



City of San Mateo  
 330 W. 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 San Mateo, CA 94403

***This is not a bill.***

Re: Your City at Work for You

Dear Property Owner,

You will soon receive your annual tax bill from the County. The City of San Mateo would like to take this opportunity to illustrate the ways in which your tax dollars are spent within our city and we have prepared this *Citizen's Benefits Statement* to accompany the City's *Annual Report* and *Budget-at-a-Glance*. These services provided by the City help to keep San Mateo a safe, clean, and enjoyable community in which to live.

As you may know, state law mandates the amount of your taxes that goes to cities, counties, and special districts. The law determines property tax as one percent of the *assessed* value of your property. **For every dollar in taxes that you pay to the County, the City of San Mateo receives approximately fourteen cents.** We think that it is important for you to see what you receive for your contribution and hope you find your City Services a great value.

Your estimated tax this year for your property at 20 03RD AVE W is \$1475; of this amount, the City will receive approximately \$211. As the table indicates, the per-parcel price of services provided by the city is roughly \$1,822, a number that exceeds property-owner contribution all but a handful of cases. The City relies heavily upon other sources of funding to compensate for this difference. These funds are obtained through services that are provided for a fee, such as sewage treatment and recreation classes and through sales and other tax dollars. One simple way that you can contribute to meeting the cost of City services is by shopping at local merchants so that your sales tax dollars are put back into your own community. Please take a moment to read the enclosed *Annual Report* and *Budget-at-a-Glance* to learn more about the City's accomplishments and finances for the fiscal year 99-00.

Your Parcel Number		107-110-060	
Your Tax to County	\$1475	Amount of Tax to City	\$211
	Per Parcel Cost of City Services		Your Contribution To Services
Police	\$610		\$70
Fire	372		42
Community Development	32		4
Public Works	164		19
Libraries	125		15
Parks & Recreation	267		32
General Government	218		25
Liability Insurance	34		4
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$1,822</b>	<b>Total Contribution</b>	<b>\$211</b>

We hope that this information is useful to you and welcome your comments regarding this letter. Please call the City Source Hotline with your comments regarding this statement at 522-7777 (message #503), or contact me directly at 522-7000, or via email at [citymanager@ci.sanmateo.ca.us](mailto:citymanager@ci.sanmateo.ca.us).

Sincerely,

  
 Arne Croce  
 San Mateo City Manager



# The City of San Mateo Budget-at-a-Glance

[www.ci.sanmateo.ca.us](http://www.ci.sanmateo.ca.us)

Fiscal Year 2000-2001

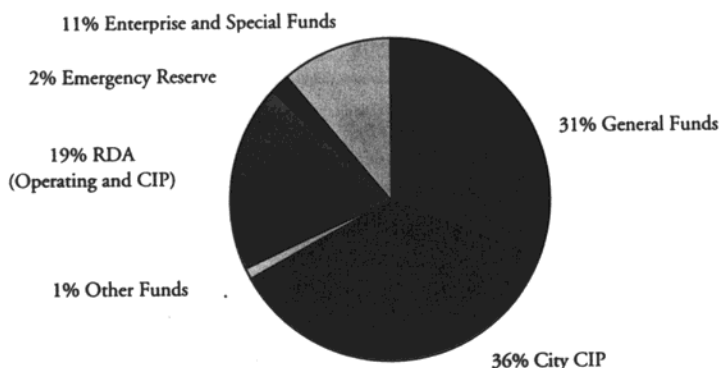
## The Budgeting Process

Every other year, the City of San Mateo develops a *Two-Year Business Plan* to help the City Council prioritize programs and services for funding and to determine future goals for our community. The Annual Budget is prepared as an integrated part of this process to allocate funding for these programs and services for the upcoming fiscal year (FY). In keeping with the City's policy of maintaining a balanced budget, the FY 2000-2001 City of San Mateo Budget is balanced at a total of \$180.3 million, including budgets for the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) and the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). This year's budget incorporates no new taxes or assessments and provides excellent programs and services for residents of the City. It also leads the way to achieving the City Council's vision of the future and its goals for financial stability.

## FY 2000-2001 Budget Highlights

The City of San Mateo categorizes its funds into four types: General Funds, Enterprise Funds, Special Funds, and Other Funds. In addition to these funds, the RDA and CIP budgets constitute the **total budget**.

2000-2001 Total Budget - \$180 Million



## Did You Know?

◆ **Parks and Recreation** provides for 29,000 registrants in activities; 3,800 registrants in adult sports; a monthly average of 330 swimmers; 21,000 recreation swim visits and serves 10,000 meals at the Senior Center, among other services and activities.



◆ The **Library** checks out more than 551,280 books and materials and answers approximately 90,958 information requests. Electronic Resource use has increased to 20,842 annually.



◆ **Dispatch** for police, fire, and medical services receives an estimated 250 telephone calls, 95 Emergency 9-1-1 calls, and 5,321 radio messages per average day.



◆ The newly renovated 18-hole **Poplar Creek Golf Course** has one of the heaviest play loads in Northern California, with an average of 100,000 rounds played annually.



◆ Ninety-percent of the time, the **Fire Department** arrives at an emergency scene within five minutes.

◆ The City has 32 fully developed parks, totalling 122 acres, four open space areas, and more than 23,000 trees to maintain.



◆ **Building Safety** issues approximately 3,500 building permits and performs 13,000 inspections per year.



◆ **Public Works** is responsible for 204 miles of City streets, 10 public parking lots and garages, 260 miles of sewer lines, 75 miles of storm drains, and 20 miles of open creeks and ditches.



*City Source* is a 24 hour information hotline that allows you to access nearly 250 messages regarding City operations and services. Call 522-7777



Budget Highlights, continued

Of the four types of City funds, the General Funds contain money that can be allocated largely at the City Council's discretion. All other funds have monies specifically earmarked and cannot be transferred to other funds or used for purposes other than those for which they were originally intended. The total City and RDA operating budget for FY 2000-2001 is \$88.7 million.

The *General Funds* are the basic operating funds that support many programs and services, such as public safety, public works, parks and recreation, and others. The City has budgeted \$55.4 million for the General Operating Fund in FY 2000-2001 for the following:

◆ Public Safety: \$27.1 million. Provides police and fire department services to the community.



◆ Public Works: \$3.5 million. Provides traffic systems engineering, building and street maintenance, waste disposal, and other services. Beginning in 2000-2001, the building maintenance budget is allocated directly to the operating departments.



◆ Parks, Recreation, and Library: \$13.4 million. Maintains parks, community centers, aquatic facilities, and public libraries.



◆ General Government: \$7.2 million. Provides policy direction as well as administrative and financial services for the City.

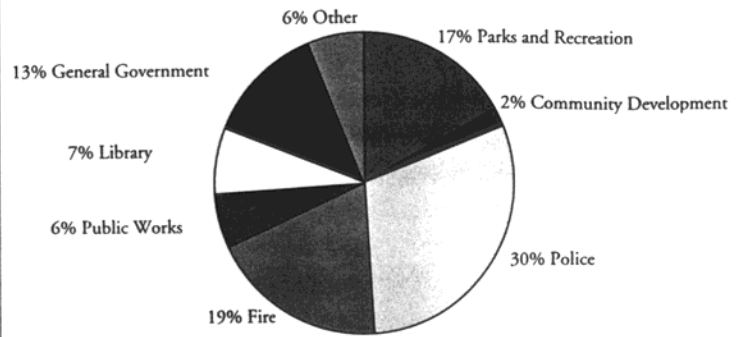


◆ Community Development: \$1.1 million. Responsible for economic development and long-range planning for the City.

◆ Other: \$3.1 million. Includes public liability insurance, team incentive reserve, limited term activities, and the operating reserve.



2000-2001 General Funds Budget - \$55 Million



*Enterprise Funds* generate their own revenues and do not rely on the City's General Funds. Enterprise Funds are maintained for Sewer Service, the Golf Course, Construction Services, and the Central Parking Improvement District (CPID), and have a FY 2000-2001 budget of \$18.8 million.

Sewer and Solid Waste: \$11.6M. Provides street sweeping, sewer, and wastewater treatment.



Golf Course: \$2.3M. Supports operational and capital costs for the municipal golf course.



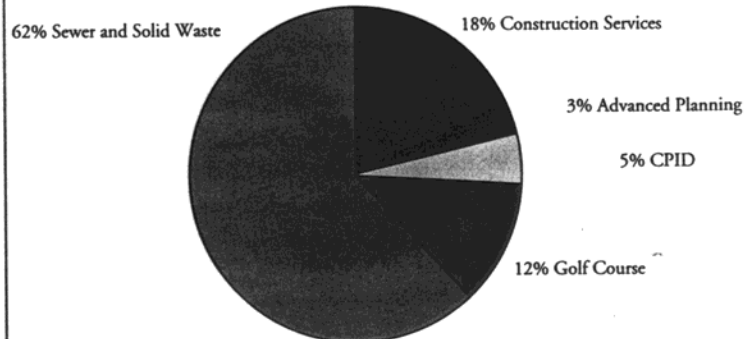
Construction Services: \$3.3M. Provides building inspection and plan checking services.

CPID: \$1.0M. Maintains and operates public parking facilities.



Advance Planning: \$0.6M Supports the operations of Advanced Planning.

2000-2001 Enterprise Funds - \$19 Million



*Special Funds* for the City of San Mateo will receive \$2.2 million in FY 2000-2001 consisting primarily of grants and programs funded largely by the Federal Government.



**HOME:** \$0.5M. Creates and preserves low income housing.

**CDBG:** \$1.0M. Provides low income residents w/ housing, human services, and other programs.

**City Housing:** \$0.4 million.

**Police Grants:** \$0.3 million.

*Other Funds* are designated to pay for bond debt service (\$1.4M) and the Long-Term Emergency Reserve (\$4M). These total \$5.4M.

**The City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)**

The City Charter requires that a projected Five Year CIP is proposed. This Five Year plan covers projects estimated at \$126 million. Projects proposed in FY 2000-2001 total \$65 million. These projects include: new library and branch improvements; seismic upgrades and rehabilitation of the police and fire facilities; second phase of the waste water treatment plant expansion; improvements to City streets and sewer system; and continuation of the City's Vehicle and Equipment Replacement program.

**The Redevelopment Agency (RDA)**

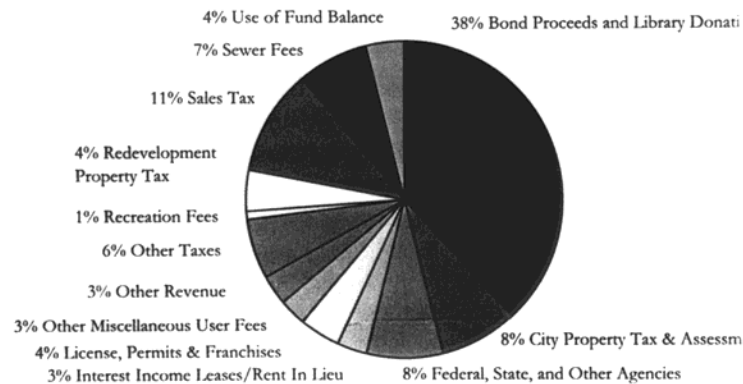
The RDA has a FY 2000-2001 operating and CIP budget of \$33.70 million and its goals include:

- ◆ Leveraging reinvestment and development through economic development activities, marketing, and promotion of project areas;
- ◆ Rehabilitation of neighborhoods and business areas;
- ◆ Stimulating private investment; and,
- ◆ Providing and preserving affordable housing.

**Where the City's Money Comes From**

Total resources for FY 2000-2001 are estimated at \$180.3 million.

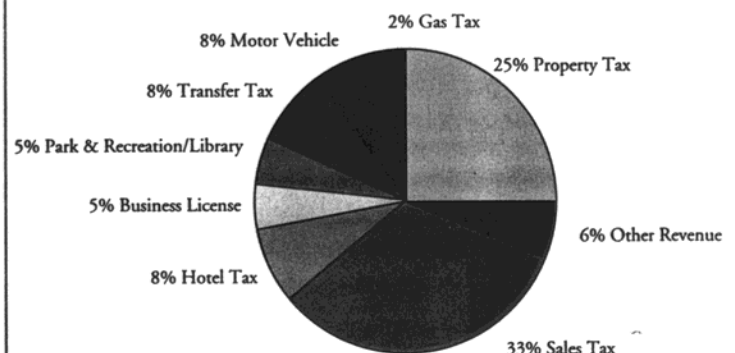
**2000-2001 Total Revenue Resources - \$180 Million**



**General Fund Revenues**

Next year's fiscal outlook continues to be balanced and economically strong although there are signs of a leveling off in our rate of revenue growth. Approximately half of the General Funds revenues come from sales and property taxes. The surge in hotel tax is a result of new hotels and the increased tax rate from 8% to 10%. The City's overall assessment valuation is also expected to increase. Taking the anomaly adjustments into consideration, we expect the 2000-2001 revenues to increase conservatively by approximately 5 %, driven primarily by hotel tax, sales tax, and property tax. Beyond 2000-2001, the future revenue growth is likely to be about the same.

**2000-2001 General Fund Resources - \$55 Million**



## Where Your Tax Dollars Go

With the different taxes and fees you pay each year, it may not be clear how much actually goes to the City. Here are some examples of different taxes and fees and the respective proportions of each that return to the City.

### **Property Taxes:**

For every \$100 you pay in general property taxes to the County of San Mateo, the City receives \$14.35.



### **Sales Taxes:**

For every taxable \$100 purchase you make within the City of San Mateo, the City receives \$1.



### **Vehicle License Fees:**

From the license fee you pay to register your vehicle with the DMV, the City receives approximately 30% of the fee which equates to approximately \$47.00 per capita.



### 2000-2001 Budget Breakdown (millions)

General Funds (31%)	\$ 55.4
Enterprise & Special Funds	21.0
Other Funds	<u>1.4</u>
Total City Operating Budget	\$ 77.8
Long-Term Emergency Reserve	<u>4.0</u>
Total City Budget	\$ 81.8
City's CIP Budget	64.8
RDA Budget (Operating & CIP)	<u>33.7</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 180.3

## Some of the public services you receive from the City are:

- ◆ Police  
Patrol, Investigations, Community Services
  
- ◆ Fire  
Fire Prevention & Suppression  
Emergency Planning  
Community Outreach  
Neighborhood Emergency Service Training (NEST)
  
- ◆ Public Works  
Transportation Engineering  
Street Maintenance  
Waste Disposal  
Traffic Maintenance  
Street Sweeping  
Sewer and Wastewater Treatment  
Parking Operations and Maintenance
  
- ◆ Library  
Circulation, Periodicals, and Reference  
Children's Services  
Audio and Visual  
Internet
  
- ◆ Parks & Recreation  
Cultural Arts  
Community Centers  
Athletics  
Aquatics  
Youth Services  
Landscape Resources  
Golfing
  
- ◆ Community Development  
Planning  
Building Safety  
Code Enforcement  
Housing  
Economic Development

We hope you have found this brochure informative. For additional information, you can review a copy of the City of San Mateo's Business Plan for 2000-2002 at the Library, City Hall, or call the Finance Department at (650) 522-7100.

\* Note: figures are rounded to the nearest million and may differ slightly from total.