



# City of Huntsville, TX

## Budget-in-Brief FY 09-10

### What's Inside?

- Budget Process
- Property Tax Rate
- Revenues & Expenses
- Debt
- Capital Projects Overview

The City of Huntsville's leadership is intensely committed to our community and exercises great diligence in planning for the future of Huntsville.

Our budgeting process begins with citizen input and involves much planning, goal setting, and prioritizing by the City Council and staff.

The following City Council goal statements were established to be used as a guide during the budget process:

- The City of Huntsville is a safe, healthy, and historic community with high quality, affordable housing.
- The City of Huntsville is an economically thriving community.
- The City of Huntsville is an attractive city with great parks and full of educational and cultural opportunities.
- The City of Huntsville is a well-managed and well-planned community with "best in class" public services.

### Budget Message

The City budget of \$61.6 million is comprised of an operating budget of \$51 million and a capital budget of \$10.6 million, funded with the same overall tax rate as last year at \$0.4007 per \$100 valuation. The adopted rate is 1.25¢ less than the effective rate. Rates for both water and wastewater base residential charges were lowered \$2 each per month.

The budget funds two additional police officers and a community development program for grants. Additionally, three positions were eliminated.

New to the City budget this year is the operating budget for tourism, the visitors center, and gift shop.

### City Council

**J. Turner**  
Mayor

**Lanny Ray**  
Mayor Pro-tem

**Dr. Tom Cole**  
Ward 1

**Mac Woodward**  
Ward 2

**Jack Wagamon**  
Ward 3

**Wayne Barrett**  
Ward 4

**Dalene Zender**  
Position 1

**Melissa Templeton-Mahaffey**  
Position 2

**Charles Forbus**  
Position 3

### Basis of Budgeting

Operating budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles as promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, with exceptions, including that depreciation is not included in the budget, capital purchases are budgeted in the year of purchase, un-matured interest on long-term debt is recognized when due, and debt principal is budgeted in the year it is to be paid.



### Budget Structure

The accounts of the City are organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund can be generally thought of as a small business.

The operations of each fund are maintained using a set of self-balancing accounts which comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. City resources are budgeted to the individual funds, by account, and are controlled within the individual fund.

*City of Huntsville*

1212 Avenue M  
Huntsville, TX 77340

Phone: 936-291-5958 Fax: 936-291-5489  
E-mail: [carla@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:carla@huntsvilletx.gov)



# City of Huntsville, TX

## Budget-in-Brief FY 09-10

### Budget Process

#### Budget Preparation

*March through May*

The City Council holds strategic planning sessions and departments submit their budget proposals, capital projects requests, and supplemental requests for the City Manager to review.

#### City Manager's Recommended Budget

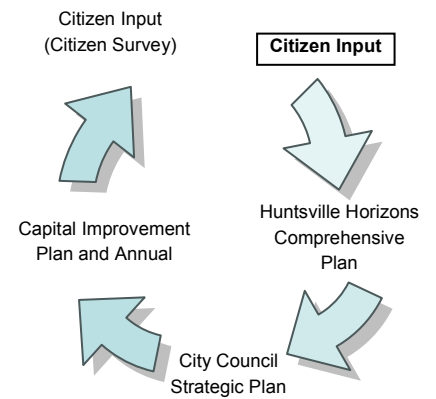
*June through July*

The City Manager meets with department heads to discuss proposed budget items, policy changes, and alternative funding options. The City Manager then recommends a budget to the City Council at least 30 days prior to the end of the fiscal year (September 30).

#### Public Hearing on the Budget

*August and September*

Residents and taxpayers are invited to attend public hearing regarding the budget and share their opinions regarding the proposed budget.



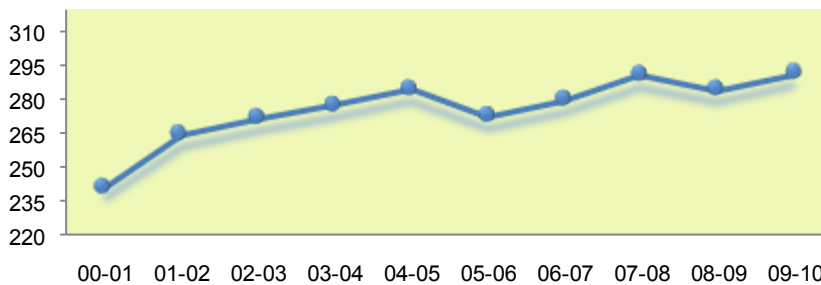
### Personnel

The City Council approved the addition of two new police officers and upgrading the part-time Aquatic Center Manager position to a full-time position. Two new positions were also created for Tourism and the Visitors Center, which are paid from hotel occupancy taxes, and a records clerk position was added (contingent upon grant funding).

Three positions were eliminated for this year's budget, including the Administrative Services Director, Operations/Contract Administrator, and City Attorney positions.



### Employee History FTE's



City of Huntsville

1212 Avenue M  
Huntsville, TX 77340

Phone: 936-291-5958 Fax: 936-291-5489  
E-mail: carla@huntsvilletx.gov



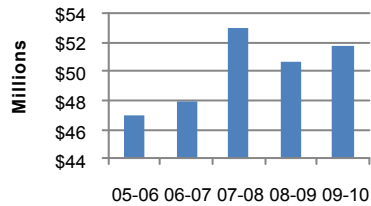
# City of Huntsville, TX

## Budget-in-Brief FY 09-10

### Revenues

The cornerstone of the City of Huntsville's annual budget is the projection of revenue expected for the coming fiscal year. Revenues received by the City support the various services provided to the citizens of Huntsville.

Total projected revenues of \$51.7 million for this fiscal year are expected to increase approximately 2% over last year's estimate. With Huntsville's relatively strong economy, sales taxes are expected to increase 3% over last year's sales. Utility franchise fees are estimated to increase nearly 27% over last year's estimate.



### Property Tax Rates

The adopted property tax rate for FY 09-10 is \$.4007. The adopted rate is below the effective rate (\$.4132) and is divided as follows:

General Fund	\$ .2249
Debt	<u>\$ .1758</u>
<b>City Total</b>	<b>\$ .4007</b>
Walker County	\$ .5770
Huntsville ISD	\$1.3400
Hospital District	<u>.1537</u>
<b>Total Tax Rate</b>	<b>\$2.4714</b>

Budgeted revenues for fiscal year 09-10 are \$51,776,084; including \$4,633,000 from property taxes and \$6,610,000 from sales taxes.

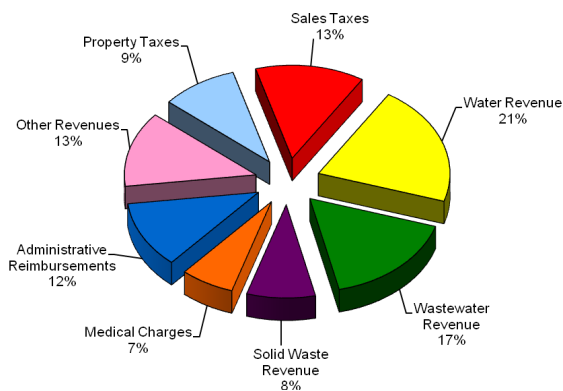
Operating Budget	\$51,068,387
Capital Budget	\$10,593,954
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$61,662,341</b>

### Expenses

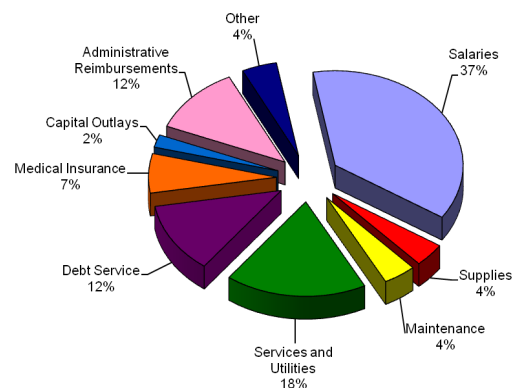
In accordance with the goals and priorities that result from the City Council's strategic planning session, city staff prepare their departmental requests. Each department of the city prepares a budget that seeks to fulfill the City Council's strategic and long-term visions for the future of the community.

Departments complete a base budget and any requests for supplemental to meet these goals. The supplemental budget is the portion of the budget that includes new programs and personnel, new equipment, and any new changes to the present level of service.

### Where the money comes from...



### Where the money goes...



City of Huntsville

1212 Avenue M  
Huntsville, TX 77340

Phone: 936-291-5958 Fax: 936-291-5489

E-mail: [carla@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:carla@huntsvilletx.gov)



# City of Huntsville, TX

## Budget-in-Brief FY 09-10

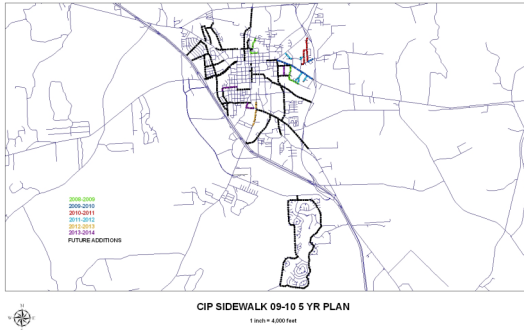
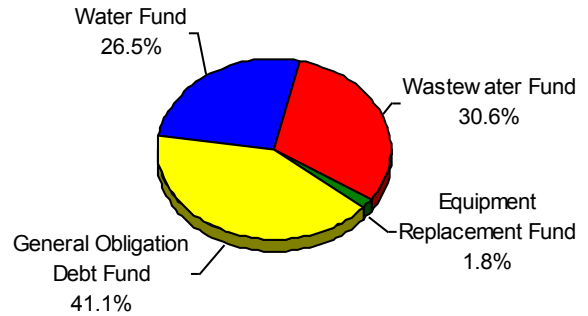
### Debt

The City's total outstanding debt at October 1, 2009, is \$43,877,973. Debt payments for FY 2009-10, including Trinity River Authority (TRA) contract debt, comprise approximately 13.6% of the total citywide budget, excluding transfers. General obligation debt is \$18,046,000.

The City's legal debt limit is 10% of Huntsville's assessed value. Based on the current assessed value of \$1,171,742,739, the legal debt limit is \$117,174,274.

The debt portion of the property tax rate is 17.58¢. This represents a decrease of 1.41¢ in the debt service tax rate.

### Summary of Total Municipal Debt Fund



The above map shows the 5-year plan for construction of sidewalks in Huntsville. \$369,119 has been budgeted in FY 09-10 to meet the goals of that plan.

### Capital Projects

Capital improvement projects are expenditures of a non-recurring nature related to the acquisition, construction, expansion, or major rehabilitation of an element of Huntsville's infrastructure. Capital improvement projects can include such things as parks, buildings, water and wastewater lines, streets, and sidewalks. Based on priorities, goals, and issues, a five-year plan is developed for each area of the capital program.

The City's total capital budget for FY 09-10 is \$10,593,954, with the addition of \$3,496,139 in new capital projects, including:

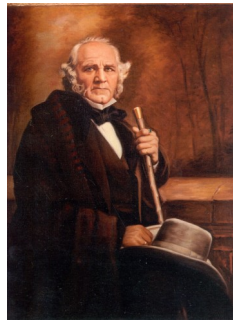
- \$480,100 for drainage projects
- \$379,080 for street project
- \$1,639,340 for water and wastewater improvements, and
- \$225,500 for upgrades to Kate Barr Ross baseball and softball fields.

### About Huntsville

Form of Government..... Council/Manager  
Date of Incorporation..... January 30, 1845

#### Cultural Diversity

White.....	56.0%
Black or African American .....	23.7%
Hispanic or Latino.....	17.0%
American Indian & Alaska Native.....	0.4%
Asian.....	1.7%
Some Other Race.....	1.2%



#### Population

County.....	64,212
City.....	37,790
Male.....	22,674
Female.....	15,116
Median age.....	28.8
18 years and older.....	32,122
65 years and older.....	3,212

\*Source: Texas State Data Center & Office of the State Demographer, U.S. Census Bureau (2008 estimates), and ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2005-2007

### City of Huntsville

1212 Avenue M  
Huntsville, TX 77340

Phone: 936-291-5958 Fax: 936-291-5489  
E-mail: carla@huntsvilletx.gov