

## A Message from the Mayor

### *What a great time in history to be Mayor of Grand Junction!*

Every year the City of Grand Junction provides its residents with an amazing calendar which includes valuable information regarding life in Grand Junction. Not only does it contain beautiful photography that showcases this great place we are all fortunate to call home, but it also serves as our annual report back to you. We hope you enjoy knowing about the accomplishments and plans of your City government and that you will take the time to read through it.

On September 8, 2012, we celebrated the grand opening of our new Police and 911 Building along with Fire Station #1. These long-awaited facilities allow for state-of-the-art police and fire work including our 911 center which dispatches emergency services for some 22 law enforcement and fire/EMS agencies in Western Colorado. We are fortunate to have such a system here!

In the spring of 2012, we opened the remodeled Lincoln Park Suplizio Field Tower with new seating and many other amenities. This supports our community's growing interest in sports activities including the newly relocated Grand Junction Rockies baseball league. The facility has added a new experience for our already baseball enthusiastic community which has long been the host of the National Junior College World Series (JUCO). The upgraded facilities paved the way for a 25-year extension of that arrangement. This handsome facility also boasts a hospitality center and provides excellent handicapped accessibility for both football and baseball fans.

In late summer, Downtown Grand Junction celebrated 50 years since the original Main Street improvements. With the recent completion of the Colorado Avenue reconstruction, the charm of

Downtown has been expanded and it only adds to the vibrancy and attraction of that area of our community.

At the end of 2011 we also saw the completion of the 29 Road viaduct across the railroad tracks creating another connector from Orchard Mesa and Highway 50 to North Avenue. When we are able to complete the full beltway up 29 Road this will add a critical link to Interstate 70 and will create more potential for many commercial sites serving the eastern portion of our city.

Our budget constraints continue to be a challenge, but we look better today than we did in 2011. With the skillful assistance of staff in all departments, we are staying ahead of the game financially and continuing to improve and maintain much needed infrastructure and bring you top notch services, and our goal is to continue in that direction.

The pictures contained in this calendar are but just a sampling of what is so abundant in the Grand Valley. If you're new to the area - take a drive, take a long drive and never, never refrain from asking the folks at the City of Grand Junction for answers to anything that may be of concern.

Have fun!



Bill Pitts, Mayor  
City of Grand Junction



City Councilmembers Jim Doody, Bennett Boeschstein, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Luke, Tom Kenyon, Teresa Coons, Mayor Bill Pitts, and Sam Susuras

## Highlights of 2012...

Although the economy continues to be slow to recover, there were still many things that took place during 2012, and we feel grateful that we were able to proceed with some very important capital projects that put a lot of people in our community to work. We are also proud to be able to provide you with many of the basic services you need. The following provides a brief summary of some of the more significant occurrences that took place during the course of 2012:

In a move to create cost savings and efficiencies, the City collaborated with Mesa County and devised a plan to provide procurement services for them. The successful venture created economies of scale and saved money for both organizations. ~ The City received a grant to move toward developing a mobile-friendly website. The website, which was newly launched in 2011, receives over 2,000,000 hits a year and the growing majority of those are coming from mobile devices. ~ Bill Pitts was sworn in as Mayor and Laura Luke took on the role of Mayor Pro Tem for the year. ~ The renovation of the Stocker Stadium/Suplizio Field sports complex was completed and opened to great accolades in time for the 2012 JUCO tournament. The Lincoln Park Tower, with its breathtaking views, provides not only a state-of-the-art experience for sports fans, sports teams and media, but also a new community venue that can be rented for special events and meetings. ~ Late in 2011, the Colorado Rockies announced their intention

to bring a minor league baseball team to Grand Junction. The Grand Junction Rockies kicked off their season in our renovated sports facilities in June 2012. ~ The drought that gripped the state and the nation also gripped Grand Junction. Extreme fire danger resulted in the first-ever cancellation of the 4th of July fireworks display and a ban on fireworks sales. The fireworks were rescheduled for Labor Day after the worst of the drought had passed. ~ In June we all were asked to do our part by participating in voluntary water restrictions in an effort to prevent mandatory restrictions from coming into play. Voluntary water restrictions had not previously been implemented since 2002. ~ Plans to renovate and upgrade the Avalon Theatre came closer to reality as City Council dedicated funds toward the first phase of the project. Phase one of the renovation calls for many upgrades to the jewel of downtown including acoustical improvements, new restrooms, improved handicapped accessibility, and new and improved seating. ~ The Police Department and the Fire Department both offered support by sending teams of highly skilled dispatch, fire and EMS personnel to assist with fires in various locations in Colorado as well as other states. ~ Leadership changed in City Hall as Rich Englehart was appointed City Manager by the City Council. Rich began his public service career in the City's Parks and Recreation Department in the 80's and has served in a variety of leadership roles throughout his career. ~ Following much discussion about potential improvements along the North Avenue corridor, the City applied for and received a \$1.2

million grant to get things jump started. The first phase will improve pedestrian and bicyclist access, add bus turnouts, and improve curb, gutter, sidewalks and medians along the section. ~ The Fire Department took part in a countywide fire services study along with nine other departments and participated in community open houses to gather feedback. The study looked at how everything from administrative functions to direct fire service can be provided more efficiently across departments. ~ The Planning Division launched an online tool making it easier and more convenient for community members to engage in the planning and development process. ~ After many years of providing public safety services out of cramped buildings that were literally falling apart, we opened the doors of a new Police and 911 building and a remodeled Fire Station #1. The project, which is being funded by COP's (certificates of participation), has begun to address a long-standing need. It also continues to create jobs in the community, as much of the construction work is being done using local contractors and workers. Fire administration offices are being re-built in the former Police building and are slated to open later in 2013, along with a remodel of Fire Station #2 on Patterson Road.

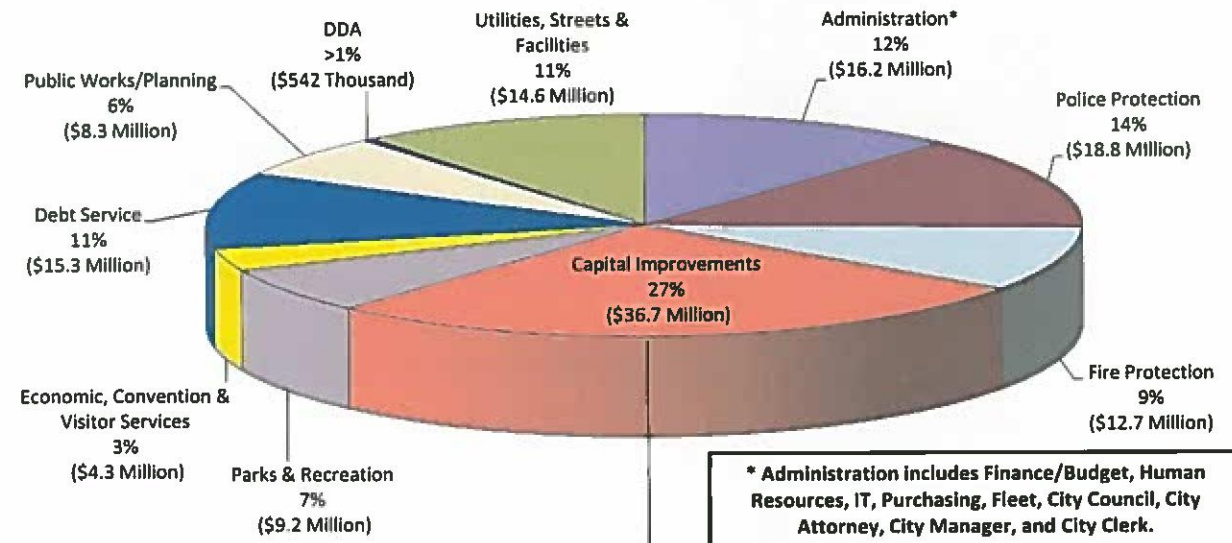
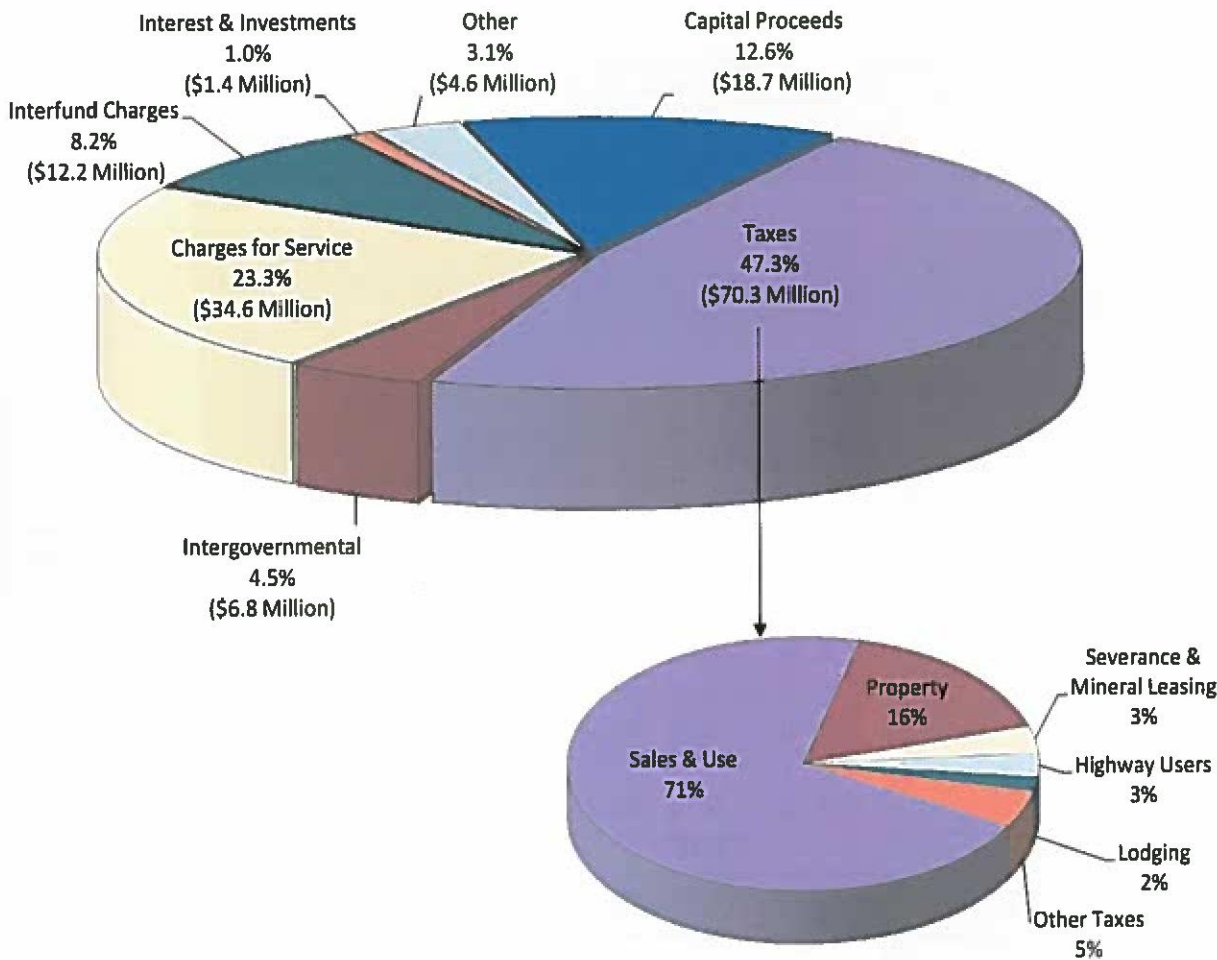
You can clearly see that 2012 was a busy and successful year. Everything that happened last year adds to the quality of life in this community we all love and call home. We look forward to a 2013 that continues to build upon the success of 2012!

# City of Grand Junction Budget

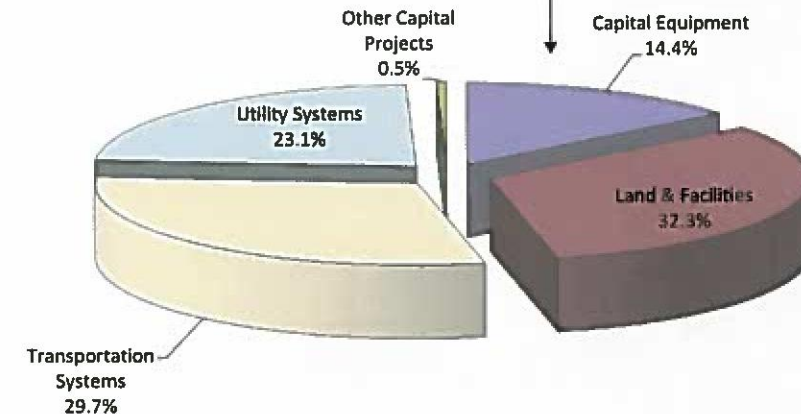
The following pie charts show an average of the last five years from 2008-2012. At print time the 2013 budget, in particular capital, was still being developed. For a look at how tax dollars may be spent in 2013 please look at the "Monthly Cost of Service" graph.

## Where the Money Comes From...

## Where the Money Goes...



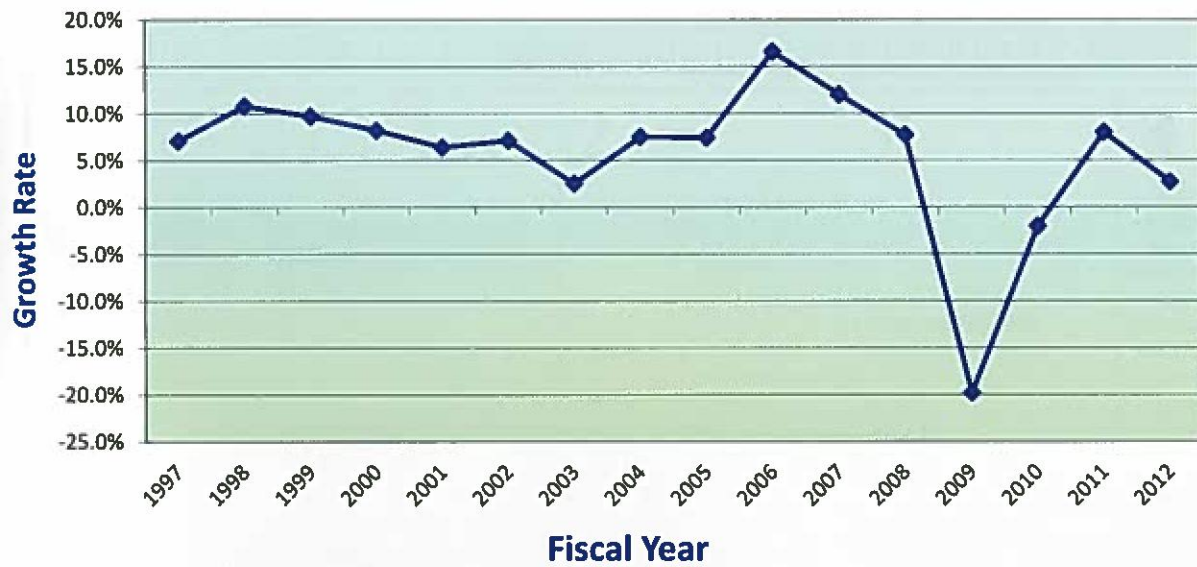
\* Administration includes Finance/Budget, Human Resources, IT, Purchasing, Fleet, City Council, City Attorney, City Manager, and City Clerk.



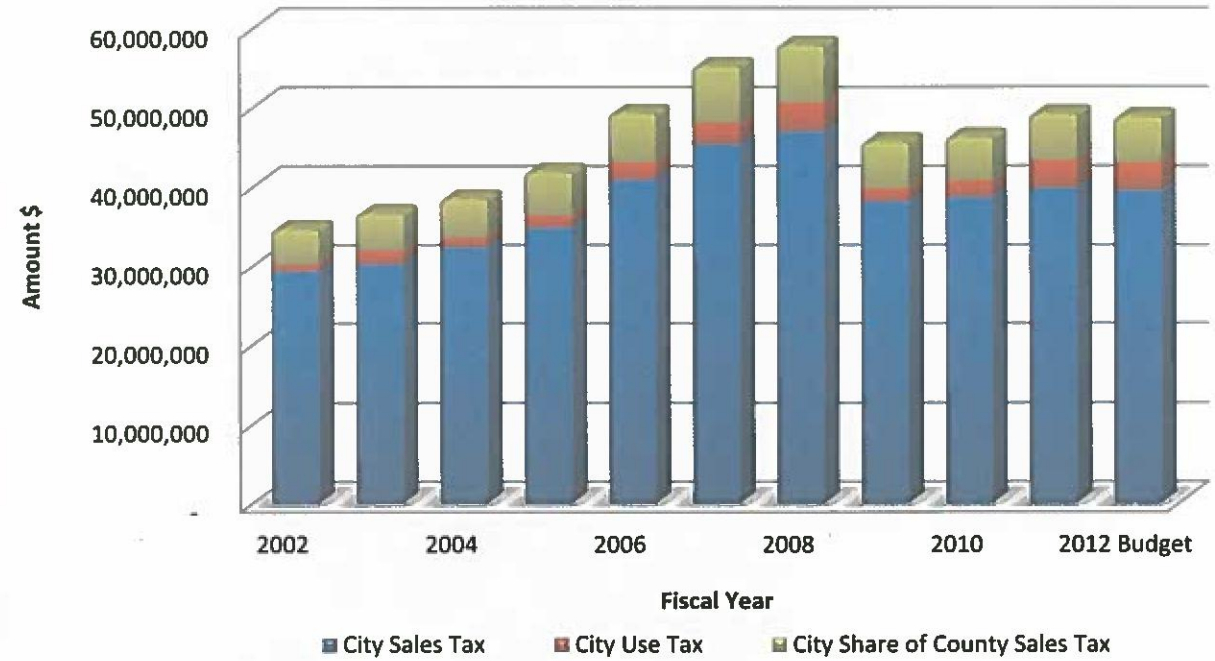
The main source of revenue the City uses for general government is generated from taxes. Seventy-one percent is in the form of sales and use tax with only 18% of that amount being paid by Grand Junction residents.

Capital improvements of streets, parks, utility systems and other infrastructure are a major category of expenditure, accounting for 27% of the total general government expenditures averaged over five years.

## Historical Sales Tax Collections Growth Rate



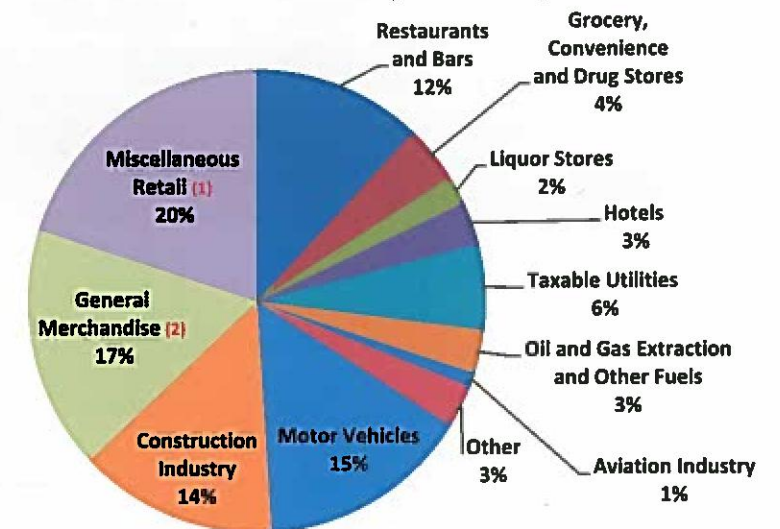
## Sales & Use Tax Collections (\$)



## Monthly Cost of Service Per City Household 2012 Estimated Operating Budget by Service Area



## 2012 Sales Tax Revenue by Industry



**NOTE:** Gasoline, groceries, and prescription medicine are exempt from sales tax.

Five-year trends for revenues by industry are consistent with 2012 revenues.

(1) Miscellaneous Retail - furniture, electronics & appliances, sporting goods, clothing & accessories and other specialty retail stores.

(2) General Merchandise - department stores, warehouse clubs and superstores.

The average City household will pay \$525 in annual taxes received by the City, or \$43.75 per month, in support of all general government services provided by the City of Grand Junction. Economic, Convention and Visitor Services is not included here because they are funded primarily by lodging tax and service fees.