844	1,809,832	1,939,726	1,915,000	1,934,150	1,953,492	1,973,026	1,992,757	2,012,684
FRANCHISE TAX	735,311	750,001	751,598	779,000	786,790	794,658	802,604	810,631	818,737
INTERGOVERNMENTAL TAX	1,836,501	1,952,717	2,034,203	2,082,883	2,215,948	2,317,376	2,421,681	2,531,220	2,645,775
TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX	485,499	444,453	446,105	418,000	440,000	453,200	466,796	480,800	495,224
BUSINESS LICENSE TAX	399,258	382,051	349,733	382,000	400,000	412,000	424,360	437,091	450,204
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	967,318	1,260,013	1,345,588	1,339,796	1,405,108	1,498,155	1,571,813	1,649,154	1,731,612
OTHER REVENUE	867,167	735,100	833,313	518,140	549,640	555,136	560,688	566,295	571,958
LOAN/BOND PROCEEDS	1,500,000	500,000	855,515	318,140	343,040	333,130	300,088	300,293	371,338
LOAN/BOND PROCEEDS	1,300,000	300,000			-				
Total Revenue	20,722,114	20,038,840	20,718,971	20,988,789	21,992,357	23,350,757	23,948,239	24,566,543	25,221,102
TRANSFERS IN	6,290,688	20,030,040	20,710,571	20,300,703	21,552,557	23,330,737	23,340,233	24,500,545	23,221,102
PENSION TRANSFER IN (FY 19/20 alloc)	0,230,000		851,061						
PENSION TRANSFER IN			476,366	853,686	2,250,824	2,479,356	2,721,600	2,978,379	3,250,565
Total Sources	27,012,802	20,038,840	22,046,398	21,842,475	24,243,181	25,830,113	26,669,840	27,544,922	28,471,667
Total Sources	27,012,002	20,030,040	22,040,330	22,042,473	24,243,101	23,030,113	20,003,040	27,544,522	20,471,007
EXPENDITURES									
SALARIES	8,595,485	9,182,685	9,687,549	10,553,426	11,492,312	11,837,081	12,192,194	12,557,960	12,934,698
BENEFITS - PERS RETIRE	1,792,259	2,451,411	2,772,015	3,447,080	3,808,871	4,037,403	4,279,647	4,536,426	4,808,612
BENEFITS - OTHER	3,079,458	2,864,033	2,772,013	3,374,993	3,687,664	3,872,047	4,065,650	4,268,932	4,439,689
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	1,917,711	2,462,533	2,685,146	3,082,147	3,387,962	3,455,721	3,524,836	3,630,581	3,739,498
DEBT SERVICE	643,846	606,554	558,607	576,107	596,107	611,150	677,150	677,150	677,150
CAPITAL OUTLAY	672,010	1,031,960	1,397,824	157,186	253,622	261,231	269,068	277,140	285,454
TRANSFERS OUT	21,732,833	1,255,058	1,588,652	1,418,455	1,418,455	1,461,009	1,504,839	1,549,984	1,596,484
Total Expenditures	38,433,603	19,854,232	21,410,315	22,609,394	24,644,993	25,535,642	26,513,383	27,498,172	28,481,585
Total Expelicitules	38,433,003	19,634,232	21,410,313	22,003,334	24,044,333	23,333,042	20,313,363	27,430,172	20,401,303
Surplus/Deficit	(11,420,801)	184,608	636,084	(766,919)	(401,812)	294,471	156,457	46,750	(9,918)
Fund Balance, July 1	23,478,448	12,057,647	12,242,255	12,726,083	11,009,449	9,956,712	10,137,701	10,193,042	10,135,138
Preliminary Fund Balance, June 30	12,057,647	12,242,255	12,878,338	11,959,164	10,607,637	10,251,183	10,294,158	10,239,792	10,125,219
General Reserves Adjustment			-	(949,715)	(650,925)	(113,481)	(101,116)	(104,654)	(108,825)
Fund Balance, June 30	12,057,647	12,242,255	12,726,083	11,009,449	9,956,712	10,137,701	10,193,042	10,135,138	10,016,395
Pension Fund Balance, July 1	16,287,510	17,159,258	18,088,812	19,442,496	19,666,475	18,516,306	17,070,896	15,309,407	13,188,974
Revenues - Interest	924,669	1,010,988	2,767,698	1,127,665	1,140,656	1,073,946	990,112	887,946	764,960
Expenditure - Transfers Out			1,327,427	853,686	2,250,824	2,479,356	2,721,600	2,978,379	3,250,565
Expenditures	52,921	81,434	86,587	50,000	40,000	40,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Pension Fund Balance, June 30	17,159,258	18,088,812	19,442,496	19,666,475	18,516,306	17,070,896	15,309,407	13,188,974	10,673,369
Fund Balance, July 1			7,457,116	7,492,770	8,517,413	9,395,369	9,771,183	10,162,031	10,568,512
Revenues - Interest			35,654	74,928	227,031	262,333	289,731	301,827	313,916
Revenues - Transfer In				949,715	650,925	113,481	101,116	104,654	108,825
General Reserve Balance, June 30	7,137,963	7,457,116	7,492,770	8,517,413	9,395,369	9,771,183	10,162,031	10,568,512	10,991,252

# **Revenues**

As shown in Table 1 above, the status quo forecast anticipates that General Fund revenue, including the Measure S funds, will grow by 22% from \$23.3 million in FY 2022/23 to \$27.1 million in FY 2026/27, approximately 5% annually, primarily due to increases in the property tax and sales tax categories.

#### **Property Tax**

Property tax is an ad valorem tax levied on real property. The fixed statutory rate, set by Proposition 13, is 1% of assessed valuation. The City receives approximately 19% of the total property tax levied on property located within its boundaries.

Property tax is made up of four components—secured (basic and Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF)); unsecured; supplemental; and property transfer tax. The 22% growth in property tax forecasted for FY 2023/24 is primarily due to an increase in the residual property tax revenue resulting after outstanding Redevelopment bonds are retired in the prior year.

#### **Sales Tax**

The overall sales tax rate on purchases made in Pinole is 9.75%. Of that amount, the City receives the statewide standard 1% (referred to as the Bradley Burns sales tax) plus 0.5% due to Measure S 2006 and 0.5% due to Measure S 2014. The forecast assumes an average 2% growth rate in the City's sales tax revenue, consistent with projections provided by HdL, the City's sales tax consultant.

# **Utility Users Tax (UUT)**

The City levies an 8% utility users' tax (UUT) on the value of public utilities services consumed within the City limits for electricity, gas, and telecommunications. The UUT was originally established in 1998 and extended in 2004 and 2018. The forecasted growth rate averages 1% per year, which aligns with the City's recent experience of very low to flat growth in UUT, notably in the telecommunications subcategory.

#### **Franchise Fees**

The City levies a franchise fee on organizations that use the public right of way to furnish gas (PG&E) (1%) and electricity (PG&E) (2%), refuse (Republic Services) (10%), and cable television (Comcast and AT&T) (5%) services to citizens living within the City's boundaries. The fees are defined in the franchise agreements between the City and the organizations and are paid directly to the City by these franchisees. The forecasted growth rate averages 1% per year. While franchise fee revenue has grown collectively, one of the major services, cable, has had flat to low growth. One factor is the change in consumer preference from traditional cable to streaming services.

#### **Intergovernmental Tax**

The main General Fund revenue categorized as Intergovernmental Tax is the motor vehicle license fee (VLF), also known as the automobile in-lieu tax, which is imposed on the ownership of a motor vehicle in-lieu of taxing it as personal property. The VLF is paid annually to the State at the time vehicle registrations are renewed based on a vehicle's current value. The forecast assumes an average 6% growth rate, consistent with projections provided by HdL, the City's property tax consultant. The other General Fund revenue categorized as Intergovernmental Tax is the Homeowners Property Tax Relief.

#### **Transient Occupancy Tax**

The City's transient occupancy tax (TOT) was established in 1986 and amended in 1991 to impose a 10% tax for the privilege of occupying quarters on a transient basis in accordance with Chapter 3.24 of Municipal Code. This tax is imposed upon persons staying 30 days or less in a motel or lodging facility. The forecast assumes a 5% growth rate based on industry trends.

#### **Business License Tax**

The City's business license tax was established in 1975 and is assessed on all businesses operating within City limits in accordance with Municipal Code Title 5. The City charges business license tax in accordance with the provisions of Government Code 37101. Pinole's tax is computed based on a flat tax (currently \$152) per year combined with a variable tax component based on the number of employees engaged in each business. The forecast assumes a 5% growth rate based on trends.

# **Public Safety Charges**

Public safety charges are the revenues received from the cities of Hercules and San Pablo for police dispatch services that Pinole provides to those jurisdictions under an Intergovernmental Service Sharing agreement. Under the current agreement, the City recovers approximately 67% of the total cost of performing dispatch services for the three jurisdictions. The forecast assumes a 7% increase based on the established formula.

#### **Other Revenue**

Other revenues is made up of all other revenue sources, such as fees, permits, interest income, grants, reimbursements, and other miscellaneous revenue. These revenues are projected primarily using historical trend analysis.

The City is currently conducting a comprehensive fee study to determine the City's total cost of providing certain services. The study will likely recommend changes to the City's fees, which could potentially increase revenue generated from fees in the future. The LTFP five-year forecast does not assume any increased revenues related to potential changes in City fees resulting from the comprehensive fee study.

#### **Transfers In**

The transfer in shown in the five-year forecast comes from the Pension Section 115 Trust to offset the increase in pension costs in the General Fund and Measure S Funds. The amount transferred is based on the difference between the City's base year (FY 2018/19) contribution toward employee pensions and the forecasted required City contribution in future years.

#### **Expenditures**

As shown Table 1 above, the status quo forecast anticipates that General Fund expenditures, including the Measure S funds, will grow by 13%, approximately 3% annually, from \$23.4 million in FY 2022/23 to \$27.6 million in FY 2026/27, primarily due to increases in the salaries and benefits categories.

#### **Salaries**

The forecast for salaries and wages is based on the City's current staffing level (123 FTEs), future salary increases for different classifications already agreed upon in the City's current labor memorandums of understanding (MOUs), and an assumption about salary increases for classifications after current labor MOUs expire (3% annually). Starting in FY 2022/23, the forecast includes a savings factor equal to 5% of total annual salary expenditures to account for savings resulting from position vacancies.

#### **Benefits - Retirement**

The cost of benefits - retirement is the City's annual required contribution for employees' pension to the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). The City's annual required contribution is determined by an annual actuarial valuation report, the most recent of which is from July 2020. The forecast reflects the net cost to the City (the required total contribution minus the employee contributions). As a result of recent negotiations between the City and most of the unions representing City employees, City employees' contribution toward their pension benefit was reduced in FY 2021/22. This has increased the City's pension cost, and is included in the forecast.

#### **Benefits - Other**

Benefits - other includes employee medical/dental/vision care, workers' compensation, general liability, and others. The benefits cost in the forecast is based primarily on rate schedules provided by outside agencies, such as CalPERS. The forecast assumes an average 5% annual growth rate.

# **Operations and Maintenance**

Operations and maintenance is primarily discretionary and non-personnel related expenditures, such as professional services, utilities, and materials and supplies. The forecast assumes an average 3% increase to account for anticipated inflation.

#### **Capital Outlay**

Capital outlay in the status quo forecast includes non-major asset acquisition and improvements, such as computer equipment and furniture. The forecast assumes an average 3% growth rate to account for anticipated increases in the price of products.

Major one-time capital improvements that were included in the FY 2021/22 budget and funded by the General Fund and Measure S are not reflected in the status quo forecast. Though they may span multiple fiscal years, capital projects are non-recurring in nature and are not accounted for in the forecast.

The City develops a separate Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to plan for and appropriate funds to capital improvement projects. Each year, capital needs are assessed and prioritized through the capital improvement planning process.

#### **Debt Service**

Debt service is solely composed of the payment of principal and interest on the 2006 pension obligation bonds (POBs) that were issued to pay down the City's unfunded accrued actuarial liability with CalPERS. The future years are forecasted based on the long-term debt obligation schedule. This debt will be fully paid and retired in FY 2035/36.

#### **Transfers Out**

Transfers out includes the transfer of funds from the General Fund and Measure S to other funds to support Recreation and Pinole Community Television (PCTV) operations. The transfer helps to stabilize the budgets in those areas as the operating costs are not fully recoverable. The forecast assumes a flat dollar amount consistent with past practice.

#### **Fund Balance**

Fund balance is basically an accumulation of funds as a result of revenues minus expenditures. When total revenue exceeds total expenditures at the end of a fiscal year, a surplus of funds results and increases fund balance (reserves). On the opposite end, when total expenditures exceed total revenue, a deficit results and reduces fund balance (reserves).

#### **General Fund Balance and General Reserves**

The Preliminary Fund Balance, June 30 shown in the table above and other City financial schedules is the estimated General Fund fund balance before any transfers are made out of the General Fund to the General Reserve per the Reserve Policy. The Reserve Policy requires that an amount equal to 50% of total General Fund ongoing expenditures be set aside in a separate fund, the General Reserve, to maintain adequate financial resources in the event of financial distress.

If the General Reserve balance falls short of the policy requirement, funds are transferred from the General Fund unassigned fund balance in an amount equal to the difference between the General Reserve fund balance and the amount required as per the policy. As such, the Fund Balance, June 30 is the Preliminary Fund Balance, June 30 less the General Reserve Adjustment, if any.

The General Reserve fund balance is forecasted to increase from \$8.5 million in FY 2021/22 to \$11.0 million in FY 2026/27.

#### **Pension Trust Fund Balance**

In June 2018, the City established a Section 115 Trust to set aside resources to offset the City's significant unfunded pension liability and anticipated significant increases in the City's future annual required contributions to CalPERS. The City intended to withdraw resources from the trust to remit to CalPERS such that the General Fund's contribution to CalPERS for any year would be held level at the City's contribution in FY 2018/19, the baseline year.

The pension fund balance for each fiscal year is calculated by starting with the fund balance at July 1, adding estimated interest earnings, subtracting transfers out to offset increases in pension costs, and subtracting administrative costs. The pension fund balance will continue to decrease as funds are withdrawn each year because the trust was funded with one-time proceeds as its only source of funding.

#### Non-General Funds

City staff has also created status quo five-year forecasts for the City's Non-General Funds. These forecasts will also be used as the basis of the development of the FY 2022/23 budget. Similar to the General Fund status quo forecast, staff assumed that future City service levels would remain at the levels of FY 2020/21. Staff then forecasted revenues and expenditures for the five succeeding years by applying assumptions about future changes in economic conditions that impact revenues and expenditures. The forecasts include projects programmed in the draft FY 2022/23 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

#### Gas Tax Fund

The Gas Tax Fund accounts for the Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) State imposed excise taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel sales within the City Limits. These taxes are distributed primarily on the basis of population pursuant to formulas specified in Streets and Highways Code Sections 2105, 2106, 2107, 2107.5, and Section 2103. As a result of the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (SB1 Beall), funds received as part of the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) Section 2106 are also accounted for in this fund. Gas Tax funds are restricted for use in the construction, improvement, and maintenance of public streets. These funds support both annual operating and capital projects related to streets. It is common for funds that support capital projects to accrue significant fund balances over multiple years while cities save resources over time to invest in large projects, which have greater economies of scale.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	754,674	789,998	795,113	906,667	924,800	952,544	981,121	1,010,554	1,040,871
OTHER REVENUE	5,879	18,024	10,952	12,636	12,889	13,146	13,409	13,678	13,951
TOTAL REVENUES	760,554	808,022	806,065	919,303	937,689	965,691	994,530	1,024,232	1,054,822
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	403,541	447,320	559,471	510,283	525,591	541,359	557,600	574,328	591,558
CAPITAL OUTLAY	426	129,781	817,521	564,445	100,000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	403,967	577,100	1,376,992	1,074,728	625,591	541,359	557,600	574,328	591,558
Surplus/(Deficit)	356,586	230,922	(570,927)	(155,425)	312,098	424,332	436,930	449,904	463,264
Fund Balance, July 1	339,936	696,522	927,445	356,517	201,092	513,190	937,521	1,374,452	1,824,355
Fund Balance, June 30	696,522	927,445	356,517	201,092	513,190	937,521	1,374,452	1,824,355	2,287,620

# **Restricted Real Estate Maintenance Fund**

The Restricted Real Estate Maintenance Fund accounts for revenues resulting from the sale or rental of property owned by the former Redevelopment Agency. These resources are used to maintain properties owned by the Successor Agency within the boundaries of the former Redevelopment Agency project areas.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
FEES	1,825	475	475	3,175	3,175	3,175	3,175	3,175	3,175
OTHER REVENUE	70,833	3,787	34,150	36,816	37,921	39,058	40,230	41,437	42,680
TOTAL REVENUES	72,658	4,262	34,625	39,991	41,096	42,233	43,405	44,612	45,855
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	19,413	24,418	20,118	26,000	26,780	27,583	28,411	29,263	30,141
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	19,413	24,418	20,118	26,000	26,780	27,583	28,411	29,263	30,141
Surplus/(Deficit)	53,245	(20,156)	14,507	13,991	14,316	14,650	14,994	15,349	15,714
Fund Balance, July 1	133,586	186,831	166,676	181,183	195,174	209,490	224,140	239,134	254,483
Fund Balance, June 30	186,831	166,676	181,183	195,174	209,490	224,140	239,134	254,483	270,197

# **Public Safety Augmentation Fund**

The Public Safety Augmentation Fund (PSAF) accounts for monies allocated by the County Auditor-Controller to the City under Prop 172 from the statewide one-half cent sales tax based. These funds are used exclusively for public safety. The receipt of these funds is conditioned on maintenance of effort using base year 1992/93.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	202,489	185,306	187,448	170,266	175,374	180,635	186,054	191,636	197,385
OTHER REVENUE	3,201	7,117	1,269	2,500	2,525	2,550	2,576	2,602	2,628
TOTAL REVENUES	205,691	192,423	188,717	172,766	177,899	183,185	188,630	194,237	200,012
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	131,658	179,741	143,643	204,574	210,711	217,033	223,544	230,250	237,157
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	131,658	179,741	143,643	204,574	210,711	217,033	223,544	230,250	237,157
Surplus/(Deficit)	74,032	12,682	45,074	(31,808)	(32,812)	(33,847)	(34,914)	(36,012)	(37,145)
Fund Balance, July 1	279,126	353,158	365,841	410,915	379,107	346,295	312,448	277,534	241,522
Fund Balance, June 30	353,158	365,841	410,915	379,107	346,295	312,448	277,534	241,522	204,377

#### **Traffic Safety Fund**

The Traffic Safety Fund accounts for fines and forfeitures received by the City under Section 1463 of the Penal Code. These funds are used exclusively for official traffic control devices, the maintenance thereof, equipment and supplies for traffic law enforcement and traffic accident prevention, and for the maintenance, improvement, or construction of public streets, bridges, and culverts within the City. The fund may be used to pay the compensation of school crossing guards who are not regular full-time members of the Police Department of the City.

				2021-22					
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-2 <b>7</b>
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
FINES AND FORFEITURES	35,181	46,640	27,491	45,000	45,450	45,905	46,364	46,827	47,295
OTHER REVENUE	1,541	3,821	750	1,500	1,515	1,530	1,545	1,561	1,577
TOTAL REVENUES	36,722	50,461	28,241	46,500	46,965	47,435	47,909	48,388	48,872
EXPENDITURES									
SALARIES AND WAGES	6,303	4,704	-	7,280	7,498	7,723	7,955	8,194	8,440
BENEFITS	977	707	209	820	869	921	977	1,035	1,097
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	395	988	356	4,661	4,801	4,945	5,093	5,246	5,403
CAPITAL OUTLAY	-	-	-	7,500	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	7,674	6,399	565	20,261	13,168	13,590	14,025	14,475	14,940
Surplus/(Deficit)	29,048	44,062	27,676	26,239	33,797	33,845	33,884	33,913	33,932
Fund Balance, July 1	134,192	163,240	207,302	234,978	261,217	295,014	328,859	362,743	396,656
Fund Balance, June 30	163,240	207,302	234,978	261,217	295,014	328,859	362,743	396,656	430,588

# **Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund**

The Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF) accounts for funds received from the State via the County under AB 3229, which enacted the Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) Program for local law enforcement activities. The minimum allocation for public agencies is \$100,000, which is the amount Pinole has historically received.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	148,747	155,948	156,727	156,727	159,862	163,059	166,320	169,646	173,039
OTHER REVENUE	1,769	4,955	1,080	1,600	1,616	1,632	1,648	1,665	1,682
TOTAL REVENUES	150,515	160,903	157,807	158,327	161,478	164,691	167,968	171,311	174,721
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	101,008	60,170	98,192	104,188	107,314	110,533	113,849	117,265	120,782
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	101,008	60,170	98,192	104,188	107,314	110,533	113,849	117,265	120,782
Surplus/(Deficit)	49,507	100,733	59,615	54,139	54,164	54,158	54,119	54,047	53,938
Fund Balance, July 1	119,096	168,603	269,337	328,952	383,091	437,255	491,413	545,532	599,579
Fund Balance, June 30	168,603	269,337	328,952	383,091	437,255	491,413	545,532	599,579	653,517

# **Storm Water Fund**

The Storm Water Fund accounts for assessments collected by the County via property tax bills and remitted to the City pursuant to the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations, a federally mandated program. Assessments are levied at \$35 per Equivalent Runoff Unit (ERU). Revenue estimates are based on the number of ERU's multiplied by the adopted rate.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-2 <b>7</b> Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	251,004	259,103	260,430	323,978	336,937	350,415	364,431	379,008	394,169
OTHER REVENUE	29	(190)	51	150	152	153	155	156	158
TOTAL REVENUES	251,032	258,913	260,480	324,128	337,089	350,568	364,586	379,165	394,326
EXPENDITURES									
BENEFITS	13,162	-	2,222	-	-	-	-	-	-
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	291,751	289,103	272,838	437,685	285,000	293,550	302,357	311,427	320,770
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	304,913	289,103	275,059	437,685	285,000	293,550	302,357	311,427	320,770
Surplus/(Deficit)	(53,881)	(30,190)	(14,579)	(113,557)	52,089	57,018	62,229	67,737	73,556
Fund Balance, July 1	100,502	46,621	16,432	1,853	(111,704)	(59,616)	(2,598)	59,631	127,368
Fund Balance, June 30	46,621	16,432	1,853	(111,704)	(59,616)	(2,598)	59,631	127,368	200,925

#### **Recreation Fund**

The Recreation Fund accounts for program fees, fundraising proceeds, and donations for Recreation programs. Resources are used towards staffing and maintenance costs to operate the programs. The fund receives a transfer in from the General Fund to offset a recurring operating loss.

				2021-22					
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
FEES	7,823	8,307	13,361	8,000	8,240	8,487	8,742	9,004	9,274
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	628,825	379,124	128,296	377,778	389,111	400,785	412,808	425,192	437,948
OTHER REVENUE	133,569	93,253	20,743	134,144	135,485	136,840	138,208	139,590	140,986
TRANSFERSIN	307,214	522,254	632,055	1,091,962	984,425	1,108,640	1,154,738	1,202,853	1,253,083
TOTAL REVENUES	1,077,430	1,002,938	794,455	1,611,884	1,517,261	1,654,752	1,714,496	1,776,640	1,841,292
EXPENDITURES									
SALARIES AND WAGES	347,167	335,372	292,236	761,237	784,074	807,596	831,824	856,779	882,482
BENEFITS	162,725	172,763	154,133	299,720	317,703	336,765	356,971	378,390	401,093
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	567,183	500,244	374,548	468,217	482,263	496,731	511,633	526,982	542,792
CAPITAL OUTLAY	897	-	2,519	12,874	13,260	13,658	14,068	14,490	14,924
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,077,973	1,008,380	823,437	1,542,048	1,597,301	1,654,751	1,714,497	1,776,641	1,841,291
Surplus/(Deficit)	(543)	(5,442)	(28,982)	69,836	(80,040)	1	(0)	(1)	0
Fund Balance, July 1	45,170	44,627	39,185	10,204	80,039	(0)	0	0	(0)
Fund Balance, June 30	44,627	39,185	10,204	80,039	(0)	0	0	(0)	(0)

# **Building and Planning Fund**

The Building and Planning Fund accounts for fees collected for building permits and plan check fees. Fees collected are used to cover the cost involved in plan checks and inspections performed. The City is currently conducting a fee study to determine the City's total cost of providing certain services that have a specific beneficiary. The study will likely recommend changes to the City's building and planning fees, which is expected to result in increased revenue. Several large developments projects are anticipated to be initiated in FY 2022/23, which explains the large increases in the forecasted permit and fee revenues for that year.

				2021-22					
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	-	-	-	205,000	225,000				
LICENSES AND PERMITS	386,019	310,704	264,128	487,000	2,427,800	501,610	516,658	532,158	548,123
FEES	315,732	417,735	239,196	900,700	2,162,649	927,721	955,553	984,219	1,013,746
OTHER REVENUE	12,568	19,176	(422)	13,000	13,130	13,261	13,394	13,528	13,663
TRANSFERS IN	-	-	192,000	374,216	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	714,318	747,614	694,902	1,979,916	4,828,579	1,442,592	1,485,605	1,529,905	1,575,532
EXPENDITURES									
SALARIES AND WAGES	217,029	163,594	240,134	614,251	830,874	855,800	881,474	907,918	935,156
BENEFITS	85,720	85,015	124,965	316,715	359,104	380,650	403,489	427,699	453,361
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	686,315	827,458	622,505	1,473,003	1,206,783	627,783	646,616	666,015	685,995
CAPITAL OUTLAY	-	-	-	3,000	-	- 1	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	989,063	1,076,066	987,604	2,406,969	2,396,761	1,864,233	1,931,580	2,001,632	2,074,512
Surplus/(Deficit)	(274,745)	(328,452)	(292,702)	(427,053)	2,431,818	(421,641)	(445,975)	(471,727)	(498,980)
Fund Balance, July 1	761,594	486,849	158,397	(134,305)	(561,358)	1,870,460	1,448,818	1,002,843	531,116
Fund Balance, June 30	486,849	158,397	(134,305)	(561,358)	1,870,460	1,448,818	1,002,843	531,116	32,136

#### **Refuse Management Fund**

The Refuse Management Fund accounts for a surcharge collected by Republic Services and remitted to the City under AB 939 of \$0.83 per can per month on all residential customers in Pinole. These revenues are restricted to programs and activities that encourage and promote recycling and source reduction of solid waste.

				2021-22					
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	66,161	111,950	66,635	60,060	61,862	63,718	65,629	67,598	69,626
OTHER REVENUE	7,083	7,176	1,008	6,000	6,060	6,121	6,182	6,244	6,306
TOTAL REVENUES	73,244	119,125	67,643	66,060	67,922	69,838	71,811	73,842	75,932
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	103,347	93,143	102,639	99,000	101,970	105,029	108,180	111,425	114,768
CAPITAL OUTLAY	307,432								
TRANSFERS OUT		-	107,805	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	410,778	93,143	210,444	99,000	101,970	105,029	108,180	111,425	114,768
Surplus/(Deficit)	(337,535)	25,983	(142,801)	(32,940)	(34,048)	(35,191)	(36,369)	(37,584)	(38,836)
Fund Balance, July 1	684,738	347,203	373,186	230,385	197,445	163,396	128,206	91,837	54,253
Fund Balance, June 30	347,203	373,186	230,385	197,445	163,396	128,206	91,837	54,253	15,417

# **Solid Waste Fund**

The Solid Waste Fund accounts for a surcharge collected by Republic Services and remitted to the City for solid waste services. These funds must be used for future solid waste capital projects.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
OTHER REVENUE	10,164	27,628	5,804	8,000	8,080	8,161	8,242	8,325	8,408
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	314,229	375,749	347,367	360,000	374,400	389,376	404,951	421,149	437,995
TOTAL REVENUES	324,392	403,377	353,171	368,000	382,480	397,537	413,193	429,474	446,403
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	3,003	-	2,240	118,645	122,204	125,870	129,647	133,536	137,542
CAPITAL OUTLAY		-	-	642,800	425,000	-	-	-	-
TRANSFERS OUT		-	45,700	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,003	-	47,940	761,445	547,204	125,870	129,647	133,536	137,542
Surplus/(Deficit)	321,390	403,377	305,231	(393,445)	(164,724)	271,666	283,547	295,938	308,861
Fund Balance, July 1	833,364	1,154,754	1,558,130	1,863,361	1,469,916	1,305,192	1,576,858	1,860,405	2,156,343
Fund Balance, June 30	1,154,754	1,558,130	1,863,361	1,469,916	1,305,192	1,576,858	1,860,405	2,156,343	2,465,204

# Measure C/J Fund

The Measure C/J Fund accounts for special override sales tax revenues collected by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and reapportioned to the cities for local street projects. The City must submit a checklist each year to confirm compliance with a Growth Management Program to maintain eligibility for the funds. Estimates of annual funding are provided by the CCTA, and jurisdiction allocations are based on a formula split (50/50) between population and road mileage. It is common for funds that support capital projects to accrue significant fund balances over multiple years while cities save resources over time to invest in large projects, which have greater economies of scale.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	379,583	405,252	390,147	475,247	494,257	514,027	534,588	555,972	578,211
OTHER REVENUE	9,353	23,857	6,297	8,000	8,080	8,161	8,242	8,325	8,408
TOTAL REVENUES	388,936	429,109	396,444	483,247	502,337	522,188	542,831	564,297	586,619
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	124,329	82,819	160,835	199,189	205,165	211,320	217,659	224,189	230,915
CAPITAL OUTLAY	25,542	18,651	-	738,000	350,000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	149,871	101,471	160,835	937,189	555,165	211,320	217,659	224,189	230,915
Surplus/(Deficit)	239,065	327,638	235,609	(453,942)	(52,828)	310,868	325,171	340,108	355,704
Fund Balance, July 1	1,254,870	1,493,935	1,821,573	2,057,183	1,603,241	1,550,413	1,861,281	2,186,453	2,526,560
Fund Balance, June 30	1,493,935	1,821,573	2,057,183	1,603,241	1,550,413	1,861,281	2,186,453	2,526,560	2,882,264

# **Rate Stabilization Fund**

The Rate Stabilization Fund was created to account for the excess revenues from the solid waste post collection contract with Republic Services. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the surplus funds, generated from prior years' rate increases, are set aside to offset year-over-year rate fluctuations; thereby, leveling the annual rates paid by consumers. Per Resolution 2013-91, the City was required to establish a rate stabilization fund, separate from the Solid Waste Fund, for the excess revenues collected.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	-	-	31,171	31,483	31,798	32,116	32,437	32,761	33,089
TRANSFERS IN	-	-	153,505	158,110	162,853	167,739	172,771	177,954	183,293
TOTAL REVENUES	-	-	184,676	189,593	194,651	199,855	205,208	210,715	216,382
EXPENDITURES	-								
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	184,676	189,593	194,651	199,855	205,208	210,715	216,382
Fund Balance, July 1	-	-	-	184,676	374,269	568,920	768,775	973,983	1,184,698
Fund Balance, June 30	-	-	184,676	374,269	568,920	768,775	973,983	1,184,698	1,401,080

# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund

The American Rescue Plan Act Fund accounts for the \$4.6 million allocated to the City from the federal government from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The City received its first tranche of \$2.3 million in July 2021 and will receive the second tranche one year later. The City Council has appropriated \$400,000 of the funding for small business assistance.

				2021-22					
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	-	-	-	2,302,505	2,302,505	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	-	-	-	2,302,505	2,302,505	-	-	-	-
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	-	-	-	400,000	1,902,505	2,302,505	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	400,000	1,902,505	2,302,505	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	-	1,902,505	400,000	(2,302,505)	-	-	-
Fund Balance, July 1	-	-	-	-	1,902,505	2,302,505	-	-	-
Fund Balance, June 30	-	-	-	1,902,505	2,302,505	-	-	-	-

# **Parkland Dedication Fund**

The Parkland Dedication Fund provides for the acquisition and development of parks as specified in the City's Parkland Dedication Ordinance (PDO) (Municipal Code Sec. 16.28), which requires as a condition of approval for the subdivision of land the dedication of park land or payment of a fee in-lieu of dedication, pursuant to California Government Code 66477 (the "Quimby Act").

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
FEES	36,183	26,227	16,027	16,508	17,003	17,513	18,038	18,579	19,137
OTHER REVENUE	345	1,506	351	355	358	362	365	369	373
TOTAL REVENUES	36,528	27,733	16,378	16,862	17,361	17,875	18,404	18,949	19,510
EXPENDITURES									
CAPITAL OUTLAY	-	799	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	799	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	36,528	26,934	16,378	16,862	17,361	17,875	18,404	18,949	19,510
Fund Balance, July 1	24,608	61,137	88,070	104,448	121,311	138,672	156,547	174,950	193,899
Fund Balance, June 30	61,137	88,070	104,448	121,311	138,672	156,547	174,950	193,899	213,408

# **Growth Impact Fund**

The Growth Impact Fund accounts for development fees collected to mitigate the impact of new development. Specifically, it provides for the expansion, design, construction, or upgrade to facilities, roadways, and equipment. The City collects fees for police, fire protection, municipal facilities, wastewater, roadways, and drainage.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
cutegory	Actual	Accuar	Accuar	Dauget	Torecase	rorecuse	Torcease	rorecase	rorccase
REVENUES									
FEES	81,747	33,716	32,090	229,834	100,000	165,000	132,500	148,750	140,625
OTHER REVENUE	733	1,842	477	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
TOTAL REVENUES	82,480	35,557	32,567	230,834	101,000	166,000	133,500	149,750	141,625
EXPENDITURES									
CAPITAL OUTLAY	-	-	-	258,000	108,860	320,000	200,000	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	258,000	108,860	320,000	200,000	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	82,480	35,557	32,567	(27,166)	(7,860)	(154,000)	(66,500)	149,750	141,625
Fund Balance, July 1	-	82,480	118,037	150,604	123,438	115,578	(38,422)	(104,922)	44,828
Fund Balance, June 30	82,480	118,037	150,604	123,438	115,578	(38,422)	(104,922)	44,828	186,453

#### **Housing Assets Fund**

The Housing Assets Fund accounts for resources related to the affordable housing activities and portfolio of the former Redevelopment Agency. Funds must be expended for housing activities. The fund balance has increased in recent years due to the repayment of a significant loan due to the fund.

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
OTHER REVENUE	292,531	63,041	7,374	50,000	50,500	51,005	51,515	52,030	52,551
TRANSFERS IN	-	44,892	1,750,000	1,683,692	862,883	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	292,531	107,933	1,757,374	1,733,692	913,383	51,005	51,515	52,030	52,551
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	170,110	69,688	44,092	228,798	235,662	242,732	250,014	257,514	265,240
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	170,110	69,688	44,092	228,798	235,662	242,732	250,014	257,514	265,240
Surplus/(Deficit)	122,421	38,245	1,713,282	1,504,894	677,721	(191,727)	(198,499)	(205,484)	(212,689)
Fund Balance, July 1	767,942	890,363	928,607	2,641,890	4,146,784	4,824,505	4,632,778	4,434,279	4,228,795
Fund Balance, June 30	890,363	928,607	2,641,890	4,146,784	4,824,505	4,632,778	4,434,279	4,228,795	4,016,106

# **Landscape & Lighting District Fund**

The Landscape & Lighting District Fund accounts for assessments paid by property owners in the City's Landscape and Lighting Assessment District (LLAD) to maintain median lighting and landscaping within the Pinole Valley Road North and South areas.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-2 <b>7</b> Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	36,854	39,746	42,525	54,768	56,411	58,103	59,846	61,642	63,491
OTHER REVENUE	5,000	-	14,839	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
TOTAL REVENUES	41,854	39,746	57,364	62,268	63,911	65,603	67,346	69,142	70,991
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	33,098	38,172	53,599	56,405	58,097	59,840	61,635	63,484	65,389
CAPITAL OUTLAY	2,346	-	-	5,720	5,892	6,068	6,250	6,438	6,631
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	35,444	38,172	53,599	62,125	63,989	65,908	67,886	69,922	72,020
Surplus/(Deficit)	6,410	1,575	3,765	143	(78)	(305)	(539)	(780)	(1,029)
Fund Balance, July 1	19,478	25,888	27,462	31,227	31,370	31,292	30,987	30,448	29,667
Fund Balance, June 30	25,888	27,462	31,227	31,370	31,292	30,987	30,448	29,667	28,638

# **City Street Improvements Fund**

The City Street Improvements Fund receives a transfer of \$250,000 per year from Measure S 2014 to fund road maintenance projects.

			2020.24	2021-22 Boylead					
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	5,183	535	149,002	289,594	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER REVENUE	20,609	18	1,417	-	-	-	-	-	
TRANSFERS IN	200,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
TOTAL REVENUES	225,792	250,553	400,419	539,594	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
EXPENDITURES									
CAPITAL OUTLAY	57,421	45,622	448,469	1,528,102	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	57,421	45,622	448,469	1,528,102	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	168,371	204,930	(48,050)	(988,508)	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance, July 1	969,485	1,137,856	1,342,786	1,294,736	306,228	306,228	306,228	306,228	306,228
Fund Balance, June 30	1,137,856	1,342,786	1,294,736	306,228	306,228	306,228	306,228	306,228	306,228

# **Arterial Streets Rehabilitation Fund**

The Arterial Streets Rehabilitation Fund receives a transfer of \$250,000 per year from the Measure S 2014 to fund road rehabilitation projects.

				2021-22					
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Revised	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Category	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
REVENUES									
OTHER REVENUE	35,631								
TRANSFERS IN	200,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
TOTAL REVENUES	235,631	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
EXPENDITURES									
CAPITAL OUTLAY	1,302	125,202	236,007	819,689	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,302	125,202	236,007	819,689	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	234,329	124,798	13,993	(569,689)	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance, July 1	415,454	649,783	774,581	788,574	218,885	218,885	218,885	218,885	218,885
Fund Balance, June 30	649,783	774,581	788,574	218,885	218,885	218,885	218,885	218,885	218,885

# **Sewer Enterprise Fund**

The Sewer Enterprise Fund accounts for fees charged to residents and businesses for sewer service provided by the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Sewer user fees are charged in the amount specified by City Council Resolution (Section 13.04.040 PMC). Fees are used to operate, maintain, and renew the WWTP. The cost of operations is shared between the two cities using a cost sharing formula based on sewage inflows by each city. The City's Sewer Enterprise Fund meets the criteria to be classified as a major fund.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	7,210,207	7,093,734	7,414,842	7,797,500	8,187,375	8,596,744	9,026,581	9,477,910	9,951,805
OTHER REVENUE	110,630	277,807	66,300	100,000	101,000	102,010	103,030	104,060	105,101
TOTAL REVENUES	7,320,836	7,371,541	7,481,142	7,897,500	8,288,375	8,698,754	9,129,611	9,581,970	10,056,906
EXPENDITURES									
SALARIES AND WAGES	986,229	1,019,018	1,029,690	1,277,035	1,315,346	1,354,806	1,395,451	1,437,314	1,480,434
BENEFITS	673,353	896,886	969,691	672,838	713,208	756,001	801,361	849,442	900,409
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	2,490,145	2,442,357	2,615,618	3,430,345	3,533,255	3,639,253	3,748,430	3,860,883	3,976,710
CAPITAL OUTLAY	565,189	544,807	816,475	2,206,855	2,310,382	2,000,000	1,040,597	800,000	3,800,000
DEBT SERVICE	215,195	612,491	621,332	1,609,506	1,611,624	1,607,476	1,612,018	1,611,192	1,609,526
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,930,110	5,515,558	6,052,806	9,196,579	9,483,815	9,357,536	8,597,857	8,558,832	11,767,078
Surplus/(Deficit)	2,390,726	1,855,983	1,428,336	(1,299,079)	(1,195,440)	(658,782)	531,754	1,023,139	(1,710,172)
Fund Balance, July 1	15,538,118	17,928,844	19,784,827	21,213,163	19,914,084	18,718,643	18,059,861	18,591,615	19,614,754
Fund Balance, June 30	17,928,844	19,784,827	21,213,163	19,914,084	18,718,643	18,059,861	18,591,615	19,614,754	17,904,582

# **Pinole Community Television Fund**

The Pinole Community Television (PCTV) Fund accounts for revenues and expenditures related to the operation of PCTV. Revenue is received from video production charges to other cities, Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) access fees, and the General Fund. PEG fees are designated for equipment purchases.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
REVENUES									
TAXES	32,702	28,833	25,359	52,972	54,561	56,198	57,884	59,620	61,409
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	188,351	191,537	223,342	316,956	326,465	336,259	346,346	356,737	367,439
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	4,020	3,000	341	5,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
TRANSFERSIN	132,303	147,804	174,853	160,124	247,643	219,839	231,496	243,796	256,786
TOTAL REVENUES	357,375	371,175	423,895	535,052	631,169	614,796	638,226	662,653	688,134
EXPENDITURES									
SALARIES AND WAGES	186,080	174,271	184,450	197,042	202,953	209,042	215,313	221,773	228,426
BENEFITS	103,742	121,948	137,325	147,867	156,739	166,143	176,112	186,679	197,879
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	46,491	45,328	70,017	163,161	168,056	173,097	178,290	183,639	189,148
CAPITAL OUTLAY	21,063	33,327	-	62,696	64,576	66,514	68,509	70,564	72,681
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	357,375	374,875	391,792	570,765	592,324	614,796	638,224	662,654	688,134
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	(3,700)	32,104	(35,713)	38,845	(0)	2	(1)	(0)
Fund Balance, July 1	(31,535)	(31,535)	(35,235)	(3,131)	(38,845)	(0)	(1)	1	0
Fund Balance, June 30	(31,535)	(35,235)	(3,131)	(38,845)	(O)	(1)	1	0	(0)

# **Information Systems Fund**

The Information Systems Fund is an internal service fund used to account for activities of the City's Information Technology (IT) Division.

Category	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Revised Budget	2022-23 Forecast	2023-24 Forecast	2024-25 Forecast	2025-26 Forecast	2026-27 Forecast
EXPENDITURES									
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	555,995	723,886	641,766	1,035,936	1,067,014	1,099,025	1,131,995	1,165,955	1,200,934
CAPITAL OUTLAY	53,720	71,755	26,323	161,700	166,551	171,548	176,694	181,995	187,455
INTERFUND/INTERDEPARTMENTAL CHAR	(609,715)	(795,641)	(668,089)	(1,197,636)	(1,233,565)	(1,270,572)	(1,308,689)	(1,347,950)	(1,388,388)
TRANSFER TO CLEAR NEGATIVE CASH	-			196,169					
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	-	(0)	196,169	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	(0)	196,169	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance, July 1	(196,169)	(196,169)	(196,169)	(196,169)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Fund Balance, June 30	(196,169)	(196,169)	(196,169)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)

#### MAJOR CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

One of the main objectives of a LTFP is to identify significant challenges and opportunities that an organization is likely to face in the future, so that the organization has adequate lead time to take action to overcome challenges and profit from opportunities.

The City has taken many steps to identify major challenges and opportunities that it is likely to face in the future. In 2019, the City engaged a public opinion research firm to identify the top concerns of likely voters. As part of the development of the Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025, the City conducted an environmental scan. Additionally, the City has deployed multiple online surveys to gather input from the community on the major challenges and opportunities that the City will face over the next five years. The findings of the public opinion research, environmental scan, and the community surveys are integrated into the content below.

#### **MAJOR CHALLENGES**

Changes in demographics and economic conditions can create significant challenges for cities. As noted above, City staff does not anticipate that demographic or economic changes over the next five years will create any significant challenges for the City. The City will nonetheless face a number of other challenges over the next five years.

In the public opinion research conducted in November 2019, a representative sample of likely voters was asked to identify their top concerns and prevailing opinions. Participants provided the following responses to the question "What do you think is the most important issue facing the City of Pinole today?":

- Traffic/transportation (14%);
- Public services funding/spending (13%);
- Crime/policing (9%);
- City budget/policies (8%);
- Housing/overpopulation (7%);
- Infrastructure/roads/power issues (6%);
- Jobs/economy/development (6%);
- Schools/education (5%);
- Community improvements (4%);
- Wildfires/fire safety (4%);
- Homelessness (2%);
- Taxes (2%);
- None/nothing (7%);
- Other (3%); and
- Don't know (11%).

It is interesting to note that no single issue emerged as the most significant to a majority of respondents.

In addition to those listed above, City staff and the environmental scan identified the following additional items as major challenges that the City will face over the next five years:

- The City's extensive infrastructure, which needs upgrade and replacement;
- Retaining and developing staff, and succession planning;
- Climate change; and
- The changing nature of retail and the related impact to the City's sales and property tax revenues.

The City deployed a voluntary online survey specifically related to the LTFP from May 3, 2021 to May 17, 2021 using Survey Monkey. A total of 47 self-selected community members completed the survey and identified the following as the main challenges facing the City of Pinole over the next five years, some of which overlap with the major challenges identified in the environmental scan:

- Infrastructure maintenance and replacement, notably roads and parks;
- Climate change;
- Public safety, including policing and fire services; and
- Public transportation.

#### MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES

Changes in demographics and economic conditions can also create opportunities for cities. City staff does not anticipate that there will be any significant demographic or economic changes in the City over the next five years, therefore staff is not anticipating that demographic or economic changes will themselves present major opportunities. That said, the City currently faces and will continue to face a number of opportunities over the next five years.

Opportunities facing the City include the following:

- The opportunity to reimagine retail centers, potentially as mixed use or destination retail and entertainment developments, as the nature of retail changes and there is less need for large retail buildings and centers;
- The opportunity to redevelop other underdeveloped infill sites, such as vacant lots;
- The City's central location in the Bay Area, adjacent to I-80 and San Francisco Bay;
- The City's diverse population; and
- The City's historic downtown.

Respondents to the LTFP survey of May 2021 identified the following as the main opportunities facing the City of Pinole over the next five years, some of which overlap with the major opportunities identified in the environmental scan:

- Environmental initiatives, including the use of green and renewable energy;
- Economic development strategy to attract and support small businesses;
- Redevelopment of areas that can be used for new businesses and housing; and
- Revitalization of the historic downtown.

In April 2022, staff deployed an online survey designed to gauge community members' priorities. Staff used the results from the previous surveys, outlined above, to create the qualitative survey using the Balancing Act simulation tool. The survey included a menu of eleven potential City initiatives to be considered for funding, and asked respondents to select items that are of the highest priority to them, then rank them in order of importance. Following are the survey results from 149 submissions, ranked from highest priority (1) to lowest priority (11).

- 1. Public safety services (98%)
- 2. Climate and environmental sustainability (92%)
- 3. Parks and facilities maintenance (90%)
- 4. Pavement maintenance and rehabilitation (81%)
- 5. Community services (73%)
- 6. Economic development (69%)
- 7. Road safety (63%)
- 8. Active transportation (57%)
- 9. Community spaces and facilities (51%)
- 10. Financial reserves (41%)
- 11. Housing assistance (25%)

#### POLICY ALTERNATIVES - ADDITIONAL DISCRETIONARY EXPENDITURES

One goal of a LTFP is to identify the City services, and service levels, that residents desire, and can be afforded on an ongoing basis by a structurally balanced City budget.

In the United States, there are many levels of government (federal, state, county, city, and special districts), with distinct responsibilities. Cities are primarily responsible for public safety, land use, and public works. They are also often responsible for parks and recreation and sometimes responsible for providing utility services, such as clean water, wastewater, and power.

Pinole is considered a "full service" city, which means that it provides all traditional municipal services. It also provides some services, particularly fire protection and wastewater, that are provided by special districts in many other cities. Pinole provides a very broad range of services for a city of its size.

The majority of City of Pinole staff and resources are dedicated to public safety (police and fire services), land use regulation, building safety, local transportation infrastructure (streets, sidewalks, signals, bike lanes, etc.), and wastewater services. The City also invests significant staff and resources in additional public-facing services, such as outdoor recreation space and facilities, recreational and educational programs, cable television programming, and childcare and senior services. Some City staff and resources are also needed to provide internal services, such as finance, human resources, legal, information technology, records management, and facilities and equipment, to support the public-facing operations. Since having made reductions in staffing during the Great Recession, the City has been leanly staffed compared to many other cities. The City has begun to add back staff in recent years to fortify services that the City Council and community prioritize.

Customer expectations for certain municipal services, such as wastewater, are fairly consistent across communities. Therefore, it is straightforward for a city to identify the optimal service level for that function. Customer expectations, and service levels, for other municipal services, vary significantly across communities, and are influenced by a number of factors. As noted above, the City of Pinole is leanly staffed, and provides a solid but basic level of service in most service areas.

# **UNFUNDED/DEFERRED LIABILITIES**

The City has a number of unfunded liabilities and deferred maintenance needs that it could address, described below.

#### **Unfunded Liabilities**

The City has a number of unfunded liabilities, such as unfunded accrued compensated absences, unfunded liability for other post-employment benefits (OPEB), and unfunded retirement (pension) liabilities.

#### **Unfunded Accrued Compensated Absences**

City employees accrue paid vacation and sick leave. As of the end of FY 2020/21, the City had approximately \$1.1 million in unfunded liability for vacation and sick leave that employees had earned but not yet taken. The City traditionally pays for paid leave out of its normal operating budget, referred to as "pay-as-you-go." The City could choose to set aside funds to eliminate this unfunded liability. The funding source could be one-time funding, such as unassigned fund balance.

# **Unfunded Retirement (Pension) Liability**

The City provides its employees with a defined benefit retirement program through CalPERS. Depending on the demographic characteristics of the City's employees, the amount of City and employee contributions to the retirement program, and the program's return on its investments, the assets and liabilities in the City's CalPERS account fluctuate over time. Per the most recent actuarial valuation available, as of June 30, 2020 the City had a total unfunded pension liability with CalPERS of approximately \$39.4 million.

CalPERS has made several changes to its policies and procedures over the past decade that have been intended to increase the financial strength of the system, but have also resulted in significantly increased required contributions and unfunded liabilities for municipalities. CalPERS has changed key assumptions that increased unfunded liabilities, including increasing the life expectancy of beneficiaries and decreasing the expected rate of return on assets. CalPERS has also implemented new policies that require municipalities to accelerate contributions in order to achieve adequate funded status more quickly. So, despite the implementation of the less costly Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) in 2013, the City's unfunded pension liability has grown substantially over the past few years. CalPERS is unlikely to implement a comparably broad set of additional changes in the coming years, but even more modest changes, in addition to other factors, could continue to significantly increase the City's unfunded pension liability over the next few years.

The City created a special trust fund in FY 2017/18, referred to as a "Section 115 trust," funded with one-time General Fund resources, to offset this significant unfunded pension liability. As of June 30, 2021, the market value of the assets in the trust fund was \$19.4 million. The unfunded liability in CalPERS will fluctuate over time, as will the value of the assets in the Section 115 trust.

# **Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)**

A pension is the primary benefit that the City provides to retired City employees. The other main benefit that the City provides to retired City employees is a contribution toward retiree medical insurance premiums during retirement. This and other ancillary, non-pension retirement benefits, are referred to as other post-employment benefits (OPEB). Until recently, employers have not been required to report OPEB assets and liabilities in the same way that they have been required to report pension assets and liabilities. Further, employers have generally not been required to make regular payments to pre-fund OPEB liabilities. Employers have normally paid for OPEB benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis. This has resulted in significant unfunded OPEB liability for many employers, including the City. As of June 30, 2021, the City had an unfunded OPEB liability of \$46.5 million.

The City could consider creating an OPEB trust, like the Section 115 Trust that was created for pension. The City would need to determine a funding source for the trust, or it could consider using the current Section 115 Trust for both pension and OPEB. If the trust were to be used for pension and OPEB, the funds would be exhausted faster unless additional funding was put into the trust.

#### **Deferred Maintenance and Renewal**

Like many cities, Pinole has deferred investment and expenditures on capital assets and other systems, particularly in response to and in the aftermath of the Great Recession and the dissolution of redevelopment. The City's current budget allows the City to provide essential services, but defers some investment in capital assets. This deferral of investment will lead to the deterioration of some assets and systems in the long run.

# **Capital Asset Renewal and Replacement**

Pinole has deferred expenditures on capital asset maintenance and renewal, and many of the City's capital assets are reaching the natural end of their useful life. The City owns a significant portfolio of capital assets, which are well described in the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). These include buildings, roads, sidewalks, parking lots, trails, parks, open space, the WWTP, the sewer collection system, the stormwater collection system, vacant lots, streetlights, and traffic control devices. The City's Strategic Plan includes a strategy to conduct a citywide asset condition assessment. That effort is currently underway, addressing different asset types in phases. The City is in the process of developing a sewer system master plan and will be developing a Park Master Plan. The City is also implementing a new capital asset management software system. After these efforts are complete, the City will have a much clearer picture of its capital asset portfolio and the expenditures required for maintenance and renewal to achieve the lowest possible total cost of ownership of its assets.

#### **Vehicle and Equipment Replacement**

Vehicles and equipment are another significant asset that the City relies upon to provide services. The City does not currently have an integrated, citywide vehicle and equipment management program. It acquires new vehicles and equipment when needed on a pay-as-you-go basis, and its vehicles and equipment are generally modern enough to meet current operating needs. Paying for equipment on a pay-as-you-go basis can lead to expenditure spikes when expensive equipment needs to be replaced. The City's new capital asset management software system has a module for fleet and equipment. Once that module is implemented, the City will have a clearer sense of its vehicle and equipment replacement needs and the amount of funding that the City should set aside on an annual basis to address needs.

#### **SERVICE AND PROGRAM EXPANSION**

As noted above, the City provides a solid but basic level of service in most service areas. The City can spend any surplus discretionary financial resources it may have on expanding services and programs.

# **Expansion of Existing Services**

#### **Economic Development**

The City has not had a formal economic development function since 2012, when the dissolution of redevelopment occurred, although the City has undertaken some limited economic development activities recently. One of the Strategic Plan strategies is to "develop a comprehensive economic development strategy," and several other Strategic Plan strategies also relate to economic development. The City has hired a professional services firm to develop the economic development strategy, which will include a recommendation on the appropriate form and magnitude of a City economic development program.

# **Climate Resiliency and Environmental Programs**

The City is required by the State and federal government to undertake a number of programs related to protecting the environment. For example, the City is required to comply with requirements related to effluent of the WWTP, stormwater protection, having low emission fleet vehicles, reducing solid waste disposal, complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), having a General Plan, and others. The City has also undertaken voluntary steps to protect the environment and to keep the City resilient to the threats of a climate crisis, such as joining a community choice energy program, Marin Clean Energy (MCE), authorizing a propertyassessed clean energy (PACE) program, and participating in a local transit joint powers authority (Western Contra Costa County Transit, "WestCAT"). There are additional programs and activities that the City could undertake to further promote environmental protection. The City Council recently reviewed the various programs and activities that the City is currently undertaking

related to climate change and directed staff to complete an Active Transportation Plan, a Climate Action Plan, and an energy conservation, generation, and storage assessment of all City facilities. These plans and assessments will recommend new steps the City can take to address environmental issues.

#### Fire Service

Expanding fire service in Pinole, particularly through the reopening of Station 74, has been a priority of many residents over the past decade. The City is currently in discussion with Confire about expanding fire service in Pinole through a cooperative arrangement.

### **Housing Assistance**

Redevelopment was a significant tool for affordable housing development. Since the dissolution of redevelopment, the City of Pinole, and other California cities, have fewer tools and financial resources to create affordable housing. Upon the dissolution of redevelopment, the City opted to become the housing successor to the former Pinole Redevelopment Agency. In that capacity, the City monitors affordable housing units that were funded by the former agency for ongoing compliance with affordability covenants. The City also has an inclusionary housing ordinance that requires that all housing development projects with four units or more must ensure that 15% of the units are affordable. The City can expend resources remaining from the former agency's affordable housing assets to support the creation of a limited number of new affordable housing units or to provide services to the homeless population. However, these resources are significantly less than what would be needed to provide any substantial amount of new affordable housing units in the City. The State has recently adopted numerous pieces of legislation intended to spur the creation of additional new affordable and market rate housing.

# **Youth Development and Support**

The City supports and engages youth ages six through 17 through the activities of the Community Services Department's Youth Center, which provides afterschool and summer enrichment programs. The Youth Center could expand services to address youth health, engagement, community service, a youth commission, workforce development, or other activities.

# **Cultural, Historical, and Artistic Programs**

The City provides a limited number of cultural, historic, and artistic programs. These include enrichment programs through the Community Services Department's Senior Center and Youth Center, periodic community events such as music in Fernandez Park, broadcast of some community events on PCTV, rental of the Memorial Hall building to the Pinole Community Players theater company, and some public art. The City does not have a specific requirement that new development projects include public art or pay an in-lieu fee for public art elsewhere in the City. The community does have a number of cultural, historic, and artistic organizations and resources that the City could support or leverage to provide more cultural, historic, and artistic offerings.

### **New Services**

Although Pinole is a "full service" city, there are some services that other cities provide that Pinole does not. These include educational support programs.

### **Education Support**

In California, public education is provided by school districts. School districts rely on a different source of revenue than do cities. Some cities support the education of their residents by offering educational support programs or by providing financial assistance to public schools. The City does offer after school enrichment programs to students for a fee, but does not currently provide educational support programs. In the past, West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) has provided the City with grant funding such that the City could assign two police officers to serve as school resource officers (SROs). WCCUSD eliminated that funding in FY 2020/21. The officers previously assigned as SROs have been reassigned to other public safety duties, although the Police Department still has a regular presence at schools.

### **Capital Expansion**

The term "capital expansion" refers to creating new capital assets, such as parks or plazas, opposed to simply renewing or replacing existing capital assets.

# **New Parks and Park Upgrades**

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) recently released a municipal service review (MSR) of parks and recreation services in the County. The final report found that Pinole has adequate park space based on 12.9 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents, but did not look in detail at the City's specific park amenities. The City is preparing a Park Master Plan, which is a CIP project. The Park Master Plan will involve gathering community input on desired park amenities and will recommend whether any additional parks, or additional amenities within existing parks, are desirable, accessible, and feasible. Potential funding sources for consideration include grant opportunities, park development impact fees, fundraising from individuals or organizations, and new tax measures.

# **Other Capital Expansion Projects**

#### **New Public Spaces/Placemaking**

The term "capital expansion" refers to building new capital assets, such as buildings, roads, parks, paths, bike lanes, etc., opposed to replacing existing capital assets. As noted above, the City has a substantial capital asset footprint already, and much of the City's current capital assets have deferred maintenance that would require significant investment to eliminate. Nonetheless, it might be desirable to create some new, high-impact capital assets that would improve economic vitality or quality of life.

### **Additional Reserves**

Pursuant to its Reserve Policy, the City is required to maintain a General Reserve equal to 50% of total ongoing annual General Fund expenditures. As of June 30, 2021, General Fund unassigned fund balance exceeded the minimum required at approximately 58% of total General Fund expenditures.

The City's formal General Fund reserve and other uncommitted General Fund fund balance have fluctuated over the years. The larger these reserves and balances, the better the City is able to address unplanned revenue reductions or expenditure increases.

Staff performed an analysis of the City's financial resiliency using the diagnostic tool offered by the GFOA. The tool determined that the City has a low level of financial risk based on several factors, including its revenue stability, low expenditure volatility, and high liquidity. GFOA suggests that cities with a low level of financial risk maintain a minimum general reserve of approximately 17% of total ongoing annual General Fund expenditures. (GFOA recommends that cities with moderate and high levels of financial risk maintain general reserves at a minimum of 26% and 36%, respectively.)

City staff believe that a high reserve is appropriate given the ongoing uncertainty regarding the impact of the pandemic. However, City staff may recommend, at some point in the future, reducing the required reserve to 35%, so that funds currently held in reserve greater than 35% can be invested in high-priority City needs.

# POLICY ALTERNATIVES - ADDITIONAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE **REDUCTION OPTIONS**

As noted above, one goal of a LTFP, and of a city's annual budget, is to identify the City services that residents desire and to simultaneously identify an equivalent amount of funding, which results in a structurally balanced budget. The mechanisms through which cities receive revenue vary across states. In California, cities receive the bulk of their revenues for general operations through sales tax and property tax. In addition, to offset the loss of property tax revenue that cities experienced due to Proposition 13, many cities instituted other forms of taxes, such as business license tax, transient occupancy tax (TOT), utility users' tax (UUT), and "local sales tax" (transactions and use tax). Cities have also instituted mechanisms to recoup funds that they spend to provide services that directly benefit a specific user or beneficiary through fees and assessments.

The section above identified some unfunded and deferred liabilities and service and program expansions in which the City could invest additional resources. Because the five-year forecast predicts that the City's General Fund budget will be essentially balanced over the next five years, there are limited resources to invest in unfunded/deferred liabilities and expanded services/programs. Therefore, if the City would like to make any substantial new investments, it will need to identify additional revenue sources or reduce some other current expenditures. Both of these options are discussed below.

#### **ADDITIONAL REVENUE**

### **New Local Revenue**

The mechanisms through which California cities can independently generate new revenue have been significantly restricted over the past few decades. There are nonetheless a few, limited mechanisms that cities can still use.

#### **Increased Fee Revenue**

Cities can establish fees for service that fully cover the cost of the service, but cannot set fees any higher than required for full cost recovery. Many cities have financial policies that state the specific intention to achieve full cost recovery for certain services. Many cities also routinely reevaluate the cost of providing services and adjust fees accordingly to achieve full cost recovery.

The City has hired a consulting firm to create a new cost allocation plan and recommend a new master fee schedule for all City fees. The City expects to receive the consultant's recommendations in spring 2022, after which the City can consider modifying fees to achieve full cost recovery of certain services.

#### **Franchise Fees**

Franchise fees are fees that the City charges to private parties for the private parties' use of City right of way. The most significant franchise fee that the City charges is to the City's solid waste collection company, Republic Services, which entitles Republic Services to use the City's streets and right of way to perform solid waste management activities, such as refuse, recycling, and organic material pick up. The fee varies as it is adjusted annually for inflation. Another franchise agreement that the City has is with Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) for its use of City poles, wires, conduits, and appurtenances, to transmit electricity and gas to the public. The City levies a fee of 1% to 2% of gross receipts based on one of two formulas, whichever is greater. The City also has a franchise agreement with Comcast, as a State franchise holder, to provide video services to the City. The City levies a fee of 5% of gross revenues. Under the same agreement, the City levies a fee of 2.12% of gross revenues to go toward Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) access channel capacity. PEG fees are used to fund PCTV capital improvements. Franchise fees can be higher than what is required for full cost recovery. Most cities have a small number of franchises, with long term agreements, so the opportunity to increase franchise fees is infrequent.

### **Sale of Surplus Property**

Cities can generate one-time revenue through the sale of surplus property, which might take the form of equipment, furniture, or real property. The sale of surplus equipment, furniture, or supplies rarely generates any significant amount of revenue, whereas the sale of surplus real property can result in significant proceeds, depending upon the characteristics of the property. The proceeds are usually required to be returned to the fund or specific use that originally purchased the property. Many cities sold most or all of their remaining surplus real property following the onset of the Great Recession, to generate revenue to offset the loss of revenue resulting from the Great Recession.

The City did not divest of all of its real property at that time, and therefore still owns a number of real properties that could be considered surplus and sold. Real property owned by the City that is not currently being used for a core City function includes the building in which the United States Postal Service is housed on Pear Street, the vacant lot across the street, and others. As noted above, the Strategic Plan requires that the City conduct a citywide asset condition assessment. This will include cataloging all of the city's capital assets, including real property, and assessing their condition and value. Once the City has this information, it can be reviewed in comparison to the City's anticipated future public facility needs, and surplus properties can be identified and sold. The City is concluding the process of selling five former Pinole Redevelopment Agency properties.

#### **New Local Tax Measures**

The City has instituted a number of local taxes, such as a UUT, TOT, business license tax, and two local sales taxes, to support City services. The City can consider other new local taxes, or increase existing taxes, to generate additional revenue for critical City services.

#### **Increased Parcel Tax and Real Property Transfer Tax (RPTT)**

In 2019 and 2020, the City Council considered the desirability of placing two different local tax measures on the ballot, a special parcel tax and a real property transfer tax (RPTT).

In 2019, the City Council directed City staff to take the steps necessary to place a tax measure to fund fire service on the March 2020 ballot. Subsequently, in August 2019, the City Council directed staff to specifically take steps necessary to place a special parcel tax to fund fire service on the November 2020 ballot rather than March 2020. The City hired a public opinion research firm to assess voter support for a potential special parcel tax for fire service. The firm presented its findings to the City Council in November 2019.

In 2019, the City Council also directed City staff to analyze the steps necessary to place a measure on the ballot that would increase the RPTT. A RPTT is a tax imposed on the deed, instrument, or writing by which interests in real property are transferred. Under the California Revenue and Taxation Code, general law cities, like Pinole, may impose a RPTT of no more than \$0.55 per \$1,000 of value on the property transferred (the County may also impose a RPTT equal to this rate). Pinole currently has a RPTT of the maximum allowed for general law cities of \$0.55 per \$1,000 of value. Charter cities may impose RPTTs at a rate higher than the maximum statutory rate of \$0.55 per \$1,000 of value if approved by voters. The median RPTT rate for charter cities in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties is \$12 per \$1,000 of value. Staff calculated that were the City to implement a RPTT of \$12 per \$1,000 of value and \$8 per \$1,000 of value, it might create new City revenue averaging approximately \$2.2 million and \$1.5 million annually, respectively. In February 2020, the Council directed staff to retain a polling consultant to gather information on public opinion regarding a charter city ballot measure limited to an increase in the RPTT and directed staff to retain a communications consultant. Due to the onset of COVID-19, in April 2020, the Council directed staff to suspend all of its activities in pursuit of a November 2020 charter city and RPTT ballot measure. In July 2020, the Council also directed staff not to move forward in preparing a November 2020 ballot measure for a special parcel tax for fire service.

In early 2022, the City Council revisited placing a charter city/RPTT measure on the November 2022 ballot. It directed staff to engage a polling and community engagement consultant to gauge community interest. The City expects to receive the polling results in spring 2022.

### **Increased Utility Users Tax (UUT)**

As noted above, the City currently levies an 8% UUT on the value of public utility services consumed within the City limits for electricity, gas, and telecommunications, which includes phone landline and cellular phone. The UUT was originally approved by Pinole voters in November 1998, and extended by voters in 2004, 2012, and 2018. UUTs can also be applied to water and sewer utility service. The City could consider pursuing either an increase in the amount of the levy or broaden the types of utility services to which it applies.

#### **General Obligation Bonds**

General obligation (GO) bonds are bonds that must be approved by two-thirds of voters and are repaid through an additional assessment ("override") on property taxes. They are issued by public entities to finance large projects that acquire or improve real property, and are usually repaid over a 20-to-30-year period. As an illustration, the City could issue and repay a GO bond of \$35 million if two-thirds of voters approved an annual property assessment of \$70 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation (0.07%) for 20 years, which would generate approximately \$2 million of revenue to repay the bond annually.

#### **Other Potential Local Taxes**

Two other taxes that some California cities have enacted are cannabis taxes and vacant parcel taxes. They are discussed in more detail below.

#### **Cannabis Tax**

The City does not currently allow cannabis businesses to operate in Pinole (the City cannot prohibit a cannabis delivery business based outside of Pinole from delivering in town). If the City permitted cannabis businesses to operate in Pinole, residents could vote to impose a tax on these cannabis businesses. It should be noted that the cannabis industry has started to claim that high taxes and the persistent illegal market make it hard for businesses to be viable. Berkeley, Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose have all reduced or suspended cannabis taxes in recent months to help their cannabis businesses stay competitive. Cities with mature cannabis industries are seeing declining cannabis tax receipts as more cities legalize cannabis and the market saturates.

### **Vacant Parcel Tax**

A vacant parcel tax is a special tax on vacant real property based on either a flat per-parcel rate or a variable rate depending on the size, use, or number of units on the parcel. It requires twothirds voter approval and can be imposed for a variety of purposes, including police and fire services, parks, libraries, and open space protection. Parcel taxes provide less than one percent of city revenues statewide. There are both vacant property taxes and vacant property registration fees. A vacant property registration fee must not exceed the cost of the City managing a vacant property monitoring program.

#### **Assessment Districts**

#### **Assessment Districts**

Assessment districts are a mechanism through which property owners agree to pay an additional assessment on their property to fund specific services or improvements within a specific geographic area. The assessment's purpose must be defined prior to the district's creation and the amount that each property owner pays must be proportional to the benefit the property will receive. Assessment districts can be established by a simple majority vote of the property owners. State law allows the creation of numerous specific types of assessment districts with varying authority to conduct different types of improvements and activities. The City currently has a landscape and lighting assessment district (LLAD), which generates funding for the maintenance of public spaces along portions of Pinole Valley Road. The Pinole Valley Road Landscape and Lighting Assessment District (LLAD) assesses property owners in the district approximately \$500 annually per "assessment unit" (acre of developable land), which results in approximately \$50,000 to invest in maintenance of traffic signals, streetlights, median landscaping, irrigation, graffiti removal, and electricity to the traffic signals and streetlights. The City could consider promoting the formation of assessment districts to fund specific improvements in different areas of the City.

#### **Business Improvement District**

A business improvement district (BID) is a special type of assessment district focused on commercial districts. BIDs can undertake infrastructure projects such as parking facilities and streetscape improvements, cleaning and maintenance of the district, and marketing and promotion of the district and its properties/businesses. The City could consider promoting the formation of a BID for downtown or other commercial areas. This is an issue that the forthcoming Economic Development Strategy will address.

### **Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District**

Property tax increment was the primary revenue source that redevelopment agencies used to fund their projects. Cities lost access to this tool in its traditional form when redevelopment agencies were dissolved in California in 2012. In the aftermath of dissolution, the State did create some new tools intended to mimic some of those previously available under redevelopment. One such tool is an enhanced infrastructure financing district (EIFD), which uses tax increment in a more restricted way. Whereas previously, a redevelopment agency had a right to the property tax increment generated in a redevelopment project area, under an EIFD a taxing entity must volunteer to forego receipt of the tax increment it would otherwise receive so that the increment can be used for the redevelopment project. Use of the EIFD tool requires significant collaboration between separate governmental entities, and will only be advantageous for both parties under specific circumstances. As a result, EIFDs are not yet widely used, but are nonetheless a tool that the City should keep in mind for future capital projects.

# **New Federal Funding**

#### American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is federal legislation passed in 2021 to provide COVID-19 relief. It builds upon the relief provided by two other significant pieces of federal legislation, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). ARPA includes \$1.9 trillion in funding, program changes, and tax policies aimed at mitigating the effects of the pandemic. ARPA is the first piece of federal COVID-19 relief legislation that includes direct financial assistance to cities. The City will receive approximately \$4.6 million from ARPA of which it received the first installment in July 2021. City staff recommends that the City Council consider using the allocation to backfill the loss of revenue in the General Fund.

#### Grants

Grant funding allows the City to leverage public funds for extending and enhancing the services it offers to the community, introducing new initiatives and programs, and advancing capital projects. Grant opportunities are typically made available by federal, state, and county governments, and private organizations for a broad array of municipal services, including public safety, infrastructure and roads, transportation, environmental initiatives, housing services, community development, recreation programs, among many others. As a strategy in the Strategic Plan 2020-2025, the City will establish a program to evaluate and pursue grant opportunities, and to evaluate the City's capacity to meet grant requirements.

### **Additional Cash from Debt**

Under certain circumstances, it might be advantageous for a city to incur debt (borrow money) in order to finance a high-priority project. When a city incurs debt, it must have a means of repaying the debt, which can be a dedicated revenue source or a general purpose source.

Best practices in long-term financial planning require analyzing the City's debt position and the affordability of additional borrowing. One financial strength of the City's is having relatively little general debt. The City has capacity, per the legal debt limit, to issue debt for City expenses. Per the City's FY 2020/21 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, the City's legal bonded debt limit, which is equivalent to 3.75% of assessed property value, was \$103,173,971, whereas the City only had \$2,734,450 of such debt, which is the City's pension obligation bonds. Debt financing is an option that the City could consider for significant future expenditures, such as capital projects. One form of debt, GO bonds, were discussed above. Another debt financing option that the City could consider, lease revenue bonds, are discussed below.

### **Lease Revenue Bonds**

Lease revenue bonds are issued to acquire, construct or expand public projects for which fees, charges, or admissions are charged. Because the debt service is paid from income generated by the facility or related service, such debt is considered self-liquidating and generally does not constitute debt of the issuer, subject to constitutional debt limits. These bonds do not require voter approval.

### **EXPENDITURE REDUCTIONS**

In addition to generating more revenue, the City can create additional resources to invest in unfunded/deferred liabilities and expanded services/programs by reducing other expenditures. As noted above, however, the City currently provides a leanly staffed and resourced solid but basic level of service in most service areas, with the majority of the City's resources expended on core services. As such, the City has fewer opportunities than perhaps some other cities to scale back some services in order to expand others. That said, there are two options that the City should consider or pursue to reduce expenditures, reducing retiree medical benefit costs and improving processes to achieve cost-saving efficiencies.

#### **Retiree Medical Benefit**

One of the City's largest unfunded liabilities is the medical benefit that the City provides to retired City employees. The City pays for this benefit on a pay-as-you-go basis, which means that the City simply pays for retirees' medical premiums when they are due, and does not set aside funding in advance on behalf of current employees commensurate with the normal cost of this benefit. This has created the City's current unfunded OPEB liability. The City instituted some changes to its retiree medical benefit offering in 2010 when it adopted a standard CalPERS benefit vesting schedule. Under the current program, the City must pay 100% of the medical premium for a retired employee and their dependents if the employee has just five years of City service and 20 years of total CalPERS service. This is a more generous retiree medical benefit than is provided by many other cities. The City could consider exploring other CalPERS program options. There has also been more discussion over the past decade about the possibility of the federal government assuming greater responsibility for retiree medical care or enacting other federal healthcare reforms, which might reduce the City's responsibility and cost for such.

#### **Process Improvements/Efficiencies**

All organizations, including cities, use procedures and tools to provide their goods and services. New procedures and tools are constantly emerging, which can result in improved quality, efficiency, or both. As a result, workers become more productive over time. Labor productivity has grown only modestly in the United States over the past decade. For this reason, as noted in the economic changes section above, City staff did not assume any significant productivity increases in the five-year forecast. Nonetheless, the City will likely identify some opportunities to improve procedures or tools that will result in increased efficiency, and associated expanded service or reduced expenditures. The Strategic Plan includes a strategy to review citywide implementation of best practices and improve processes. This is an effort that City staff will be working on over the next few years, and which will likely result in at least a few improvements that will lead to greater quality, efficiency, or both.

### **OPTIMAL SERVICE LEVELS AND REVENUES**

The City's current service levels and program offerings have been established over time in response to factors such as community preferences and financial capacity. Preferences and financial capacity can vary considerably from community to community and can evolve over time, as do regulatory requirements and best practices. Public officials monitor these factors and adjust service levels and programs over time accordingly. The City's current service and staffing levels are appropriate to the community's priorities and the City's financial capacity.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The City should maintain its current service and staffing levels, as they are commensurate with the City's current financial capacity and are responsive to community needs and priorities. The City should start to address its unfunded liabilities, particularly capital asset renewal and replacement and possibly Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB). The City should pursue opportunities to generate new revenue and evaluate debt financing (for capital projects) as possible funding options.

# **SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS**

The City is in a relatively strong financial position which is expected to continue through the life of the forecast. According to the status quo forecast, the City will be able to continue to fund its current service levels and has the capacity to address some of the operating and capital improvement needs beyond the baseline. The City will update the LTFP in spring 2023.