



General Fund Summary

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS

The general fund provides financial support for the city's basic services. Many divisions are funded solely by the general fund, others receive general fund subsidies, and some have multiple funding sources.

Revenues, excluding the unencumbered balance, encumbrance cancellations, and transfers from other funds, are projected at \$883.0 million, a decrease of 2.2 percent from 2020 revenue projections. A description of the major revenue sources of the general fund is provided below, followed by a revenue summary table.

Income Tax

The primary source of revenue to the general fund is the income tax. Columbus' income tax was first instituted in 1947 at 0.5 percent. Subsequent increases of 0.5 percent occurred in each of the years 1956, 1971, 1982, and 2009. The current income tax rate is 2.5 percent.

The city levies an income tax on all wages, salaries, commissions, other compensation paid to employees, and on net proceeds of business operations in the city. Pursuant to Columbus City Code, Section 361.37, 75 percent of all income tax collections are deposited in the general fund for general fund operations and 25 percent of collections are deposited in a separate fund to service debt on capital improvements.

Approximately 82 percent of income taxes are collected through employer withholdings. Payments are made to the city on a statutorily prescribed basis.

The income tax is the largest source of revenue for general fund operations. In 2021, income tax revenues to the general fund are estimated at \$699 million, which is 73 percent of total general fund resources and 79 percent of total general fund revenue. This represents a 0.5 percent growth over 2020 projections.

Property Tax

The city annually receives property taxes equal to 3.14 mills of assessed tangible and real property and public utility located in the city. Property taxes are collected by Franklin, Fairfield, and Delaware counties, and are typically remitted to the city on a semi-annual basis. Collections are based on the prior year's assessed valuations, established by state law at 35 percent of appraised market value for real property and at 100 percent of true value for public utility property. Taxes are collected one year in arrears for real property.

Pursuant to Ohio statute and Columbus City Codes, property tax revenue is used for three purposes: certain debt service requirements, partial payment of police and fire pension costs,

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and general fund operations. State law requires that the first two obligations be met before property tax revenue can be deposited into the general fund for general operations. Because the city pays debt service on non-enterprise capital improvements from the special income tax (SIT) fund, property tax revenues are deposited directly in the general fund. The 2021 estimate for property tax collections is \$57.8 million, an increase of 17.4 percent over the 2020 projection.



Hotel/Motel Tax

During 2014, Columbus City Code, Section 371.02, was amended and as a result, the general fund no longer receives a deposit from hotel/motel taxes. The 2020 and 2021 projections for general fund hotel/motel tax receipts are \$0.

Kilowatt-Hour Tax

Beginning in 2001, a tax was levied on users of electricity provided by the Division of Electricity. Known as the kilowatt-hour (KWH) tax, state statutes allow that funds collected from users located within the city be deposited into the city's general fund. These revenues are estimated at \$3.3 million for 2021.

Casino Tax

In 2009, a constitutional amendment was passed in Ohio, allowing for casinos in four Ohio cities (Columbus, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Toledo). In 2012, as casinos opened in the State of Ohio, the state began collecting taxes on casino revenues. The city receives a portion of revenue from the gross casino revenue county fund and the gross casino revenue host city fund. After moneys are set aside for Nationwide Arena and debt service, the balance of

revenue received will be deposited into the general fund. The \$3.5 million estimate for the 2021 general fund deposit for casino tax revenues is the same as the 2020 projection.

Shared Revenues

Local government fund (LGF) revenues represent portions of various State of Ohio taxes which are shared with local governments within the state. The local community funds, formerly known as the local government fund, and the local government revenue assistance fund are now combined as the local community funds from the State of Ohio. This category also includes the city's share of any residual estate taxes and other smaller taxes. Total revenues are projected at \$20.0 million in 2021, a 4.3 percent decrease from projected 2020 revenues.

Fines and Penalties

The City of Columbus receives 100 percent of all municipal court costs and fines assessed in cases initiated by the city (excluding those that have been earmarked for special purposes such as computerization of court functions), as well as fines assessed for traffic and parking violations. In addition, the city receives a percentage of court costs and fines assessed in cases initiated by the state, county, or other municipalities and tried in the Franklin County Municipal Court. Revenues from fines and penalties are projected at \$14.7 million in 2021, a 27.5 percent increase over 2020 collections.

Charges for Service

Sources of revenue in this category include pro rata charges, third party reimbursements for emergency medical services, parking meter revenues and other parking charges, and revenue from various divisions that charge for services. These include auto impounding fees, sales of impounded autos, certain fire protection and dispatching service charges, and revenue from the collection of income taxes and prosecution services for other municipalities and villages. Total revenues from charges for service are projected at \$62.3 million in 2021, a 3.9 percent increase over 2020 estimates.

Pursuant to Ordinance 2293-2018, all independent funds of the city are assessed an administrative service charge of 4.5 percent of revenues, the proceeds of which are deposited into the general fund. This charge, referred to as "pro rata", represents a fee for certain services performed by administrative divisions for enterprise, special revenue, grant, and internal service divisions for which no specific service charge is assessed. Services include, but are not limited to, debt administration and budget preparation provided by the Finance and Management Department, legal services provided by the City Attorney, financial reporting and assistance provided by the City Auditor, and maintenance and cleaning services provided by the Division of Facilities Management.

Investment Earnings

Investment earnings are deposited into the fund in which they were earned. The Treasury Investment Board, consisting of the City Treasurer, City Auditor, and the Director of Finance and Management, is responsible for investing the city's liquid assets. To ensure the creditworthiness of the investment of public moneys, federal statutes restrict municipal investment to U.S. government securities, bank certificates of deposit, and repurchase agreements. General fund investment earnings are projected to yield \$8.7 million in 2021, a 58.5 percent decrease from 2020 estimates.

License and Permit Fees

This category consists primarily of cable communications fees and fees charged by the Department of Public Safety for the issuance and enforcement of City of Columbus licenses and permits. The city charges cable companies a service permit fee for the ability to operate a cable system in the City of Columbus, equal to five percent of cable operator gross revenues. Fees in this category are estimated at \$11.6 million in 2021, of which Cable TV permits are expected to be approximately \$8.6 million.

Other Revenue

This category includes various unclaimed funds, refunds, and miscellaneous revenue. The 2021 estimate is \$2.2 million.

Encumbrance Cancellations

These funds represent moneys set aside in prior fiscal years for expenditures that subsequently were not made. Funds can then be made available for use through the cancellation of encumbrances. The estimate for 2021 is \$5.0 million.

Other Miscellaneous Transfers

The basic city services fund was established in 2012 to meet future budget needs due to reductions in the state local government fund and estate tax revenue. A transfer from the basic city services fund into the general fund will not be needed for 2021.



GENERAL FUND REVENUE BY SOURCE AND YEAR HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED 2017 - 2021											
SOURCE	2017	PERCENT	2018	PERCENT	2019	PERCENT	2020	PERCENT	2021	PERCENT	PERCENT
	ACTUAL	CHANGE	ACTUAL	CHANGE	ACTUAL	CHANGE	PROJECTED	CHANGE	PROJECTED	CHANGE	OF TOTAL
Income Tax	\$ 656,889,243	4.28%	\$ 668,685,419	1.80%	\$ 706,085,907	5.59%	\$ 695,492,000	(1.50%)	\$ 698,958,000	0.50%	72.51%
Property Tax	44,710,636	4.58%	49,246,740	10.15%	50,390,381	2.32%	49,212,000	(2.34%)	57,765,000	17.38%	5.99%
Kilowatt Hour Tax	2,915,539	(6.92%)	3,320,402	13.89%	3,369,256	1.47%	3,250,000	(3.54%)	3,250,000	0.00%	0.34%
Hotel/Motel Tax	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	0.00%
TOTAL TAXES	704,515,418	4.25%	721,252,561	2.38%	759,845,544	5.35%	747,954,000	(1.56%)	759,973,000	1.61%	78.84%
Local Government Fund	19,555,955	(2.64%)	19,891,400	1.72%	21,232,931	6.74%	19,572,000	(7.82%)	18,673,000	(4.59%)	1.94%
Estate Tax	20,913	(65.76%)	-	(100.00%)	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	0.00%
Liquor Permit Fee, Other	1,308,313	(0.06%)	1,336,345	2.14%	1,295,038	(3.09%)	1,313,000	1.39%	1,313,000	0.00%	0.14%
Casino Tax	6,734,707	(0.82%)	6,943,951	3.11%	7,100,147	2.25%	3,521,000	(50.41%)	3,521,000	0.00%	0.37%
TOTAL SHARED REVENUE	27,619,888	(2.22%)	28,171,696	2.00%	29,628,116	5.17%	24,406,000	(17.63%)	23,507,000	(3.68%)	2.44%
License and Permit Fees	11,600,987	(6.93%)	11,929,719	2.83%	12,106,082	1.48%	9,525,000	(21.32%)	11,641,000	22.22%	1.21%
Fines and Penalties	18,650,054	(1.48%)	18,478,699	(0.92%)	18,921,231	2.39%	11,556,000	(38.93%)	14,738,000	27.54%	1.53%
Investment Earnings	8,792,163	23.49%	12,240,506	39.22%	21,145,912	72.75%	20,900,000	(1.16%)	8,675,000	(58.49%)	0.90%
Charges for Service	65,170,008	5.35%	65,689,652	0.80%	65,365,937	(0.49%)	59,969,000	(8.26%)	62,299,000	3.89%	6.46%
All Other	2,404,812	15.52%	3,083,164	28.21%	2,596,250	(15.79%)	28,069,000	981.14%	2,171,000	(92.27%)	0.23%
TOTAL OTHER REVENUES	106,618,024	4.06%	111,421,740	4.51%	120,135,412	7.82%	130,019,000	8.23%	99,524,000	(23.45%)	10.32%
TOTAL ALL REVENUES	838,753,330	4.00%	860,845,997	2.63%	909,609,072	5.66%	902,379,000	(0.79%)	883,004,000	(2.15%)	91.60%
Encumbrance Cancellations	6,374,423	28.12%	8,090,989	26.93%	9,995,846	23.54%	5,000,000	(49.98%)	5,000,000	0.00%	0.52%
Unencumbered Balance	30,205,726	(1.68%)	17,670,166	(41.50%)	16,170,687	(8.49%)	40,795,387	152.28%	71,996,000	76.48%	7.47%
Fund Transfers	4,307,714	6.00%	3,833,900	(11.00%)	3,361,411	(12.32%)	4,000,000	19.00%	4,000,000	0.00%	0.41%
Other Misc. Transfers	-	(100.00%)	16,784,000	N/A	12,962,619	(22.77%)	-	(100.00%)	-	N/A	0.00%
Total Annual Resources	879,641,193	3.72%	907,225,051	3.14%	952,099,635	4.95%	952,174,387	0.01%	964,000,000	1.24%	100.00%
27th Pay Period Reserve Fund	20,137,786	13.45%	22,596,786	12.21%	25,129,786	11.21%	1,738,786	(93.08%)	4,425,786	154.53%	
Economic Stabilization Fund	73,945,877	6.36%	76,180,089	3.02%	80,655,018	5.87%	85,200,000	5.64%	85,450,000	0.29%	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND AVAILABLE RESOURCES	\$ 973,724,856	4.10%	\$ 1,006,001,926	3.31%	\$ 1,057,884,439	5.16%	\$ 1,039,113,173	(1.77%)	\$ 1,053,875,786	1.42%	



Expenditures and Personnel

The following tables provide summary detail on general fund expenditures and personnel levels:

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GENERAL FUND 2021 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY BY AREA OF EXPENSE								
Department/Division	Personnel	Materials	Services	Other	Capital	Transfers	Totals	
City Council	\$ 4,582,290	\$ 28,000	\$ 369,791	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,983,081	
<u>City Auditor</u>								
City Auditor	3,994,001	27,600	767,134	1,000	-	-	4,789,735	
Income Tax	8,493,429	78,500	1,242,250	500	-	-	9,814,679	
Total	12,487,430	106,100	2,009,384	1,500	-	-	14,604,414	
City Treasurer	1,123,498	10,200	325,868	-	-	-	1,459,566	
<u>City Attorney</u>								
City Attorney	12,944,547	85,200	407,922	3,000	-	-	13,440,669	
Real Estate	167,293	-	-	-	-	-	167,293	
Total	13,111,840	85,200	407,922	3,000	-	-	13,607,962	
Municipal Court Judges	17,855,428	65,000	2,019,469	-	-	490,000	20,429,897	
Municipal Court Clerk	11,520,669	140,734	806,032	-	-	-	12,467,435	
Civil Service	3,798,061	28,828	726,648	3,500	-	-	4,557,037	
<u>Public Safety</u>								
Administration	7,179,990	10,367	5,460,855	100	-	-	12,651,312	
Support Services	16,497,586	427,175	3,546,327	5,800	-	-	20,476,888	
Police	308,214,363	4,742,414	14,930,082	255,000	3,000,000	5,704,269	336,846,128	
Fire	246,036,400	4,413,729	12,446,292	125,000	-	2,462,772	265,484,193	
Total	577,928,339	9,593,685	36,383,556	385,900	3,000,000	8,167,041	635,458,521	
<u>Office of the Mayor</u>								
Mayor	4,249,514	15,000	529,615	1,250	-	-	4,795,379	
Office of Diversity & Inclusion	1,547,943	2,000	310,050	-	-	-	1,859,993	
Total	5,797,457	17,000	839,665	1,250	-	-	6,655,372	
Education	564,487	9,500	6,020,156	-	-	-	6,594,143	
<u>Development</u>								
Administration	3,237,921	22,000	4,752,982	151,000	-	-	8,163,903	
Econ. Development	1,703,797	6,500	2,754,574	1,000	-	-	4,465,871	
Code Enforcement	7,776,741	66,400	744,189	7,000	-	-	8,594,330	
Planning	1,614,492	8,400	57,632	1,000	-	-	1,681,524	
Housing	1,791,761	12,500	5,772,437	11,000	-	-	7,587,698	
Land Redevelopment	854,053	-	1,000	-	-	-	855,053	
Total	16,978,765	115,800	14,082,814	171,000	-	-	31,348,379	
<u>Finance and Management</u>								
Finance Administration	2,807,592	46,000	2,757,310	-	-	-	5,610,902	
Financial Management	2,965,355	13,790	1,457,831	-	-	-	4,436,976	
Facilities Management	7,687,210	891,000	9,143,956	3,000	-	-	17,725,166	
Total	13,460,157	950,790	13,359,097	3,000	-	-	27,773,044	
Finance City-wide	-	-	-	-	-	34,630,070	34,630,070	
Finance Technology (Pays gf agency bills)	-	-	27,826,987	-	-	-	27,826,987	
Human Resources	1,794,248	37,961	1,250,396	-	-	-	3,082,605	
Neighborhoods	4,562,784	60,500	1,300,405	1,500	-	2,452,500	8,377,689	
Health	-	-	-	-	-	32,953,181	32,953,181	
Recreation and Parks	-	-	-	-	-	42,562,142	42,562,142	
<u>Public Service</u>								
Administration	721,928	-	18,686	-	-	-	740,614	
Refuse Collection	17,030,642	163,400	16,631,819	52,000	10,000	-	33,887,861	
Total	17,752,570	163,400	16,650,505	52,000	10,000	-	34,628,475	
Total General Operating Fund	\$ 703,318,023	\$ 11,412,698	\$ 124,378,695	\$ 625,650	\$ 3,010,000	\$ 121,254,934	\$ 964,000,000	

General Fund Summary

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE AND BUDGET SUMMARY						
	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Budgeted	2020 Projected	2021 Proposed	
City Council	\$ 4,286,128	\$ 4,531,498	\$ 4,881,103	\$ 4,778,883	\$ 4,983,081	
City Auditor						
City Auditor	4,518,648	4,361,151	4,799,068	4,668,502	4,789,735	
Income Tax	9,027,551	8,665,193	9,952,729	8,457,526	9,814,679	
Total	13,546,199	13,026,344	14,751,797	13,126,028	14,604,414	
City Treasurer	1,193,919	1,330,170	1,473,290	1,202,883	1,459,566	
City Attorney						
City Attorney	13,508,467	13,390,639	13,581,589	13,477,821	13,440,669	
Real Estate	132,829	143,999	155,321	166,527	167,293	
Total	13,641,296	13,534,638	13,736,910	13,644,348	13,607,962	
Municipal Court Judges	18,862,874	19,454,642	20,215,446	19,813,941	20,429,897	
Municipal Court Clerk	12,400,074	12,532,476	12,767,864	12,273,790	12,467,435	
Civil Service	4,164,871	4,451,752	4,427,504	4,300,452	4,557,037	
Public Safety						
Administration	7,974,950	12,076,011	8,128,152	8,308,903	12,651,312	
Support Services	6,634,876	7,065,278	7,921,198	6,938,973	20,476,888	
Police	337,892,617	345,915,936	359,970,422	352,325,158	336,846,128	
Fire	258,044,710	265,671,581	271,628,625	232,495,136	265,484,193	
Total	610,547,154	630,728,806	647,648,397	600,068,170	635,458,521	
Office of the Mayor						
Mayor	4,018,678	4,238,911	4,921,379	4,081,815	4,795,379	
Office of Diversity & Inclusion	1,074,201	1,093,943	1,757,387	1,370,009	1,859,993	
Total	5,092,879	5,332,854	6,678,766	5,451,824	6,655,372	
Education	5,349,282	6,506,688	6,661,910	7,571,326	6,594,143	
Development						
Administration	5,611,678	5,996,752	6,202,009	6,005,091	8,163,903	
Economic Development	18,976,767	16,842,242	4,543,534	16,309,541	4,465,871	
Code Enforcement	7,667,631	7,629,505	9,129,891	8,361,183	8,594,330	
Planning	1,864,057	1,833,809	1,899,343	1,517,920	1,681,524	
Housing	6,502,559	6,720,579	7,598,810	7,653,063	7,587,698	
Land Redevelopment	663,598	652,196	678,974	571,355	855,053	
Total	41,286,289	39,675,082	30,052,561	40,418,153	31,348,379	
Finance and Management						
Finance Administration	5,459,091	5,725,328	5,377,434	4,878,065	5,610,902	
Financial Management	3,617,119	4,825,625	4,917,896	3,509,212	4,436,976	
Facilities Management	18,926,789	17,208,761	17,666,036	17,083,995	17,725,166	
Total	28,002,999	27,759,714	27,961,366	25,471,272	27,773,044	
Citywide Technology	17,300,249	17,923,207	20,260,570	19,653,596	27,826,987	
Finance City-wide	7,090,414	9,572,346	44,831,696	15,317,176	34,630,070	
Human Resources	2,868,931	2,935,813	3,122,816	2,992,965	3,082,605	
Neighborhoods	4,583,599	5,090,844	6,089,550	5,346,289	8,377,689	
Health	23,095,550	24,597,885	26,716,803	17,058,263	32,953,181	
Recreation and Parks	41,162,178	40,366,310	43,030,613	39,921,871	42,562,142	
Public Service						
Administration	1,321,762	667,983	712,412	657,099	740,614	
Refuse Collection	33,023,011	31,285,199	33,506,626	31,109,674	33,887,861	
Traffic Management	2,275,559	-	-	-	-	
Total	36,620,332	31,953,182	34,219,038	31,766,773	34,628,475	
Total General Operating Fund	\$ 891,095,217	\$ 911,304,249	\$ 969,528,000	\$ 880,178,000	\$ 964,000,000	

General Fund Summary

GENERAL FUND PERSONNEL SUMMARY -- FULL-TIME					
	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Budgeted	2021 Proposed	
City Council	39	41	42	43	
<u>City Auditor</u>					
City Auditor	29	31	31	32	
Income Tax	75	70	84	84	
Total	104	101	115	116	
City Treasurer	8	8	9	9	
<u>City Attorney</u>					
City Attorney	126	124	124	128	
Real Estate	1	1	1	1	
Total	127	125	125	129	
Municipal Court Judges	193	200	208	216	
Municipal Court Clerk	161	156	165	165	
Civil Service	36	36	36	36	
<u>Public Safety</u>					
Administration	11	10	14	64	
Support Services	42	39	46	189	
Police- Non Uniformed	370	354	412	231	
Police- Uniformed	1,953	1,969	1,963	1,969	
Fire- Non Uniformed	48	49	54	43	
Fire- Uniformed	1,591	1,602	1,606	1,602	
Total	4,015	4,023	4,095	4,098	
<u>Office of the Mayor</u>					
Mayor	27	28	31	31	
Office of Diversity and Inclusion*	4	8	14	14	
Total	31	36	45	45	
Education	4	2	4	4	
<u>Development</u>					
Administration	23	22	24	25	
Economic Development	9	14	15	15	
Code Enforcement	67	78	84	84	
Planning	16	14	17	17	
Housing	8	18	19	19	
Land Redevelopment	7	6	7	9	
Total	130	152	166	169	
<u>Finance and Management</u>					
Administration	29	25	29	30	
Financial Management	25	27	27	27	
Facilities Management	87	87	90	94	
Total	141	139	146	151	
Human Resources	14	14	15	15	
Neighborhoods	40	42	48	48	
<u>Public Service</u>					
Administration	6	6	6	6	
Refuse Collection	191	192	226	226	
Total	197	198	232	232	
Total General Fund	5,240	5,273	5,451	5,476	

The numbers represented in the 2018 and 2019 columns are year-end actuals, while 2020 and 2021 are budgeted.

*2019 Actual includes 2 positions funded by the Department of Public Utilities.

MEGAN N. KILGORE
City Auditor

DARLENE WILDES, CPA
Deputy City Auditor

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS

OFFICE OF MEGAN N. KILGORE,
CITY AUDITOR

October 19, 2020

2021 Official Revenue Estimate

Per the Charter of the City of Columbus, the Mayor's estimate of the expense of conducting the affairs of the City for the following fiscal year shall be submitted to City Council on or before the fifteenth day of November in each year. The estimate shall be compiled from certain information obtained from various city departments, including a statement from the City Auditor of the total probable revenue for the period covered by the Mayor's estimate. This statement shall serve as the City Auditor's Statement of Available Resources for Fiscal Year 2021.

Statement of Estimated Available Resources – General Operating Fund [1000-100010]

	Original Estimate
ESTIMATED REVENUE:	
Income taxes	\$698,958,000
Property taxes	57,765,000
Investment earnings	8,675,000
Licenses and permits fees	11,641,000
Shared revenue	23,507,000
Charges for services	62,299,000
Fines and forfeits	14,738,000
Miscellaneous revenue	5,421,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED RESOURCES FROM REVENUE	\$883,004,000
TOTAL TRANSFERS IN	4,000,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED RESOURCES AND TRANSFERS	\$887,004,000
Estimated prior year encumbrance cancellations	5,000,000
Estimated 2020 Year End Fund Balance	71,996,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED AVAILABLE RESOURCES	\$964,000,000

This estimate includes an increase in 2021 income tax revenue of .50% over the 2020 revised estimate of income tax of \$695.5 million. The 2021 estimate of total resources from revenue is 1.24% higher than the 2020 revised estimate.

In addition to the total resources above, the Basic City Services Fund [1000-100017] has a balance of approximately \$20.852 million resulting from the 2019 rebate of 2017 Bureau of Worker's Compensation premiums and other transfers into that subfund of the General Fund. If transferred to the General Operating Fund, the Total Estimated Available Resources for 2021 becomes \$984.852 million.

See "Notes to the City Auditor's Statement of Estimated Available Resources" for additional information.

Megan N. Kilgore

Megan N. Kilgore, City Auditor



CITY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO
NOTES TO THE CITY AUDITOR'S STATEMENT OF 2021 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE RESOURCES
GENERAL OPERATING FUND

NOTE 1 – GENERAL OPERATING FUND RESOURCES

The 2021 general operating fund total estimated *revenues* for the City of Columbus (“City”) are approximately \$883 million. The revenue is generated through income tax, property tax, investment income, licenses and permits, charges for services, shared revenue, fines and forfeitures, and other miscellaneous revenue.

Total 2021 estimated *resources* for the general operating fund, which include revenues, transfers in, estimated cancellations of prior year encumbrances and the estimated year end cash balance at December 30, 2020 are \$964 million.

Total estimated revenues for 2021 decreased \$19.4 million or 2.15% over the revised estimated revenues for 2020 of \$902.4 million. Total estimated resources for 2021 represent an \$11.8 million or 1.24% increase over the revised estimate of total resources for 2020 of \$952.2 million. The table below displays the total amount of estimated revenue attributable to each revenue category for both 2020 and 2021 and the actual revenue collected for 2019.

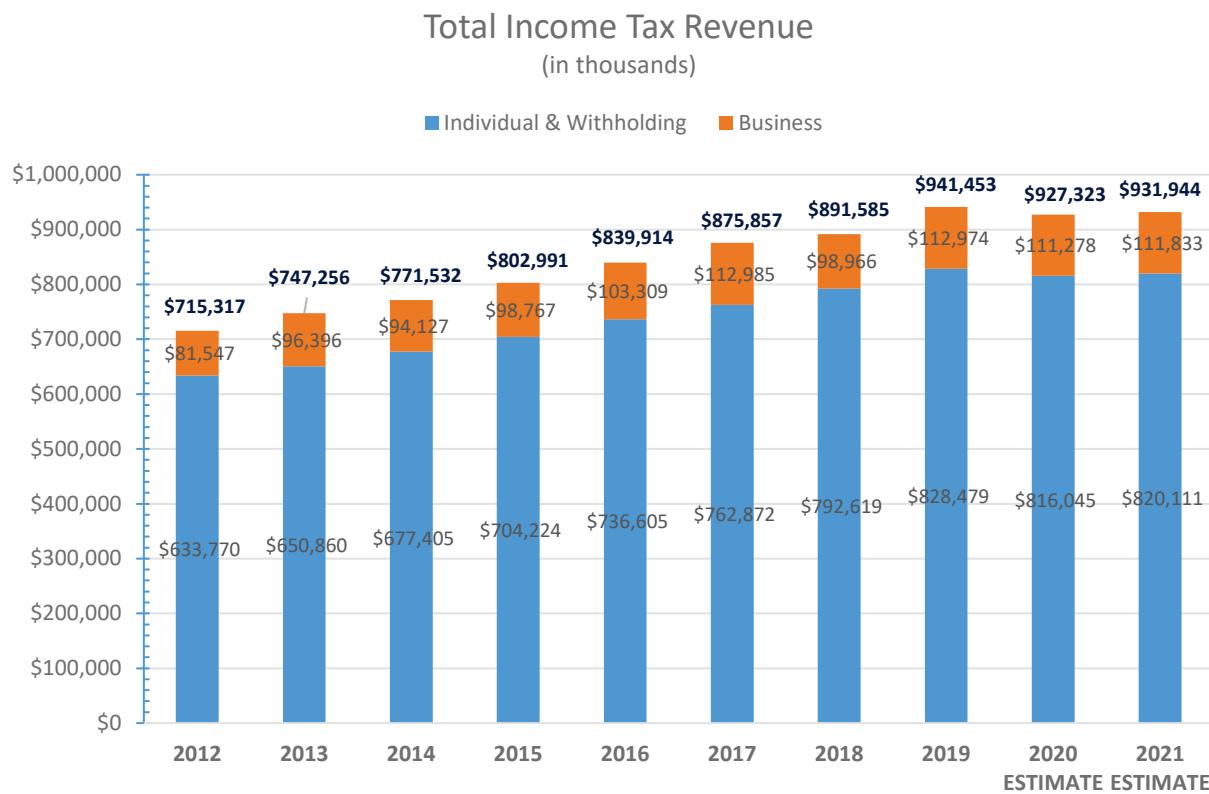
Revenue Categories	(\$ in thousands)					
	2019		2020		2021	
	Actual	% to Total	Revised Estimate	% to Total	Original Estimate	% to Total
Property Taxes	\$50,390	5.5%	\$49,212	5.4%	\$57,765	6.5%
Income Taxes	706,086	77.6%	695,492	77.1%	698,958	79.2%
License and Permit Fees	12,106	1.3%	9,525	1.1%	11,641	1.3%
Fines Forfeitures and Penalties	18,921	2.1%	11,556	1.3%	14,738	1.7%
Investment Earnings	21,146	2.3%	20,900	2.3%	8,675	1.0%
Charges for Service	65,366	7.2%	59,969	6.6%	62,299	7.1%
Shared Revenue	29,628	3.3%	24,406	2.7%	23,507	2.6%
Other Revenue	<u>5,966</u>	<u>0.7%</u>	<u>31,319</u>	<u>3.5%</u>	<u>5,421</u>	<u>0.6%</u>
Resources from Revenue	<u>\$909,609</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$902,379</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$883,004</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

NOTE 2 – INCOME TAX REVENUE

Income tax revenue represents approximately 79% of total general fund revenues. *Total* income tax collection for 2021, after providing for refunds to taxpayers, are estimated at \$931.944 million. One fourth of the collections will be deposited into a debt service fund, more commonly known as the “Special Income Tax Fund”. The remaining three fourths of the collections, approximately \$698.958 million, will be deposited in the City’s general operating fund. The City’s current income tax rate is 2.5%, which is

CITY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO
NOTES TO THE CITY AUDITOR'S STATEMENT OF 2021 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE RESOURCES
GENERAL OPERATING FUND

levied on all wages, salaries, commissions, other compensation paid to employees, and on net profits of business operations in the City. Income tax revenues are estimated based upon trends in the local economy, changes in the job market, unemployment and timing of payments. The 2021 income tax estimate reflects a 0.50% increase over the 2020 revised estimate dated October 19, 2020. As a result of temporary and permanent job loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 income tax revenue estimate was adjusted to 1.50% lower than the 2019 actual income tax revenue. In the past twenty years there have only been 3 years in which income tax revenues on a cash basis have been lower than the prior year: 2002, -0.29%; 2008, -0.53%; and 2009, -0.85%. The graph below shows total income tax collections/estimates over the past 10 years.

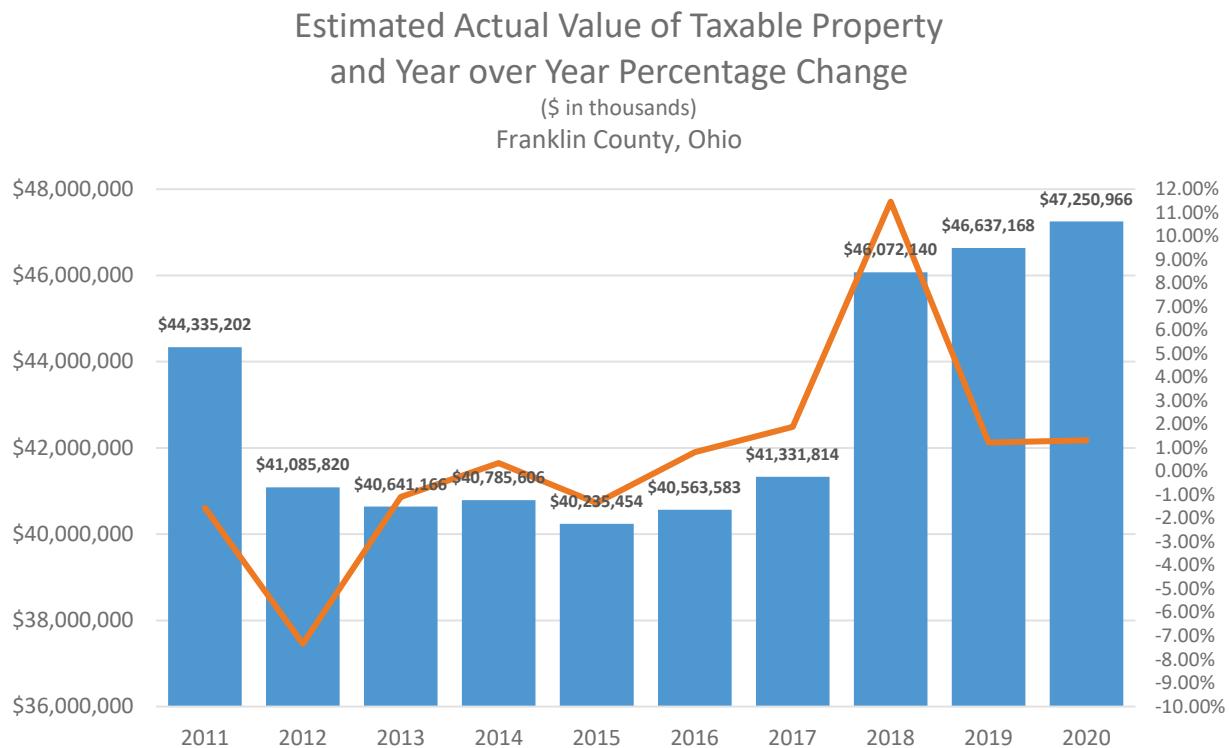


NOTE 3 – PROPERTY TAX REVENUE

The City's share of taxes collected in 2021 attributable to real properties is estimated at \$57.8 million, net of an estimated \$3 million retained by the counties and the state for certain of their costs. Amounts paid directly to the City from the State of Ohio, known as "rollbacks", are included herein. Property tax revenues are estimated based on trends in assessed valuation of property as determined by the county auditors. Assessed values on real property are established by state law at 35 percent of appraised market value. A revaluation of all property is required to be completed every sixth year. The last revaluation in Franklin County was completed in 2017. Ohio law prohibits taxation of property from all taxing authorities within a county in excess of 1 percent of assessed value without a vote of the people. Under current procedures, the City's share is .314 percent (3.14 mills) of assessed value. Increases in the property tax rate are restricted only by voter willingness to approve such increases.

CITY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO
NOTES TO THE CITY AUDITOR'S STATEMENT OF 2021 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE RESOURCES
GENERAL OPERATING FUND

Franklin County tax year 2020 assessed values for property tax amounts to be collected in 2021 will be available in December 2020. A triennial update of assessed values was completed in 2020 and preliminary indications are that assessed values will increase by 20-25% for 2020. The graph below shows total estimated actual taxable property value and the year over year percentage change for the past 10 years.



NOTE 4 – INVESTMENT EARNINGS

The City pools its cash and investments for maximum investing efficiency. Earnings on the pool are allocated to individual funds at the discretion of City Council after meeting certain requirements. Interest earnings in excess of amounts required to be allocated are recorded as revenue in the General Fund. Based on the estimated amount of pooled cash and investments and projected interest rates, it is estimated that \$8.7 million will be posted as revenue to the General Fund in 2021. The 2021 estimate for investment earnings is \$12.3 million or 58.5% less than the 2020 revised estimate due to declining interest rates on investments permitted by the Columbus City Code.

NOTE 5 – LICENSES AND PERMITS

It is estimated that various licenses and permits issued by the City's Department of Public Safety will generate approximately \$2.9 million for the general fund in 2021. Cable permits are estimated to produce \$8.6 million, while other licenses and permits will add another \$108 thousand for a total of \$11.6 million in licenses and permits. These estimates are determined based on trending and recognition of changes in various license in permit fees and related activity from year to year. The estimated revenue from

CITY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO

NOTES TO THE CITY AUDITOR'S STATEMENT OF 2021 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE RESOURCES GENERAL OPERATING FUND

licenses in permits for 2020 was reduced from the original estimate by almost \$3 million due to the lack of activity related to many of safety licenses and permits as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2021 estimate includes the anticipation of a slight recovery in the related revenue line items, but not a return to normal revenue levels for licenses and permits.

NOTE 6 – SHARED REVENUE

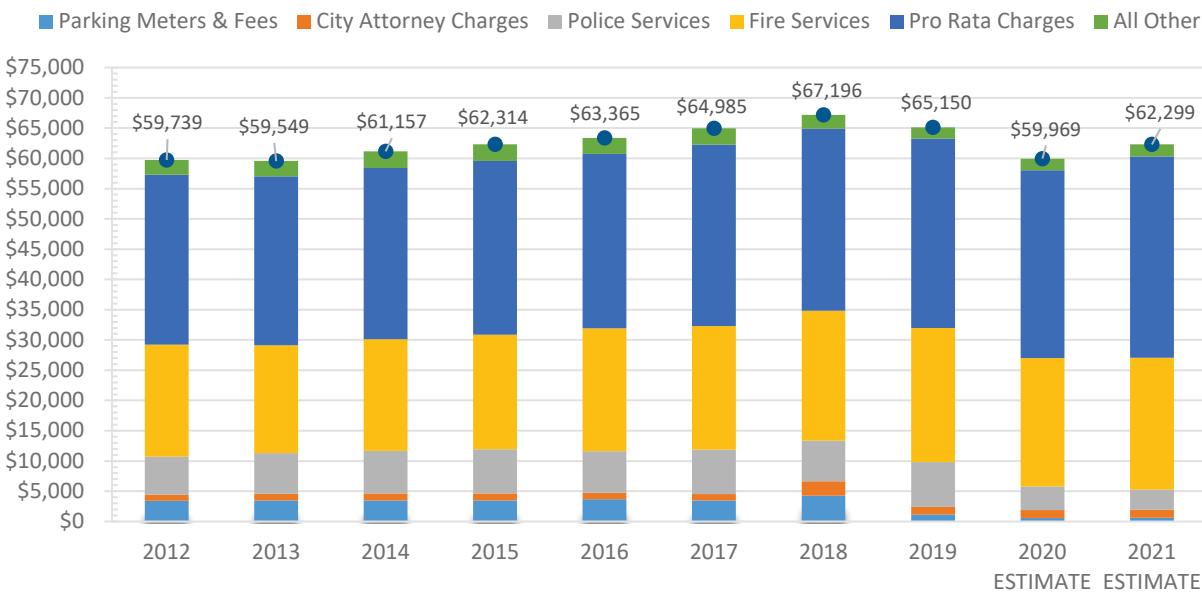
Shared revenue sources are estimated at \$23.5 million for 2021. Shared revenues include portions of the various State of Ohio taxes which are shared with local governments within the State. It is estimated that these shared taxes will provide \$20 million. Additionally, the City receives Casino taxes as an allocation of county share portion and as a host city portion. Total casino taxes are estimated at \$5.8 million. The City has entered into various agreements funded with Casino taxes. For 2020 it is estimated that \$3.5 million in Casino taxes will remain in the General Fund. Shared revenues have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of the decline in State taxes and closures of casinos in response to the state of emergency, shared revenues have declined by 20% as compared to 2019 actuals.

NOTE 7 – CHARGES FOR SERVICES

Charges for services in 2021 are estimated at \$62.3 million. The most significant revenue sources included in charges for services are for Pro Rata, Division of Fire Emergency Medical Services Billing, and special Police services. Pro Rata (or administrative charges to non-general operating fund divisions) represents certain operating costs borne by the general operating fund and then partially allocated to other funds of the City. Ordinance 2293-2018 calls for an assessment rate of 4.5% of revenues of the funds assessed, resulting in revenue to the general operating fund estimated at \$33.3 million for 2021. Since the revenues from the water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer enterprise have not been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Pro Rata has remained consistent with prior years. The Fire Services estimate of \$21.8 million includes fire Emergency Medical Services Billing for fees related to emergency medical transportation services of \$17.5 million for 2021. Special Police services include auto impound fees, policing special community, and other events and is estimated to generate revenue of \$3.3 million in 2021. Due to the COVID-19 stay at home order and employers requiring employees to work remotely rather than at downtown office locations, charges for services related to parking meters and City-owned garage revenues have been negatively impacted. Estimates for charges for services revenue are based on trends from year to year and identification of certain events that may cause fluctuations in the revenue (i.e. change in rates for non-general operating fund divisions will impact Pro Rata charges). The following graph illustrates charges for services revenue by source over a 10 year period.

CITY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO
NOTES TO THE CITY AUDITOR'S STATEMENT OF 2021 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE RESOURCES
GENERAL OPERATING FUND

General Operating Fund - Charges for Services
 (\$ in thousands)



NOTE 8 – FINES AND FORFEITS

Fines, forfeitures, court costs, etc., resulting from operations of the Franklin County Municipal Court should produce approximately \$10.5 million in 2021, while the City's Parking Violations Bureau is expected to collect \$4 million in parking ticket fines. During 2020, these revenue line items were trending at 40% lower than 2019. The Franklin County Municipal Court was closed for part of the year and returned to a significantly lower number of cases in order to accommodate safe return to work policies after the COVID-19 stay at home order. In addition, the COVID-19 public health crisis kept downtown workers and visitors from parking downtown; therefore, parking ticket fines were down by approximately 60%. The 2021 estimate assumes a slight recovery; however, the estimate is 25% lower than 2019 actuals.

NOTE 9 – MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES

Miscellaneous revenues are estimated at \$5.421 million for 2021. Kilowatt hour (kWh) tax is permitted to be levied on users of electricity provided by the City's Division of Electricity. State statutes provide for the kWh tax to be deposited into the City's general operating fund and the City reports this amount as miscellaneous revenue. The kWh tax for 2021 is estimated at \$3.25 million. The remaining \$2.171 million estimated in miscellaneous revenue is for rents, refunds, reimbursements, and other miscellaneous payments.

NOTE 10 – TRANSFER IN

Transfers from other funds for 2021 are estimated at \$4 million; this represents 25% sharing by the Special Income Tax fund of job incentive programs to be paid from the City's general operating fund. Although not included in the Total Estimated Available Resources for 2021, there is \$20.852 million in the Basic City Services Fund [Fund 1000; Subfund 100017] resulting from the 2019 rebate of 2017 Bureau of Worker's

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NOTES TO THE CITY AUDITOR'S STATEMENT OF 2021 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE RESOURCES GENERAL OPERATING FUND

Compensation premiums and other transfers into that subfund of the General Fund. If transferred to the General Operating Fund, the Total Estimated Available Resources for 2021 becomes \$984.852 million.

NOTE 11 – PRIOR YEAR ENCUMBRANCE CANCELLATIONS

Encumbrances which will be carried forward to 2021, but not used, are estimated at \$5 million. These cancellations will increase unencumbered cash in 2021 to be used for operations. Cancellations are estimated based on previous trends of encumbrance amounts carried forward from year to year, as well as the amounts cancelled each year.

NOTE 12 – ESTIMATED AVAILABLE BEGINNING BALANCE

The estimated available beginning balance to be used for 2021 operations is determined using: 1) the 2020 third quarter review of actual revenues as compared to estimated revenues and 2) actual expenditures as compared to the amount appropriated for the year. The beginning cash balance is estimated as follows:

General Operating Fund Estimated Beginning Cash Balance	(in thousands)
Beginning Cash Balance - January 1, 2020	\$ 74,637
Less - Outstanding Encumbrances at December 31, 2019	<u>33,842</u>
Unencumbered Cash Balance - January 1, 2020	40,795
Add - City Auditor's Estimated 2020 Receipts	878,233
Add - City Auditor's Estimated Encumbrance Cancellations	5,000
Add - Transfers In	4,000
Total Amount Available for Appropriations	<u>\$ 928,028</u>
Total Amount Appropriated for Expenditures	<u>\$ 928,028</u>
Projected Amount Available in Excess of Estimate	
Increase 2020 Revenue Estimate dated October 19, 2020	\$ 24,146
Encumbrance Cancellations in Excess of Estimate	<u>-</u>
Projected Amount Available in Excess of Estimate	<u>24,146</u>
Projected Appropriation Surplus (Deficit)	
Total Appropriated as of September 30, 2020	928,028
Less 2020 Projected Operating Expenditures	<u>880,178</u>
Projected Appropriation Surplus (Deficit)	<u>47,850</u>
Projected Available Cash Balance - December 31, 2020	<u>\$ 71,996</u>