

A Message from the Mayor

As Mayor of Grand Junction and on behalf of your City Council, I am pleased to present to you the **2017 City of Grand Junction Calendar and Annual Report**. Just as we do every year, we present the City's year-end report in the form of a beautiful and functional publication. I hope that you enjoy the beauty of it, but that you also take the opportunity to learn something new about your City government from it.

In 2016, City Council accomplished one of the most important things that we are ever called upon to do as elected officials – we hired a new CEO for our organization. Greg Caton joined us in June as our new City Manager, and he did not waste a minute getting up to speed on our community and our organization. He has been working hard since his arrival to delve into the issues and start working on solutions and plans. He has great vision and is extremely dedicated to Grand Junction. If you have not yet had the pleasure of meeting him, I hope you have that opportunity soon.

In the coming year, City Council will continue to have a number of things on our plates, not the least of which is an election in April. Four of our seven City Council seats will be up for election. We will also be considering the prospect of an event center, looking at possibilities for dedicating increased funding to street projects, partnering on economic development initiatives,

supporting our top notch public safety, and continuing to provide great customer service within the confines of a tight budget. There is plenty to do!

As you look through the images in the calendar, I think you have to agree that we are very fortunate to be able to live in such an amazing place. The natural resources, mild weather, access to health care and easy transportation make this a wonderful place to call home. I am proud to be the Mayor of Grand Junction, and I feel a strong sense of hope for the future of our community. I hope you can join me in that feeling.

Please know that your City Councilmembers, alongside City employees, are working hard to move our community forward. I honestly believe that despite some challenges, we can do it together, with all of you.

*I wish you and your families a happy,
healthy and prosperous 2017.*


Mayor Phyllis Norris



Grand Junction City Council

A Look Back at 2016

Although it may sound like a broken record, we do continue to see signs of recovery in certain segments of our economy, while other aspects of the economy continue to lag. The oil and gas industry in our area further retracted in 2016, but we saw strength and growth in other areas, including real estate. Our lodging taxes continued to grow, indicating vibrant tourism and travel activity, but sales and use taxes remained weak. Some new areas where we are seeing economic growth can be largely attributed to the efforts of a number of dedicated organizations in the community working collaboratively and with the City of Grand Junction on economic development, and the approval of Mesa County as a Rural Jump-Start Zone appears to be generating positive activity. These are good signs and we are remaining hopeful that 2017 brings even more.

2016 kept all City of Grand Junction departments busy as a number of important projects and programs either got underway or continued. Here is what filled the days and weeks of 2016:

Following a successful ballot question in 2015 authorizing the City to play more of a role in broadband, we moved forward with the **development of a broadband master plan** and began laying the foundation for the future of high-speed internet access in Grand Junction. ~ Early in 2016, our community was rocked to its core when **Mesa County Sheriff Deputy Derek Geer** was killed in the line of duty. The rallying of the community behind Deputy Geer's family and the public safety community, as well as around the "Geer Strong" tag line

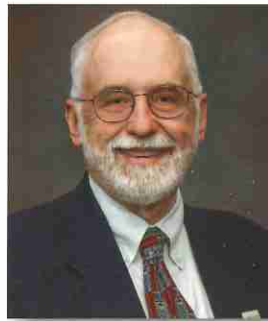
and blue line symbolism, demonstrated a solidarity the likes of which Grand Junction had not seen in some time. ~ City Council held a special workshop to hear a presentation regarding the feasibility of potentially constructing an **event center in downtown Grand Junction**. Following the presentation, a team of locals traveled to Boise, ID to gain an understanding of their experience with their event center. The topic does have its critics, but it also has its supporters. If after careful assessment it is found to be viable for Grand Junction, it will be strategically planned in the coming years. ~ A **new Fire Station #4** opened on B ½ Road on Orchard Mesa putting us in a position to better serve the residences and businesses in the Orchard Mesa and Pear Park areas. The prior Fire Station #4 on 27 Road has been repurposed to solve some facility issues for the Wastewater Division and will enhance customer service to those living in the area. ~ A second significant event in 2016 that rallied our community was the passing of childhood cancer advocate and champion, **Delaney Clements**. Delaney's life was cut far too short, but not before she touched the hearts and souls of most who live here, with her big smile and even bigger spirit. A Community Memorial Tree, recognizing Delaney and all local heroes who come after her, has been dedicated in Lincoln Park by the Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department. ~ A roadway improvement project along **North Avenue** vastly upgraded the look and function of the area between 12th Street and 23rd Street. The project brought eight-foot-wide sidewalks separated from vehicle lanes by landscape to create more of a barrier between fast-moving traffic and pedestrians, as well as pedestrian lighting and median improvements. The City also invested in underground conduit for an eventual broadband provider to bring gigabit speeds to businesses along this corridor. The project was funded

mainly by a \$1.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation and a \$600,000 grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. ~ In June, **Greg Caton joined the City of Grand Junction as City Manager**, bringing with him many years of solid experience and success in city management in Colorado and Arizona. He hit the ground running and made fast business of developing relationships in the community and getting a good handle on the needs and issues facing the City. We look forward to many successes ahead under his leadership. ~ Work got underway to begin preparation for the **reconstruction of 1st Street** between Ouray and North Avenues. The much-awaited reconstruction is just one street project on a list of many that are needed. Open houses and other outreach efforts are underway to gather community feedback on the City proceeding with a plan to **accelerate funding to streets projects** in an effort to improve the overall pavement condition index score and build our infrastructure back up to where it was prior to the downturn in the economy.

As we move into 2017, we continue to have many needs and projects ahead of us. The plan will continue to be to proceed with optimism for a strengthening economy and sustained prosperity, and to focus on providing the highest level of service to the residents of Grand Junction.



Barbara Traylor Smith



Bennett Boeschstein



Chris Kennedy



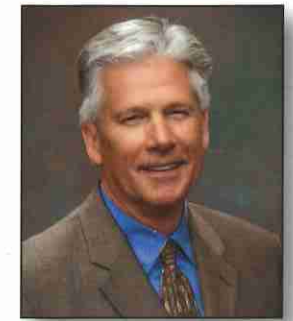
Mayor Phyllis Norris



Mayor Pro Tem Marty Chazen



Duncan McArthur



Rick Taggart

Volunteer Boards & Commissions

Vacancies on City boards and commissions are advertised on the City's website at www.gjcity.org and may be advertised in the Daily Sentinel, and in City utility bills. You may apply to serve on a volunteer board by sending a letter of interest accompanied by a completed application addressed to the Grand Junction City Council, c/o the City Clerk, 250 N. 5th Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501. City Council reviews the applications and determines whether an interview session

is appropriate. If you have any questions on volunteer boards or would like to receive an application, please contact Stephanie Tuin, City Clerk, at 244-1511 or by email at stepht@gjcity.org. Applications can also be downloaded from the City's website at www.gjcity.org/VolunteerBoards.aspx. The information listed here is current as of September, 2016. Not every City board and commission is listed.

Airport Authority – Grand Junction Regional Airport

The Airport Authority sets policy and oversees the operations of the airport, ensuring compliance with its by-laws, with the State Public Airport Authority Law and with FAA regulations. The Board usually meets at 5:15 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month with additional committee meetings as needed.

Rick Wagner
Stephen Wood
David Murray
Troy Ball
Rick Langley
Rick Taggart
Paul Nelson

Commission on Arts & Culture

The mission of the Commission on Arts and Culture is to enhance local arts and cultural opportunities and development, encourage cooperation and collaboration among arts organizations, provide information to area artists and arts agencies, and establish community arts priorities. The Commission meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

Gary Ambrosier
Laura Bradley
Elizabeth Brodak
Betsey Dick
Thea Arandjelovic
Jennifer Hancock
Marjorie Haun
Darcy Johnson
Lancer Livermont
Roseann Lyle
Mary Olkowski

Downtown Development Authority/Downtown Grand Junction Business Improvement District

The DDA's primary purpose is to facilitate the development and reinvestment in downtown Grand Junction. The Board of Directors establishes policy and directs the Authority in its efforts. The meetings are held the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m. DDA Board members also serve as the board for the Downtown Grand Junction Business Improvement District (DGJBID). The DGJBID Board provides a continuity of effort in the promotion and revitalization of the business activities in the District by improving the economic vitality and overall commercial appeal of the Downtown area. The DGJBID board meets monthly, the second Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

Jodi Coleman Niernberg
Jason Farrington
Dan Meyer
Vance Wagner
Marty Chazen
Shane Allerheiligen
Duncan Rowley
Tom LaCroix
Kirk Granum

Grand Junction Forestry Board

The Board acts as a reviewing body for the purpose of determining professional qualifications and competence to engage in the business of cutting, trimming, pruning, spraying or removing trees by giving written, oral and practical license examinations. The Board also makes recommendations to the City Council for the adoption of rules and regulations pertaining to the tree service business in the City, and it may hear complaints from citizens relating to the tree service business. The Board meets the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m.

Teddy Hildebrandt
Shirley Nilsen
Susan Carter
Mollie Higginbotham
Kamie Long
Charles Thompson
Elizabeth Neubauer

Historic Preservation Board

The Historic Preservation Board is responsible for recommending designation of historic resources to City Council for listing on the City Register of Historic Sites, Structures and Districts. The Board also reviews proposed alterations to designated sites as necessary and generally promotes historic preservation in the Grand Junction community. The Board meets the first Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m.

David Bailey
Scott Wolford
Jody Motz
Shane Allerheiligen
Chris Endreson
Troy Reynolds
Jon Schler

Horizon Drive Association Business Improvement District

The function of the Horizon Drive Business Improvement District Board of Directors is to take such actions and perform such duties as are required of the operations of the District. The district is allowed to make and contemplate a broad range of public improvements. The Board meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m.

Clark Atkinson
Chuck Keller
Jay Moss
Janice Rohr
Brenda Brock
Bill Milius
Darshann Ruckman

Housing Authority

The Housing Authority provides safe and sanitary dwellings and apartments for persons of low and moderate income. The Housing Authority meets the fourth Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

Scott Aker
Tami Beard
Timothy Hudner
Barbara Traylor Smith
Chris Launer
Jerry Schafer
John Howe

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

The Board assists in the planning of recreation activities and it helps to promote a long-range program for the development of the City's park system. The Board meets the first Thursday of each month at noon.

Shana Wade
Kristy Emerson
Marc Litzen
Kyle Emert
Orin Zyvan
Bob Wiig
Dr. Scott McBrayer
Chris Kennedy

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission hears and decides many planning and zoning related issues and makes recommendations to the City Council on similar matters. The Commission holds public hearings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and holds workshops as needed.

Jon Buschhorn
Ebe Eslami
Christian Reece
Steve Tolle
Aaron Miller
Dr. George Gatseos
Kathy Deppe
William Wade
Keith Ehlers

Ridges Architectural Control Committee

The Committee's role is to ensure that all construction meets the requirements of the Ridges Protective Covenants for the type of building material, color, height and other structural and architectural requirements. The ACC meets as needed.

Ted Munkres
Frank Rinaldi
Cynthia Adair
Jeffery Fleming

Riverfront Commission

The Riverfront Commission is charged with planning, advocating and implementing a multifaceted program to redevelop and reclaim the Colorado riverfront within the Grand Valley. The meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Gale Foster
Larry Copeland
Claudette Konola
Laney Heath
Orilee Witte
Frank Watt
Stacy Kolegas Beaugh
Karen Jefferson
William Findlay
Clifton Sprinkle
Brad Taylor
Bennett Boeschstein

Urban Trails Committee

The purpose of the Urban Trails Committee is to plan and promote the City Council's goals for an interconnected network of sidewalks, paths and routes for active transportation and recreation throughout the Grand Junction urbanized area. The Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Elizabeth Collins
Dr. Kristin Heumann
Jeff Kuhr, Ph.D.
David Lehmann
Shana Wade
Orin Zyvan
Max Schmidt

Visitor & Convention Bureau Board of Directors

The mission of the Visitor and Convention Bureau is to market Grand Junction, resulting in a positive economic impact of visitor dollars to the City. The Board advises the VCB staff on policies and marketing directions. The VCB Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

Sharon Woelfle
Donald Bramer
Susie Kiger
Josh Niernberg
Jamie Lumms
Brad Taylor
Kevin Reimer
Julie Shafer
Billie Witham

Zoning Board of Appeals

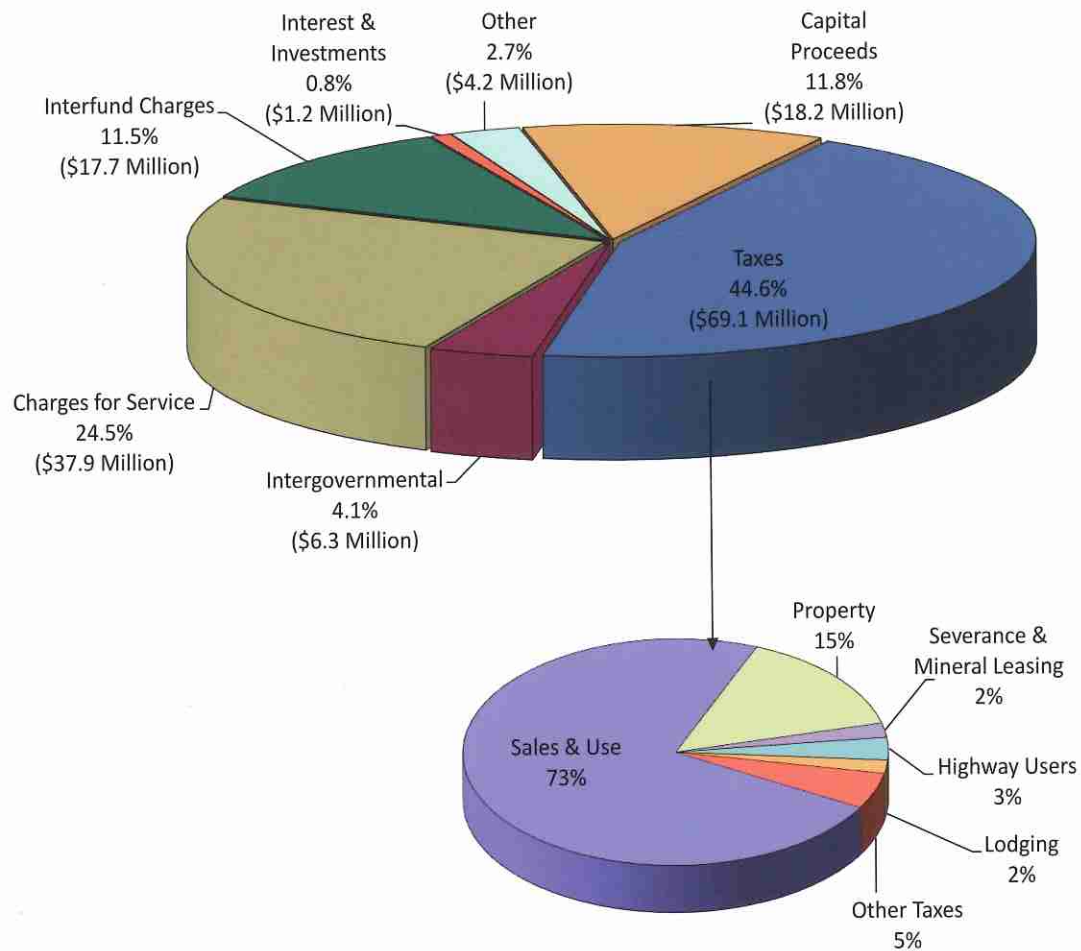
The Board of Appeals hears and decides appeals of administrative decisions, appeals for variances of the bulk requirements and non-conforming uses, and requests for exceptions to the side or rear setback requirements pursuant to the Zoning and Development Code. The Board also makes recommendations to the Planning Commission for amendments to the Zoning and Development Code. The Board meets as needed.

Christian Reece
Aaron Miller
Dr. George Gatseos
Joe Carter
Scott Wolford

City of Grand Junction Financial Information

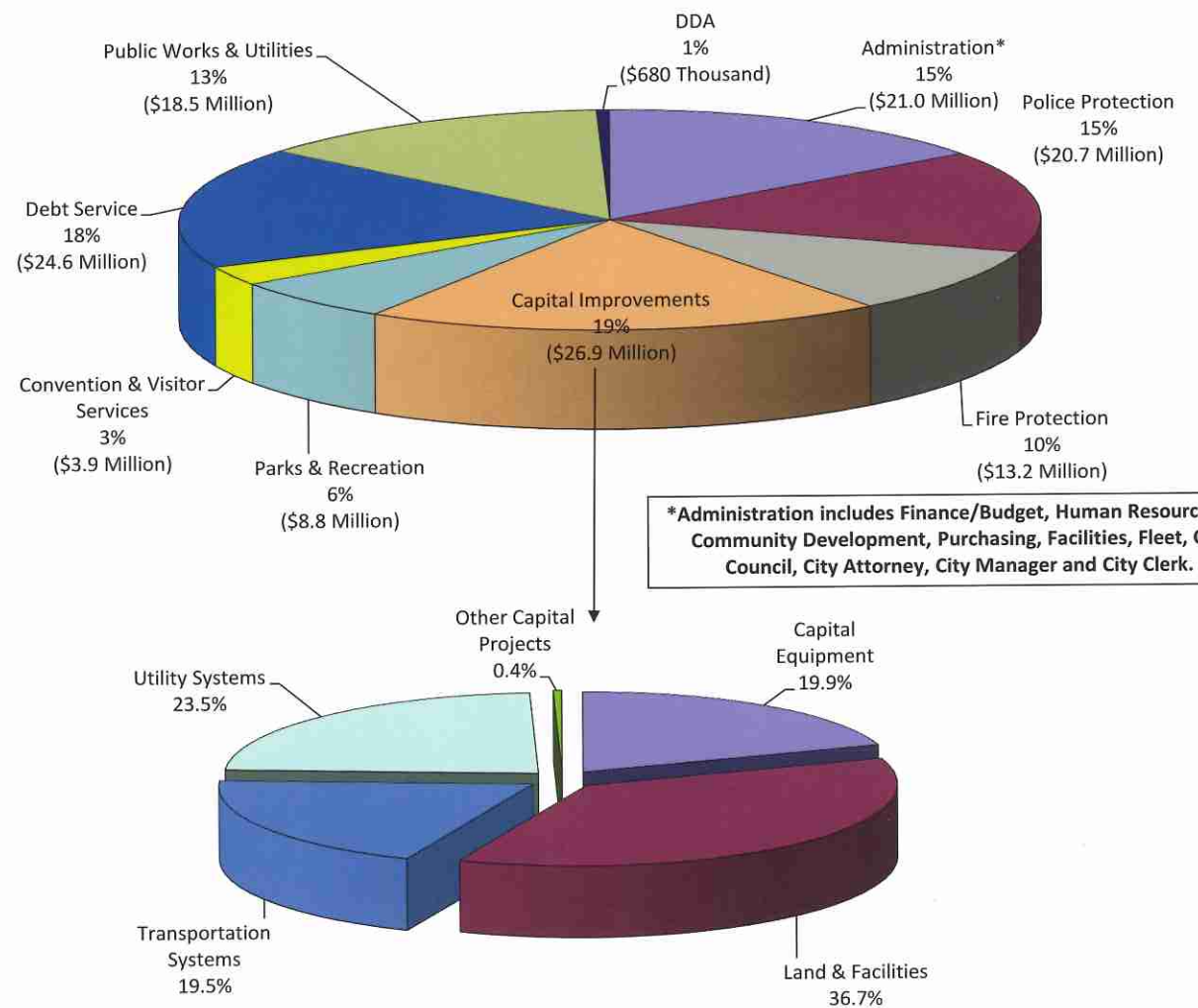
The following pie charts show an average of the last five years from 2012-2016. At print time, the 2017 budget was still being developed. For a look at how tax dollars were spent in 2016 please look at the "Monthly Cost of Service" graph below.

Where the Money Comes From...



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

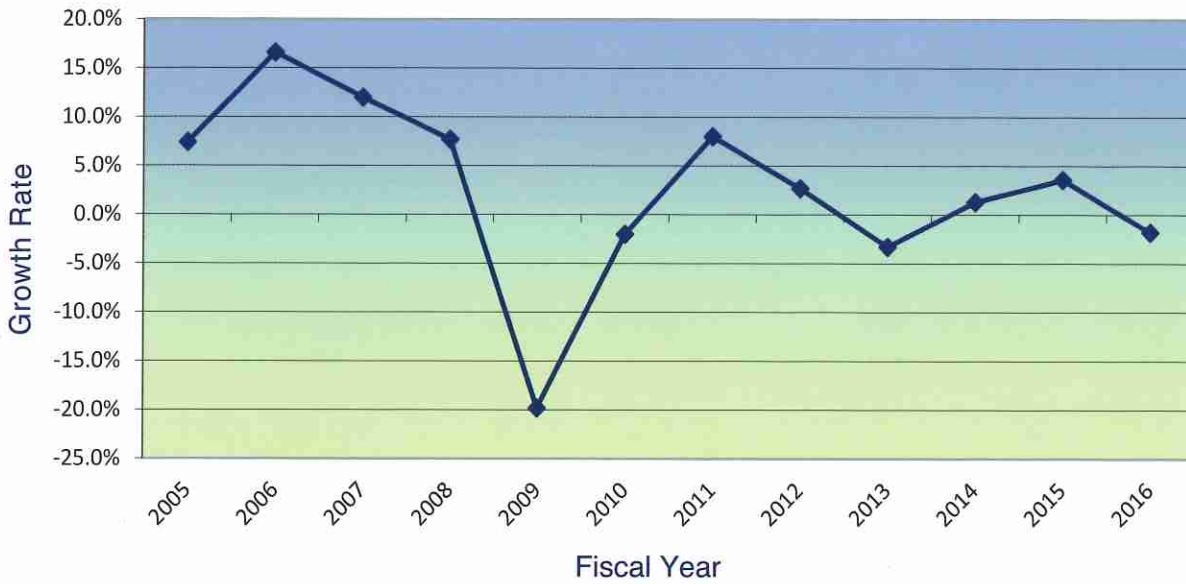
Where the Money Goes...



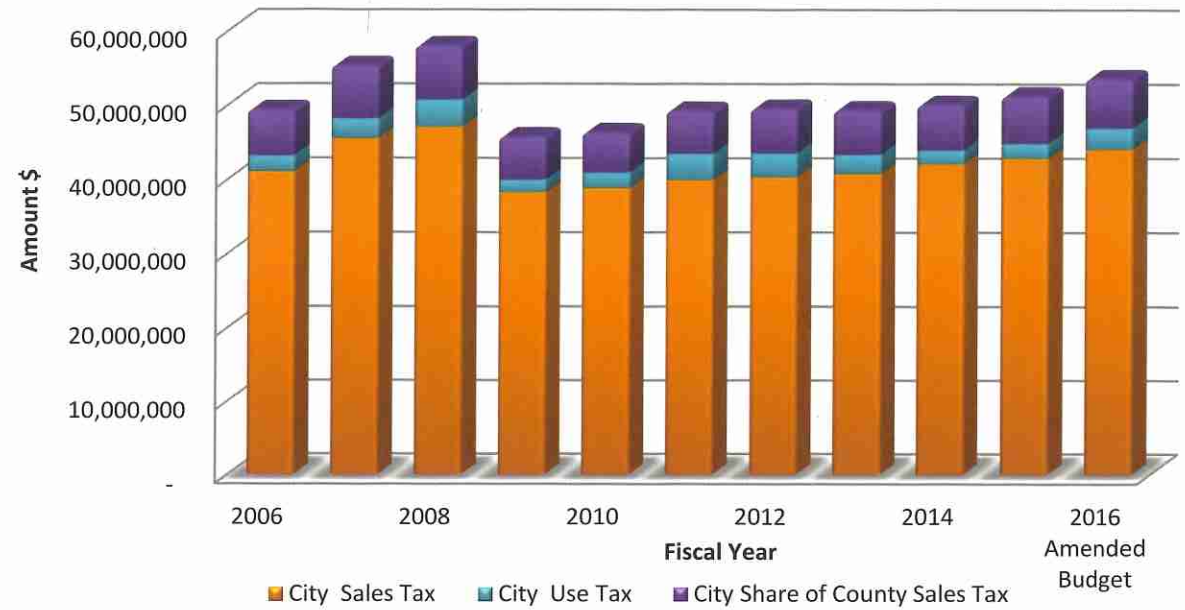
*Administration includes Finance/Budget, Human Resources, IT, Community Development, Purchasing, Facilities, Fleet, City Council, City Attorney, City Manager and City Clerk.

Capital improvements of streets, parks, utility systems and other infrastructure is a major category of expenditure, accounting for 19% of the total general government expenditures averaged over five years.

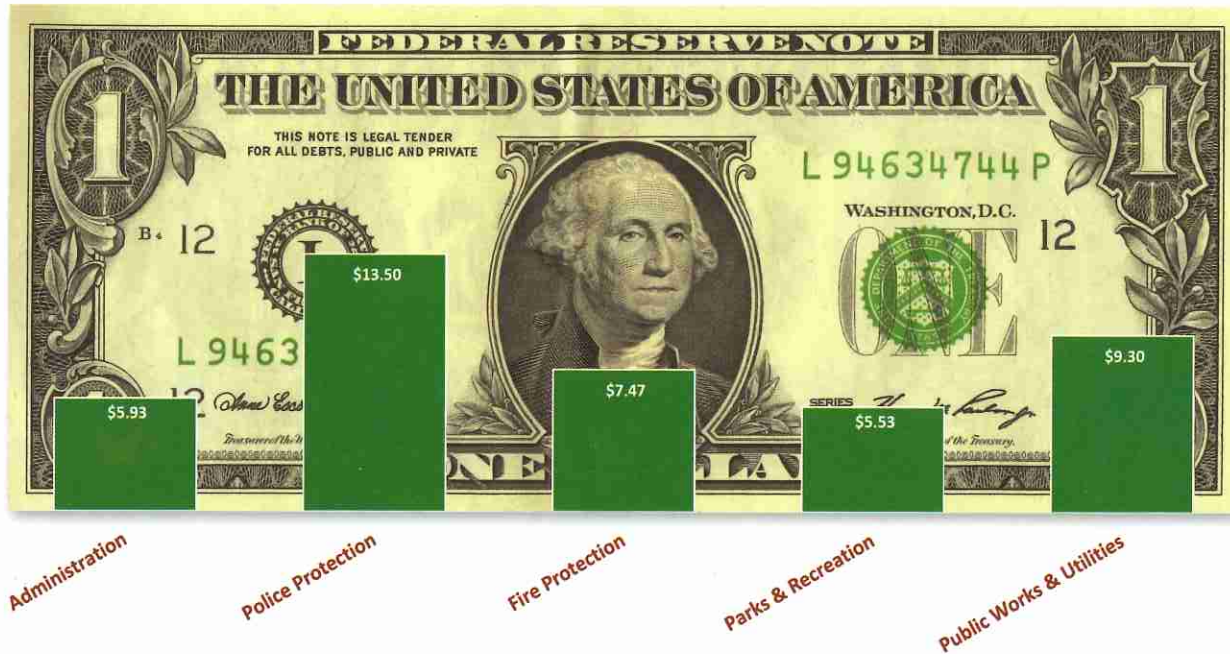
Historical Sales Tax Collections Growth Rate



Sales & Use Tax Collections (\$)

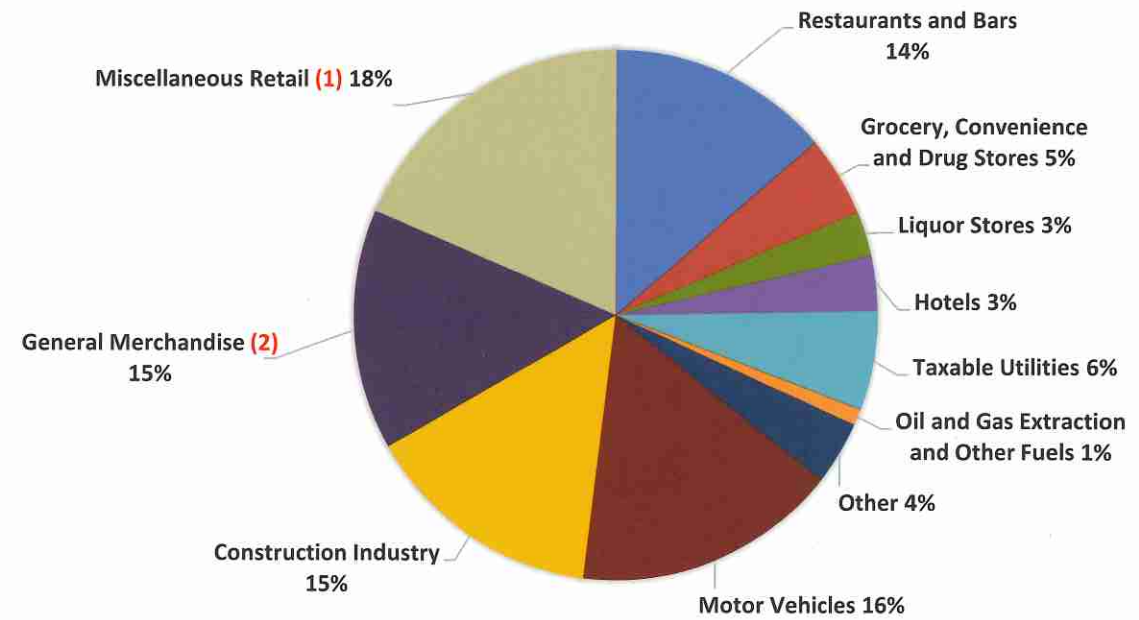


Monthly Cost of Service Per City Household 2016 Estimated Operating Budget by Service Area



The average City Household will pay \$501 in annual taxes received by the City, or \$41.73 per month, in support of all general government services provided by the City of Grand Junction. Convention & Visitor Services is not included here because they are primarily funded by lodging tax and service fees.

2016 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 2016 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.