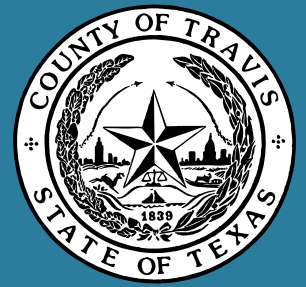


# Travis County Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget



## Executive Summary

Travis County Planning  
and Budget Office  
[www.traviscountytexas.gov/  
planning-budget](http://www.traviscountytexas.gov/planning-budget)

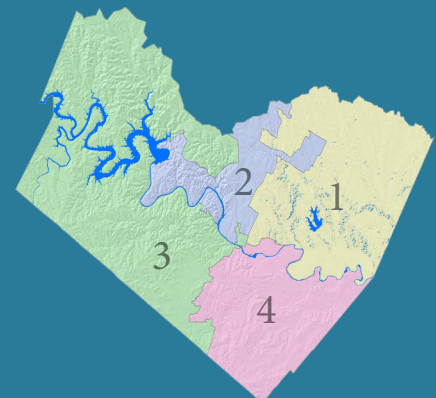


## Travis County Commissioners Court

**County Judge**  
Sam Biscoe

### Commissioners

- Precinct 1 Ron Davis
- Precinct 2 Bruce Todd
- Precinct 3 Gerald Daugherty
- Precinct 4 Margaret Gómez



# TRAVIS COUNTY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$15,048,497 which is a 2.83 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$12,101,261.

## Record Vote of Commissioners Court

Samuel T. Biscoe	(In favor of budget)
Ron Davis	(In favor of budget)
Bruce Todd	(In favor of budget)
Gerald Daugherty	(In favor of budget)
Margaret Gómez	(In favor of budget)

## Property Tax Rates and Financial Information:

### Travis County Property Tax Rate for 2014 Fiscal Year

Property tax rate: \$.4946 per \$100 valuation

### Travis County Property Tax Rates for 2015 Fiscal Year

Property tax rate: \$.4563 per \$100 valuation

Effective tax rate: \$.4496 per \$100 valuation

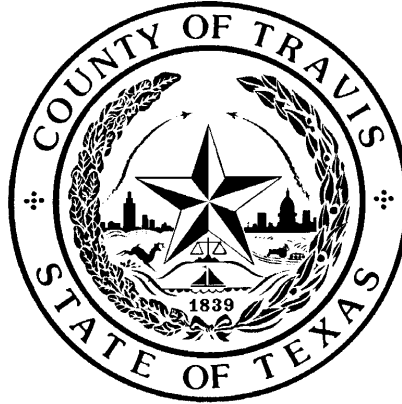
Effective maintenance  
and operations tax rate: \$.3808 per \$100 valuation

Rollback tax rate: \$.4825 per \$100 valuation

Debt rate: \$.0713 per \$100 valuation

Total Debt Obligations: \$661,537,143

# **TRAVIS COUNTY ADOPTED BUDGET**



**FISCAL YEAR 2015  
October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015**

## **COMMISSIONERS COURT**

**Samuel T. Biscoe  
County Judge**

**Ron Davis  
Commissioner, Precinct 1**

**Gerald Daugherty  
Commissioner, Precinct 3**

**Bruce Todd  
Commissioner, Precinct 2**

**Margaret Gómez  
Commissioner, Precinct 4**

**Prepared by the Planning and Budget Office  
Revenue Forecast Developed by the Auditor's Office**



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished  
Budget Presentation  
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**Travis County  
Texas**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

**October 1, 2013**

Executive Director

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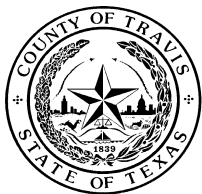
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**Offices and Departments by Number:**

No.	Name
101	County Judge
102	County Commissioner, Precinct 1
103	County Commissioner, Precinct 2
104	County Commissioner, Precinct 3
105	County Commissioner, Precinct 4
106	County Auditor
107	County Treasurer
108	Tax Assessor - Collector
109	Planning and Budget
110	General Administration
111	Human Resources Management
112	Information Technology Services (ITS)
114	Facilities Management Department
115	Purchasing
117	Historical Commission
119	County Attorney
120	County Clerk
121	District Clerk
122	Civil Courts
123	District Attorney
124	Criminal Courts
125	Probate Court
126	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1
127	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2
128	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3
129	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4
130	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5
131	Constable, Precinct 1
132	Constable, Precinct 2
133	Constable, Precinct 3
134	Constable, Precinct 4
135	Constable, Precinct 5
136	Dispute Resolution Center
137	Sheriff
138	Medical Examiner
139	Community Supervision and Corrections
140	Counseling and Education Services
142	Pretrial Services
143	Juvenile Public Defender
145	Juvenile Probation
147	Emergency Services
149	Transportation & Natural Resources (TNR)
154	Civil Service Commission
155	Criminal Justice Planning
157	Records Mgmt. & Comm. Resources (RMCR)
158	Health & Human Services & Veterans Service
159	Emergency Medical Services
190	Centralized Computer Services
191	Centralized Rent & Utilities
193	Civil Courts Legally Mandated Fees
194	Criminal Courts Legally Mandated Fees

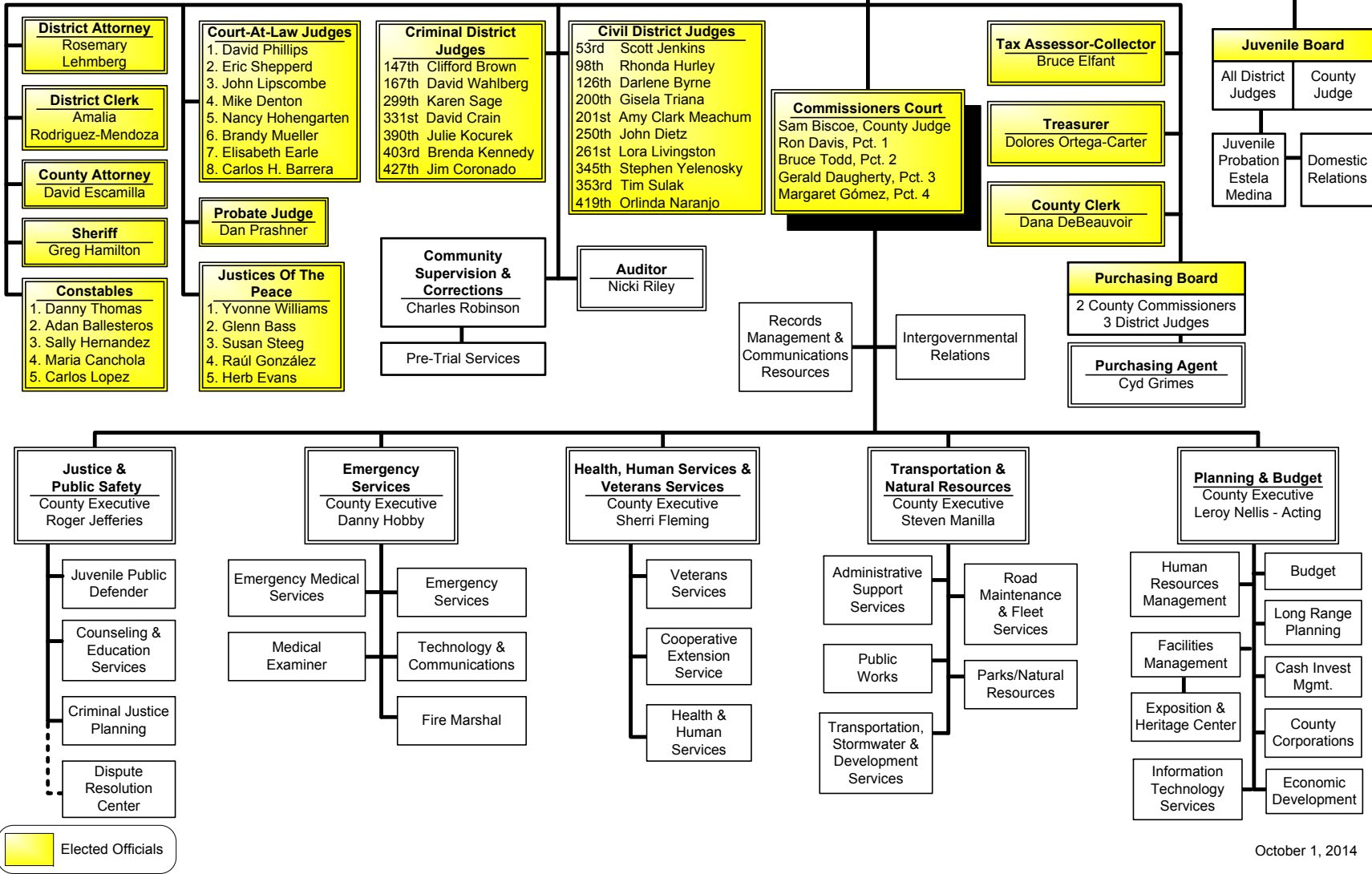


Chart 1



# TRAVIS COUNTY

## Travis County Citizens



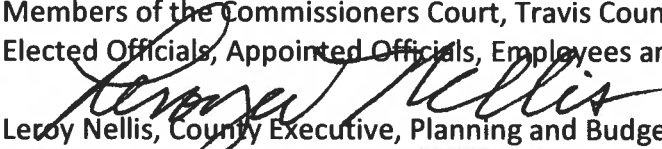
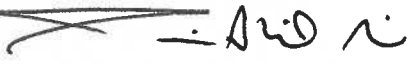
October 1, 2014

**PLANNING AND BUDGET OFFICE**  
**TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

---

December 22, 2014

To: Members of the Commissioners Court, Travis County  
Elected Officials, Appointed Officials, Employees and Constituents

From:  Leroy Nellis, County Executive, Planning and Budget  
 Jessica Rio, Budget Director

Re: Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget

The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget for Travis County was approved on September 23, 2014 and serves as the basis for County expenditures from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. The Adopted Budget for All Funds in Fiscal Year 2015 totals \$910.99 million, and includes \$650.90 million for the General Fund.

The Commissioners Court exemplified its commitment to local taxpayers by reducing the County's tax rate by nearly four cents, resulting in a \$5 reduction to the County's portion of annual property taxes for the average taxable homestead. Travis County was the only major taxing jurisdiction in the area to have such a reduction. Elected Officials and County Department heads assisted in this effort by maintaining core services for constituents within available resources and continuing to carefully manage budgets. County employees contributed to these goals by meeting the changing needs of the community in an effective and efficient manner.

**Economic Conditions and Financial Management** Travis County has demonstrated the ability to manage its budget during changing economic conditions by matching ongoing funding sources to ongoing programs. Careful financial management, including the use of healthy reserves, has contributed to our strong financial position, and has ultimately resulted in the affirmation of our Triple A credit rating by Standard & Poor's and Moody's credit rating agencies. This credit rating has been awarded by both agencies since 2001. Travis County is one of five out of 254 counties in the State of Texas currently receiving such a distinction.

The Austin Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes all of Travis County, is considered the fastest-growing area in the nation with an economic growth rate of 6%. This economic growth is accompanied by population growth. The economic growth and large net immigration has resulted in home sales in the greater Austin area reaching a historic high and the housing inventory dropping to an all-time low.

While the Travis County economy continues to perform better than other metropolitan areas across the country, concerns have been raised in the community that this improving prosperity is not enjoyed universally across the County. The economic engine driving job growth,

increased property values, and a population influx is also making the area less affordable, especially for those on the lower end of the economic spectrum. The Planning and Budget Office continues to closely monitor economic conditions as well as developments at the federal and state levels that could have an impact on Travis County operations. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes an increased investment in core programs such as social services and infrastructure as well as central reserves, to help manage uncertainties as economic conditions evolve and in light of the upcoming State of Texas legislative session.

As Travis County continues to grow, departmental programs will need to be prioritized in order to balance affordability to taxpayers with funding core services in the area. In order to face funding pressures in the coming years, continued prudent management of resources and programs will be necessary to position Travis County well into the future.

**Property Taxes** The County sustains its core services to residents through its main source of revenue, property taxes. The Commissioners Court has been at the forefront of discussions about balancing affordability for Travis County taxpayers with providing the services constituents expect. Travis County already has a longstanding practice of offering the maximum allowed homestead exemption to eligible households. In addition, this year, the Commissioners Court reduced its tax rate flexibility by providing direction to the Planning and Budget Office to use a tax rate of no more than 1.5% above the effective tax rate, instead of 3% used in recent years. Commissioners Court made this decision to help address some of the concerns expressed regarding rapidly increasing residential home values and the corresponding impact to property tax bills. Consistent with policy direction, the Adopted Budget is balanced at a proposed tax rate of 45.63¢ per \$100 of taxable value, which is 1.5% above the effective tax rate of 44.96¢ and 7.7% below the FY 2014 rate of 49.46¢.

The Travis Central Appraisal District (TCAD) has projected that the total taxable property value will increase from \$107.1 billion certified last year to \$119.9 billion, including new property value estimated at \$2.7 billion. According to TCAD, the average taxable value of all Travis County homesteads has also significantly increased, from \$222,431 to \$240,026, or 7.9%. The combination of increased property values and the tax rate reduction as compared to last year has resulted in a \$5 decrease on the average taxable valued homestead (\$1,095 instead of \$1,100 last year).

**Program and Capital Funding Priorities** As Travis County has grown, the demands on government services and the County's infrastructure have increased. The Adopted Budget includes funding needed to maintain delivery of current services and changes are discussed more fully in the section entitled "Program Funding Priorities." Capital funding priorities are discussed in depth in the section entitled "Capital Acquisition and Improvements Program."

Funding was allocated towards core functions such as social services; corrections and rehabilitation; the courts system; and road maintenance. Other notable priorities included new requirements imposed on the discovery process after passage of the Michael Morton Act, which impacted staffing in both the County and District Attorneys' Offices. In addition,

increased funding for staffing in public defender offices was addressed after careful consideration and study determined that the expenditures would be more cost effective than the alternative of funding private attorney time to ensure indigent representation in juvenile and the child protective services dockets.

To meet the County's capital improvement and ongoing replacement needs, a total of \$133.6 million is included in the Adopted Budget. This funding will cover several significant and critical projects, including the first phase of a new courts system office building on 11<sup>th</sup> Street. This new building will permit the District Attorney's Office to vacate the Criminal Justice Center and accommodate additional criminal courts approved by the 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature. Other planned projects include improvements and renovations to County facilities and improvements and rehabilitation of County roadways.

**Employee Compensation and Benefits** County services are delivered to our residents by the County's employees, who are our most important asset. The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget includes funding for an ongoing wage increase of \$1,000 for employees on the classified pay scale who meet certain criteria, discussed under the "Compensation" section of this document. In addition, employees on the Peace Officer Pay Scale are funded an anniversary step increase in pay. A total of \$4.6 million was allocated for these compensation increases.

Travis County continues to manage the ongoing costs of providing health benefits to employees by identifying and recommending reasonable plan changes for implementation and by sharing the cost of the health plan with employees and retirees. The health plans are reviewed each year by an engaged and knowledgeable employee committee representing a wide segment of the workforce. The Employee Health Benefits Committee provides valuable input to the Human Resources Management Department and the Commissioners Court regarding proposed adjustments to the health plans, as well as associated costs or savings.

**Concluding Thoughts** The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget is a structurally sound and responsible financial plan that includes funding for known cost drivers and critical needs as well as program priorities as expressed by the Travis County Commissioners Court. As always, the Planning and Budget Office thanks all departments and offices for their cooperation and assistance during this year's budget process. In addition, we are grateful for the Commissioners Court's leadership and support. The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget is available to the public at the Travis County Clerk's Office. Additional copies are available in the Planning and Budget Office at 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 1560. Budget documents are also posted on Travis County's web site, [www.traviscountytexas.gov/planning-budget](http://www.traviscountytexas.gov/planning-budget).

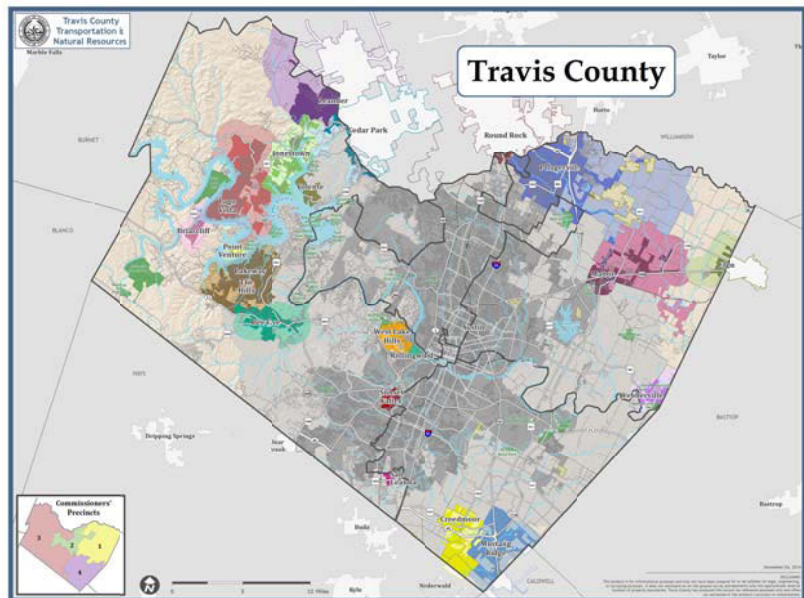
FISCAL YEAR 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET  
SECTION I – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## STRUCTURE AND ROLE OF TEXAS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Texas county government focuses primarily on the judicial system, health and social service delivery, law enforcement and corrections, and upkeep of county maintained roads. In contrast to other parts of the country, Texas counties seldom have responsibility for schools, water and sewer systems, electric utilities, and commercial airports. County governments in Texas have no ordinance-making powers other than those explicitly granted by state legislative action.

The state's 254 counties have similar organizational features: a governing body (the Commissioners Court) consisting of one member elected countywide (the County Judge), and four Commissioners elected from geographically unique precincts. The County Judge is so named because he or she often has actual judicial responsibility. In urban counties, the County Judge is primarily an executive and administrator, in addition to serving as the presiding officer of the Commissioners Court. Other elected officials within the



county system are the County and District Clerks, the County Tax Assessor-Collector, the County Sheriff, a District and/or a County Attorney, the County Treasurer, and one or more Constables. All Judges (state District Judges, County Court-at-Law Judges, Justices of the Peace, and in some counties, a Probate Judge) are also elected. The state District Judges in each county select an Auditor, who serves as the County's financial officer.

The Commissioners Court serves as both the legislative and executive branch of county government, and exercises budgetary authority over County departments and offices, including those headed by other elected officials. The high number of elected officials, including many with judicial authority, creates an organizational structure unlike more familiar public sector designs, which usually contain a chief executive or chief operating officer and a governing body that focuses on broad policy matters.

County services in Texas are financed primarily by an ad valorem tax on real property and business inventory and an array of fees, fines, service charges and state payments. The County Commissioners Court sets the property tax rate annually, after holding public hearings required by law. Most of the other revenue sources are established by state law and may be changed only through legislative action.

The appraisal process for real property in Travis County is completed by a separate and independent entity called the Travis Central Appraisal District (TCAD). TCAD is governed by a Board of Directors and is primarily responsible for developing an annual appraisal roll for use by taxing units in Travis County for imposing ad valorem taxes on property within the jurisdiction. The agency is audited on an annual basis, both on a financial and performance basis. The financial audit is conducted by independent auditors and the performance audit is conducted by the state Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division (Travis Central Appraisal District, 2014).

## **TRAVIS COUNTY PROFILE**

Travis County is located in Central Texas, 150 miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico, and seventy-five miles northeast of San Antonio. The City of Austin is the state capital and the county seat. Travis County is comprised of 990 square miles of rolling hill country to the west and clay soil prairie to the east. The County is bisected by the Colorado River and the Highland Lakes reservoir system which runs generally northwest to southeast. Travis County is situated on the eastern edge of the Edwards Plateau, and is divided from north to south by the Balcones Escarpment. The climate of Travis County is subtropical, with an average low temperature in January of 38 degrees Fahrenheit and an average high in July of 96 degrees Fahrenheit. The average yearly rainfall is thirty-two inches, and the growing season is 270 days (Texas Home Town Locator, 2014).

The City of Austin is the largest municipality in Travis County. Other cities and towns within Travis County's boundaries include Barton Creek, Bee Cave, Briarcliff, Creedmoor, Garfield, Hornsby Bend, Hudson Bend, Jonestown, Lago Vista, Lakeway, Lost Creek, Manchaca, Manor, Mustang Ridge, Pflugerville, Point Venture, Rollingwood, San Leanna, Shady Hollow, Sunset Valley, The Hills, Volente, Webberville, Wells Branch, West Lake Hills, and Windemere. These municipalities are responsible for services such as water, energy, infrastructure, economic development, libraries, parks, health, and public safety.

Travis County is the home of the state's flagship university, the University of Texas at Austin, as well as other institutions of higher education such as St. Edward's University and Austin Community College. The top County ad valorem taxpayers in 2014 include property management groups, high tech companies, sports and entertainment venues, and a supermarket chain and account for 4.8% of the total County taxable value in 2014. The largest employers in 2014 include local, state and federal government, an institution of higher education, high tech companies, healthcare companies, and a supermarket chain.

Table 1

<b>Travis County Top Ten</b>		
	<b>Ad Valorem Taxpayers, 2014</b>	<b>Employers, 2014</b>
1	Samsung Austin Semiconductor	State of Texas
2	TPG-Thomas Property Group	University of Texas at Austin
3	Columbia/St. David’s Healthcare	City of Austin
4	Circuit of the Americas	Dell, Inc.
5	Brandywine Acquisition Partners LP	Seton Healthcare Family
6	IBM Corporation	Austin Independent School District
7	Freescale Semiconductor	Federal Government
8	HEB Grocery Company	HEB Grocery Company
9	Shopping Center at Gateway LP	St. David’s Healthcare Partnership
10	IMT Capital II Riata LP	IBM Corporation

**POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS**

Total population in Travis County is estimated at over 1.1 million as of July 1, 2014, with a 1.8% growth rate seen in the last four years and a 2.3% growth rate expected from 2014-2019 (Community Advancement Network, 2013). The current number of total households within the area is 435,538, with an average household size of 2.5 people (Texas Home Town Locator, 2014).

According to the 2013 Community Dashboard Report published by the Community Advancement Network, Travis County and the Greater Austin area boast a large working class comprised of persons between the ages of 18 and 64. These individuals represent 69% of the total population. This percentage is larger than the average working age population in Texas (62%) and the United States (63%) (Community Advancement Network, 2014). The County also has a comparatively large young population, as individuals between the ages of 25 and 34 comprise 18% of the total population (United States Census Bureau, 2014). According to 2010 U.S. Census data, the median age in Travis County is 31.8 years, which is lower than the average age of 33.6 years in Texas overall (Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Services, 2012).

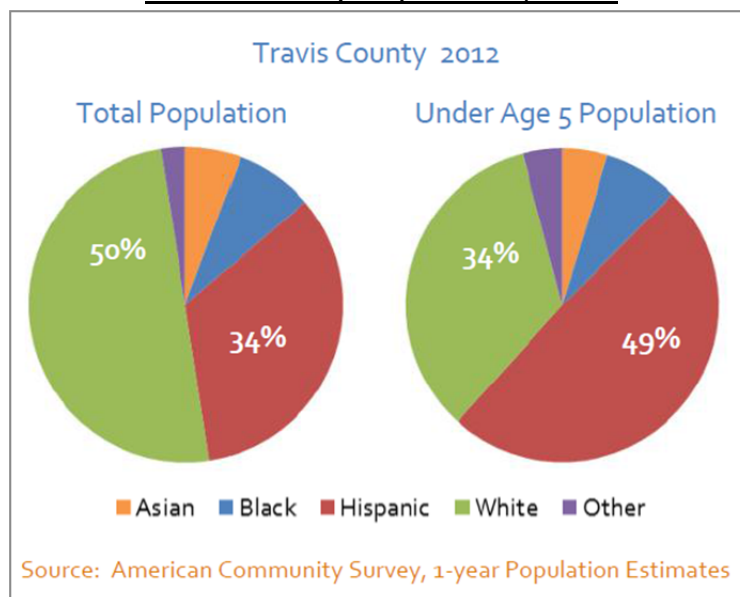
The number of individuals over age 65 in Travis County is also growing at a fast rate; however, this population comprises only 8% of the total population in the county, which is less than both the average Texas population (10%) and the United States population (14%). As per national trends, the population 65 years and older is expected to increase rapidly in the coming years.

Travis County is considered a majority-minority area or “no majority” community in which no one racial or ethnic group comprises more than half of the total population (City of Austin, 2014). In the last decade, Travis County has seen growth in all ethnic populations represented, but particularly within the Hispanic population. According to 2013 estimates from the U.S.



Census Bureau, the Latino population represents about 34% of the total population within Travis County. This population is socio-economically diverse; some Hispanic and Latino middle-class households are migrating for high-tech and trade jobs available in Austin, while others are international immigrants searching for construction and service sector jobs. This influx of Hispanic families in Austin has also decreased the area’s median age (City of Austin, 2014). This is demonstrated in Chart 2, which shows that nearly half of Travis County children under the age of 5 are comprised of Hispanic children.

**Chart 2**  
**Travis County Population, 2012**



Such a shift in demographics for this population places unique burdens on the Central Texas school systems and Travis County to make sure all children are kindergarten ready and bilingual educational opportunities are available. According to the 2014 CAN Dashboard report, 46% of all children in Travis County live in low-income households, making this population the most likely to be low-income (Community Advancement Network, 2014).

The absolute number of African Americans in Travis County continues to increase with the overall growth rate of the population, as does the Asian American community. The estimated Asian American population of the area is 6.2% while the estimated African American population is 8.9% (City of Austin, 2014). As discussed on the City of Austin’s website, the African American population is increasing; however, the percentage of African Americans relative to the total population in the area is decreasing. Within the next decade or so, the number of Asians in the area is expected to surpass the number of African Americans (City of Austin, 2014).

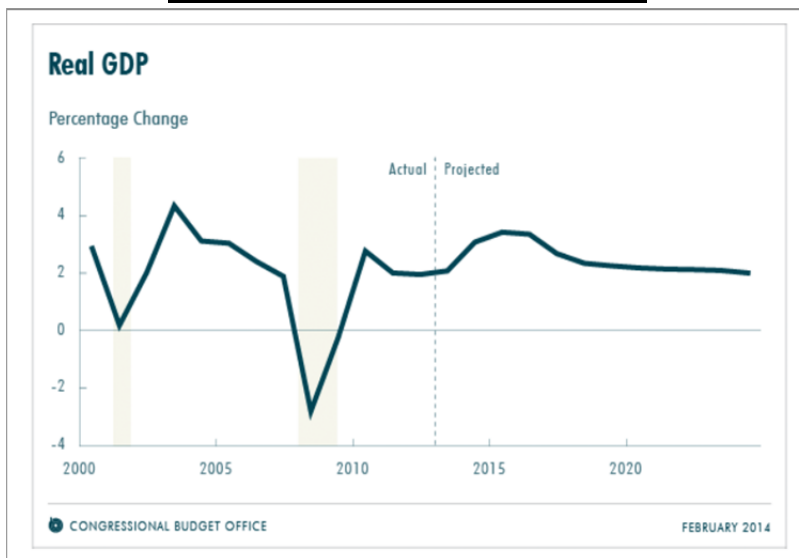
# ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

## THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

The majority of key national economic measures reveal continued modest improvement across the country. The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (Dallas Fed) reported on October 30, 2014, that “On balance, the upside risks outweigh the downside ones...” leading the Dallas Fed to conclude that the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will continue growing at a moderate pace (Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, 2014).

Overall, GDP fluctuated in 2014. According to the year’s third estimate, released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the real GDP increased 3.9% in the third quarter of 2014, a strong upward revision from the 0.1% increase seen in the first quarter (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2014). Exports of goods, increases in business investment, and an increase in corporate profits and imports led to the large increase in GDP seen in the third quarter (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2014). The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) forecasts that real GDP will grow at an increasing rate for the next few years; the rate of increase in growth of GDP will drop and level off by 2020. Chart 3 that follows shows GDP growth of 2%-3% over the next 10 years, as projected by the CBO.

**Chart 3**  
**Change in Real GDP, 2000-2030**



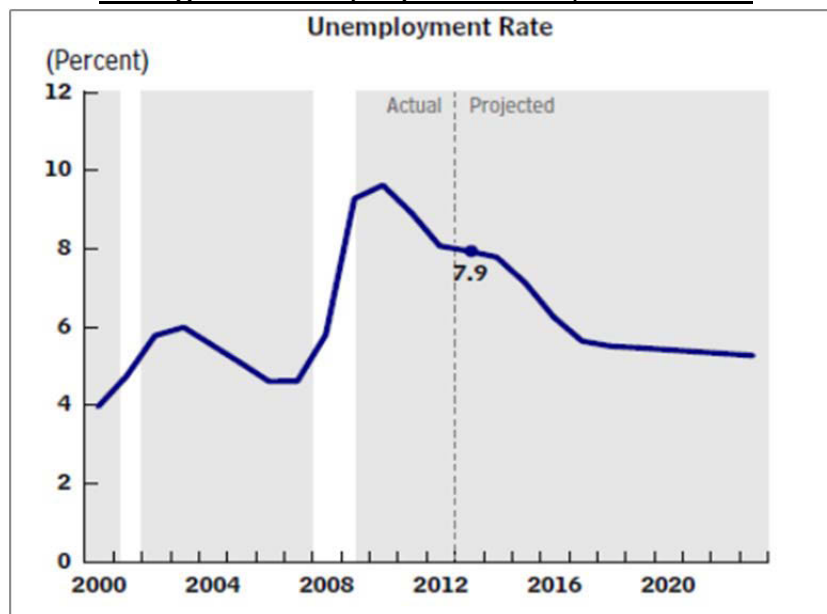
Source: Congressional Budget Office

Real income also rose in 2014 compared to other post-recession years. Unlike recent years where spending has remained relatively low in comparison to disposable personal income, 2014 has seen an increase in consumer spending (Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2014). Real median household income over the past six years remains 8% lower when compared to real income seen prior to the economic recession (United States Census Bureau, 2014). In 2013, the

U.S. Census Bureau announced the decline of the poverty rate for the first time since 2006. Of particular note is the decline in the poverty rate for children under 18, which fell from 16.1 million in 2012 to 14.7 million in 2013, an 8.7% decrease (United States Census Bureau, 2014).

The national unemployment rate is forecasted by the CBO to remain above 6.5% for at least the next two years (Congressional Budget Office, 2013). As displayed in Chart 4 that follows, the CBO projects that the national unemployment rate will continue decreasing in the next few years, eventually leveling off around 2017. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, healthcare-related industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2012 and 2022 (United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013). In addition, the construction sector is also expected to grow significantly over the next decade. Industries such as manufacturing, forestry, fishing and hunting, information and utilities are projected to decrease in employment (United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013). In addition, occupations that require postsecondary education are expected to grow faster than those requiring a high school diploma or less. As the baby-boomer generation continues to age, workers 55 and older are expected to comprise over one-quarter of the labor force by 2020 (United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013).

**Chart 4**  
**Change in Unemployment Rate, 2000-2030**



Source: Congressional Budget Office

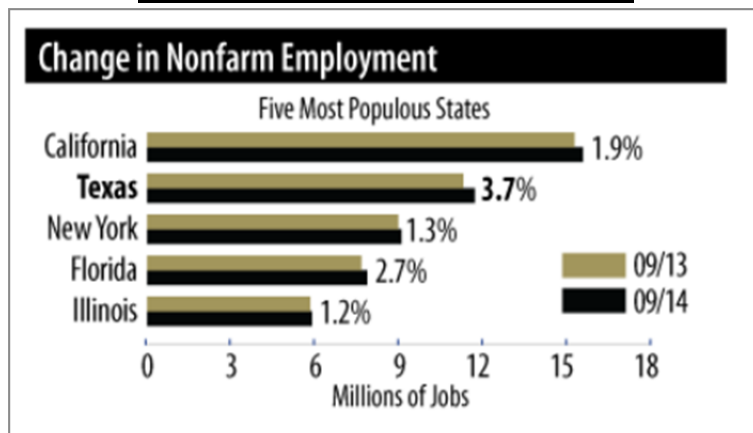
## STATE OF TEXAS ECONOMY

The economy of the State of Texas continues to expand. Key economic indicators including consumer price index, consumer confidence index, nonfarm employment, sales tax collections, and sales for single-family and multi-family homes are increasing at a steady, and sometimes relatively steep, rate.

Compared to other states, Texas’s unemployment rate remains low. Additionally, the net job gains since the great recession began are much higher than average. According to the Joint Economic Committee for the United States Congress, private-sector employment in Texas has grown by 387,700 over the past year, compared to an increase of 289,800 jobs over the past 12 months (United States Congress, Joint Economic Committee, 2014). The leading industries in Texas currently experiencing growth include professional and business services, trade, transportation and utilities, leisure and hospitality, education and health services, construction, mining and logging, government, financial activities, information, other services, and manufacturing (Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2014). Unlike most states, Texas has restored its pre-recession employment levels by replacing the total number of jobs lost during the recession.

Chart 5 describes the change in nonfarm employment in Texas compared to the remaining four most populous states in the country. This cohort does not include farm employees, the unincorporated self-employed, private household employees, or non-profit organization employees. Among the most populous states, Texas has experienced the most significant increase in the percentage of jobs added from 2013 to 2014. As job growth in Texas continues to increase, unemployment in the state continues to fall. In October of 2014, the unemployment rate in Texas was 5.1%. This rate is a 19% drop in unemployment from the same time in 2013, when the rate was 6.3% (Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2014).

Chart 5  
Change in Nonfarm Employment

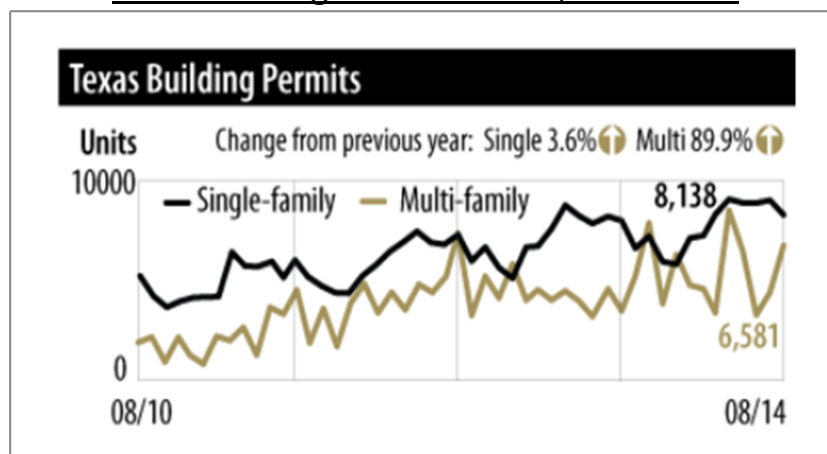


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

The median household income in Texas, from 2009-2013, is \$51,900. This rate is slightly lower than the median rate of \$53,046 seen across the United States (United States Census Bureau, 2014). Sales tax and property tax in Texas continue to remain relatively high and are increasing steadily (Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2014). Unlike most other states, Texas does not have a statewide income tax.

The amount of non-residential building construction and the number of building permits issued in Texas, both strong indicators of economic viability, continue to grow significantly. The number of Texas building permits issued has increased for both single-family and multi-family homes as the state continues to lead the nation in total home building (Dietz, 2014). In October 2014, a total of 8,065 building permits for single-family homes and 4,669 multi-family building permits were issued. Overall, the number of single-family home building permits issued as of October 2014 grew by 13.3% over the same time in 2013, or by 7,117 permits. For multi-family housing permits, the amount decreased an overall 39% in the same period, from 7,652 in 2013 to 4,669 in 2014 (Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2014).

**Chart 6**  
**Texas Building Permits Issued, 2010-2014**



Source: The Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University

Correspondingly, the demand for homes in Texas has increased and the real-estate market has become progressively competitive. The increasing demand has driven housing prices steadily upward. From October 2013 to October 2014, prices for existing single family home sales in Texas were up 13.4% (Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2014). As a whole, however, Texas home prices remain relatively low when compared to other states (Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2014). Available homes for purchase in Texas have seen historically low levels due to this increasing demand and the number of people moving to the state (Phillips, 2014). The increasing number of individuals and families moving to the state are likewise placing increasing demands on an already strained public infrastructure, such as roads, energy and water supplies (Phillips, 2014).

## **ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR TRAVIS COUNTY**

Travis County, Texas has experienced strong population and economic growth in the last 10 years and that growth is projected to continue. The current job growth rate is 2.8%, compared to the national growth rate of 1.2% (Sperling's Best Places, 2014). Future job growth over the next 10 years is projected to be 41.9% due to various factors such as migration patterns and general economic growth. As seen throughout the State of Texas, the most popular occupations in Travis County include management, business and finance, office and administrative support, production, and transportation and material moving (Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service, Research & Planning Division, 2014).

Within the last two years (2012-2013), unemployment has decreased in Travis County, the State of Texas, and the United States overall. As the availability of jobs continues to increase, the unemployment rate in Travis County continues to decrease and, as of December 2013, remains at a low 4.5% (Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service, Research & Planning Division, 2014). The median household income for Travis County is \$55,651 (Texas Home Town Locator, 2014) and the median home value as of August 2014 is \$238,926 according to the Travis Central Appraisal District (Travis Central Appraisal District, 2014).

Overall, the cost of living in Travis County is reported as slightly above the U.S. average, largely due to the high costs of housing and health. However, other costs such as groceries, utilities, and transportation are lower than the national average (Sperling's Best Places, 2014).

## **LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK**

The legislative branch of Texas government is comprised of a bicameral legislature, with House and Senate bodies that meet for 140 days every other year to pass a biennial (two-year) budget, along with other legislation. In the 84th Legislative Session, which will run from January 13, 2015 to June 1, 2015, Texas lawmakers will create a budget for the 2016-2017 biennium and will pass legislation that affects various areas of the County ranging from veterans services and court fees to mixed beverage tax receipts and road projects. Due to a continued positive economic outlook for the state along with steadily increasing state sales tax revenues, cuts of the magnitude seen in past legislative sessions are not expected.

Across-the-board cuts at the state level in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session resulted in losses to some County programs and revenue streams in the 2012-2013 biennium. Reductions of this level were not required in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Session, and some funds were restored to the State budget for the 2014-2015 biennium, to the benefit of the County.

Mental health care funding for counties increased notably, due in part to the collaborative efforts of county elected officials and mental health advocates from across Texas. Travis County also received grant funding from the Low Income Vehicle Repair, Replacement and Retrofit program (LIRAP) to implement local initiative projects (LIP) to reduce air pollution emissions. Funding was eliminated for the Public Integrity Unit, an entirely state-funded unit in the District Attorney's Office. This funding cut required the County to reduce the scope of the Public

Attorney's Office. This funding cut required the County to reduce the scope of the Public Integrity Unit, and to partially fund the work on a one-time basis in hopes that the funding might be restored in a future legislative session.

Other legislative changes brought fiscal or programmatic impacts to Travis County. The Michael Morton Act enhanced the required discovery procedures for County Attorney's and District Attorney's offices in counties across the state, leading both Travis County offices to request additional staff. Another bill allowed certain juveniles to be housed in the secure correctional facilities of the Travis County Juvenile Probation Department under a five-year pilot program, a change that will likely affect the programming and scope of that department for years to come.

Travis County Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) staff collaborates with partner counties and local government associations to monitor and analyze legislation throughout the legislative session. The IGR staff does so in an attempt to predict the impact proposed legislation will have on County departments and offices, from both a fiscal and programmatic perspective. Each year, County budget analysts and department staff work with IGR to monitor the state budget documents and the proposed levels of funding for programs that are managed by the County. This process allows county leadership to plan for upcoming changes and anticipate potential cost drivers. The legislative priorities of the County are set by the Commissioners Court, with input from the Intergovernmental Relations staff, and in collaboration with other urban counties in Texas with similar goals. In the upcoming legislative session, Travis County will work with other stakeholders to continue work begun in previous sessions on several issues.

Likely legislative proposals during the next session include bills that would provide more funding for mental health infrastructure and services at the state and local level, proposals that could increase funding for transportation needs, and changes to the state constitution that could allow counties to partake in new public financing methods. Legislation will likely be filed that seeks to set additional limits on allowable increases in tax revenue received by local governments and limit the growth in appraisal values. Bills that seek to change the way that residential and commercial properties are appraised and taxed are anticipated. In addition, legislation that requires increased reporting to the public on local budget information with the stated mission of improving government transparency will likely be proposed. Legislation proposing to limit local government debt issuances is also projected to be filed during this session.

Travis County anticipates supporting legislation that would maintain or strengthen the integrity of and local control over specialty courts and diversion programs, including juvenile programs. The county will also continue to actively support the continuation of the LIRAP/LIP grant fund revenue stream to fund air quality work. Travis County will continue to oppose legislation that places new statutory requirements on County departments without providing funding to cover the fiscal impact (i.e., unfunded mandates).

## **TRAVIS COUNTY MISSION STATEMENT**

For the people of Travis County, our mission is to:

- Preserve health
- Provide a safety net for the needy
- Ensure the public safety
- Facilitate the resolution of disputes
- Foster an efficient transportation system
- Promote recreational opportunities
- Manage County resources in order to meet the changing needs of the community in an effective manner

## **BUDGET OVERVIEW**

The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget spans a 12-month period from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

### **THE PLANNING AND BUDGET OFFICE AND COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE**

The Planning and Budget Office reports to the Commissioners Court and is charged with preparing an annual expenditure budget that is balanced against the revenue that is estimated to be received in that year. The County Auditor's Office reports to the state District Judges and is responsible for preparing the estimate of revenues. This separation of duties helps ensure that the revenue estimate is prepared using objective revenue projection methodologies and is not driven by budgetary needs.

### **BASIS OF BUDGETING AND ACCOUNTING**

Travis County uses the modified accrual basis for governmental funds, which includes the General Fund, as the basis of the County's budgetary practice. Revenue is recognized as soon as it is measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available when it is collectible within the current period or soon thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the County considers revenue to be available if it is collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are recorded when they are expected to be paid with current available resources. Encumbrances are recognized by governmental funds in the year of commitment since they represent a commitment of funding for goods or services.

### **FINANCIAL AND DEBT POLICIES**

The Commissioners Court has adopted a comprehensive set of financial and debt policies to govern the financial management of the various County funds. These policies were developed to help ensure that the County's financial resources are managed prudently. The County has a longstanding practice of structurally balancing each annual budget to achieve financial stability for constituents and taxpayers. The County's financial policies require that current ongoing



revenue must be sufficient to support current ongoing expenditures. Likewise, one-time revenue is used for one-time expenditures. The debt and financial policies are contained in Section IV – Appendices.

## **BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**

The purpose of the budget preparation process is to develop an annual financial plan for Travis County that supports the delivery of County services and support functions, and that identifies the resources that provide the funding for those services and functions. The goal of the Planning and Budget Office is to provide sufficient and relevant information to the Commissioners Court as part of the budget process, allowing them to set priorities across the County and make informed funding choices between programs.

The budget development process is comprised of several phases, including initial planning and broad policy discussions with the Commissioners Court in early spring. These discussions focus on economic conditions and projected policy and programmatic issues that may impact the budget in the upcoming fiscal year. At the same time, the Planning and Budget Office works to develop target budgets for all County departments and offices. The target budget level represents the prior year adopted budget plus the annualized impact of any approved increased funding, less any one-time expenses, and adjustments for any other appropriate changes and corrections. Once these target budgets are formulated and distributed, the budget development process begins.

Departments and offices are required to submit their budgets at the defined fiscal year target budget level. The Planning and Budget Office reviews the department's target budget submission and all budget requests. The Planning and Budget Office may also independently identify potential budgetary reductions, if warranted, based on a review of the department's programs and performance measures. The departments and offices then meet with the Planning and Budget Office during the early summer to discuss their proposed budgets. Any resulting recommendations for reductions are discussed extensively with the affected office or department prior to consideration for inclusion in the Preliminary Budget. Departments and offices are urged to collaborate with the Planning and Budget Office to identify and implement opportunities for savings and efficiencies.

This process culminates in the submission of a Preliminary Budget to the Commissioners Court in late July. The Preliminary Budget serves as a starting point to aid the Commissioners Court in deliberations in August and September. Comprehensive discussion and analysis about each County department and office are provided to the Commissioners Court separately after the initial review period. The analysis includes information about major service areas, an overview of any special revenue and funding, a summarized organizational chart, missions and goals, revenue and budget highlights, and significant changes, as well as workload indicators and performance targets.

After deliberations by Commissioners Court and any amendments, the Court adopts the budget in late September and the new budget year begins on October 1. The budget and budget rules approved annually by the Commissioners Court provide the Planning and Budget Office and the County Auditor's Office with an approved financial plan to ensure the County operates within established parameters. The budget also serves as a reference document that provides information on County operations and services, as well as historical data of interest to County residents and taxpayers.

Electronic copies of the Adopted Budget can be found on the Travis County website at [www.traviscountytexas.gov/planning-budget](http://www.traviscountytexas.gov/planning-budget). The Planning and Budget Office can be contacted by calling (512) 854-9106.

## **FY 2015 BUDGET CALENDAR**

May 5, 2014	Travis County departments and offices submitted budget requests
June 24, 2014	Commissioners Court approved assumptions on exemptions and collection rate for effective tax rate calculation
July 28, 2014	Preliminary Budget distributed to Commissioners Court, County Clerk and County Auditor
August 11, 2014	Preliminary Budget presented to Commissioners Court
August 11-15, 2014	Commissioners Court held budget hearings with County departments and offices for select budget requests not recommended for funding in the Preliminary Budget
August 12, 2014	Certified tax roll received
September 1, 2014	Commissioners Court published required tax ad
September 3-5, 2014	Commissioners Court amended, or "marked up," the Preliminary Budget prior to filing the FY 2015 Proposed Budget
September 16, 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> public hearing held on proposed tax rate
September 19, 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> public hearing held on proposed tax rate; Proposed Budget filed with the Commissioners Court, County Clerk and County Auditor
September 23, 2014	Public hearing held on the Proposed Budget
September 23, 2014	Commissioners Court adopted the budget and tax rate

## BUDGET PRIORITIES

The Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Guidelines were approved by the Commissioners Court on March 18, 2014. These guidelines set the framework for the Planning and Budget Office to follow in developing the Fiscal Year 2015 Preliminary Budget. The Preliminary Budget comprises PBO's draft budget recommendations submitted for Commissioners Court consideration.

The County's annual budget process provides departments and offices an opportunity to evaluate and prioritize their programs and reexamine how to efficiently and effectively execute their mission and goals. Likewise, the budget process provides the Commissioners Court a key tool for providing overarching direction in funding policies and establishing the mission and goals for Travis County as a whole. The County's budget development process is best served by close collaboration between the Planning and Budget Office and all of the County departments and offices delivering services to Travis County residents.

As in the past, the Commissioners Court's Budget Guidelines serve to provide:

- Broad policy direction on the ad valorem tax rate and the funding levels for the upcoming fiscal year;
- Criteria to help prioritize the repurposing of existing funding or addition of new resources towards major cost drivers prior to enhancing services; and
- More specific guidance and instructions for County departments and offices in the formulation of their budget submissions.

The Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Guidelines are contained in Volume I, Section IV– Appendices.

Highlights of Commissioners Court direction included in the Budget Guidelines include the following.

### AD VALOREM TAX RATE

Commissioners Court directed PBO to establish the property tax rate for the FY 2015 Preliminary Budget at or near the Effective Tax Rate. A tax rate within 1.5% of the Effective Tax Rate was considered "near" for purposes of developing the Preliminary Budget. A tax rate within 3% of the Effective Tax Rate had been considered "near" for purposes of developing the Preliminary Budget for the five fiscal years prior to FY 2015. This self-imposed constraint of 3% above the Effective Tax Rate is significantly below the statutory rollback tax rate of 8% above the Effective Tax Rate. If a local jurisdiction's adopted tax rate is greater than the rollback tax rate, voters may petition to hold an election to "roll back" the tax rate to the 8% above the Effective Tax Rate cap. By reducing its tax rate flexibility by half (1.5% above the Effective Tax Rate), Commissioners Court directly responded to the community-wide discussion regarding affordability issues in Travis County that focused on the increasing property valuations.

In addition to balancing affordability issues with the service demands placed on Travis County by limiting growth of the tax rate, the Commissioners Court continued to offer longstanding property tax exemptions. The County's property tax exemptions include a 20% exemption for homestead owners, the maximum allowed by law, and an additional exemption of \$70,000 for homestead owners who are 65 years of age or older or are disabled.

## **PROJECTED BUDGET IMPACTS**

Several programmatic and policy issues were identified by Commissioners Court as having a likely budget impact in Fiscal Year 2015. Based on an analysis of trends in the healthcare industry, contractual changes, and historical spending patterns for employee benefits such as medical insurance, retirement, and worker's compensation, additional resources were expected to be needed. During the early stages of the budget process, benefit-related cost increases were estimated at \$5 million to \$6 million based on trend analysis. Additional social services funding associated with a new competitive procurement process was identified at \$1 million. Another \$1 million to \$2.5 million was estimated to be needed for contractually obligated expenses related to interlocal agreements between the County and the City of Austin. Other projected budget impacting issues included contractually required funding for the Balcones Canyonlands Preservation Fund, civil indigent attorney fees, ongoing support of the Road and Bridge Fund, and funding for programs that lost their state funding source.

## **MAINTAINING CURRENT SERVICE LEVELS**

Departments and offices were asked to reprioritize within their target budgets to maintain current service levels where required, rather than requesting additional resources. Funding for new contractual or statutory obligations and other expenses related to maintaining current service levels take priority over proposed program enhancements or expansions. Departments are always urged to focus on efficiencies, effectiveness, increased productivity, simplification, and meaningful results in the services they provide.

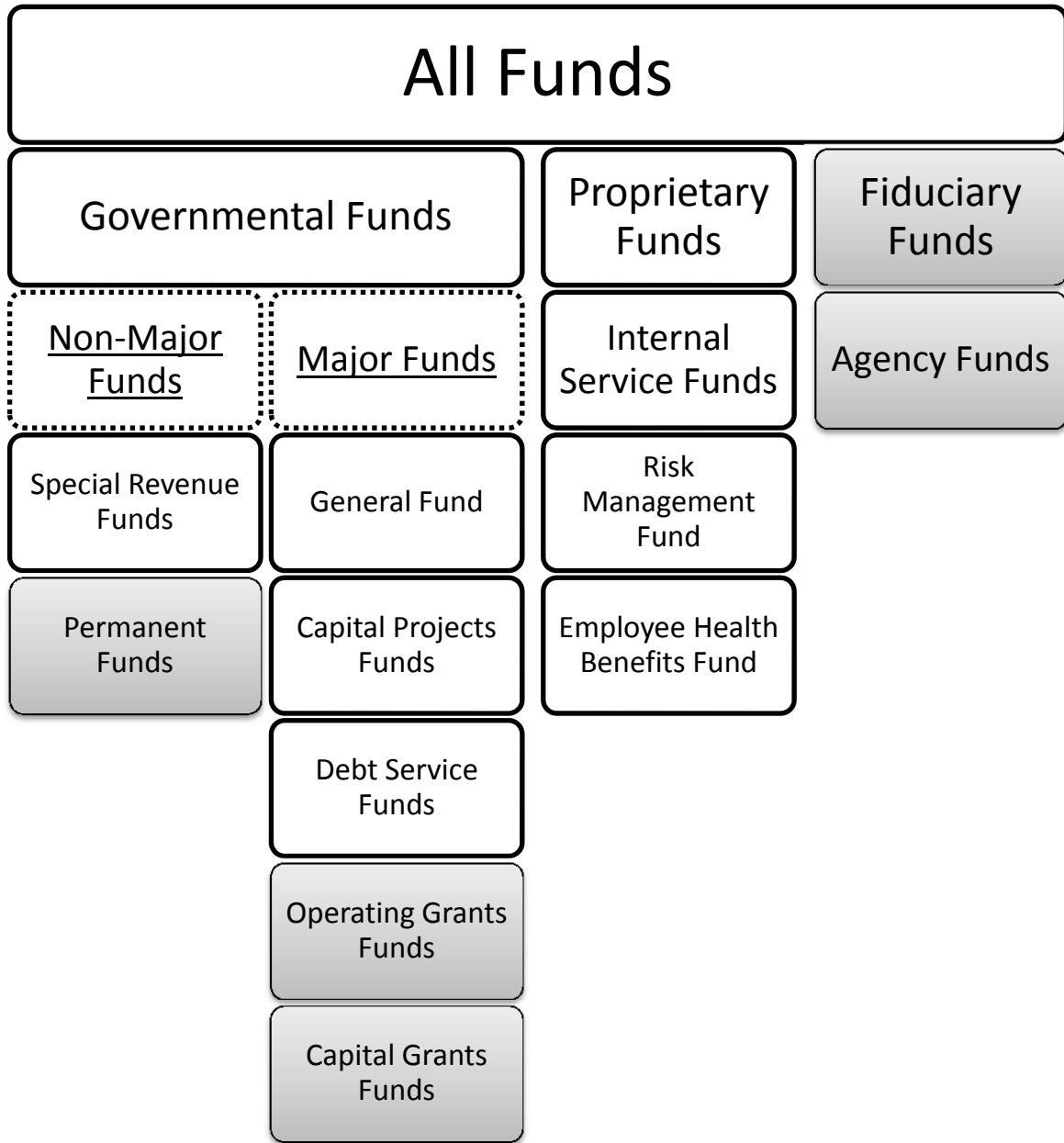
## **FUND STRUCTURE**

The Travis County FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes estimated revenues and expenditures for the General Fund, certain revenue and capital projects funds, internal service funds, and the General Purpose Debt Service Fund. Travis County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements, to ensure the proper segregation of resources, and to maintain proper accountability.

A fund is a group of related accounts used to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for a particular purpose. In governmental accounting, the major fund categories are Governmental, Proprietary, and Fiduciary Funds. Although Travis County maintains all three fund types, only the Governmental and Proprietary fund types are reflected in this document. Those funds not budgeted by the Planning and Budget Office or reported in the Travis County Adopted Budget can be found in the County Auditor's Statement of Fiduciary Assets and

Liabilities in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Such funds are shaded in the chart that follows.

Chart 7  
Organization of Fund Structure



**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

Exclusive of Capital Projects Funds, Travis County maintains 64 individual governmental funds (47 of which are budgeted in this document). The General Fund and Special Revenue Funds, including the Road and Bridge Fund, are budgeted and reported in this document.

The **General Fund** is the County's chief operating fund, and is used to account for resources traditionally associated with government that are not required by legal or financial management standards to be accounted for in another fund.

The **Capital Projects Funds** account for financial resources set aside for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects.

The **Debt Service Funds** are used to account for financial resources set aside for the payment of principal and interest on the County's long-term debt obligations.

The **Operating Grants Fund** and **Capital Grants Fund** account for grant and capital grant contributions from other entities that are intended to be used or expended for specific purposes designated by the grantor. These funds are also listed in the CAFR.

**Special Revenue funds** are used to account for revenues from specific taxes or other earmarked revenue sources that by law are designated to finance particular functions or activities of government.

**Permanent Funds** are used to report resources that are restricted solely to the use of earnings and not principal.

## **PROPRIETARY FUND**

Travis County's propriety fund includes two internal service funds.

The **Risk Management Fund** accounts for the activities of the County's self-insurance program for general liability, automobile liability, error and omissions claims and judgments, workers' compensations, and loss from theft and crime.

The **Employee Health Benefits Fund** accounts for the activities of the County's self-insurance program for paying health claims for county employees, retirees, and their dependents who are eligible members of the plan.

## **FIDUCIARY FUNDS**

Travis County's Fiduciary Funds, which are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties other than the County itself, are listed in the CAFR.

Table 2

**ALL FUNDS SUMMARY  
FISCAL YEAR 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET**

	TOTAL ALL FUNDS Memorandum Only	ALL FUNDS EXCEPT INTERNAL SVC FUNDS	INTERNAL SVC FUNDS		GENERAL FUND	ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	DEBT SERVICE	
			RISK MGMT FUND	HEALTH BENEFIT FUND				TAXABLE FUND	OTHER FUNDS
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$211,190,285	\$181,072,826	\$10,465,828	\$19,651,631	\$131,214,841	\$4,261,744	\$17,015,432	\$911,477	\$27,669,332
<b>Revenues:</b>									
Taxes									
Current	524,891,743	524,891,743			441,015,374		74,090,474	9,785,895	
Delinquent	690,602	690,602			690,602				
Penalty & Interest	2,437,695	2,437,695			2,437,695				
Other	162,307	162,307			162,307				
Intergovernmental	12,382,822	12,382,822			12,093,618	73,853			215,351
Charges for Services	77,636,678	77,636,678			58,068,445	9,718,527			9,849,706
Fines and Forfeitures	4,905,316	4,905,316			485,684	4,369,632			50,000
Investment Income	(302,534)	(471,184)	83,119	85,531	(707,971)	27,035	24,039	538	185,175
Miscellaneous	76,963,302	7,352,894	5,803,240	63,807,168	5,143,517	58,216			2,151,161
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$699,767,931</b>	<b>\$629,988,873</b>	<b>\$5,886,359</b>	<b>\$63,892,699</b>	<b>\$519,389,271</b>	<b>\$14,247,263</b>	<b>\$74,114,513</b>	<b>\$9,786,433</b>	<b>\$12,451,393</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>									
Other (Not Budgeted)	30,725 (1)	30,725							30,725
Transfers In	15,432,592 (2)	15,432,592			293,364				15,139,228
<b>Total Available</b>	<b>\$910,988,941</b>	<b>\$826,525,016</b>	<b>\$16,352,187</b>	<b>\$83,544,330</b>	<b>\$650,897,476</b>	<b>\$18,509,007</b>	<b>\$91,129,945</b>	<b>\$10,697,910</b>	<b>\$55,290,678</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>									
General Government	186,751,390	115,061,980	6,478,060	65,211,350	108,024,131				7,037,849
Justice System	145,719,567	145,719,567			141,247,695				4,471,872
Corrections & Rehabilitation	113,816,981	113,816,981			113,612,823				204,158
Public Safety	77,000,233	77,000,233			75,003,392				1,996,841
Health & Human Services	59,368,470	59,368,470			59,069,625				298,845
Infrastructure & Environmental	37,370,419	37,370,419			19,285,828	17,155,910			928,681
Community & Economic Dev.	12,667,080	12,667,080			11,359,602				1,307,478
All Other Reserves	104,744,822	76,562,715	9,849,127	18,332,980	36,433,028 (5)	1,353,097			38,776,590
Unallocated Reserves	87,074,662	87,074,662			71,722,124		14,203,224	1,149,314	0
Debt Service - Principal	61,790,000	61,790,000					53,270,000	8,520,000	
Debt Service - Interest	24,685,317	24,685,317					23,656,721	1,028,596	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$910,988,941</b>	<b>\$811,117,424</b>	<b>\$16,327,187</b>	<b>\$83,544,330</b>	<b>\$635,758,248</b>	<b>\$18,509,007</b>	<b>\$91,129,945</b>	<b>\$10,697,910</b>	<b>\$55,022,314</b>
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>									
Transfers Out	15,432,592 (2)	15,407,592	25,000		15,139,228				268,364
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Uses</b>	<b>\$910,988,941</b>	<b>\$826,525,016</b>	<b>\$16,352,187</b>	<b>\$83,544,330</b>	<b>\$650,897,476</b>	<b>\$18,509,007</b>	<b>\$91,129,945</b>	<b>\$10,697,910</b>	<b>\$55,290,678</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Note 1: To balance transfers in and out for funds not included in the Adopted Budget.

Note 2: Total transfers are excluded in the "Total All Funds" column to prevent double counting.

Note 3: Transfer from funds not included in Adopted Budget includes \$185,662 transfer from County Corporations to the General Fund and \$25,000 transfer from CAPSO.

Note 4: \$179,937 County Contributions to Grants.

Note 5: All Other Reserves include the following amounts:

Allocated Reserve	15,227,297
Capital Acquisition Resources Reserve	2,572,379
Reserve for Emergencies and Contingencies	5,000,000
Reserve for Replacement of Integrated Justice Systems	5,047,525
Reserve for Interlocal Agreements	2,147,424
Sheriff's Office Overtime Reserve	1,715,000
STAR Flight Maintenance Reserve	992,259
Civil and Family Court House Reserve	798,779
Juvenile Justice Reserve	504,726
Reserve for State Funding Cuts	500,000
Smart Building Maintenance Reserve	363,033
Fuel & Utilities Reserve	300,000
Future Grant Requirements Reserve	550,000
Annualization Reserve	714,606
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$36,433,028</b>

Note 6: Estimates for the following amounts for ALL Funds will be added to the \$910,988,941 budget and \$15,221,930 net transfers (total transfers less unbudgeted funds) to establish a Total Proposed Budget for expenditures not to exceed \$1,926,210,871

Pre-Encumbrances and Encumbrances including Accruals	300,000,000
Re-Appropriated Grant Funds	250,000,000
Bonds	250,000,000
Re-Appropriated Capital Funds	200,000,000

Table 2

ALL FUNDS SUMMARY  
FISCAL YEAR 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET

		TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS OTHER FUNDS COMBINING STATEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2015														
		700 Lavaca Complex Fund	Travis Co. Expo. Center	Law Library Fund	Dispute Resolution Fund	Voter Registration Fund	Juvenile Fee Fund	JJAEP Fund	Co. Clerk Records Mgmt Fund	LCRA-TC Parks CIP Fund	Records Mgmt Fund	Court- house Security Fund	Court Reporter Svc. Fund	Juvenile Deferred Prosecution Fund	Balcones Canyonland Preservation Fund	LEOSE Comm. Court Fund
Beginning Balance		\$4,326,396	\$1,924,293	\$266,361	\$5,235	\$48,950	\$415,388	\$604,990	\$2,064,304	\$2,685,026	\$35,174	\$97,489	\$45,961	\$90,163	\$8,379,090	\$4,836
<b>Revenues:</b>																
Intergovernmental						127,103		87,212								1,036
Charges for Services			219,900	780,209	331,782		8,284		1,812,659	125,411	271,029	413,043	338,365	2,572	184,995	
Fines and Forfeitures																
Investment Income		18,621	7,845	1,344	384		1,762	3,765	9,927	12,641	171	6,403	291	366	91,519	
Miscellaneous		1,354,076	666,998		3,089										121,998	
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>\$1,372,697</b>	<b>\$894,743</b>	<b>\$781,553</b>	<b>\$335,255</b>	<b>\$127,103</b>	<b>\$10,046</b>	<b>\$90,977</b>	<b>\$1,822,586</b>	<b>\$138,052</b>	<b>\$271,200</b>	<b>\$419,446</b>	<b>\$338,656</b>	<b>\$2,938</b>	<b>\$398,512</b>	<b>\$1,036</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>																
Other (Not Budgeted)								199,105				1,282,232			13,166,194	
Transfers In																
<b>Total Available</b>		<b>\$5,699,093</b>	<b>\$2,819,036</b>	<b>\$1,047,914</b>	<b>\$422,155</b>	<b>\$176,053</b>	<b>\$425,434</b>	<b>\$895,072</b>	<b>\$3,886,890</b>	<b>\$2,823,078</b>	<b>\$306,374</b>	<b>\$1,799,167</b>	<b>\$384,617</b>	<b>\$93,101</b>	<b>\$21,943,796</b>	<b>\$5,872</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>																
General Government																
Justice System						122,822		895,072	1,444,292		297,573		376,399	93,101		
Corrections & Rehabilitation				876,469	422,155											
Public Safety												1,799,167				
Health & Human Services																
Infrastructure & Environmental															928,681	
Community & Economic Dev.			1,107,478							200,000						
All Other Reserves		3,522,426	1,711,558	171,445		53,231			2,442,598	2,623,078	8,801		8,218	21,015,115	5,872	
Unallocated Reserve																
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$5,699,093</b>	<b>\$2,819,036</b>	<b>\$1,047,914</b>	<b>\$422,155</b>	<b>\$176,053</b>	<b>\$425,434</b>	<b>\$895,072</b>	<b>\$3,886,890</b>	<b>\$2,823,078</b>	<b>\$306,374</b>	<b>\$1,799,167</b>	<b>\$384,617</b>	<b>\$93,101</b>	<b>\$21,943,796</b>	<b>\$5,872</b>
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>																
Transfers Out																
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Uses</b>		<b>\$5,699,093</b>	<b>\$2,819,036</b>	<b>\$1,047,914</b>	<b>\$422,155</b>	<b>\$176,053</b>	<b>\$425,434</b>	<b>\$895,072</b>	<b>\$3,886,890</b>	<b>\$2,823,078</b>	<b>\$306,374</b>	<b>\$1,799,167</b>	<b>\$384,617</b>	<b>\$93,101</b>	<b>\$21,943,796</b>	<b>\$5,872</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>



Table 2  
ALL FUNDS SUMMARY  
FISCAL YEAR 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET

		TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS OTHER FUNDS COMBINING STATEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2015																									
Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Fund	\$848	\$17,623	\$6	Professional Prosecutors Fund	\$160,038	Justice Court Technology Fund	\$358,598	Truancy Court Fund	\$44,545	Dist. Clerk Mgmt Fund	\$262,198	Elections Contract Fund	\$164,363	County Clerk Archival Fund	\$2,217,877	Family Protection Fund	\$36,533	Drug Court Program Fund	\$129,896	Probate Guardianship Fund	\$222,549	Vital Statistic Preservation Fund	\$36,548	Fire Code Fund	\$396,476	Child Abuse Prevention Fund	\$13,994
Beginning Balance																											
<b>Revenues:</b>																											
Intergovernmental																											
Charges for Services																											
Fines and Forfeitures																											
Investment Income																											
Miscellaneous																											
<b>Total Revenues</b>																											
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>																											
Other (Not Budgeted)																											
Transfers In																											
<b>Total Available</b>																											
<b>Expenditures:</b>																											
General Government																											
Justice System																											
Corrections & Rehabilitation																											
Public Safety																											
Health & Human Services																											
Infrastructure & Environmental																											
Community & Economic Dev.																											
All Other Reserves																											
Unallocated Reserves																											
<b>Total Expenditures</b>																											
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>																											
Transfers Out																											
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Uses</b>																											
<b>Ending Balance</b>																											

Table 2

**ALL FUNDS SUMMARY  
FISCAL YEAR 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET**

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS OTHER FUNDS COMBINING STATEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2015															
	Justice Court Building Security Fund	Juvenile Case Manager Fund	Health Food Permits Fund	District Court Records Technology Fund	District Court Technology Fund	County & District Court Technology Fund	Court Records Preservation Fund	CAPCOG 911 Fund	Unclaimed Juvenile Restitution Fund	Gardner House Handicraft Fund	Afterschool Youth Enrichmt Svcs Fund	Civil Courthouse Improvement Fund	Juvenile Case Manager Program Fund	Funds Not Included in Adopted Budget	Total Other Funds
Beginning Balance	\$393,267	\$1,020,765	\$126,923	\$136,331	\$95,787	\$207,776	\$22,193	\$33,875	\$3,357	\$24,230	\$251,124	\$13,372	\$0	\$27,669,332	
<b>Revenues:</b>															
Intergovernmental															\$215,351
Charges for Services	37,716	196,409	79,067	114,936	22,776	178,056				208,965		300,553	19,920	\$9,849,706	
Fines and Forfeitures														\$50,000	
Investment Income	1,672	4,609	814	597	431	867	1,122	181				596		\$185,175	
Miscellaneous														\$2,151,161	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$39,388	\$201,018	\$79,881	\$115,533	\$23,207	\$178,923	\$1,122	\$181	\$0	\$208,965	\$301,149	\$19,920	\$0	\$12,451,393	
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>															
Other (Not Budgeted)														30,725 (1)	\$30,725
Transfers In														179,937 (4)	\$15,139,228
<b>Total Available</b>	\$432,655	\$1,221,783	\$206,804	\$251,864	\$118,994	\$386,699	\$23,315	\$34,056	\$3,357	\$233,195	\$552,273	\$33,292	\$210,662	\$55,290,678	
<b>Expenditures:</b>															
General Government						297,993									\$7,037,849
Justice System		279,148		120,725				34,056	3,357						\$4,471,872
Corrections & Rehabilitation															\$204,158
Public Safety															\$1,996,841
Health & Human Services								233,195							\$298,845
Infrastructure & Environmental															\$928,681
Community & Economic Dev.															\$1,307,478
All Other Reserves	432,655	942,635	146,204	131,139	118,994	88,706						552,273	33,292	\$38,776,590	
Unallocated Reserves														\$0	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	\$432,655	\$1,221,783	\$206,804	\$251,864	\$118,994	\$386,699	\$23,315	\$34,056	\$3,357	\$233,195	\$552,273	\$33,292	\$0	\$55,022,314	
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>															
Transfers Out														210,662 (3)	\$268,364
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Uses</b>	\$432,655	\$1,221,783	\$206,804	\$251,864	\$118,994	\$386,699	\$23,315	\$34,056	\$3,357	\$233,195	\$552,273	\$33,292	\$210,662	\$55,290,678	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Table 3  
 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
 BALANCE SHEET  
 GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 September 30, 2014

	Governmental Fund Type				Proprietary Fund Type Self Insurance	Non-Appropriated Funds*
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects		
<b>Assets:</b>						
Cash and pooled cash	\$ 214,346,357	\$ 39,623,518	\$ 25,126	\$ 217,782,156	\$ 42,485,109	\$ 17,325,456
Investments	-	-	18,988,274	-	-	1,590,858
Interest receivable	334,735	62,228	1,858	249,756	60,162	16,989
Other receivables	9,125,586	205,441	9,604	560,546	623,563	3,509,267
Taxes receivable (net of allowances for estimated uncollectibles)	2,248,714	-	1,071,404	-	-	26,453
Prepaid items/Other Assets	-	-	-	-	3,735,594	-
Cash - restricted	301,978	5,396	-	1,050,093	-	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 226,357,370</b>	<b>\$ 39,896,583</b>	<b>\$ 20,096,266</b>	<b>\$ 219,642,551</b>	<b>\$ 46,904,428</b>	<b>\$ 22,469,023</b>
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows, and Fund Balances:</b>						
<b>Liabilities:</b>						
Accounts payable	\$ 14,357,067	\$ 487,145	-	\$ 8,307,222	\$ 340,831	\$ 2,026,302
Interest payable	-	-	164,964	-	-	-
Other liabilities	33,378,706	774,446	925,509	383,292	16,614,844	3,849,288
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-	7,590,827
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>47,735,773</b>	<b>1,261,591</b>	<b>1,090,473</b>	<b>8,690,514</b>	<b>16,955,675</b>	<b>13,466,417</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows:</b>						
Deferred revenue - property taxes	2,248,714	-	1,071,404	-	-	26,453
Deferred revenue - special assessment	-	-	-	38,971	-	-
<b>Total deferred inflows</b>	<b>2,248,714</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,071,404</b>	<b>38,971</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,453</b>
<b>Fund Balances:</b>						
<i>Restricted</i>						
Debt service	-	-	17,934,389	-	-	318,382
Capital projects	-	-	-	210,913,066	-	-
Special revenue funds	-	13,549,571	-	-	-	5,643,030
County schools	-	-	-	-	-	1,055,231
<i>Committed</i>						
Special revenue funds	-	25,085,421	-	-	-	1,959,677
Justice, corrections, and rehabilitation programs	8,860,582	-	-	-	-	-
Roads, parks, and preserves	6,561,883	-	-	-	-	-
Information technology services	6,318,997	-	-	-	-	-
Facilities management	2,530,271	-	-	-	-	-
Health and human services	1,729,920	-	-	-	-	-
Other purposes	1,107,393	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Assigned</i>						
Budgetary appropriation	9,230,530	-	-	-	-	-
Unassigned Fund Balances/Net Position - <b>Note 1</b>	140,033,307	-	-	-	29,593,261	(167)
Net investment in capital assets	-	-	-	-	355,492	-
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows, and Fund Balances/Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 226,357,370</b>	<b>\$ 39,896,583</b>	<b>\$ 20,096,266</b>	<b>\$ 219,642,551</b>	<b>\$ 46,904,428</b>	<b>\$ 22,469,023</b>

Please Note - Fiduciary Funds are not included above.

Also, General Fund includes the Expo Center Fund and 700 Lavaca Complex Fund, in a manner consistent with the County's financial reporting practices

\* This column includes funds which are a part of the County's finances, but are not included in the annual appropriation process. This includes grant funds which are not appropriated based on the County's fiscal year and other funds which are legally budgeted under the jurisdiction of the responsible elected official. This column also includes blended component units.

**NOTE 1:**

The fund balance amounts reported on the Combined Balance Sheet are the actual balances recorded on the County's financial records for fiscal year 2014. At this time, these balances have not been audited by the County's external auditors; however, the County does not foresee any significant changes that will need to be made to these balances.

The estimated beginning fund balances for the FY15 budget may differ from actuals due to the adoption of the FY15 budget prior to the closing of the County's 2014 fiscal year. The estimate is the County's best estimation of the ending fund balances as of the budget adoption date. It is a combination of actual balances as of the budget adoption date plus, based on input from County offices/departments, Planning & Budget Office and the County Auditor's Office, projected additional revenue earned and expenditures incurred under the modified accrual basis of accounting, that should be recognized on the County's financial records.

Table 3 (Continued)  
**TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**For The Year Ended September 30, 2014**

	General	Special Revenue	General Purpose Debt Service	Capital Projects	Internal Service	Non- Appropriated Funds
<b>Revenues and Other Financing Sources:</b>						
Taxes	\$ 439,076,510	\$ -	\$ 80,506,953	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,696,882
Intergovernmental	14,383,686	796,763	-	-	-	36,983,373
Charges for services	62,286,989	20,233,434	-	3,856,655	-	7,793,614
Fines and forfeits	2,086,404	4,624,581	-	-	-	1,179,340
Investment income	1,641,131	217,827	22,228	517,434	258,500	151,230
Miscellaneous	6,439,481	272,600	-	1,431,603	2,013,397	918,273
Insurance Premiums	-	-	-	-	63,758,283	-
Other Financing Sources	796,142	14,767,790	155,242	85,744,991	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 526,710,343</u>	<u>\$ 40,912,995</u>	<u>\$ 80,684,423</u>	<u>\$ 91,550,683</u>	<u>\$ 66,030,180</u>	<u>\$ 48,722,712</u>
<b>Expenditures and Other Financing Uses:</b>						
General government	\$ 92,967,754	2,798,186	\$ -	\$ 77,292	\$ 70,597,100	\$ 3,242,794
Justice system	127,244,615	3,242,851	-	-	-	10,196,834
Public safety	74,539,935	3,636,132	-	-	-	1,096,449
Corrections and rehabilitation	112,737,036	160,842	-	-	-	20,066,645
Health and human services	55,073,010	369,945	-	-	-	8,084,254
Infrastructure and environmental service	9,592,852	16,032,604	-	5,665,556	-	49,834
Community and economic development	9,928,623	7,445	-	(6,403)	-	541,381
Capital outlay	14,902,836	661,753	-	74,659,834	-	5,389,528
Debt service:	473,444	-	80,634,252	919,839	-	1,750,563
Other financing uses	14,767,790	56,114	-	63,196	-	247,713
Total	<u>\$ 512,227,895</u>	<u>\$ 26,965,872</u>	<u>\$ 80,634,252</u>	<u>\$ 81,379,314</u>	<u>\$ 70,597,100</u>	<u>\$ 50,665,995</u>

Please Note - Fiduciary Funds are not included above.

Also, General Fund includes the Expo Center Fund and the 700 Lavaca Complex Fund, in a manner consistent with the County's financial reporting practices.

™ This column includes funds which are a part of the County's finances, but are not included in the annual appropriation process.

This includes grant funds which are not appropriated based on the County's fiscal year and other funds which are legally budgeted under the jurisdiction of the responsible elected official. This column also includes blended component units.

## MAJOR COUNTY REVENUES

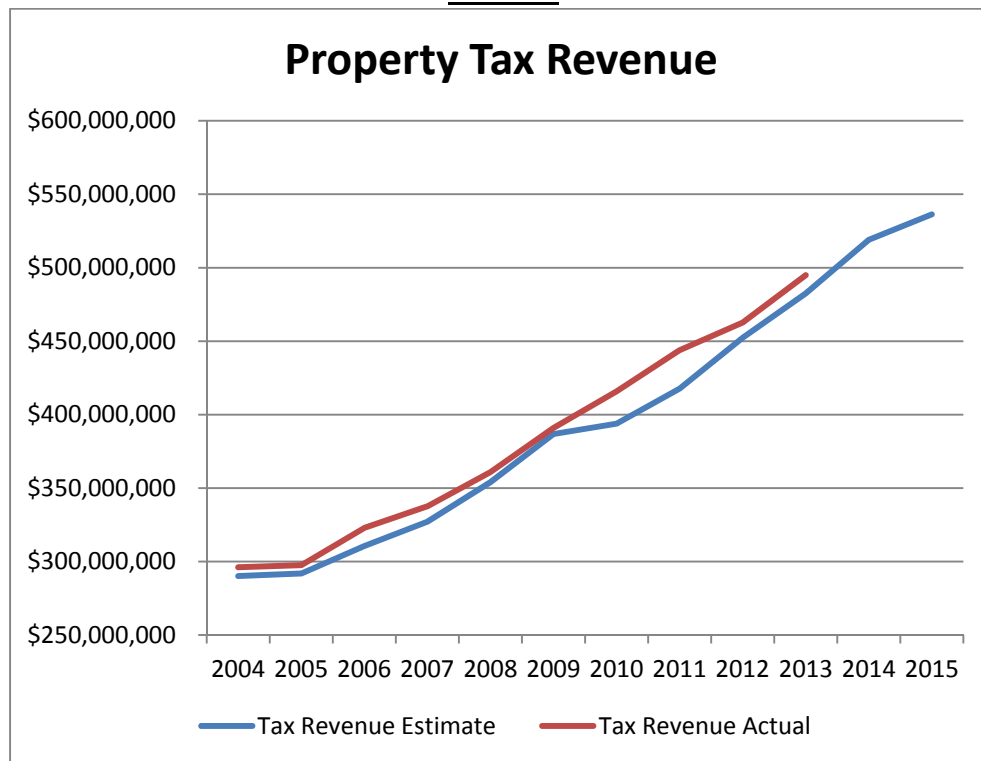
The Travis County Auditor's Office is responsible for preparing the estimation of revenues for the new fiscal year and reviewing current revenue receipts and historical trends. Throughout the year, and especially during the budget process, the Planning and Budget Office (PBO) works closely with the Auditor's Office to fully understand changes in revenue trends and accounts for those changes in the development of the expenditure budget. In general, the Auditor's Office and PBO consider historical trends and the health of the national, state and local economies in preparing the revenue estimate and the expenditure budget, respectively.

Travis County's primary source of revenue, comprising over 75% of total annual revenue, is ad valorem property taxes. Ad valorem taxes are assessed on real and personal property based on their taxable value on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and on the tax rate approved by Commissioners Court for the fiscal year. The total tax rate is the sum of two different rates: 1) the maintenance and operations (M&O) rate that is levied to pay for the County's operations, and 2) the debt service (Interest and Sinking or I&S) rate to pay the principal and interest on County-issued debt.

Assumptions for the County Auditor's revenue estimate include a 98% collection rate, which is applied to the Travis Central Appraisal District's certified taxable value that is published in the July-August timeframe each year. Estimated collections are projected conservatively by the County Auditor's Office and are based on historical trends, the local and national economy, as well as other information we may receive internally.

For the 10-year period from FY 2004 through FY 2013 the variance between the estimated ad valorem tax revenue and the actual receipts has ranged from 1% to 6%. Due to the economic downturn of 2008, the Auditor's Office became more conservative in their revenue estimation in the three succeeding years; therefore the variance between estimates and actual collections was greatest in those years. While at the national level the downturn resulted in a historic recession, the local economy realized a much shallower downturn that did not impact tax collections or the housing market and related appraisal values as was anticipated.

Chart 8



Source: Travis County Auditor’s Revenue Estimates, FY 2004 – FY 2015 and Consolidated Annual Financial Reports, FY 2004 – FY 2013

The County Auditor’s FY 2015 Revenue Estimate can be found in Volume II of this document. The CAFRs are located at [http://traviscountytexas.gov/county\\_auditor/reports.asp](http://traviscountytexas.gov/county_auditor/reports.asp).

## ALL FUNDS SUMMARY

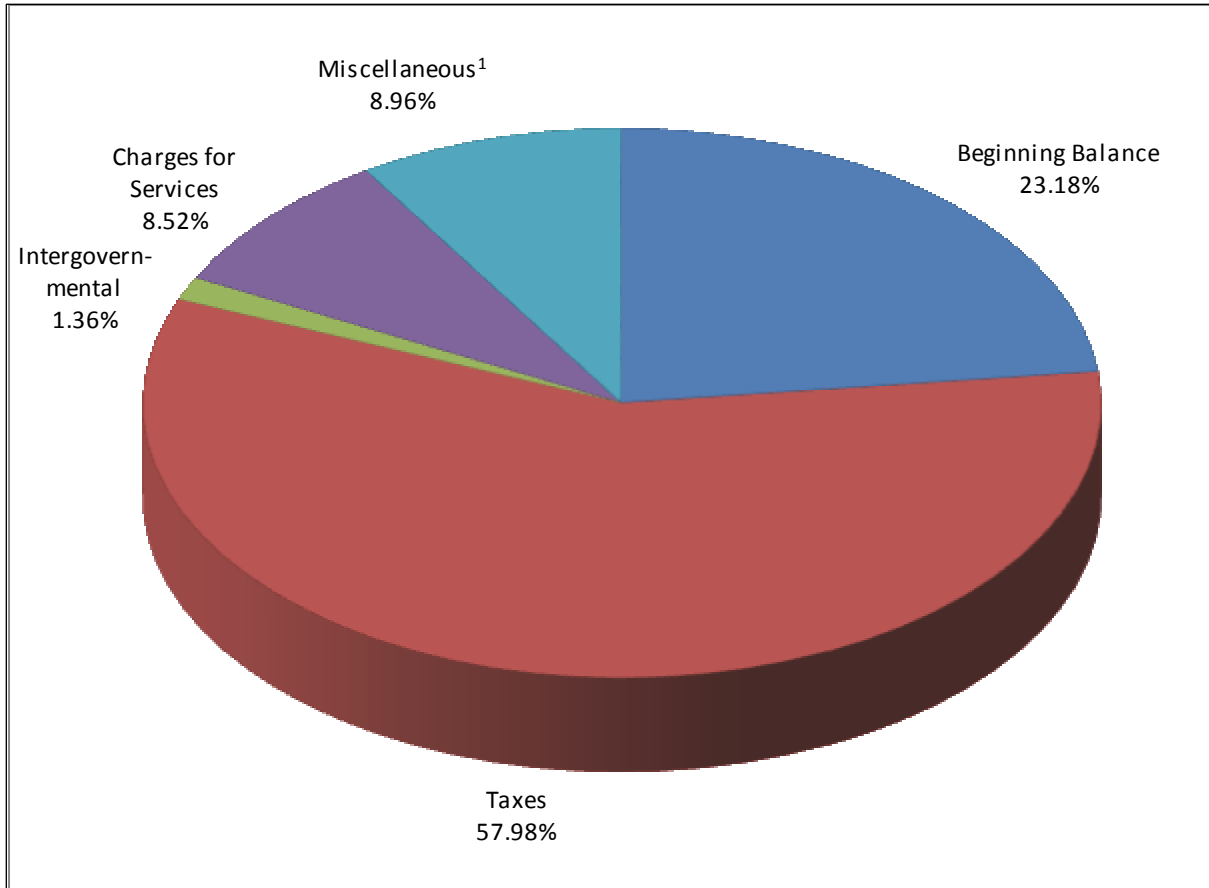
The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget total for all funds is \$911.0 million, an increase of \$53.9 million compared to the Fiscal Year 2014 Adopted Budget for all funds of \$857.1 million. This represents a 6.3% increase from the Fiscal Year 2014 Adopted Budget (including fund balance). Key changes are summarized in the table below.

Table 4  
Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget – All Funds

	<b>FY 2014 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>FY 2015 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
General Fund	\$618,685,261	\$650,897,476	\$32,212,215	5.21%
Road and Bridge Fund	16,780,312	18,509,007	1,728,695	10.30%
Debt Service Fund	96,948,783	101,827,855	4,879,072	5.03%
Internal Service Funds:				
Risk Management Fund	15,171,354	16,352,187	1,180,833	7.78%
Health Benefit Fund	79,799,845	83,544,330	3,744,485	4.69%
Other Funds (1)	45,005,865	55,290,678	10,284,813	22.85%
Less Transfers	(15,287,057)	(15,432,592)	(145,535)	0.95%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$857,104,363</b>	<b>\$910,988,941</b>	<b>\$53,884,578</b>	<b>6.29%</b>

- (1) Expenditures in these funds are supported by specific, often restricted, revenue sources, which are estimated by the County Auditor. Also includes \$210,662 in funds from County Corporations and CAPSO that do not require approval by the Commissioners Court.

**Chart 9**  
**Where Does the Money Come From?**  
**All Funds**



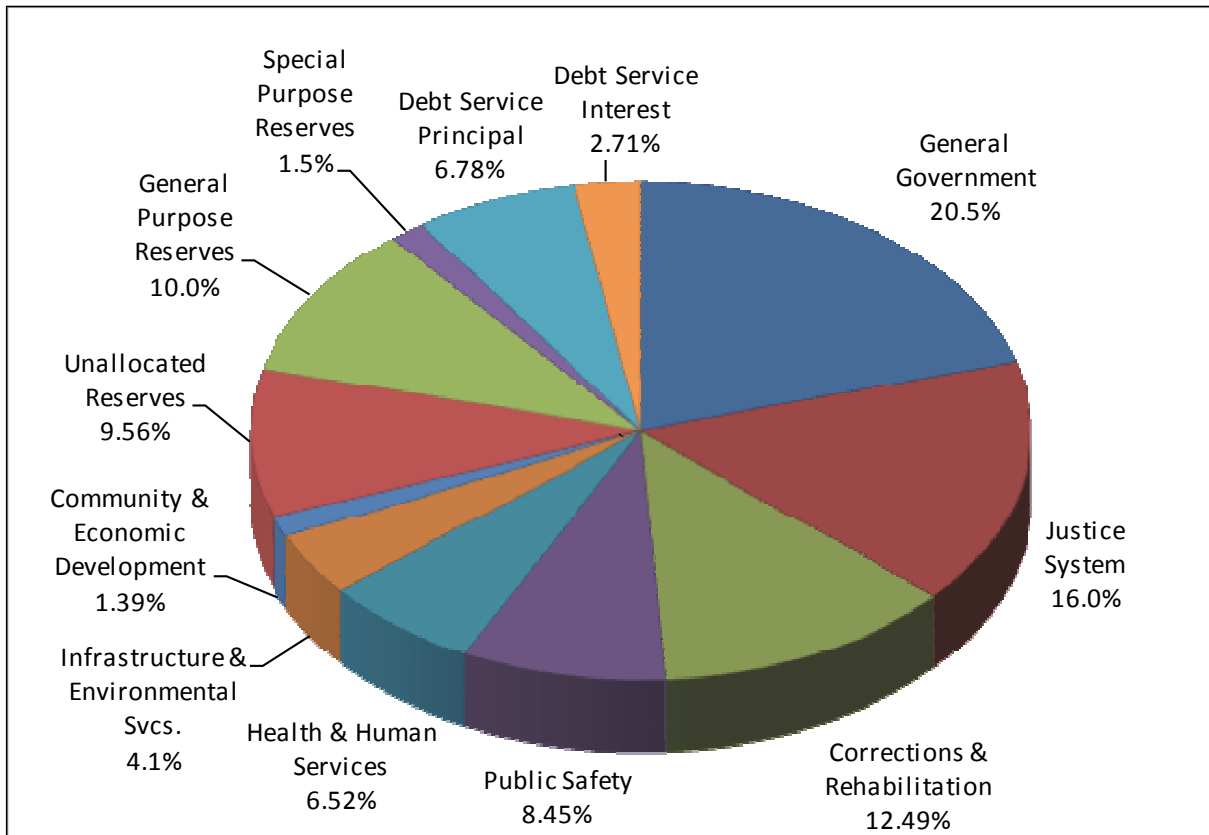
	FY 2014 ADOPTED BUDGET		FY 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET		2015 - 2014 DIFFERENCE	
Beginning Balance	\$186,814,947	21.80%	\$211,190,285	23.18%	\$24,375,338	13.05%
Taxes	510,847,695	59.60%	528,182,347	57.98%	17,334,652	3.39%
Intergovernmental	10,505,187	1.23%	12,382,822	1.36%	1,877,635	17.87%
Charges for Services	76,386,931	8.91%	77,636,678	8.52%	1,249,747	1.64%
Fines & Forfeitures (1)	4,800,966	0.56%	4,905,316	0.54%	104,350	2.17%
Interest (1)	1,713,103	0.20%	1,697,466	0.19%	-15,637	-0.91%
Net Change Fair Value (1)	(3,600,000)	-0.42%	(2,000,000)	-0.22%	\$1,600,000	N/A
Miscellaneous (1,2)	69,635,534	8.12%	76,994,027	8.45%	7,358,493	10.57%
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>\$857,104,363</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$910,988,941</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$53,884,578</b>	<b>6.29%</b>

(1) Fines & Forfeitures, Interest, Net Change in Fair Value are all combined in Miscellaneous on pie chart due to small percentages.

(2) Includes offsetting transfers and other amounts not included in the Adopted Budgeted of \$185,662 from County Corporations and \$25,000 from CAPSO to the General Fund, and \$179,937 for County contributions to grants.



**Chart 10**  
**Where Does the Money Go?**  
**All Funds**



	FY 2014 ADOPTED BUDGET		FY 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET		2015 - 2014 DIFFERENCE	
General Government (1)	\$172,222,275	20.09%	\$186,751,390	20.50%	\$14,529,115	8.44%
Justice System (1,2)	136,753,090	15.96%	145,719,567	16.00%	8,966,477	6.56%
Corrections & Rehabilitation (1)	107,742,471	12.57%	113,816,981	12.49%	6,074,510	5.64%
Public Safety (1)	81,952,794	9.56%	77,000,233	8.45%	-4,952,561	-6.04%
Health & Human Services (1)	53,482,582	6.24%	59,368,470	6.52%	5,885,888	11.01%
Infrastructure & Environmental (1,3)	33,598,733	3.92%	37,370,419	4.10%	3,771,686	11.23%
Community & Economic Dev. (1)	11,495,804	1.34%	12,667,080	1.39%	1,171,276	10.19%
Unallocated Reserves	84,211,595	9.83%	87,074,662	9.56%	2,863,067	3.40%
General Purpose Reserves (4)	75,687,911	8.83%	91,111,470	10.00%	15,423,559	20.38%
Special Purpose Reserves (4)	19,134,322	2.23%	13,633,352	1.50%	-5,500,970	-28.75%
Debt Service - Principal	56,270,000	6.57%	61,790,000	6.78%	5,520,000	9.81%
Debt Service - Interest	24,552,786	2.86%	24,685,317	2.71%	132,531	0.54%
	<u>\$857,104,363</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$910,988,941</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$53,884,578</u>	<u>6.29%</u>

- (1) Programmatic areas were subject to a variety of changes, including increases for FY 15 employee and retiree health requirements. New programmatic increases are described in detail in the Executive Summary.
- (2) Includes renovations and improvements to County facilities that will be made in preparation for a new District Court and County Court-at-Law, approved by the 83rd Legislature.
- (3) Includes additional resources for County's Road Program.
- (4) Changes in General Purpose and Special Purpose Reserves are detailed in the Executive Summary.

## PROPERTY TAX RATES AND IMPACT ON TAX BILLS

The total taxable value for all Travis County property is anticipated to increase from \$107.1 billion in the Fiscal Year 2014 Adopted Budget to \$119.9 billion for the Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget. This amount was certified by the Travis Central Appraisal District on August 12, 2014. The data in the tables that follow, and presented elsewhere in this document, is based on values certified by the Travis Central Appraisal District.

The estimated value of new property totals \$2.7 billion, compared to new property value of \$2.3 billion last year. The tables that follow include the effective and adopted tax rates, and the estimated impact of the proposed tax rate of 45.63 cents per \$100 of taxable value on the residential homeowner declaring his or her house as a homestead.

Table 5  
Adopted Tax Rates  
(Per \$100 of Taxable Value)

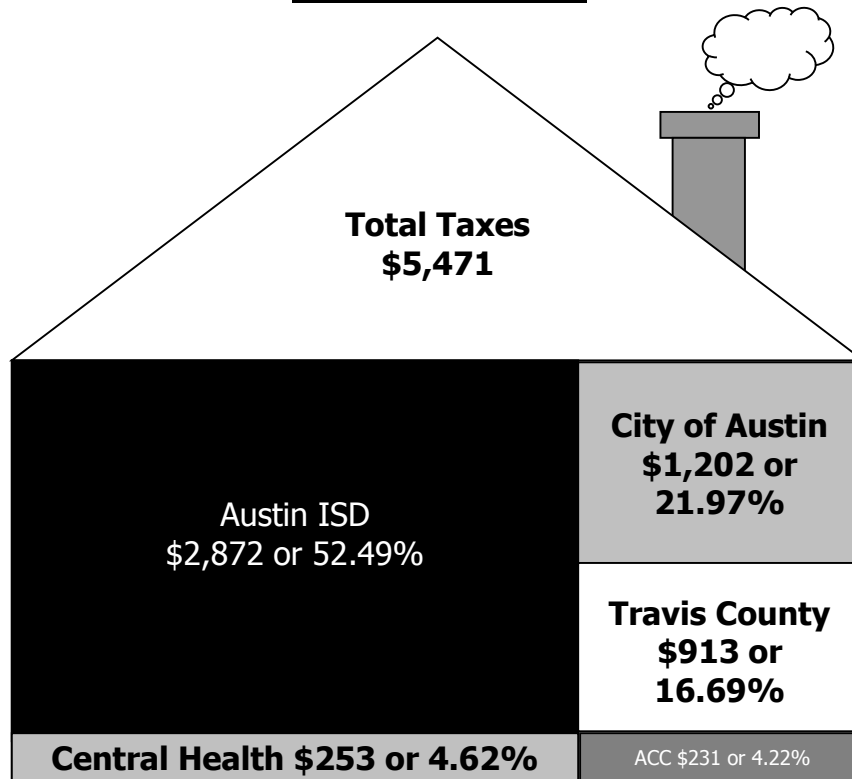
Tax rate	Adopted 2014 Rate	Adopted 2015 Rate	Difference in Cents	% Difference
Operating	41.90¢	38.50¢	(3.40¢)	(8.11%)
Debt Service	7.56¢	7.13¢	(0.43¢)	(5.7%)
Total	49.46¢	45.63¢	(3.83¢)	(7.7%)

Table 6  
Estimated Impact on Homestead  
(All homestead values per Travis Central Appraisal District as of August 12, 2014)

	2014	2015	Difference
Median Taxable Value*	\$165,775	\$180,760	\$14,985
Average Taxable Value*	\$222,431	\$240,026	\$17,595
Tax Rate	49.46¢	45.63¢	(3.83¢)
Annual Property Taxes on Median Taxable Homestead Value	\$820	\$825	\$5
Annual Property Taxes on Average Taxable Homestead Value	\$1,100	\$1,095	(\$5)

\* Homestead value reflects 20% Homestead Exemption granted by Travis County and the 10% cap on the annual increase in homestead value.

**Chart 11**  
**Fiscal Year 2015 Property Tax Bill for Travis County Homestead**  
**Valued at \$250,000**



**Chart 12**  
**County Property Tax on the Median Travis County Homestead**  
**versus Median Family Income, 2004-2015**



Table 7

**TAX RATE HISTORY  
FY 2004 - FY 2015 ADOPTED**

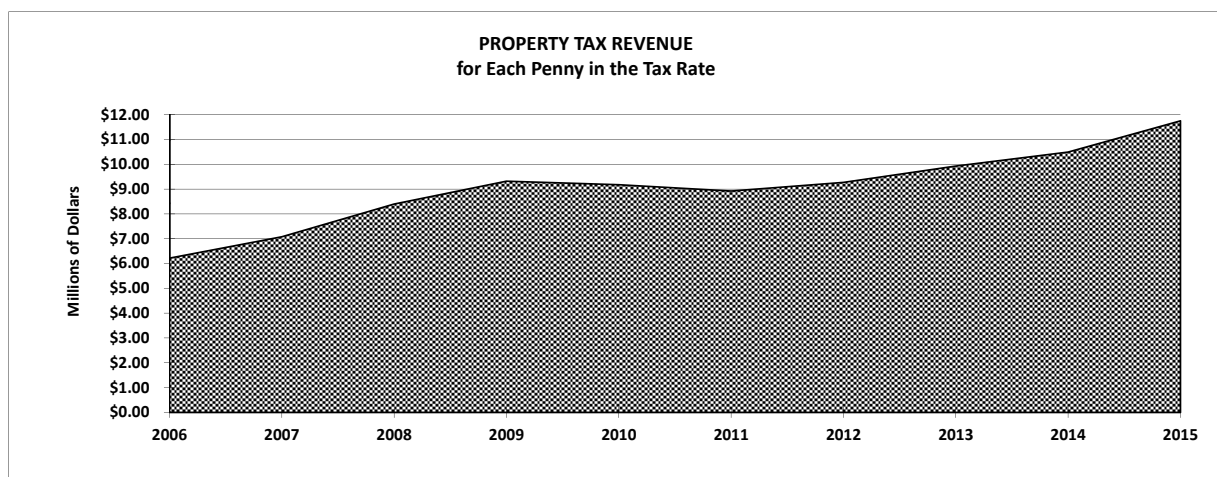
	<b>MAINTENANCE AND OPERATING (M&amp;O) TAX RATE</b>	<b>DEBT SERVICE TAX RATE</b>	<b>TOTAL TAX RATE</b>	<b>CURRENT PROPERTY TAX REVENUE</b>
<b>FY 2004</b>	\$0.3926	\$0.0992	\$0.4918	\$232,788,164 M&O \$58,819,628 Debt Service \$291,607,792 Total
<b>FY 2005</b>	\$0.3850	\$0.1022	\$0.4872	\$231,751,831 M&O \$61,519,577 Debt Service \$293,271,408 Total
<b>FY 2006</b>	\$0.3994	\$0.0999	\$0.4993	\$249,762,493 M&O \$62,471,890 Debt Service \$312,234,383 Total
<b>FY 2007</b>	\$0.3623	\$0.0876	\$0.4499	\$264,776,544 M&O \$64,019,943 Debt Service \$328,796,487 Total
<b>FY 2008</b>	\$0.3405	\$0.0811	\$0.4216	\$287,600,941 M&O \$68,500,547 Debt Service \$356,101,488 Total
<b>FY 2009</b>	\$0.3394	\$0.0728	\$0.4122	\$318,500,480 M&O \$68,317,133 Debt Service \$386,817,613 Total
<b>FY 2010</b>	\$0.3517	\$0.0698	\$0.4215	\$328,626,332 M&O \$65,220,694 Debt Service \$393,847,026 Total
<b>FY 2011</b>	\$0.3858	\$0.0800	\$0.4658	\$345,968,222 M&O \$71,740,430 Debt Service \$417,708,652 Total
<b>FY 2012</b>	\$0.4085	\$0.0770	\$0.4855	\$380,618,089 M&O \$71,744,413 Debt Service \$452,362,502 Total
<b>FY 2013</b>	\$0.4217	\$0.0784	\$0.5001	\$418,763,915 M&O \$77,854,140 Debt Service \$496,618,055 Total
<b>FY 2014</b>	\$0.4190	\$0.0756	\$0.4946	\$439,735,292 M&O \$79,341,259 Debt Service \$519,076,551 Total
<b>FY 2015</b>	\$0.3850	\$0.0713	\$0.4563	\$452,494,398 M&O \$83,799,611 Debt Service \$536,294,009 Total
<b>DIFFERENCE FY 15 - 14</b>	(\$0.0340)	(\$0.0043)	(\$0.0383)	\$12,759,106 M&O \$4,458,352 Debt Service \$17,217,458 Total

Chart 13

TRAVIS COUNTY TAXES ON THE AVERAGE/MEDIAN HOMESTEAD AND PROPERTY TAX REVENUE

FISCAL YEAR	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Change
<b>Avg. Appraised Value of a Homestead</b>	\$203,526	\$225,014	\$243,800	\$282,894	\$287,732	\$272,820	\$272,931	\$270,774	\$282,909	\$316,409	\$33,500
<b>Taxable Value</b>	\$162,080	\$180,011	\$195,040	\$211,388	\$218,761	\$217,812	\$215,892	\$214,567	\$222,431	\$240,026	\$17,595
<b>Tax Rate</b>	\$0.4993	\$0.4499	\$0.4216	\$0.4122	\$0.4215	\$0.4658	\$0.4855	\$0.5001	\$0.4946	\$0.4563	(\$0.0383)
<b>Tax</b>	\$809	\$810	\$822	\$871	\$922	\$1,015	\$1,048	\$1,073	\$1,100	\$1,095	(\$5)
FISCAL YEAR	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Change
<b>Med. Appraised Value of a Homestead</b>	\$159,900	\$172,378	\$187,695	\$207,674	\$216,827	\$208,028	\$203,749	\$200,755	\$209,385	\$238,926	\$29,541
<b>Taxable Value</b>	\$126,387	\$133,681	\$144,070	\$156,223	\$165,514	\$163,781	\$161,894	\$159,835	\$165,775	\$180,760	\$14,985
<b>Tax Rate</b>	\$0.4993	\$0.4499	\$0.4216	\$0.4122	\$0.4215	\$0.4658	\$0.4855	\$0.5001	\$0.4946	\$0.4563	(\$0.0383)
<b>Tax</b>	\$631	\$601	\$607	\$644	\$698	\$763	\$786	\$799	\$820	\$825	\$5

Average and median appraised values of a Homestead are values for each year according to the Travis Central Appraisal District at time of certification.



FISCAL YEAR	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Change
<b>Revenue (Millions)</b>	\$6.22	\$7.08	\$8.40	\$9.32	\$9.18	\$8.92	\$9.27	\$9.93	\$10.49	\$11.75	\$1.26

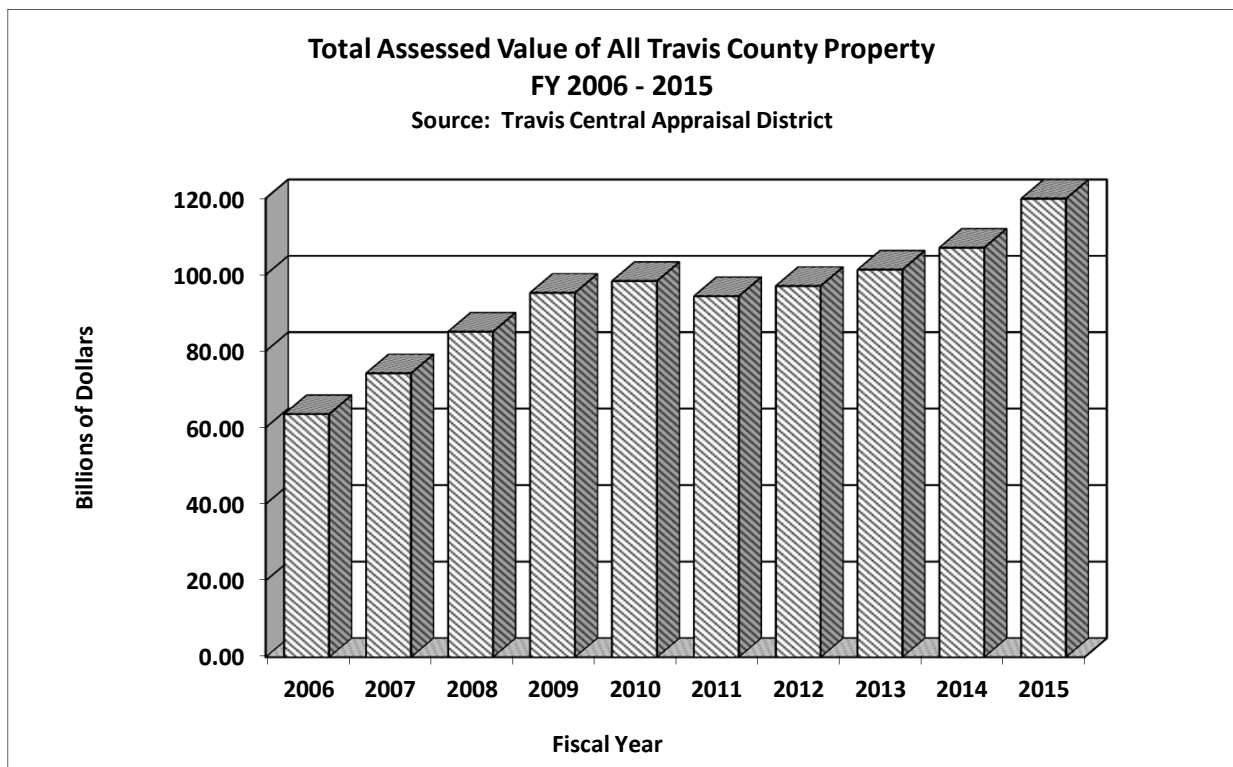
One cent of the proposed tax rate used for the FY 2015 Preliminary Budget generates approximately \$11.75 million in General Fund tax revenue based on a projected net taxable property value of \$119,926,668,466 and a collection rate of 98%.

Chart 14

**TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE OF ALL TAXABLE TRAVIS COUNTY PROPERTY  
FISCAL YEAR 2006 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2015**

Source: Travis Central Appraisal District

FISCAL YEAR	TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE	NEW CONSTRUCTION VALUE	APPRECIATION VALUE	TOTAL CHANGE IN VALUE
2006	63,484,891,844	1,929,845,340	444,800,432	2,374,645,772
2007	74,193,296,448	2,583,228,287	8,125,176,317	10,708,404,604
2008	85,096,373,147	3,260,766,707	7,642,309,992	10,903,076,699
2009	95,269,235,051	3,943,959,449	6,228,902,455	10,172,861,904
2010	98,355,097,325	2,926,977,219	158,885,055	3,085,862,274
2011	94,393,213,282	1,777,697,874	(5,739,581,917)	(3,961,884,043)
2012	97,054,517,458	3,544,836,553	(883,532,377)	2,661,304,176
2013	101,328,056,027	3,549,742,494	723,796,075	4,273,538,569
2014	107,087,701,114	2,330,290,888	3,429,354,199	5,759,645,087
2015	119,926,668,466	2,652,040,340	10,186,927,012	12,838,967,352

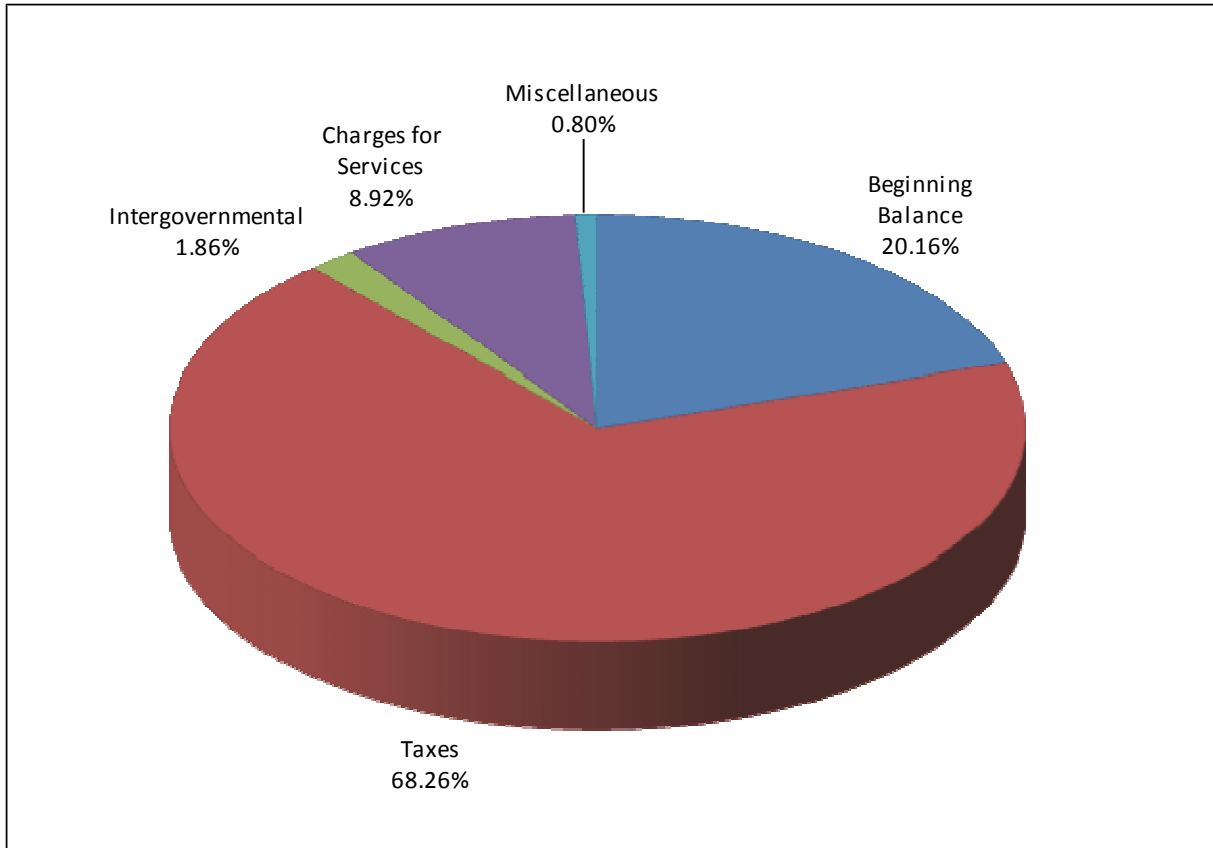


## **GENERAL FUND SUMMARY**

The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget total for the General Fund is \$650.9 million, an increase of \$32.2 million compared to the Fiscal Year 2014 Adopted Budget of \$618.7 million. This represents a 5.2% increase from the Fiscal Year 2014 Adopted Budget. This increase is due in part to the healthy beginning fund balance in the General Fund budget. The growth in the General Fund budget from FY 2014 to FY 2015 is 4.2% if the beginning fund balance is excluded from the calculation.

Budgetary changes are summarized in the General Fund Summary that follows. The bulk of this document focuses on the recommended expenditures and reserves in the General Fund, Travis County's largest fund.

**Chart 15**  
**Where Does the Money Come From?**  
**General Fund**

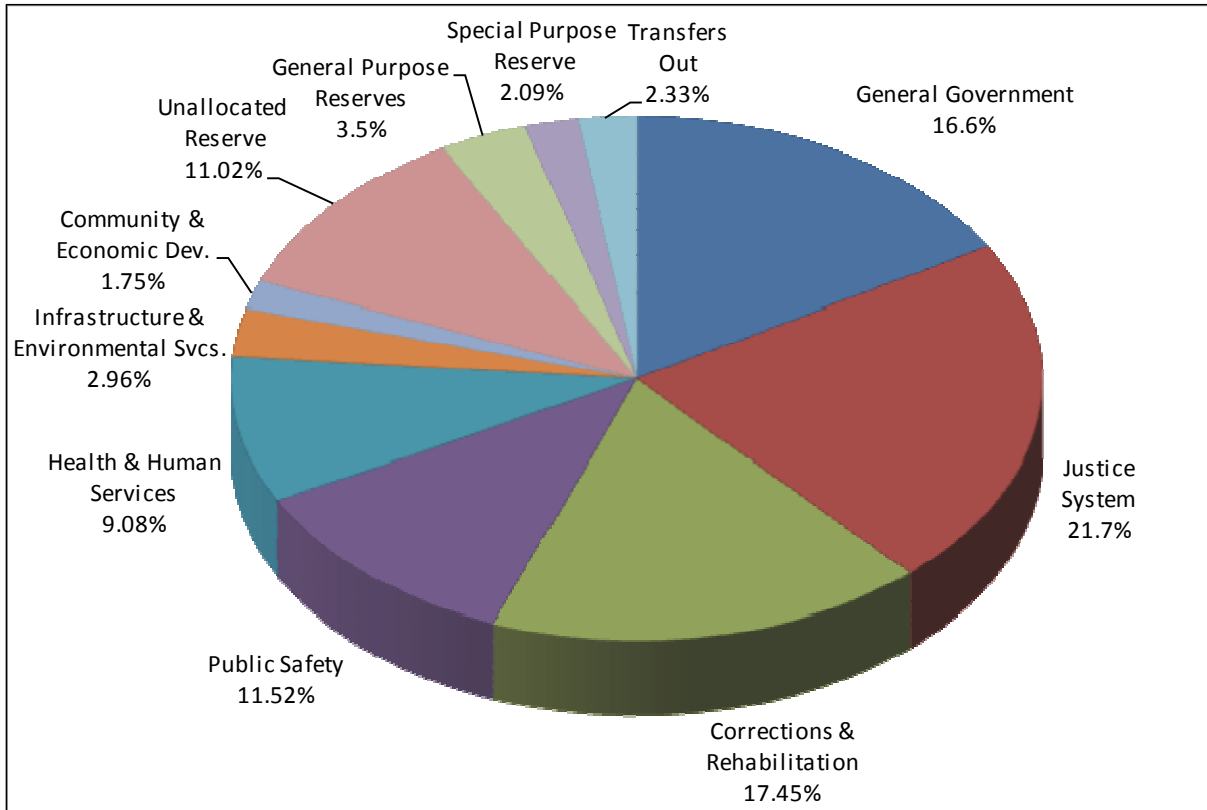


	FY 2014 ADOPTED BUDGET		FY 2015 ADOPTED BUDGET		2015 - 2014 DIFFERENCE	
Beginning Balance	119,966,236	19.39%	\$131,214,841	20.16%	11,248,605	9.38%
Taxes	431,406,042	69.73%	444,305,978	68.26%	12,899,936	2.99%
Intergovernmental	10,260,483	1.66%	12,093,618	1.86%	1,833,135	17.87%
Charges for Services	56,164,308	9.08%	58,068,445	8.92%	1,904,137	3.39%
Fines & Forfeitures (1)	722,716	0.12%	485,684	0.07%	-237,032	-32.80%
Interest (1)	1,268,577	0.21%	1,292,029	0.20%	23,452	1.85%
Net Change Fair Value (1)	(3,600,000)	-0.58%	(2,000,000)	-0.31%	\$1,600,000	N/A
Miscellaneous (1)	2,256,484	0.36%	5,143,517	0.79%	2,887,033	127.94%
Transfers In (1)	240,415	0.04%	293,364	0.05%	52,949	22.02%
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$618,685,261</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$650,897,476</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$32,212,215</b>	<b>5.21%</b>

(1) Fines & Forfeitures, Interest, Net Change in Fair Value and Transfers In are all combined in Miscellaneous on pie chart due to small percentages.



**Chart 16**  
**Where Does the Money Go?**  
**General Fund**



	FY 2014		FY 2015		2015 - 2014	
	ADOPTED BUDGET		ADOPTED BUDGET		DIFFERENCE	
General Government (1)	\$100,495,246	16.24%	\$108,024,131	16.60%	\$7,528,885	7.49%
Justice System (1,2)	132,218,289	21.37%	\$141,247,695	21.70%	9,029,406	6.83%
Corrections & Rehabilitation (1)	107,550,546	17.38%	\$113,612,823	17.45%	6,062,277	5.64%
Public Safety (1)	78,581,145	12.70%	\$75,003,392	11.52%	-3,577,753	-4.55%
Health & Human Services (1)	53,182,458	8.60%	\$59,069,625	9.08%	5,887,167	11.07%
Infrastructure & Environmental Svcs. (1,3)	16,057,671	2.60%	\$19,285,828	2.96%	3,228,157	20.10%
Community & Economic Dev. (1)	10,183,302	1.65%	\$11,359,602	1.75%	1,176,300	11.55%
Unallocated Reserve	68,085,598	11.00%	\$71,722,124	11.02%	3,636,526	5.34%
General Purpose Reserves (4)	18,150,042	2.93%	\$22,799,676	3.50%	4,649,634	25.62%
Special Purpose Reserves (4)	19,134,322	3.09%	\$13,633,352	2.09%	-5,500,970	-28.75%
Transfers Out	15,046,642	2.43%	15,139,228	2.33%	92,586	0.62%
	<b>\$618,685,261</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$650,897,476</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$32,212,215</b>	<b>5.21%</b>

- (1) Programmatic areas were subject to a variety of changes, including increases for FY 15 employee and retiree health requirements. New programmatic increases are described in detail in the Executive Summary.
- (2) Includes renovations and improvements to County facilities that will be made in preparation for a new District Court and County Court-at-Law, approved by the 83rd Legislature.
- (3) Includes additional resources for County's Road Program.
- (4) Changes in General Purpose and Special Purpose Reserves are detailed in the Executive Summary.

## **DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET SUBMISSIONS AND OTHER CHANGES**

The base budgets for all departments, excluding capital, increased 5.4%, from \$464.9 million in Fiscal Year 2014 to \$490.2 million in the Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget. This change represents programmatic investments from the prior budget cycle being incorporated into departmental budgets.

A few departments submitted budgets that were below target budget levels for Fiscal Year 2015. The reduction created by submissions under target totals \$175,706. More than 95% of the reduction is related to the utilities and leases budget that is centralized under the Facilities Management Department (FMD). The reduction accounts for parking leases that are no longer needed due to the implementation of zoned parking in the downtown campus and a building lease that is no longer needed since the Offices of Parental Representation and Child Representation have moved to the University Savings Building from lease space at 209 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

The Adopted Budget also includes an overall reduction of \$119,426 related to the Planning and Budget Office's annual review of budgeted salary and related benefits savings. Temporary salary savings are achieved throughout the course of the year from the savings from salaries and related benefits not paid out during the time after an employee vacates a position and before the department or office hires a replacement for that position. This year the Planning and Budget Office adjusted the Civil Courts' budgeted salary savings to reflect recent turnover trends and added the County Auditor to the group of departments and offices that have these anticipated savings budgeted for FY 2015.

Table 8

<b>GENERAL FUND SUMMARY</b>					
	FY 2013 Adopted	FY 2014 Adopted	FY 2015 Adopted Budget		
			One-Time	Ongoing	Total
<b>Total Revenue:</b>					
Available Beginning Balance	114,021,855	119,966,236	131,214,841	-	\$ 131,214,841
Property Taxes	408,134,737	431,406,042	-	444,305,978	\$ 444,305,978
Other Revenue	65,949,000	67,312,983	2,500,000	72,876,657	\$ 75,376,657
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 588,105,592</b>	<b>\$ 618,685,261</b>	<b>\$ 133,714,841</b>	<b>\$ 517,182,635</b>	<b>\$ 650,897,476</b>
<b>General Purpose Reserves:</b>					
Unallocated Reserve	57,195,853	68,085,598	71,722,124	-	\$ 71,722,124
Allocated Reserve	6,920,945	10,718,725	11,659,901	3,567,396	\$ 15,227,297
Reserve for Emergencies & Contingencies	2,016,924	5,000,000	5,000,000	-	\$ 5,000,000
Capital Acquisition Resources Reserve	2,813,944	2,431,317	2,572,379	-	\$ 2,572,379
<b>Special Purpose Reserves:</b>					
Reserve for Replacement of Integrated Justice System	2,164,795	5,235,265	4,888,195	159,330	\$ 5,047,525
Reserve for Interlocal Agreements	2,166,175	1,950,308	2,037,550	109,874	\$ 2,147,424
Sheriff's Office Overtime Reserve		1,000,000	-	1,715,000	\$ 1,715,000
STAR Flight Maintenance Reserve	1,001,050	1,995,050	992,259	-	\$ 992,259
Civil & Family Justice Center Reserve	5,496,000	5,446,000	798,779	-	\$ 798,779
Annualization Reserve	65,768		-	714,606	\$ 714,606
Future Grant Requirements Reserve			-	550,000	\$ 550,000
Juvenile Justice Reserve	418,959	504,726	504,726	-	\$ 504,726
Reserve for State Cuts	250,000	250,000	-	500,000	\$ 500,000
Smart Building Maintenance Reserve	160,778	297,948	363,033	-	\$ 363,033
Fuel & Utilities Reserve	1,000,000	300,000	-	300,000	\$ 300,000
Reserve for External Social Services Contracts		1,155,025	-	-	\$ -
Reserve for 1115 Waiver Participation	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	-	\$ -
Salary Savings Reserve	400,000		-	-	\$ -
Transition Reserve	101,889		-	-	\$ -
<b>Reserves</b>	<b>\$ 83,173,080</b>	<b>\$ 105,369,962</b>	<b>\$ 100,538,946</b>	<b>\$ 7,616,206</b>	<b>\$ 108,155,152</b>
<b>Departmental Base Budgets</b>	<b>\$ 429,623,589</b>	<b>\$ 464,853,176</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 490,187,659</b>	<b>\$ 490,187,659</b>
<b>Budget Changes &amp; Reductions</b>					
Departmental Budgets Submitted Below Target	(89,333)	(191,177)	-	(175,706)	\$ (175,706)
Salary Savings		444,829	-	(119,426)	\$ (119,426)
Other Changes	(100,168)	(859,573)	-	-	\$ -
<b>Budget Changes &amp; Reductions</b>	<b>\$ (189,501)</b>	<b>\$ (605,921)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (295,132)</b>	<b>\$ (295,132)</b>
<b>Changes in Pay &amp; Benefits:</b>					
Health Insurance Premiums	3,393,086	3,873,059	-	3,025,380	\$ 3,025,380
Pay Increase - Classified Pay Scale	6,320,281	5,715,073	-	3,074,848	\$ 3,074,848
Pay Increase - Peace Officers Pay Scale	10,134,755		-	826,729	\$ 826,729
Retirement Contributions	1,454,417	1,344,572	-	-	\$ -
Retiree Cost of Living Adjustment		624,154	-	-	\$ -
Elected Officials	201,978	287,271	-	-	\$ -
<b>Changes in Pay &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$ 21,504,517</b>	<b>\$ 11,844,129</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,926,957</b>	<b>\$ 6,926,957</b>

Table 8 (Continued)

<b>GENERAL FUND SUMMARY</b>					
	FY 2013 Adopted	FY 2014 Adopted	FY 2015 Adopted Budget		
			One-Time	Ongoing	Total
<b>PROGRAM FUNDING PRIORITIES</b>					
<b>Maintenance of Current Service Levels</b>					
Maintenance of Emergency Aircraft	158,183	283,379	972,000	-	\$ 972,000
Jail Inmate Services/Costs		504,609	400,000	475,000	\$ 875,000
Critical Information Technology Systems Support	1,246,655	872,728	641,131	210,795	\$ 851,926
Associate Judge			23,408	401,141	\$ 424,549
Pavement Condition Survey			350,000	-	\$ 350,000
County-Wide Fuel/Maintenance Costs		888,000	-	174,400	\$ 174,400
Other Expenditures	4,631,813	3,163,094	329,855	538,606	\$ 868,461
<b>Subtotal Maintenance of Current Service Levels</b>	<b>6,036,651</b>	<b>5,711,810</b>	<b>2,716,394</b>	<b>1,799,942</b>	<b>4,516,336</b>
<b>Programs and Changes Approved Mid Year</b>					
Discovery Process			-	503,089	\$ 503,089
Health Care District Legal Services			-	179,962	\$ 179,962
Other Mid Year Changes	353,437	459,106	-	-	\$ -
<b>Subtotal Programs and Changes Approved Mid Year</b>	<b>353,437</b>	<b>459,106</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>683,051</b>	<b>683,051</b>
<b>Transfers between Departments/Funds</b>					
Road & Bridge Fund Support	2,370,114	2,115,407	-	1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Balcones Canyonlands Preservation	664,037	1,031,328	-	1,207,533	\$ 1,207,533
Public Integrity Unit		1,693,997	1,004,492	-	\$ 1,004,492
Risk Management			-	300,000	\$ 300,000
Other Departmental/Fund Transfers	774,292	249,258	47,500	90,589	\$ 138,089
<b>Subtotal Transfers between Departments/Funds</b>	<b>3,808,443</b>	<b>5,089,990</b>	<b>1,051,992</b>	<b>3,098,122</b>	<b>\$ 4,150,114</b>
<b>Other Funding Priorities</b>					
Social Services Funding	1,928,358	1,468,975	-	2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000
Cooperative Health and Public Safety Agreements	702,458	1,801,996	-	1,454,152	\$ 1,454,152
Security Improvements		358,487	408,694	256,792	\$ 665,486
District Attorney Interagency Agreements	424,950	432,000	450,266	-	\$ 450,266
Parenting in Recovery Grant Match		269,071	286,960	102,465	\$ 389,425
Tax Office		576,614	-	304,859	\$ 304,859
Integrated Justice System Replacement	708,775	748,981	43,806	226,315	\$ 270,121
Planning and Assessment Studies	690,000		259,700	-	\$ 259,700
Parks Operations and Maintenance	744,180	464,055	-	244,644	\$ 244,644
Public Defender Staffing			6,513	204,407	\$ 210,920
Other Expenditures	6,099,670	4,127,476	1,272,249	906,562	\$ 2,178,811
<b>Subtotal Other Funding Priorities</b>	<b>11,298,391</b>	<b>10,247,655</b>	<b>2,728,188</b>	<b>6,200,196</b>	<b>\$ 8,928,384</b>
<b>Capital Acquisition and Improvements</b>	<b>32,496,985</b>	<b>15,715,354</b>	<b>26,679,321</b>	<b>965,634</b>	<b>\$ 27,644,955</b>
<b>Program Funding Priorities</b>	<b>\$ 53,993,907</b>	<b>\$ 37,223,915</b>	<b>\$ 33,175,895</b>	<b>\$ 12,746,945</b>	<b>\$ 45,922,840</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 588,105,592</b>	<b>\$ 618,685,261</b>	<b>\$ 133,714,841</b>	<b>\$ 517,182,635</b>	<b>\$ 650,897,476</b>

## PROGRAM FUNDING PRIORITIES

The Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Guidelines directed departments and offices to first reprioritize within their existing resources to maintain current service levels or to fund any new needs. This practice encourages managers to maximize the use of each budgeted dollar. Given the prerequisite to manage within available resources, departments and offices were given the flexibility to create additional FTEs (full-time equivalents) if permanent resources could be found within the target budget and if the need for the new FTEs could be justified.

The following section highlights budget requests that, in most cases, required additional resources. Many of these requests are associated with the increased demand that occurs when funding is constrained over a period of time, as well as increased costs associated with maintenance agreements, mandated services, and other cost drivers. These increases or changes also include pilot programs, new programs approved during the current year by the Commissioners Court, transfers between departments and/or funds, and other miscellaneous changes. The focus of this section is on the General Fund budget.

### MAINTAINING CURRENT SERVICE LEVELS

The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget includes \$4,516,336 needed to continue to deliver current services and programs. This additional funding will allow departments and offices to continue executing approved programs. These increases are typically necessitated by factors that may include increased maintenance and contract costs, information technology infrastructure-related costs, and legal or other requirements to maintain current operations.

#### 1. Emergency Medical Services – Aircraft Maintenance – \$972,000

Travis County's STAR Flight provides 24/7 aerial emergency medical services with medical transport, swiftwater rescue, search and rescue, high-angle rescue, fire suppression/aerial reconnaissance and public safety assistance. The annual budget includes funding to cover routine maintenance costs and repairs; however, there is a need for additional funding for items that exceed routine support. In Fiscal Year 2015, there exists a required major expense for the engine overhaul of two aircraft. The work plan also includes several other system overhauls. In addition to the \$972,000 in one-time resources funded in the departmental budget, the Adopted Budget includes a special reserve of \$992,259, which is the amount unspent from \$3.2 million donated by Seton Hospital to support STAR Flight aircraft maintenance.

#### 2. Sheriff's Office – Inmate Operating Costs – \$875,000

The Travis County Sheriff's budget for inmate related costs is anticipated to require additional resources for FY 2015. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes recommended increases of \$875,000 for this program, consisting of \$400,000 for increased pharmaceuticals related to inflationary costs, a rising average daily population, and the discontinuation of a state program that provided resources to offset the cost of providing HIV medications to affected inmates. The Adopted Budget also includes \$275,000 for increased utility costs to operate the Travis County

Correctional Complex and \$200,000 for additional direct medical costs. Of these aforementioned amounts, \$400,000 is budgeted on a one-time basis and will be reviewed for ongoing funding as part of the FY 2016 budget process. In addition, there is a \$300,000 fuel and utilities reserve in the Adopted Budget that is available if approved utility increases for the Correctional Complex are insufficient.

### **3. Information Technology Services – Critical Information Technology Systems Support – \$851,926**

Information Technology Services (ITS) has been staging the implementation of a new telephone system, the Cisco Unified Communications Voice over Internet Protocol, over the past several fiscal years. This initiative replaces the legacy Nortel PBX telephone system, focusing first on buildings in the downtown campus. The Adopted Budget includes one-time funding of \$400,000 for a contract vendor and \$55,770 in ongoing maintenance. Capital costs related to this project are discussed in the Capital Acquisition and Improvements Program later in this document. This phase of the project requires upgrading the call center for the Tax Office, a complicated endeavor that requires external resources. In addition to funding for the Tax Office, FY 2015 funding includes the County Clerk's Office at 5501 Airport Road, the Ruiz Building at 5555 Airport Road, and the Austin Ridge facility at 8509 FM 969.

In addition, two information technology security projects are funded in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget. The first project, funded at \$236,156, will provide the County with contracted services for constant monitoring of the County's firewall system. The managed security service contract is designed to assist ITS in threat detection and resolution. The second project will ensure that Travis County meets the federal Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) security policy for hard drive encryption and advanced authentication. The Adopted Budget includes \$160,000 in one-time funding to allow ITS to hire a vendor to secure mobile data computers and laptops as required by the CJIS security policy. Complying with this requirement allows County law enforcement to maintain its CJIS clearance.

### **4. Civil Courts – Associate Judge – \$424,549**

The workload of the Child Protective Services (CPS) docket is increasing due to the booming population growth in Travis County. The number of CPS cases filed increased by almost 62% from FY 2008 to FY 2013, and the available judicial and administrative support resources have not increased in that time period. Beginning in 2012, an Associate Judge from the Juvenile Probation Department was temporarily loaned to the Civil Courts to assist the Judges with the increasing CPS and family law workload. The Juvenile Associate Judge will return to work full-time in the Juvenile Probation Department at the end of calendar year 2014.

The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes funding for an Associate Judge, a Court Reporter, a Judicial Aide, and a Court Operations Officer (4.0 FTEs) at an ongoing annual personnel cost of \$396,341, and ongoing operating cost of \$4,800 and one-time operating cost of \$23,408. The addition of an Associate Judge dedicated to the Civil Courts CPS docket will increase the average amount of time spent on a CPS hearing from appropriately 9 minutes to 18 minutes,

greatly increasing the amount of time a Judge can devote to attending to the matters of importance on a CPS hearing in Travis County.

#### **5. Transportation and Natural Resources – Pavement Condition Survey – \$350,000**

Every five years, Transportation and Natural Resources (TNR) hires a vendor to conduct a digitized pavement condition survey of the entire roadway network that is placed in a software format. This software format allows the data to be used in various models for maximizing budget, operations, and performance in maintaining the entire County roadway system. Currently, there are over 1,270 centerline miles of roadway in Travis County that the Commissioners Court mandated to be maintained at 75% “Good to Fair” for arterials and 70% “Good to Fair” for all other roadways.

Many factors affect how quickly Travis County roadways deteriorate. Highly expansive clay soils predominately found east of Interstate Highway (IH) 35, large volumes of construction traffic, and preventative maintenance are the three most directly associated factors that determine how quickly (or slowly) pavement deteriorates. Preventative maintenance remains the only factor under absolute County control, an ongoing operation that consists of crack sealing, pothole patching, asphalt rejuvenation, chip seals, asphaltic overlays and roadway reconstruction.

Pavement maintenance is most effective when applied at the point in the degradation of the roadway prior to the beginning of a steep drop-off in quality. If \$1 is spent early enough in the pavement life, the County will see \$8 in savings compared to completing the maintenance just three to five years later. This pavement condition survey will help TNR determine how to most efficiently and effectively use limited resources to maintain 75% of County roads at a recommended condition of “Good to Fair.”

#### **6. Transportation and Natural Resources – Fleet Maintenance – \$174,400**

The cost of automotive parts and services has escalated over the past few years, making it difficult for TNR’s Fleet Maintenance division to appropriately maintain the County’s fleet of vehicles and heavy equipment within its base budget. The TNR General Fund budget includes an additional \$166,499 in funding for the department’s fleet maintenance program and \$7,901 for fuel and maintenance required for three new vehicles added to the County fleet. In addition, \$123,156 is recommended in the Road and Bridge Fund (a Special Fund outside the General Fund) for fleet maintenance for vehicles and equipment.

#### **7. Health and Human Services and Veterans Service – Social Service and Administrative Staffing – \$117,979**

Five new positions were funded through a combination of new resources and the internal reallocation of existing resources within the department to address increased workload. One Caseworker, one Indigent Burial Caseworker, and three Office Specialists were added to the department’s budget. The total cost for the five new FTEs was \$287,003. Of that amount, \$169,024 was internally reallocated by HHSVS. The net new resources approved for this staffing totals \$117,979.

**8. Civil Courts – Court Administration Docket Manager Consultant – \$110,000**

The current docket scheduling system, eDocket Scheduler, lacks significant functionality and uses obsolete software that is no longer supported by the vendor. One-time funding of \$110,000 will result in the replacement of the current system (purchased in 2008) with an enhanced system that will allow the Civil Courts to automate certain functions of docket management and operate more efficiently and effectively. The funding will also result in the County owning and maintaining the source code for the new software.

**9. Constable, Precinct One – North Campus Security – \$103,075**

Constable, Precinct One was given the task of providing security for the County's North Campus facility at 5501 Airport Boulevard beginning in FY 2008. During the FY 2014 budget process, Commissioners Court directed a subcommittee to work on a security staffing plan for the site. The staffing plan includes the continuation of funding for a Special Project Worker through FY 2015 at a cost of \$73,075 in one-time funding. A permanent solution will be considered as a part of the 2016 budget process after the newly hired County Security Manager in FMD is able to assess countywide security needs.

In addition, the Adopted Budget includes \$30,000 in ongoing funding for overtime and related benefits to support the office's workload needs and provide the necessary relief related to the security program for the North Campus facility.

**10. Medical Examiner's Office – Contract Increases – \$91,558**

Funding is included for cost increases related to three contracts critical to the daily operations of the Medical Examiner's Office (ME). Cadavers are transported to the ME facility from death scenes by a contract provider. A new cadaver transport contract has been finalized, and an additional \$77,480 in ongoing funding is included to adequately fund this service.

Additional ongoing funding of \$9,600 is included for the service contract for the Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA). This assay allows direct drug screening in blood and other tissues and is a more sensitive and accurate technique than the immunoassay process previously used by the office. Finally, \$4,478 is included on an ongoing basis for a hazardous waste removal contract.

**11. Human Resources Management – Tuition Reimbursement Program – \$90,000**

In FY 2012, the Commissioners Court revised the tuition reimbursement policy that governs the amounts that employees may be reimbursed for taking undergraduate or graduate classes that are directly related to current or prospective job duties. The maximum reimbursement was raised to \$2,000 per fiscal year. With the increase in reimbursement, the Human Resources Management Department (HRMD) and PBO expected to see an increase in the number of employees who would avail themselves of this training opportunity; however, at that time it was not known what budget impact this policy change would have. When the allowable reimbursement was increased, HRMD had \$42,440 in ongoing funding within its budget based on the previous policy. To ensure that sufficient resources would be available to implement the



revised policy, Commissioners Court approved a \$200,000 Earmark against Allocated Reserve for this purpose in FY 2012. For FY 2013 and FY 2014, Commissioners Court established a \$150,000 Earmark against the Allocated Reserve.

HRMD did not use the Earmark in FY 2012 since the changes were in place for only part of the fiscal year. In FY 2013, Commissioners Court approved the transfer of \$90,566 to its budget. HRMD is expecting to request a similar sized transfer from the Allocated Reserve in FY 2014. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes \$90,000 in additional budget for HRMD plus a \$20,000 earmark against the Allocated Reserve to ensure that sufficient resources are available for this program.

### **12. General Administration – Appraisal District Budget – \$72,503**

Increased funding is included in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget to pay for valuation services provided by the Travis Central Appraisal District (TCAD) based on the budget originally submitted by the appraisal district. Travis County's annual liability to TCAD is a proportional share of the total cost of TCAD's operations shared among all the taxing jurisdictions in the County and is based on the value of the tax base and the adopted property tax rate. Travis County's total budget for these services for FY 2015 is currently \$2,857,471.

During the finalization of the FY 2015 Adopted Budget, TCAD submitted an amended proposed budget that included recommendations from the chief appraiser to help address tax-payer concerns about the fairness of the property tax system, particularly in regards to the equitable distribution of the property tax burden between residential and commercial property owners. The amended budget from TCAD provides additional litigation resources, staff to handle the increased volume of property tax protests, resources for the testing and calibration of mass appraisal models, and staff to research sales information, particularly for commercial properties where the district is currently only able to research 11% of known sales. The potential cost to Travis County for these changes is an additional \$417,087. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes an Earmark of this additional amount against the Allocated Reserve to allow Commissioners Court to discuss the revised budget proposal later during FY 2015.

### **13. Criminal Justice Planning – Workforce Development Program – \$59,394**

The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes ongoing funding for an existing position that helps individuals with a criminal background prepare for and locate sustainable employment and acquire job training and readiness skills. This position was funded on a one-time basis for two years to allow the department to gather more data to measure the success of the program. The available data reveals that the program has been successful in finding clients full-time employment as well as increasing the number of area employers that hire ex-offenders.

### **14. Sheriff's Office – Security Electronics Upgrade – \$57,725**

Funding of \$57,725 in one-time operating as well as one-time capital is included in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget to replace the existing security electronic computers that control the doors and intercoms in a building at the Travis County Correctional Complex. This project includes

replacement computers, updated software, and improvements to physical infrastructure necessary for this security system.

### 15. Other Funding Needed to Maintain Delivery of Current Services – \$166,227

Increased funding needed to help maintain current service delivery throughout the County in the Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget that is less than \$50,000 per departmental request is summarized in Table 9 below.

**Table 9**  
**Funding to Maintain Delivery of Current Services**

Department	Purpose	One-Time	Ongoing	Total
Facilities Management	Security services contract	\$40,900	\$0	\$40,900
Transportation and Natural Resources	US Hwy 290 Landfill post-closure maintenance of facility	0	30,060	30,060
Transportation and Natural Resources	School Crossing Guard Program	2,695	21,124	23,819
Facilities Management	Carpet replacement and systems furniture disassembly	21,275	0	21,275
County Attorney's Office	Full grant match for the Underage Drinking Prevention Program	0	18,088	18,088
Various	Austin Community College internship program	14,185	0	14,185
Transportation and Natural Resources	Maintenance of water quality structures (additional \$42,694 included in the Road & Bridge Fund for this purpose)	0	13,000	13,000
Criminal Courts	Judicial longevity pay	0	4,340	4,340
Historical Commission	Funds for historical markers	0	560	560
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$79,055</b>	<b>\$87,172</b>	<b>\$166,227</b>

## PROGRAMS AND CHANGES APPROVED MIDYEAR 2014

During Fiscal Year 2014, the Commissioners Court approved several programs that require continued funding in Fiscal Year 2015. The Adopted Budget includes additional funding of \$683,051 for the programs described below.

### 1. New Discovery Requirements – \$503,089

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 1611, commonly known as the Michael Morton Act, which enhanced the required discovery procedures for prosecutors' offices in counties across the state. The Act requires that the prosecution proactively provide to the defense an electronic record of every piece of evidence obtained in each case. The prosecution must also track and index an account of the contents of every item and then compile this information into

a master list of evidence which must be agreed upon by each party to the case. The master list is entered into the court record prior to the disposition of every case, whether or not the case goes to trial. These requirements apply to every offense committed on or after January 1, 2014.

On June 10, 2014, Commissioners Court approved the midyear addition of four full-time Paralegal positions to the District Attorney's Office and four full-time positions (two Paralegals, one Office Manager, Sr., and one Evidence Technician) to the County Attorney's Office to handle the additional workload in each office. The Adopted Budget includes funding for the cost of the eight positions for FY 2015 of \$246,242 in the District Attorney's Office and \$256,847 in the County Attorney's Office.

## **2. Legal Support for Central Health – \$179,962**

On May 6, 2014, the Commissioners Court approved an amendment to an interlocal agreement between the Travis County Healthcare District, d/b/a Central Health, and Travis County. Section 1.5 of the agreement states that the County "... shall provide legal advice and counsel [to Central Health] through the Travis County Attorney's Office in compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Section 281.056 ..." This amendment allows for the reimbursement by Central Health of two new positions, an Attorney V and a Paralegal at an annualized cost of \$179,962 for FY 2015, of which \$172,480 is for ongoing personnel and \$7,482 is for ongoing operating costs.

Before the amendment, the County provided two full-time attorneys, one paralegal, one legal secretary, and a part-time law clerk to support Central Health. The two additional positions are required by Central Health to handle demonstration years three through five of the 1115 Medicaid Transformation Waiver. During the three demonstration years, Central Health will be working through the Community Care Collaborative and its partnership with Seton Healthcare Family to transform health care delivery through the creation of an Integrated Delivery System and fourteen Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) projects. The Community Care Collaborative will be entering into a number of contracts with health care providers to implement the DSRIP projects, which have a total valuation of \$237 million.

## **3. Transfer of Physical Security Technology Program – Cost Neutral**

On June 24, 2014, Commissioners Court approved the transfer of three ITS positions to FMD to manage the technology associated with physical security, such as video cameras and key card access to buildings, effective July 1, 2014. The three positions, an Information Security Manager, a Business Analyst II, and a Systems Engineer III, will report to the Security Manager in FMD. The transfer of the three positions included the reduction of \$343,612 in ongoing personnel budget from ITS and the corresponding increase in FMD.

## **TRANSFERS BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS AND FUNDS**

The Adopted Budget includes a net increase of \$4,150,114 for transfers between departments and funds. The majority of this increase is related to the continued imbalance of the Road and Bridge Fund given past legislative changes and increased road maintenance costs, and the

annual increase to the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve Fund. All changes impacting other funds are detailed below.

### **1. Road and Bridge Fund Subsidy – \$1,500,000**

Ongoing funding of \$1.5 million is included in the Fiscal Year 2015 General Fund Adopted Budget to maintain current service levels for the County's road system. The balance in the Road and Bridge Fund has seen a downward trend over the past several years; however, the fund saw an increase in Fiscal Year 2014. There is also \$2.2 million set aside in the capital improvements budget for road rehabilitation expenses that qualify for capitalization, which the Road and Bridge Fund cannot accommodate. In addition, the Adopted Budget includes a \$500,000 Earmark against the Allocated Reserve to identify a potential source of funding for additional resources that may be needed midyear in FY 2015. As these subsidies grow, the County Auditor has indicated that the Road and Bridge Fund will no longer be considered a "major fund" for audit purposes, and consolidating this fund into the General Fund in future years may be considered.

A portion of the \$1.5 million in General Fund resources will be used to begin a new focused reconstruction program in eastern Travis County to minimize the deterioration of the roadways in that area. Eastern Travis County roadways experience accelerated deterioration due to extremely poor subgrade soil conditions which are exacerbated by the extensive drought conditions.

### **2. Increase in Transfer to Balcones Canyonlands Preserve Fund – \$1,207,533**

The Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP) is a system of preserves that exists as a multi-agency conservation effort. This effort operates under a regional Section 10(a) permit issued under the Endangered Species Act by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The permit was issued jointly to the BCP's two managing partners, the City of Austin and Travis County, in 1996. The Adopted Budget includes an increase in the transfer from the General Fund to the BCP Fund totaling \$1,207,533. The General Fund transfer is based on the increased tax revenue from new construction on land covered by BCP permits and individual 10(a) permits through the USFWS. The total transfer for Fiscal Year 2015 is budgeted at \$13.2 million.

### **3. District Attorney's Office – Public Integrity Unit – \$1,004,492**

In June 2013, the Texas Governor line-item vetoed approximately \$3.7 million in annual funding for the entirely state-funded District Attorney's Public Integrity Unit (PIU). Effective August 31, 2013, the state no longer provides any funding for the PIU. During the FY 2014 budget mark-up process, the Commissioners Court approved \$884,380 in one-time funding and \$878,266 in ongoing funding to support the operations of a smaller PIU for a total of \$1,762,646 in funding from the General Fund. In addition to this funding, the District Attorney was able to identify one-time funding of \$734,422 available from accumulated forfeited funds.

The personnel costs of the eight FTEs approved with one-time funding in FY 2014 totaled \$807,876. The estimated cost of these personnel in 2015 is \$814,427. The District Attorney's Office requested that these FTEs be funded with ongoing General Fund resources in FY 2015.

Ongoing resources continue to be extremely limited since the Commissioners Court is working to keep Travis County property taxes as affordable as possible. Fortunately, the District Attorney's Office has secured approximately \$1,000,000 in unanticipated revenue related to fines. This unanticipated revenue was secured by prosecution in the County in FY 2014 and will be available to allocate on a one-time basis towards the PIU's work in FY 2015. Therefore, the same eight FTEs have been included in the District Attorney's General Fund budget on a one-time basis. Two additional FTEs – previously funded by the Forfeited Property Account (FPA) – have been added to the General Fund this year on a one-time basis, for a total of 10 FTEs at a cost of \$1,004,492.

#### **4. Increase in Transfer to Risk Management Fund – \$300,000**

Additional funding is included for the transfer to the Risk Management Fund to cover contractual and insurance premium increases. The \$300,000 increase includes additional funds of \$30,000 for property insurance premiums, \$40,000 for internal property damage claims, \$18,000 for service contract increases, and \$212,000 for excess worker's compensation insurance above what is budgeted directly in departmental budgets.

#### **5. Other Transfers between Departments and Funds - \$138,089**

The Adopted Budget reflects the transfer of funding between several departments and offices to more accurately reflect where resources should be budgeted from a functional and oversight perspective.

- The Courthouse Security Fund is used to account for revenue and expenditures associated with security services in buildings that house a district or county court. If revenue generated by fees related to courthouse security is insufficient to cover costs, the General Fund may be required to subsidize the difference through either an increase in the General Fund operating transfer to the fund or the move of expenses from the special revenue fund to the General Fund. For FY 2015, projected revenue estimated for the Courthouse Security Fund requires that \$85,323 related to the cost of one FTE be moved to the General Fund budget within the Sheriff's Office. As described in the "Proposed Personnel Changes" earlier in this document, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 54 requires that operating transfers be limited to no more than 80% of the overall revenue of a special revenue fund. This limit has been considered in this funding decision.
- An additional \$23,342 in funding is recommended for Pretrial Services to fund a greater allocation of the salaries of Adult Probation (CSCD) staff to better represent time spent on Pretrial business by the Adult Probation Director and Assistant Director. CSCD is funded with state dollars which are expressly prohibited from being spent on Pretrial functions. This adjustment is necessary to comply with state regulations based on the current organizational structure and operations of CSCD. This represents a net 0.13 FTE shift from CSCD to Pretrial Services on an ongoing basis.

- The Dispute Resolution Center continues to see a decrease in revenue that results in the need for an increase to the General Fund transfer to the Dispute Resolution Center Fund of \$40,000. The contract between the County and the Dispute Resolution Center is expected to be reviewed in FY 2015 to establish performance measures and to determine whether funding for these services should be budgeted in a special fund or as a contract within the Criminal Justice Planning budget.
- The State of Texas increased its allocation to the Professional Prosecutors Fund from \$62,500 to \$70,000 in FY 2014. Beyond this ongoing increase of \$7,500, the FY 2015 Adopted Budget also includes a one-time increase of \$7,500 from the state to account for the FY 2014 portion of the increase that was received in FY 2014 but not budgeted. A total of \$15,000 is included in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget for this purpose.
- The Adopted Budget includes \$507 in ongoing resources in the Juvenile Probation Department to increase the transfer to the Truancy Court Fund. The transfer will pay for increased benefits costs for the Associate Judge funded for the program.
- The budget for the Human Resources Management Department was reduced by \$26,083 to reflect the transfer of half an Administrative Associate position to special funds budgets (0.2 FTE to the Risk Fund and 0.3 FTE to the Employee Health Benefits Fund) to better reflect actual work assignments.

## OTHER FUNDING PRIORITIES

The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget includes \$8,928,384 for planning projects that have been reallocated from Fiscal Year 2014, agreements with other local governmental entities, grants, program additions funded by new revenue, and a variety of other increases highlighted as follows. In addition, the Adopted Budget reflects several adjustments to the base budget that served as a starting point for planning purposes.

The Commissioners Court's budget guidelines for the FY 2015 budget process urged departments to identify and implement opportunities for efficiencies. Several departments have implemented such efficiencies by repurposing existing funds to meet current needs. The Facilities Management Department, ITS, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) funded a total of four positions using existing resources as part of their budget submissions. The Facilities Management Department funded a Human Resources Specialist I and an Office Specialist position by using permanent salary savings realized through recent retirements. Information Technology Services also used permanent salary savings to fund a Technical Trainer position as part of its budget submission. Likewise, EMS used permanent salary savings to internally fund a new STAR Flight Air Safety Officer as part of its budget submission.

### **1. Health and Human Services and Veterans Service – Social Service Contracts – \$2,500,000**

In FY 2013, the Commissioners Court voted to direct HHSVS to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select agencies covering various categories of services with an intended funding level

of \$2,000,000. These funds have been added to the department's operating budget to continue the process of disbursing County social service dollars using a competitive procurement processes under the oversight of HHSVS and the Purchasing Office. Health and Human Services and Veterans Service plans to issue a procurement process for the social service areas of Workforce Development, Child and Youth Afterschool, and Holistic Family Services.

The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes an additional \$500,000 in ongoing resources to undergo a competitive Request for Services (RFS) process for targeted investments in early childhood services that align with the 2012-2015 Travis County School Readiness Action Plan and support healthy outcomes for families with children under six years old.

In FY 2014, Commissioners Court approved a proposal by HHSVS to change the way that external social service investments are funded by the County. Health and Human Services and Veterans Service issued an RFS to select agencies providing early childhood services using existing funds of \$150,000 and \$500,000 recommended in the FY 2014 Adopted Budget, with an intended total funding level of \$650,000. Health and Human Services and Veterans Service staff has reviewed and scored proposals and in conjunction with the Purchasing Office has negotiated contracts for early childhood services with a start date of October 1, 2014.

## **2. Cooperative Health and Public Safety Agreements – \$1,454,152**

The County's EMS ground services interlocal agreement with the City of Austin was substantially renegotiated in 2014. The FY 2015 increase of \$769,779 covers base costs such as wage for both civilian and uniform personnel; a one-step increase for uniform staff; an increase in medical supplies; associated personnel benefit increases; and other related operating cost increases.

Travis County is a partner with the City of Austin in two interlocal agreements, one for the provision of public health services and the other for animal services. The increase in the HHSVS budget is comprised of \$378,791 for the public health interlocal and \$305,582 for the animal services interlocal. The increased costs are related in part to the cost model used in the interlocal agreements that apportions service costs on a per capita basis. The increasing Travis County population outside the Austin city limits adds to the County's cost. In addition, certain program enhancements are required by federal regulation.

## **3. Facilities Management Department – Countywide Security Improvements – \$665,486**

As part of the ongoing review being conducted by the new FMD Security Manager and the County Security Committee, an additional \$665,486 in funding is included in the FMD budget to consolidate security services contracts and improve security measures in several County facilities. In addition, the County's closed circuit television security cameras are being upgraded to a digital format.

## **4. District Attorney's Office – Interlocal Agreement Renewals – \$450,266**

Two annual interlocal agreements were renewed for the District Attorney's Office for FY 2015. The interlocal agreement with Texas Mutual Insurance, totaling \$430,266, allows the District

Attorney's Office to prosecute worker's compensation fraud cases. A \$20,000 annual contract with the Downtown Austin Alliance allows the District Attorney's Office to assign a full-time Assistant District Attorney to cases related to violent crimes, narcotics, and nuisance abatement in Austin's downtown business district.

#### **5. Criminal Justice Planning and Health and Human Services and Veterans Service – Parenting in Recovery – \$389,425**

The Parenting in Recovery Program funds the Travis County Family Drug Treatment Court through a combination of grants, in-kind contributions and cash match from various partners. This court brings together a coalition of community service providers who cooperatively provide a comprehensive continuum of service to women, children and families identified by CPS as exhibiting symptoms of substance use disorders.

An increase of \$102,465 in ongoing funds is included in the Criminal Justice Planning budget to continue an Attorney position that was previously funded through grant proceeds. This attorney will continue to provide ad litem representation to children whose parents are participants in the Family Drug Court Program. In addition, one-time operating funds of \$286,960 will be used by HHSVS to fund recovery supports, substance abuse treatment through a contract, and a child and family therapist at Austin Travis County Integral Care.

#### **6. Tax Assessor-Collector's Office – Tax Office Reorganization – \$304,859**

As part of a proposed multi-year reorganization plan to address internal controls, workload demands, and supervision needs in the department, the Tax Office budget has been increased by \$304,859 in ongoing resources to fund one Business Analyst II in the Administration Division, one additional Internal Auditor position in the Accounting Division, and two Tax Supervisors, one in the Property Tax Division and the second in the Motor Vehicle Division. An additional \$2,239 in one-time resources for operating expenses is included for this purpose.

#### **7. Countywide Project Support for the Integrated Justice System – \$270,121**

Travis County has joined the Conference of Urban Counties (CUC) in a consortium of Texas counties that plan to replace case management systems for various justice and public safety departments. The participating Counties desire to share technology in an effort to maximize efficiency and cost savings, hence the project short name of "TechShare."

In addition to a \$5 million reserve for this project, the FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes \$226,315 of ongoing resources in ITS to fund maintenance of the Justice of the Peace Odyssey system software-as-a-service license requirements and the CUC-led Prosecutor Module project. In addition, \$43,806 in one-time resources is recommended for Pretrial Services' expected overtime needs due to a schedule delay from FY 2014 to FY 2015 in the deployment and implementation of the TechShare case management component.



**8. Planning and Budget Office – Phase II Adult System Needs Analysis and Master Plan Update – \$259,700**

This project originated as the Travis County Correctional Complex Master Plan Study, initially funded for \$490,000 in FY 2011 based on a preliminary scope of work developed by FMD. Additional funds beyond the initial budget request are required for completion of Phase II of the project. Phase II will take the critical information developed in Phase I, including preferences identified by stakeholders through workshops, to determine space and facility needs at the Correctional Complex and the Central Booking facility. The total cost of Phase II was negotiated to \$288,390. A remaining balance of \$28,690 from Phase I is being applied to Phase II to reduce the amount included in the Adopted Budget to \$259,700.

**9. Transportation and Natural Resources – Park Operations and Maintenance – \$244,644**

The Adopted Budget includes \$107,010 for the creation of a new parks land manager position to manage the open space parkland currently being acquired along Onion Creek, Gilleland Creek, and the Pedernales River. In addition, the Adopted Budget includes \$100,000 in ongoing funding for contracted tree removal services to mitigate the risk posed to persons and property by dead or damaged trees throughout the County's park and open space system. The primary focus of the services will be the removal of hazardous trees from parks open to visitors. The budget also includes \$20,000 for the purchase of emergency supplies for parks first responders to ensure that supplies are not kept past their recommended expiration dates. Finally, the third of four years of funding to increase the parks building repair operating budget is included in the budget in the amount of \$17,634.

**10. Public Defender Staffing – \$210,920**

Two paralegal positions, one for the Office of Child Representation and one for the Office of Parental Representation, have been added to the FY 2015 Adopted Budget on an ongoing basis (\$122,624 personnel and \$10,353 operating). The addition of the paralegals is expected to result in an increase in the caseloads that each office can accept. The department believes that the more cases the Office of Child Representation and the Office of Parental Representation can handle, the fewer outside attorneys will need to be hired, resulting in a cost avoidance in civil indigent attorney fees.

The Juvenile Public Defender's Office handles indigent juvenile criminal cases in a more cost effective manner than a private attorney. An additional Attorney is funded in the Adopted Budget at a cost of \$77,943 to avoid additional court appointments of private attorneys for juvenile clients. The work done by this attorney will help to reduce the indigent attorney fee expenditures from the Civil Courts Legally Mandated Fees department. The cost of this position will be partially offset by one-time revenue from the University of Houston Law School.

**11. Criminal Justice Planning – Council on At-Risk Youth - \$200,000**

One-time funding of \$200,000 is included in the Criminal Justice Planning budget to continue the contract with the Council on At-Risk Youth, which provides a violence prevention program and other services to at-risk youth within three local middle schools. CARY's mission is to help

youth and promote safe schools and safe communities with the objective of closing the “pipeline to prison.”

### **12. Constable, Precinct Three – Motor Vehicle Inspection Program – \$141,749**

In FY 2011, two positions from the Constable, Precinct Three Criminal Division were internally reallocated to the Counterfeit Motor Vehicle Inspection Program (MVI) on a one-time pilot basis. Currently, the MVI program consists of a team of two investigators and two on-road deputies. The MVI team tracks and cites expired or counterfeit stickers and requires vehicles to undergo emissions tests to help keep the region in compliance with federal air quality standards, a long-term priority of the Commissioners Court. With this dedicated investigations team, the office has increased the law enforcement operations of the program in collaboration with state and local agencies. Counterfeit stickers can often be traced to the same vendor, and these falsified records are often tied to motor vehicle titling and registration. The Constable’s Office has uncovered numerous instances of felonious activities and large-scale criminal operations that can result in decreased revenue for the Tax Office Motor Vehicle Division. The Adopted Budget includes \$141,749 in ongoing resources to fund the two deputies that have been funded using one-time resources since FY 2011.

### **13. Purchasing Office – Commodities Buyers – \$141,098**

Two special project worker Commodities Buyer positions approved in FY 2013 and FY 2014 are recommended to become ongoing permanent positions within the Purchasing Office. These positions process routine non-contract purchases under \$5,000. The addition of these staff members has allowed the office to process 90% of purchase orders within three to five days. Without these positions, the workload would shift to the other buyers in the office and slow down the purchasing process, which would affect operations of all County departments since many purchases are extremely time-sensitive.

### **14. Information and Technology Services – Wireless Download for Sheriff’s Patrol Car Video – \$140,000**

One-time operating funds of \$140,000 have been added for a software upgrade to allow the wireless download of data from mobile data computers located in patrol cars. This upgrade will allow Sheriff’s Office law enforcement personnel to save significant time since they will now be able to download video wirelessly from their vehicles and will not be required to take their mobile data computers from their cars into the office to download data. Expedited delivery of evidence to prosecutors will allow staff of the County Attorney and District Attorney to comply with Michael Morton Act requirements more easily.

### **15. Sheriff’s Office – Mental Health Transport Officer – \$136,159**

The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes \$136,159 to fund two Transport Officers. With this additional staff, the Sheriff’s Office will take over all mental health transports from the Travis County Jail to the Austin State Hospital and vice versa. This function is currently being conducted by the TCSO Crisis Intervention Unit, and this additional staff will allow Crisis Intervention deputies to respond to calls of service for consumers in a state of crisis. In addition,

the Sheriff's Office will adhere to best practices and industry standards when conducting the anticipated 361 writs and bench warrants that require mental health transports.

**16. Pretrial Services – Assessment Screenings – \$124,258**

Two Pretrial Officer FTEs were added in FY 2013 as a two-year pilot project to implement several actuarial assessment tools during the initial phase of the personal bond process. The results of these assessments helped to inform and shape Pretrial Officers' critical release recommendations to judges, providing them with data to identify defendants that may be appropriate to be released with a personal bond. In FY 2015, the pilot positions are included in the Adopted Budget for a second year on a one-time basis. These positions will be reconsidered for continuation in FY 2016, following an evaluation of the screening tools' effectiveness.

**17. Health and Human Services and Veterans Service – Literacy Programs and Child Protective Services – \$106,123**

Travis County received \$106,123 from the State Comptroller's Office in the middle of FY 2014 as a refund of unclaimed property related to electric cooperative capital credits. Commissioners Court approved the use of these funds for HHSVS programs: half for literacy programs, and half for CPS. The funds were not certified by the Auditor's Office in FY 2014, and will be added to the department's FY 2015 budget. These one-time funds are restricted to specific uses, and to allow the budget to be tracked, two internal order numbers (IOs) have been assigned to the funds.

**18. Justices of the Peace, Precincts One and Four – Special Project Workers – \$101,883**

The Adopted Budget includes \$101,883 in one-time funding for two Special Project Workers to address clean-up and records management needs in Justice of the Peace, Precinct One and Precinct Four. Funding of \$59,967 is included for Precinct One to address the backlog of both criminal and civil cases. A random sampling was conducted in FY 2014, resulting in the discovery of cases not properly updated or processed according to current state mandates. In addition, \$41,916 is included for Precinct Four to work on a scanning project that will allow the office to view all cases electronically in the Odyssey case management system. Funding of this request for Precinct Four will help eliminate Iron Mountain offsite storage fees for the storage of current paper-copy cases.

**19. Facilities Management Department – Move Costs of Renovation Projects – \$100,239**

There are several major and minor renovations recommended for funding in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget to accommodate new courts and new staffing in several offices. While the funding for the renovation costs is included in the capital budget (see the capital section later in this document), the one-time cost of \$100,239 associated with moving furniture and equipment post renovation is included in FMD's operating budget.

**20. General Administration – Property Appraisal Policy Consultant – \$100,000**

One-time funding of \$100,000 is included in the General Administration budget to hire a policy consultant to review the property appraisal methodology used by the Travis Central Appraisal District and prepare a report for Commissioners Court consideration.

**21. Emergency Medical Services – Standby STAR Flight Services at Circuit of the Americas – \$94,500**

As part of the efforts to ensure safety at the Circuit of the Americas, a contract with STAR Flight has been executed for helicopter(s) to be on standby during some events. The budgeted amount is an estimate for FY 2015, based on projected usage in FY 2013 and FY 2014. These additional expenditures will be paid by the Circuit of the Americas.

**22. Transportation and Natural Resources – Continuation of Countywide Recycling Program – \$77,594**

In FY 2014, the County converted to single stream recycling and the Travis County recycling program was expanded to include all County facilities and high-use parks. In FY 2014, Commissioners Court approved the use of one-time funds for program expansion. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes \$77,594 in ongoing funding for the program, to include contract services to provide recyclable material pick-up and the purchase of recycling/custodial supplies. An additional \$10,000 is funded in the 700 Lavaca Fund for this program.

**23. Sheriff’s Office – Crime Scene Specialist – \$64,788**

One additional Crime Scene Specialist position is funded for FY 2015. The Crime Scene Investigation Unit currently has four employees staffing a 24 hour per day call-out rotation. A fifth position brings this unit to the optimum level for such a rotation. The dedicated Crime Scene Unit will continue to respond to all Major Crimes investigations.

**24. Criminal Justice Planning – Workforce Development Program – \$57,948**

The Adopted Budget includes \$57,948 for a new position to expand workforce development services to individuals with criminal backgrounds. The program actively recruits local employers willing to hire ex-offenders. This is a new position beyond the existing position that was funded with one-time resources in FY 2014 and made permanent in FY 2015, described under the Maintenance of Current Effort section earlier in this document.

**25. Other Miscellaneous Budget Increases – \$592,472**

There are a small number of other miscellaneous budget increases throughout the County in the Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget that are less than \$50,000. These are summarized below:

Table 10  
Other Miscellaneous Budget Increases

Department	Purpose	One-Time	Ongoing	Total
Records Management and Communication Resources	Start-up funding for the destruction of records stored in offsite storage that meet or exceed records retention laws	\$47,000	\$0	\$47,000
District Attorney’s Office	One-time contribution to Family Protection Fund that funds a nonprofit organization	44,676	0	44,676

Department	Purpose	One-Time	Ongoing	Total
	that provides family violence protection services			
Counseling and Education Services	County contribution to interlocal agreement for Planet Safe Center, a supervised, safe option for visitation and exchange services to families who have experienced violence	45,000	0	45,000
District Clerk's Office	Temporary personnel for a pilot program to improve collections of court fines and fees	44,293	0	44,293
Transportation and Natural Resources	Acquisition of aerial photographs through Capital Area Council of Governments	42,000	0	42,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Capital Metro Transit Pass Program (another \$40,227 is Earmarked against the Allocated Reserve)	40,227	0	40,227
District Clerk's Office	Overtime and associated benefits to address customer service needs related to the new e-Filing system	34,377	0	34,377
Records Management and Communication Resources	Continuation of the pilot program that helps <i>pro se</i> clients receive occupational drivers' licenses and license reinstatement	34,048	0	34,048
Transportation and Natural Resources	Partial funding for GIS Analyst position (remainder internally funded)	6,750	18,393	25,143
Transportation and Natural Resources	Air quality technical work with the Capital Area Council of Governments	25,000	0	25,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization transportation modeling	25,000	0	25,000
Information Technology Services	NEOGOV, an online application used for recruiting by the Human Resources Management Department	0	25,000	25,000

Department	Purpose	One-Time	Ongoing	Total
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3	Reclassification of three positions for organizational parity with other precincts	0	19,736	19,736
Planning and Budget Office	Increase in transfer from Corporations for additional expenditures	0	16,913	16,913
Probate Court	Replacement of e-Courtroom equipment	15,000	0	15,000
Health and Human Services and Veterans Service	Half the cost of reclassifications still pending from the Market Salary Survey of 2012	0	14,409	14,409
Tax Assessor Collector	Travel and training to Hamer Enterprises user meeting	0	14,000	14,000
Tax Assessor Collector	Modification to the EZ Access property tax software	12,000	0	12,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Fuel and maintenance costs for two new Sheriff's Office vehicles	0	11,768	11,768
Planning and Budget Office	Related to new securities lending agreement	0	11,022	11,022
Counseling and Education Services	Crime victims' fund increase for victim services	0	9,343	9,343
Records Management and Communication Resources	Service agreement for uninterrupted power supplies	0	8,075	8,075
Historical Commission	Re-budget grant match from FY 2014 to FY 2015	7,500	0	7,500
Tax Assessor-Collector	Annual subscription to online skip tracing database for Justice Court collections	0	6,500	6,500
Various Departments	Resources under \$5,000 each for various services, equipment and other adjustments	4,800	9,642	14,442
<b>Total Other</b>		<b>\$427,671</b>	<b>\$164,801</b>	<b>\$592,472</b>

## INVESTMENTS IN THE WORKFORCE

An important goal in developing the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2015 was funding the primary cost drivers projected for FY 2015. Under the budget guidelines established by Commissioners Court at the beginning of the budget process, any funds available beyond the target budget level would need to be used to fund several outstanding program priorities from prior budget years and to maintain benefits at levels similar to those in prior years. As estimates

were refined, the projected costs of health insurance and the County’s retirement plan were reduced. The reduction in benefit costs left resources available to fund modest compensation increases for the County’s classified and peace officer positions.

**HEALTH BENEFITS**

Travis County began a self-insured health benefits plan in 2002. Under a self-insured program, the actual insurance claims made by employees are paid directly from County resources with an insurance carrier hired to administer claims processing (i.e., a third party administrator). The primary benefits of being self-insured are that the plan can provide a better level of benefits for employees and can provide more control over increasing health premiums for the County. The Commissioners Court determines the plan funding and benefit structure on an annual basis. Despite this added control, a self-insured plan does not necessarily reduce overall health care expenses.

On February 19, 2014, HRMD benefits staff and managers throughout the County were presented with the Plan Executive Report from United Healthcare (UHC), the County’s third party administrator (TPA) of the self-insured plan. The report provided an analysis of the prior plan year costs, claims experience, plan trends and high dollar cost drivers. The report indicated that the plan’s combined medical and pharmacy per member per month cost for FY 2013 was trending at a 6% increase over the prior year. This trend fit the recent history experienced by the County in the growth of the County contribution to the employee health plan.

Table 11  
Increases in County Composite Contribution  
to Employee Health Plan

Fiscal Year	Original Actuary Estimate	Actual Increase after Plan Design Changes
2013	7.7%	5.7%
2014	8.7%	5.8%

Recent trends in the County’s cost of the employee health plan and the aging of the County’s workforce indicated a continuing trend of a 6% increase in County cost. As a result, the cost drivers presented to Commissioners Court in March 2014 included an estimated 6% increase in the County cost of the employee health plan. Combined with the estimated increase in the contribution to the County’s retirement plan, discussed in the following section, the FY 2015 cost driver for the employee health plan and retirement plan was estimated at a \$5 million to \$6 million increase over the FY 2014 budget.

In April 2014, Milliman, the County’s contract actuary for the plan, provided staff with the initial actuary report indicating a higher than budgeted trend of 6.29%. This rate projection was driven by an increase in the number of high cost claimants, higher than expected prescription drug costs, and the high claim costs of the County’s EPO Health Plan (the richest plan of the three offered by the County).

Concurrent with the development of projections of increased health plan costs, HRMD benefits staff, the Purchasing Office, and a County employee evaluation committee reviewed and analyzed responses to an RFP for the provision of TPA services, pharmacy benefit management (PBM) services, vision insurance, and stop-loss insurance.

On June 10, 2014, Commissioners Court approved new contracts for TPA and PBM services and for vision insurance. The TPA services contract includes a wellness allowance of \$150,000 per year, an on-site Health Coach for the duration of the contract, and a reduction to the administration fee. HRMD is working on developing a proposal for a major rescaling and restructuring of the County Wellness Program for Commissioners Court consideration in the coming months.

On July 1, 2014, Commissioners Court approved a health benefit plan that includes design changes required by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. In addition, rates for employee premiums were increased and the structure of employee premiums was changed. In the past, employee-only health care premiums were \$0 for the Co-EPO and the PPO, the low-range and mid-range health benefits plans. For FY 2015, the employee-only premium for the PPO is set at \$10 per month. These changes were recommended by the Employee Benefits Committee to promote the long-term stability of the health plan. The changes were also recommended by UHC to increase member consumerism and accountability, which are key to managing the cost of the health plan. The plan design changes and the new contracts resulted in the County's contribution to the employee health plan dropping to 4% from the projection of 6.29% provided in April 2014.

The Employee Health Benefits Fund was established at a level of \$18,334,435 million in FY 2002 and has grown to \$83,544,330 million in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget. The Auditor's revenue estimate includes a beginning balance in this fund of \$19.7 million, plus \$63.8 million in premium income, and approximately \$85,000 in interest income. The Allocated Reserve for the fund is \$18.3 million. The budget available in the individual departments and offices was updated after open enrollment was completed for Fiscal Year 2015 to reflect health benefit coverage selected by employees and retirees for next year. These changes were incorporated in the Adopted Budget.

## **RETIREMENT**

Travis County is one of 639 employers that participate in the Texas County and District Retirement System (TCDRS). As a member of TCDRS, Travis County employees contribute to the retirement system at actuarially determined rates. County employees contribute 7% of their salary (the highest allowed by TCDRS) to the County retirement plan as set by Commissioners Court. In 2014, the County contributed 13.67% of employee salaries to the plan that included the cost of a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) awarded to retirees. For plan year 2014, the funded ratio of Travis County's plan is at 84%. The funded ratio is the percent of the plan's accrued liabilities that are funded by the plan's actuarial assets.



There are several factors that impact the County's contribution rate. The performance of the retirement system's portfolio of investments makes a large impact on the County's required contribution. Every year, TCDRS reviews its portfolio's performance and works with the plan actuary, Milliman, to determine the rate for the next plan year. The 2008 stock market crash impacted the TCDRS portfolio as it did all investors' portfolios. With the losses sustained in 2008, TCDRS projected that employer contributions would have to increase to over 16% of pay to make up for the losses. Since 2008, the County's contribution rate has increased from 10.71% to 13.67%.

Given TCDRS projections that the County's contribution rate would continue increasing over the next several years, the cost drivers presented to Commissioners Court showed a projected 5% to 6% increase in the contribution rate. As discussed on the preceding pages, this resulted in the FY 2015 cost driver for the employee health plan and retirement plan being estimated at a \$5 million to \$6 million increase over the FY 2014 budget. However, the portfolio's performance in 2013 realized a 16.4% return, more than double the projected return of 8%. At its annual member conference, TCDRS projected that contribution rates will no longer grow to 16% of pay, but will remain stable. Milliman projects that employers in the plan will see an average decrease in contributions of about 0.5% over the next few years. This decrease assumes that there are no plan changes and that the economic assumptions underlying the projections hold.

One plan change that can impact the County's contribution rate is the awarding of a COLA to retirees. A COLA increases retiree benefits to make up for the loss of buying power due to inflation. There are two kinds of COLAs that can be awarded:

1. Flat-rate: Increases the benefit amounts of all County retirees by the same percentage. The County chooses the percentage up to a limit set by the TCDRS Board of Trustees. This limit is 2% for the 2015 plan year.
2. CPI-Based: Each retiree's benefit is increased according to how much inflation has occurred as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The County chooses the percentage of CPI change it wishes to cover.

Funding a COLA would increase the County's required contribution rate. Because COLAs are funded over 15 years, repeated COLAs cause incremental increases to the required contribution rate. In FY 2014, Commissioners Court approved a 2% COLA for retirees for the 2014 plan year, the funding of which will be reflected in Travis County's contribution rate through the 2029 plan year. The impact of a 1% COLA for plan year 2015 is an increase in the County contribution rate from 13.67% to 13.69% and a decrease in the funded ratio from 84.1% to 83.8%.

TCDRS has informed the County that the required contribution rate was dropping from 13.67% to 13.56% for plan year 2015. This drop in the retirement contribution rate is projected to save the County less than \$290,000. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget maintains the retirement contribution rate at the higher rate of 13.67%. This will help move the County to a higher

funded ratio over time, an investment that can hedge against economic losses in the future. In addition, the savings from dropping to the lower rate is *de minimus* when considered in light of the County’s \$651 million General Fund budget. For plan year 2015, the funded ratio rises to 84.1%, because of the performance of the plan’s portfolio and from keeping the contribution rate steady.

**COMPENSATION**

The Commissioners Court has invested significant resources in the recent past to ensure that its workforce is competitive with market conditions. In 2012, a comprehensive market salary survey of the County’s classified workforce was conducted, and the Commissioners Court implemented recommendations resulting from this survey in April 2012. In September 2012, pay increases for law enforcement and corrections employees covered by the Peace Officer Pay Scale (POPS) were approved. The average rate of pay increases for POPS employees was 11.4%. At that time, wages for these employees had not been adjusted for several years. POPS employees in the Sheriff’s Office had received a step increase in 2009 and a 2.5% across the board adjustment in October 2010. POPS employees elsewhere in the County had not received an increase in wages since 2009. No funding for a step increase was approved for FY 2014.

Table 12  
History of Employee Compensation, FY 2010 – FY 2014

Employee Type	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>Regular Classified</b>	0%	2.5% COLA	3.5% MSS Approx. Adj <sup>1</sup>	0%	3% across the board increase
<b>Peace Officer</b>	0% No Step Inc.	2.5% COLA No Step Inc.	11.4% avg. inc. for all POPS <sup>2</sup> No Step Inc.	0% No Step Inc.	0% No Step Inc.

COLA – Cost of Living Adjustment  
MSS – Market Salary Survey

In March 2014, discussions with the Commissioners Court regarding budget development focused on a goal of funding the primary cost drivers identified by PBO, including employee benefits. The Commissioners Court held an employee public hearing on June 26, 2014, to allow all County employees to provide input on County compensation and benefits and on proposed revisions to the County compensation policy. Employees who testified at the public hearing expressed their satisfaction with the County’s benefits package but stated that some compensation levels, especially at the lower pay grades, were inadequate for the cost of living

<sup>1</sup> Because these increases were meant to bring employees to the average of the market, approximately 25% of classified employees did not see a pay increase because their job titles were already at or above the market. This increase was effective April 2012.

<sup>2</sup> This increase was effective September 2012.

in the urban core of Travis County. A large portion of Travis County's jobs are located in the urban core.

As a result of prudent changes to the employee health plan and the exceptional return experienced by the County's retirement plan, the FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes funding for compensation for regular employees on the classified pay scale and an anniversary step increase for POPS employees. These compensation increases include \$3,074,818 for a \$1,000 ongoing salary increase for regular employees who were hired as of April 1, 2014 and earned no more than the full-time equivalent of \$100,000 after the salary increase.

In addition, Commissioners Court approved funding of \$1,541,335 for POPS to receive an anniversary step increase to move along their prescribed pay grade. Of that amount, \$826,729 was included in the departmental budgets and another \$714,606 was included in an Annualization Reserve. The funding set aside in this reserve accounts for the portion of the anniversary step increase that occurs after the October 1, 2014 start of the fiscal year. This reserve will be used to fully fund the anniversary step increase in FY 2016.

With some exceptions, Travis County has historically linked salary adjustments for elected officials to increases approved for employees on the classified pay scale. For Fiscal Year 2013, the compensation staff in HRMD conducted a market salary review of elected officials who are not on the judicial pay scale. They also reviewed Justice of the Peace salaries and recommended that those salaries be removed from the judicial pay scale. Based on the very limited market population in urban Texas counties from which to draw information for elected officials, the County's compensation staff do not recommend following a market approach in the future to establish these salaries. In FY 2014, Commissioners Court approved a 3% across the board salary increase for elected officials in addition to legislatively required salary increases for elected officials on the judicial pay scale.

For FY 2015, Commissioners Court did not approve funding for an increase to the salaries of elected officials. The decision on setting elected officials' salaries had to be made in August to meet statutory deadlines. The decision on employee compensation was not made until the September budget mark-up process, precluding the Commissioners Court from continuing the historic linkage between salary increases for elected officials and County employees for FY 2015.

## **PERSONNEL CHANGES**

There is a net increase of 50.6 FTEs in the Fiscal Year 2015 General Fund Adopted Budget. However, a portion of the General Fund FTE increase is related to the transfer of FTEs to and from the General Fund due to resource availability and accounting requirements in the special funds. When considering the total FTE change across all budgeted funds, the change is a net increase of 41.1 FTEs. The number of new FTEs in the General Fund for FY 2015 is significantly lower than the 102.15 FTEs added in FY 2013 or the 79.42 FTEs added in FY 2014.

The following table outlines the changes in FTEs from Fiscal Year 2014 to Fiscal Year 2015. These changes include 9.25 FTEs approved by the Commissioners Court during Fiscal Year 2014 subsequent to the adoption of the budget that are continued in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget. New positions, as well as other changes, totaling 15.35 FTEs, were included in PBO’s Preliminary Budget primarily in response to identified cost drivers and increased demand for County services in a growing community. Another 26 FTEs were approved during and subsequent to budget mark-up primarily to meet growing service demands.

Table 13  
General Fund Position Changes

Timeframe	Net Change
Changes Approved Midyear FY 2014	9.25
New Positions and Other Changes Included in the Preliminary Budget	15.35
New Positions and Other Changes Approved During Budget Mark-Up and Thereafter	26.00
<b>Net Position Changes to General Fund</b>	<b>50.60</b>

The greatest number of new positions funded in the General Fund for FY 2015 is related to the transfer of 13 existing positions in the Sheriff’s Office that were previously budgeted within the Courthouse Security Fund and supported through an operating transfer from the General Fund. For FY 2015, the operating transfer is reallocated within the Sheriff’s Office General Fund budget to fund this cost neutral position transfer. This is a planned action related to a Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) requirement that operating transfers cannot be more than 80% of the overall revenue of a special revenue fund. A 14<sup>th</sup> FTE in the Sheriff’s Office was moved from the Courthouse Security Fund to the General Fund due to a reduction in the revenue available in this special revenue fund.

The three tables that follow detail a five-year staffing comparison of FTEs within departments and offices and position-specific changes from FY 2014 to FY 2015. Table 14 includes the five-year staffing comparison for each department and office for positions funded in the General Fund and Special Funds. Table 15 includes the five-year staffing comparison for each department and office for positions funded in the General Fund.

**Table 14**  
**Staffing Comparison in General Fund and Special Funds**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>FY 2011 FTE</b>	<b>FY 2012 FTE</b>	<b>FY 2013 FTE</b>	<b>FY 2014 FTE</b>	<b>FY 2015 FTE</b>	<b>FY 2015 - FY 2014</b>
Civil Courts	76.50	76.50	76.50	76.50	80.50	4.00
Civil Service Commission	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Community Supervision & Corrections <sup>1</sup>	297.00	296.50	284.75	280.75	280.62	(0.13)
Constable, Precinct 1	22.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 2	34.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 3	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 4	19.00	19.00	20.50	23.00	23.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 5	55.00	55.50	56.00	56.00	56.00	0.00
Counseling & Education Services	44.00	43.00	43.00	41.95	41.95	0.00
County Attorney	185.50	185.50	190.00	197.50	203.50	6.00
County Auditor	82.00	82.00	84.00	87.00	88.00	1.00
County Clerk	120.00	120.00	121.00	122.00	122.00	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 1	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 2	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 3	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 4	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Judge	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.00
County Treasurer	6.00	6.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	0.00
Criminal Courts	85.50	85.50	72.00	72.00	70.00	(2.00)
Criminal Justice Planning	10.00	38.00	39.00	44.00	48.00	4.00
Dispute Resolution Center <sup>2</sup>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
District Attorney	167.13	168.63	171.13	186.63	193.13	6.50
District Clerk	109.00	108.00	111.00	115.50	116.00	0.50
Emergency Medical Services	33.00	33.00	32.00	32.00	33.00	1.00
Emergency Services	17.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	19.00	0.00
Facilities Management Department	137.00	137.00	140.00	145.00	153.00	8.00
General Administration	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.00	2.00	0.00
Health & Human Svcs. & Veterans Svc.	178.04	181.04	188.29	216.40	215.00	(1.41)
Historical Commission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Human Resource Mgmt. Department	38.00	37.50	38.50	38.50	39.00	0.50
Information Technology Services	106.00	107.00	114.00	111.00	109.00	(2.00)
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1	15.00	15.00	14.00	16.00	16.00	0.00
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2	32.00	33.00	33.00	31.00	31.00	0.00
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3	25.50	25.50	25.50	25.50	25.50	0.00
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	0.00
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.00
Juvenile Probation	462.50	462.50	467.50	471.00	471.00	0.00
Juvenile Public Defender	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	1.00
Medical Examiner	35.50	35.50	37.00	38.00	38.00	0.00
Planning and Budget Office	16.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	0.00
Pretrial Services	57.18	57.18	77.98	78.83	78.96	0.13
Probate Court	10.67	11.67	12.00	13.00	13.00	0.00
Purchasing	33.00	35.00	37.00	36.00	37.00	1.00
Records Mgmt. & Comm. Resources	41.00	41.00	44.75	44.25	44.25	0.00
Sheriff	1,510.50	1,588.50	1,621.50	1,636.50	1,642.50	6.00
Tax Assessor-Collector	130.00	131.00	134.00	142.50	146.50	4.00
Texas AgriLife Extension	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transportation & Natural Resources	401.55	402.05	410.80	417.80	420.80	3.00
Veterans Service	6.00	6.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,709.57</b>	<b>4,829.07</b>	<b>4,918.20</b>	<b>4,998.10</b>	<b>5,039.20</b>	<b>41.10</b>

<sup>1</sup> Community Supervision and Corrections FTE totals include state funded employees.

<sup>2</sup> Prior budgets indicated that the Dispute Resolution Center has 7 FTE. However, the personnel count for this department is not directly funded by Travis County.

**Table 15**  
**Staffing Comparison in General Fund**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>FY 2011 FTEs</b>	<b>FY 2012 FTEs</b>	<b>FY 2013 FTEs</b>	<b>FY 2014 FTEs</b>	<b>FY 2015 FTEs</b>	<b>FY 2015 - FY 2014</b>
Civil Courts	72.07	73.00	72.98	72.98	76.98	4.00
Civil Service Commission	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Community Supervision & Corrections	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 1	22.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 2	34.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 3	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 4	19.00	19.00	20.50	23.00	23.00	0.00
Constable, Precinct 5	55.00	55.50	56.00	56.00	56.00	0.00
Counseling & Education Services	44.00	43.00	43.00	41.95	41.95	0.00
County Attorney	185.50	185.50	190.00	197.50	203.50	6.00
County Auditor	82.00	82.00	84.00	87.00	88.00	1.00
County Clerk	108.10	108.10	110.21	111.21	111.21	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 1	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 2	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 3	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Commissioner, Precinct 4	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00
County Judge	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.00
County Treasurer	6.00	6.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	0.00
Criminal Courts	84.50	84.50	72.00	72.00	70.00	(2.00)
Criminal Justice Planning	10.00	38.00	39.00	44.00	48.00	4.00
District Attorney	167.13	168.63	171.13	186.63	193.13	6.50
District Clerk	108.00	107.97	110.97	113.00	113.00	0.00
Emergency Medical Services	33.00	33.00	32.00	32.00	33.00	1.00
Emergency Services	17.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	19.00	0.00
Facilities Management Department	127.60	127.60	130.60	136.00	141.00	5.00
General Administration	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.00	2.00	0.00
Health & Human Svcs. & Veterans Svc.	178.04	181.04	188.29	213.40	212.00	(1.41)
Human Resource Mgmt. Department	15.66	14.66	16.00	16.00	15.50	(0.50)
Information Technology Services	105.00	106.00	113.00	110.00	108.00	(2.00)
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1	14.00	14.00	13.00	15.00	15.00	0.00
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2	32.00	32.00	32.00	30.06	30.03	(0.03)
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3	23.50	23.50	23.50	23.50	23.50	0.00
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.00
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.00
Juvenile Probation	457.50	457.50	462.50	466.00	467.00	1.00
Juvenile Public Defender	13.00	13.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	1.00
Medical Examiner	35.50	35.50	37.00	38.00	38.00	0.00
Planning and Budget Office	16.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	0.00
Pretrial Services	57.18	57.18	75.98	76.83	76.96	0.13
Probate Court	9.17	9.17	9.50	10.50	10.50	0.00
Purchasing	33.00	35.00	37.00	36.00	37.00	1.00
Records Mgmt. & Comm. Resources	27.63	27.63	30.87	31.04	31.04	0.00
Sheriff	1,472.50	1,550.50	1,585.50	1,600.50	1,620.50	20.00
Tax Assessor-Collector	130.00	131.00	134.00	142.50	146.50	4.00
Texas AgriLife Extension	14.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transportation & Natural Resources	182.50	178.20	186.30	193.15	195.05	1.90
Veterans Service	6.00	6.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,086.58</b>	<b>4,201.17</b>	<b>4,303.32</b>	<b>4,382.74</b>	<b>4,433.34</b>	<b>50.60</b>

Table 16  
Position Changes List

I. Positions Added or Removed in the General Fund						
Department	Fund	Title*	Position #	Grade	FTE Change	Effective Date
Civil Courts	0001	Assoc Judge/Magistrate/Referee	52956	001	1.00	10/01/14
Civil Courts	0001	Court Reporter	53026	025	1.00	10/01/14
Civil Courts	0001	Judicial Aide	53027	016	1.00	10/01/14
Civil Courts	0001	Court Operations Officer	53028	017	1.00	10/01/14
Constable, Precinct 3	0001	Constable Deputy	1802,8	061	(2.00)	10/01/14
Constable, Precinct 3	0001	Constable Deputy	1802,8	061	2.00	10/01/14
County Attorney	0001	Attorney V	52503	028	1.00	05/27/14
County Attorney	0001	Paralegal	52504	018	1.00	05/27/14
County Attorney	0001	Office Mgr Sr	52528	021	1.00	06/16/14
County Attorney	0001	Evidence Tech	52529	018	1.00	06/16/14
County Attorney	0001	Paralegal	52526-7	018	2.00	06/16/14
County Auditor	0001	Office Specialist	52904	012	1.00	10/01/14
Criminal Courts	0001	Office Specialist Sr	01532	013	(1.00)	11/05/13
Criminal Courts	0001	Office Specialist Sr	01546	013	(1.00)	03/01/14
Criminal Justice Planning	0001	Social Services Program Specialist	50652	017	(1.00)	10/01/14
Criminal Justice Planning	0001	Paralegal	52902	018	1.00	10/01/14
Criminal Justice Planning	0001	Paralegal	52903	018	1.00	10/01/14
Criminal Justice Planning	0001	Social Services Program Specialist	50652	017	1.00	10/01/14
Criminal Justice Planning	0001	Attorney III	50402	025	1.00	10/01/14
Criminal Justice Planning	0001	Social Services Program Specialist	52976	017	1.00	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Paralegal	52551-4	018	4.00	06/03/14
District Attorney	0001	Attorney VII	01427	030	(1.00)	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Attorney VI	01428	029	(1.00)	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Paralegal	01457	018	(1.00)	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Legal Secretary	01432	015	(0.50)	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Accountant	01291	017	1.00	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Investigator	01406	067	1.00	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Attorney VII	01427	030	1.00	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Attorney VI	01428	029	1.00	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Legal Secretary	01432	015	1.00	10/01/14
District Attorney	0001	Paralegal	01457	018	1.00	10/01/14
Emergency Medical Services	0001	Helicopter Pilot Sr	52905	026	1.00	10/01/14
Facilities Management	0001	Information Security Mgr	00332	029	1.00	06/24/14
Facilities Management	0001	Business Analyst II	00368	024	1.00	06/24/14
Facilities Management	0001	Systems Engineer III	00393	027	1.00	06/24/14
Facilities Management	0001	Office Specialist	52906	012	1.00	10/01/14
Facilities Management	0001	Human Resources Specialist I	52907	018	1.00	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Planner Sr	05397	021	0.25	11/12/13
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Inventory Specialist	50238-9	010	(2.00)	07/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Case Worker	51303-4	016	(2.00)	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Services Asst	50903-4	011	(2.00)	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Planner	05966	019	(1.00)	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Worker	52076	018	(1.00)	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Worker	05965	018	(1.00)	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Services Mgr	51305	019	(1.00)	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Services Program Administrator	05255	021	0.01	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Services Program Coord	05256	018	0.13	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Services Program Coord	05254	018	0.21	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Services Mgr	05382	019	1.00	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Case Worker	52928	016	1.00	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Office Specialist	52930	012	1.00	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Office Specialist	52931	012	1.00	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Office Specialist	52932	012	1.00	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Case Worker	52929	016	1.00	10/01/14
Health & Human Svcs & Veterans Svc	0001	Social Services Asst	50903-4	011	2.00	10/01/14
Human Resources Management	0001	Administrative Asst II	00291	015	(0.50)	10/01/14

Table 16  
Position Changes List

I. Positions Added or Removed in the General Fund						
Department	Fund	Title*	Position #	Grade	FTE Change	Effective Date
Information Technology Services	0001	Information Security Mgr	00332	029	(1.00)	06/24/14
Information Technology Services	0001	Business Analyst II	00368	024	(1.00)	06/24/14
Information Technology Services	0001	Systems Engineer III	00393	027	(1.00)	06/24/14
Information Technology Services	0001	Technical Trainer I	52876	022	1.00	10/01/14
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2	0001	Juvenile Case Mgr	01639	015	(0.03)	10/01/14
Juvenile Probation	0001	Juvenile Probation Officer III	04035	017	1.00	11/07/13
Juvenile Public Defender	0001	Attorney I	52901	022	1.00	10/01/14
Pretrial Services	0001	CSCD Deputy Chief	03469	001	0.04	10/01/14
Pretrial Services	0001	Adult Probation Dir	03466	001	0.09	10/01/14
Purchasing	0001	Pur Support Specialist III	00633	017	(1.00)	05/31/14
Purchasing	0001	Pur Purchasing Agent Asst II	50135	020	1.00	10/01/14
Purchasing	0001	Pur Purchasing Agent Asst II	50136	020	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer	01532	081	1.00	11/05/13
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer	01546	081	1.00	03/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Victim Counselor	03124	016	1.00	09/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Security Coord	02359	013	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02389	084	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02364	084	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Lieutenant	02352	089	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Sergeant	02354	088	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02365	084	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer Sr	02366	083	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer Sr	02367	083	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02368	084	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer Sr	02369	083	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02373	084	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer Sr	02374	083	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer Sr	02375	083	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer Sr	02376	083	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer	53029	081	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Corrections Officer	53030	081	1.00	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0001	Crime Scene Specialist	53031	018	1.00	10/01/14
Tax Assessor-Collector	0001	Tax Supv	52952	020	1.00	10/01/14
Tax Assessor-Collector	0001	Internal Auditor	52954	021	1.00	10/01/14
Tax Assessor-Collector	0001	Business Analyst II	52955	024	1.00	10/01/14
Tax Assessor-Collector	0001	Tax Supv	52953	020	1.00	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Engineering Tech	04710	014	(1.00)	01/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Environmental Specialist Sr	04756	019	(1.00)	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Environmental Specialist Sr	04756	019	0.20	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Environmental Specialist	04761	018	0.40	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Environmental Specialist Sr	04756	019	0.40	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Road Maintenance Worker	50238-9	010	2.00	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Financial Analyst Sr	04661	020	(0.50)	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Financial Analyst Sr	04660	020	(0.50)	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Asst Public Works Dir	04929	029	(0.10)	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	Park Land Manager	53055	022	1.00	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0001	GIS Analyst	53001	018	1.00	10/01/14
			General Fund Total		50.60	



Table 16  
Position Changes List

II. Positions Added or Removed in Other Funds						
Department	Fund	Title*	Position #	Grade	FTE Change	Effective Date
Community Supervision & Corrections	State	Adult Probation Dir	03466	001	(0.09)	10/01/14
Community Supervision & Corrections	State	CSCD Deputy Chief	03469	001	(0.04)	10/01/14
District Clerk	0139	Law Library Specialist	51604	015	0.50	06/16/14
Facilities Management	0002	Building Maintenance Coord	52676	014	1.00	09/01/14
Facilities Management	0002	Building Maintenance Worker Sr	52677	013	1.00	09/01/14
Facilities Management	0002	Building Maintenance Worker	52678	011	1.00	09/01/14
Human Resources Management	8955	Administrative Asst II	00291	015	0.20	10/01/14
Human Resources Management	8956	Health & Wellness Program Administrator	05857	023	0.50	06/03/14
Human Resources Management	8956	Administrative Asst II	00291	015	0.30	10/01/14
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2	0137	Juvenile Case Mgr	01639	015	0.03	10/01/14
Juvenile Probation	0107	Juvenile Probation Officer III	04035	017	(1.00)	11/07/13
Sheriff's Office	0111	Security Coord	02359	013	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02389	084	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02364	084	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Lieutenant	02352	089	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Sergeant	02354	088	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02365	084	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Officer Sr	02366	083	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Officer Sr	02367	083	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02368	084	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Officer Sr	02369	083	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Certified Peace Officer Sr	02373	084	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Officer Sr	02374	083	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Officer Sr	02375	083	(1.00)	10/01/14
Sheriff's Office	0111	Corrections Officer Sr	02376	083	(1.00)	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0145	Environmental Specialist	04761	018	(0.20)	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0145	Environmental Specialist	04761	018	(0.20)	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0145	Environmental Specialist Sr	04756	019	0.20	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0145	Environmental Specialist Sr	04756	019	0.20	07/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0145	Asst Public Works Dir	04929	029	0.10	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0145	Financial Analyst Sr	04661	020	0.50	10/01/14
Transportation & Natural Resources	0145	Financial Analyst Sr	04660	020	0.50	10/01/14
			Special Funds Total		(9.50)	
			All Funds Total		41.10	

\*Title refers to the Actual Title of the position, not the Budgeted Title.

## CAPITAL ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

A total of \$133.6 million in capital funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget from the following basic sources:

- General Fund Capital Acquisition Resources Account of \$27.6 million in approved projects and equipment, and a reserve of \$2.6 million for a total of \$30.2 million;
- Proceeds from the issuance of new Certificates of Obligation in the amount of \$44.4 million, including issuance costs of approximately \$180,000;
- Debt proceeds of \$36.0 million that will be issued as part of the long-term bonds authorized by the voters in 2011;
- Debt proceeds that will be issued for state highway projects totaling \$23.0 million; and
- Other funds of approximately \$30,000.

Every year, the County budgets resources to improve public facilities and infrastructure assets for the benefit of the citizens of Travis County. Many of these projects span multiple years and require years of planning and construction, while others can be completed in a shorter timeframe. Routine projects and Court-approved, multi-year planning initiatives are typically funded either through “pay-as-you-go” cash financing that is segregated in an account within the General Fund called the Capital Acquisition Resources (CAR) account or through debt financing by the issuance of Certificates of Obligation (COs).

Larger scale road, park and other significant infrastructure projects are typically funded through long-term bonds. A large portion of Travis County’s long-term debt is related to projects authorized by the voters. Travis County’s voter approved twenty-year bonds are generally the lowest of any similar public securities. The last bond election for County projects was in November 2011, when voters authorized the Commissioners Court to issue \$214,945,000 for road, drainage, bridge, bike/pedestrian, park, and land conservation projects. The County also issues long-term State Highway Bonds for applicable road projects that are a part of the state highway system.

The County also budgets capital projects in special revenue funds that are established and funded with specific taxes or other revenue sources designated by law to finance particular functions or activities of government.

The Adopted Budget includes funding for capital projects and equipment that meet the following criteria:

- Projects either in the middle or end of their multi-year phased implementation,

- Projects where there is little choice but to fund them for health and safety purposes or to avoid greater future expenses,
- Equipment that continues the maintenance of countywide information systems infrastructure,
- Projects that have already been partially funded by the Commissioners Court or have a contractual obligation to implement,
- Projects that have revenue certified to cover their cost, or
- Projects the Court has already provided directions to include for funding.

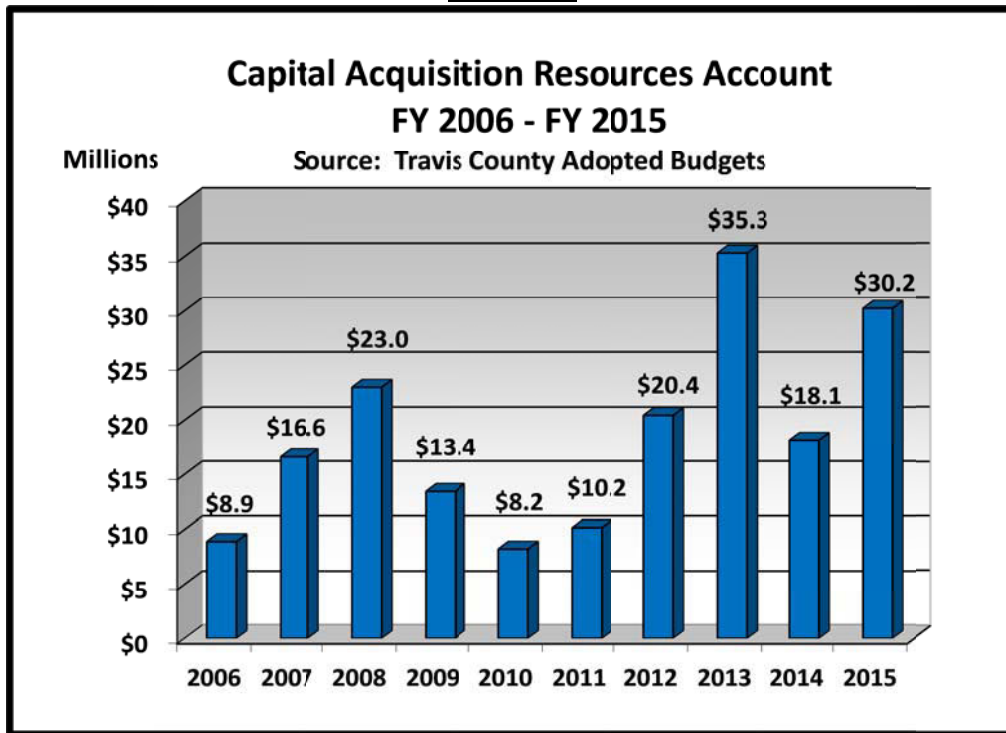
## **PAY-AS-YOU-GO FINANCING**

### **General Fund Capital Acquisition Resources**

The County uses pay-as-you-go financing as one method to fund capital acquisition and improvements. These resources are segregated within the General Fund in a special account called the CAR account. Fund balance is the primary revenue source for this account and allows the County to use cash to fund capital equipment and large one-time projects, including projects that may be ineligible for Certificate of Obligation funding. By using cash, the County avoids paying interest on debt that otherwise would be paid on bonds issued to finance the project and preserves the County's debt capacity for future needed improvements.

The CAR account has been quite variable over the years, driven by economic circumstances, capital needs, and other sources and constraints on debt financing. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget establishes the CAR account at \$30.2 million. This amount includes a reserve of \$2.6 million and planned expenditures of \$27.6 million. Since 2006, CAR-funded projects have ranged from a low of \$8.2 million to a high of \$35.3 million in 2013. The County ensures that the use of current revenues to fund projects within CAR does not diminish the availability of resources for needed services or the County's ability to respond to emergencies.

Chart 17



One of the projects included in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget is the construction of courtrooms and associated changes for the new 450<sup>th</sup> District Court and new County Court-at-Law #9 approved by the Texas Legislature during the 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session. The new courts will be located on the second floor of the Criminal Justice Center (CJC) which results in the need to renovate portions of the CJC and the adjacent Gault Building. This project totals \$4.14 million and is anticipated to be completed by January 2016 to allow the new courts to begin operations by the second quarter of FY 2016. The need for space within the CJC for these new courts has resulted in a number of capital projects and the related movement of offices and departments in the County’s downtown campus to ensure space is available for this mandated function. This plan includes a new building for the District Attorney’s Office that will be discussed within the Certificates of Obligation section that follows.

Other highlights of the FY 2015 CAR budget include \$2.7 million for planning, design and construction to upgrade the heating hydronic system for the CJC. Upgrading this system is an important investment to ensure the infrastructure systems are in place to consistently provide adequate hot water to the CJC, Gault Building, and Downtown Jail for the future. There is also \$2.2 million budgeted for annual roadway maintenance and construction and \$1 million for Hot Mix Asphalt Concrete (HMAC) and alternative paving projects to increase the useful life of the County’s roadway system and maintain current road standards. The CAR account also includes \$2 million for centrally budgeted information technology resources for the replacement of older and outdated desktop and notebook computers and printers that follows the County’s IT replacement policy. The complete list of CAR-funded items or projects included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget follows.

**Table 17**  
**General Fund Capital Outlay and Improvement Projects - CAR Account**

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>New Cost</b>	<b>Replace Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Capital Furniture	-	20,950	20,950
Maintenance of Current Effort - Technology	-	125,525	125,525
<b>Civil Courts (122) Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 146,475</b>	<b>\$ 146,475</b>
Body Armor - Vests	-	8,460	8,460
<b>Constable, Precinct Three (133) Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 8,460</b>	<b>\$ 8,460</b>
Document Management System Misdemeanor Module Review and Correction of Vista Data*	225,000	-	225,000
Kroll Report Category A Recommendations*	40,000	-	40,000
New Voting System (\$1 million rebudgeted from FY 14)*	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
Workstation Space in each Criminal Court	35,000	-	35,000
<b>County Clerk's Office (120) Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,300,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,300,000</b>
Disaster Recovery Infrastructure*	75,000	-	75,000
Maintenance of Current Effort - Technology	-	147,550	147,550
Software Programming Enhancements	88,000	-	88,000
<b>Criminal Courts (124) Total</b>	<b>\$ 163,000</b>	<b>\$ 147,550</b>	<b>\$ 310,550</b>
Scanners	14,962	-	14,962
<b>District Attorney's Office (123) Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,962</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 14,962</b>
Collections Software	55,000	-	55,000
<b>District Clerk's Office (121) Total</b>	<b>\$ 55,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 55,000</b>
EMS Interlocal Base Budget Ambulance	-	446,000	446,000
Radios	27,068	-	27,068
<b>Emergency Medical Services (159) Total</b>	<b>\$ 27,068</b>	<b>\$ 446,000</b>	<b>\$ 473,068</b>
Annual Motorola Lease Purchase Payment No. 4 of 5	-	473,445	473,445
<b>Emergency Services (147) Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 473,445</b>	<b>\$ 473,445</b>
502 E. Highland Mall - Roof Replacement	376,890	-	376,890
5501 Airport Blvd. - CES Lobby Remodel	24,525	-	24,525
5501 Airport Blvd. - County Clerk Remodel*	107,269	-	107,269
5501 Airport Blvd. - Tax Office Addition and Renovation	101,656	-	101,656
700 Lavaca Street - 13th Floor Remodel for FMD	1,798,063	-	1,798,063
Arch Security Category A*	14,500	-	14,500
Criminal Justice Center - 1st Floor Remodel	433,386	-	433,386
Criminal Justice Center - New 2nd Floor Courts	3,414,403	-	3,414,403
Criminal Justice Center - Upgrade Heating Hydronic System	-	2,700,000	2,700,000
East Service Center - Site Environmental Improvement	493,200	-	493,200
Gault Building - 1st Floor Remodel	117,793	-	117,793
Gault Building - 2nd Floor Remodel	112,758	-	112,758
Gault Building - Basement Remodel	65,104	-	65,104
Gault Building - Decommission Data Center Equipment*	23,465	-	23,465
Gault Building - Upgrade Cooling Towers	297,000	-	297,000
Granger Building - Parking Garage Improvements*	77,255	-	77,255
Granger Building - Renovations	2,367,590	-	2,367,590
Granger Building - Renovations Facility Systems*	53,771	-	53,771
HMS Courthouse - Elevators Upgrade	-	336,380	336,380
HMS Courthouse - Upgrade AC Chillers	-	626,560	626,560
New Purchasing Warehouse - Construction	1,201,636	-	1,201,636
New Purchasing Warehouse - Design and Regulatory Phase*	223,000	-	223,000

**Table 17**  
**General Fund Capital Outlay and Improvement Projects - CAR Account**

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>New Cost</b>	<b>Replace Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Ray Martinez Building - Replace Rooftop HVAC Unit	115,618	-	115,618
South Community Center*	166,000	-	166,000
Space Related Costs for Tax Office Reorganization*	25,000	-	25,000
USB - 3rd Floor Renovation for OPR	28,450	-	28,450
USB - 4th Floor Renovation for OCR	29,950	-	29,950
USB - Air Handler Unit*	13,500	-	13,500
<b>Facilities Management (114) Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,681,782</b>	<b>\$ 3,662,940</b>	<b>\$ 15,344,722</b>
Centrally Budgeted Information Systems	146,223	1,992,770	2,138,993
Infrastructure Completion at 700 Lavaca Street*	100,000	-	100,000
Technology Related Costs for Tax Office Reorganization*	26,607	-	26,607
Unified Communications - Voice Over IP Telephony	607,549	-	607,549
<b>Information Technology Services (112/190) Total</b>	<b>\$ 880,379</b>	<b>\$ 1,992,770</b>	<b>\$ 2,873,149</b>
Kitchen Equipment	-	85,734	85,734
<b>Juvenile Probation (145) Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 85,734</b>	<b>\$ 85,734</b>
Gas Chromatography/Thermal Conductivity Detector	21,000	-	21,000
Positive Pressure Manifold	-	7,200	7,200
Rough Pump	7,900	-	7,900
<b>Medical Examiner's Office (138) Total</b>	<b>\$ 28,900</b>	<b>\$ 7,200</b>	<b>\$ 36,100</b>
AED End-of-Life Replacement	-	29,600	29,600
Crime Scene Specialists	7,892	-	7,892
Evidence Management System	200,000	-	200,000
Keywatch Upgrade	95,000	-	95,000
Kitchen Equipment Replacement	-	152,500	152,500
Mental Health Transport Officer	12,870	-	12,870
Security Electronics Upgrade	-	142,275	142,275
Upper Tier Fencing	40,000	-	40,000
X-Ray Machine for Medical Services	-	55,000	55,000
<b>Sheriff's Office (137) Total</b>	<b>\$ 355,762</b>	<b>\$ 379,375</b>	<b>\$ 735,137</b>
Tax Office Reorganization Furniture	15,668	-	15,668
<b>Tax Office (108) Total</b>	<b>\$ 15,668</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 15,668</b>
Centrally Budgeted Vehicle Accessories	-	125,000	125,000
Halloween Flood Buyouts	513,457	-	513,457
Hamilton Pool Preserve Restroom Replacement	-	365,000	365,000
HMAC and Alternative Paving Projects	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Mental Health Transport Officers Vehicle	50,210	-	50,210
Parks Land Manager Vehicle/Equipment	37,608	-	37,608
Replacement Facility Riding Lawn Mowers	-	21,000	21,000
Road and Bridge Maintenance Supplement	-	2,200,000	2,200,000
Southeast Metro Park Baseball Playscape Replacement	-	110,000	110,000
Traffic Signals Installations	300,000	-	300,000
Vehicle for Crime Scene Specialist	50,210	-	50,210
<b>Transportation and Natural Resources (149) Total</b>	<b>\$ 951,485</b>	<b>\$ 3,821,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,772,485</b>
<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,474,006</b>	<b>\$ 11,170,949</b>	<b>\$ 27,644,955</b>
<b>CAR Reserve</b>			<b>\$ 2,572,379</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$ 30,217,334</b>

\*Projects rebudgeted from FY 2014.

Table 18 below provides a list of the information technology projects for offices and departments budgeted centrally within the CAR account in ITS. The equipment includes desktop computers, notebook computers, telephones, and ancillary infrastructure and services. Table 23 later in this document lists vehicles and heavy equipment budgeted centrally in TNR from various funding sources.

**Table 18**  
**Centrally Budgeted Information Systems Outlay – CAR Account**

Description	New Cost	Replace	Total Cost
Equipment for Downtown Services (1010 Lavaca Street and the Criminal Justice Center)	17,235	-	17,235
Equipment for Two Customer Service Window Workstations	11,634	-	11,634
<b>Counseling and Education Services (140) Total</b>	<b>\$ 28,869</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 28,869</b>
Equipment for Reclassification of Project Manager I	4,742	-	4,742
Equipment for Computers and Additional Workstation Space in each Criminal County Court-at-Law Courtroom	24,129	-	24,129
<b>County Clerk (120) Total</b>	<b>\$ 28,871</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 28,871</b>
Equipment for Office of Parental Representation's Paralegal	4,657	-	4,657
Equipment for Office of Child Representation's Paralegal	4,657	-	4,657
Equipment for Workforce Development Program Position	4,657	-	4,657
<b>Criminal Justice Planning (155) Total</b>	<b>\$ 13,971</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 13,971</b>
Equipment for Accountant Associate for Collections	4,657	-	4,657
<b>District Clerk (121) Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,657</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,657</b>
Equipment for Lavaca 700 Street Staffing	5,767	-	5,767
<b>Facilities Management (114) Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,767</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 5,767</b>
Equipment for Assistant Public Defender	4,056	-	4,056
<b>Juvenile Public Defender's Office (143) Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,056</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,056</b>
Equipment for Burial Caseworker	5,666	-	5,666
Equipment for Office Support Specialists	17,253	-	17,253
Equipment for Eligibility Caseworker	5,751	-	5,751
<b>Health and Human Services and Veterans Services (158) Total</b>	<b>\$ 28,670</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 28,670</b>
Equipment for Crime Scene Specialist	3,447	-	3,447
<b>Sheriff's Office (137) Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,447</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,447</b>
Equipment for Tax Office Reorganization	16,397	-	16,397
<b>Tax Office (108) Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,397</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 16,397</b>
Equipment for GIS Analyst	3,447	-	3,447
Equipment for Parks Land Manager	8,071	-	8,071
<b>Transportation and Natural Resources (145) Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,518</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,518</b>
<b>Centralized Computer Services (190) Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,992,770</b>	<b>\$ 1,992,770</b>
<b>Grand Total for Centrally Budgeted Information Systems Outlay Budgeted in ITS (112/190)</b>	<b>\$ 146,223</b>	<b>\$ 1,992,770</b>	<b>\$ 2,138,993</b>

**Other Funds**

In addition to the resources provided through the General Fund CAR Account, this cash on hand funding method is used within select special funds. For FY 2015, \$29,240 is budgeted for the scheduled replacement of computer equipment budgeted in the Justice Court Technology Fund. Revenue for this fund is based on the collection of a \$4 technology fee assessed on all defendants convicted of a misdemeanor offense in a Justice Court and is authorized for the purchase of this equipment.

Table 19  
Capital Outlay and Improvement Projects – Other Funds

Description	New	Replace	Cost
Replacement of Computers and Other Technology Equipment Centrally Budgeted for Justice of the Peace, Pct.	-	7,225	7,225
Replacement of Computers and Other Technology Equipment Centrally Budgeted for Justice of the Peace, Pct.	-	13,560	13,560
Replacement of Computers and Other Technology Equipment Centrally Budgeted for Justice of the Peace, Pct.	-	8,455	8,455
<b>Justice Court Technology Fund Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 29,240</b>	<b>\$ 29,240</b>
<b>Total Capital in Other Funds</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 29,240</b>	<b>\$ 29,240</b>

**DEBT FINANCING**

Debt financing of capital equipment or projects involves the issuance of Voter Approved Bonds, Certificates of Obligation, or State Highway Bonds. The use of debt financing is an important method of funding capital projects as some large capital outlays are challenging to fund within a single budget year. In addition, financing through short-term or long-term debt allows the County to distribute the tax burden over the life of the asset.

Based on the County’s strong financial position, the County is able to issue debt at a lower rate than most municipalities and counties. Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s rating agencies recently reaffirmed the County’s Triple A credit rating that has been awarded continuously since 2001. Travis County is one of five counties out of the 254 counties in the State of Texas receiving this designation. A part of the County’s strong financial practices is the annual review of the County’s debt model, which includes all outstanding debt along with the projected issuance amounts for approved projects and projected routine capital needs. The debt model is used for planning purposes to help the County remain within the guidelines established by the Commissioners Court in its approved debt policy. The debt policy incorporates industry-standard ratios of indebtedness.

The Commissioners Court has established a debt policy that is intended to maintain a prudent approach toward the issuance of debt. The policy provides guidance governing the issuance, management, and the continuing evaluation and reporting of all Travis County debt obligations. The policy is intended to provide parameters for the Commissioners Court in deciding whether to issue additional debt and to attempt to keep the debt issuance of the County within



established limits. The guidelines are meant to serve as parameters in serving the public interest, not absolute requirements. The Travis County Debt Policy and Legal Debt Margin information can be found in Section IV – Appendices.

**Voter Authorized Bonds**

Two separate bond authorizations that voters have approved in the last decade are outlined below.

- **November 2005 Bond Authorization**

A total of \$150,875,000 in roads, parks, and jail projects was approved by voters. This included \$65,225,000 for roads, road-related drainage, and right-of-way; \$62,150,000 for parks and open space parkland; and \$23,500,000 for jail facility replacement beds and renovations. All authorized amounts were issued by Fiscal Year 2011.

- **November 2011 Bond Authorization**

Voters authorized the Commissioners Court to issue \$214,945,000 for road, drainage, bridge and bike/pedestrian projects, as well as park and land conservation projects. The table below shows the amount of the original authorization and how much is scheduled to be issued in Fiscal Year 2015, along with the remaining authorization.

Table 20  
Projects Funded by Voter Authorized Bonds

Project	Original Authorization	Issued Through 2014	Proposed Issuance in 2015	Remaining Authorization
Prop. 1: Roads, Drainage, Bridge and Bike/Pedestrian Projects	\$132,840,000	\$78,845,000	\$23,450,000	\$30,545,000
Prop. 2: Parks and Land Conservation Projects	82,105,000	58,660,000	12,555,000	\$10,890,000
<b>Total – November 2011 Bonds</b>	<b>\$214,945,000</b>	<b>\$137,505,000</b>	<b>\$36,005,000</b>	<b>\$41,435,000</b>

Voter approved projects included in the proposed FY 2015 issuance based on the current annual cash flow needs include funding for road projects such as the Blake-Manor Road project that will widen the two lane road to a four lane divided arterial with bike lanes and sidewalks; resources for a new four lane divided arterial with bike lanes and sidewalks that will connect FM 973 to Blake-Manor Road; as well as the final allocation to complete the Cameron Road project (Howard Lane to SH 130) that will widen the two lane road to a four lane divided arterial with bike lanes and sidewalks.

The approved cash flow budget at the time of the adoption of the FY 2015 budget for the 2011 voter approved program includes \$32,720,000 to be issued in FY 2016, \$5,490,000 to be issued in FY 2017 and \$3,225,000 to be issued in FY 2018 to complete the program. Park and open space projects included in the approved cash flow requirements for the proposed FY 2015 issuance include resources for Arkansas Bend Park and Dink Pearson Park to improve

infrastructure and restore land to natural conditions at both parks. Also included are resources to continue the Onion Creek Open Space Parkland Project.

The County continuously evaluates the infrastructure and space needed to serve the future requirements of Travis County. As a part of these efforts, planning is underway for a new Civil and Family Court House. Over 300,000 people annually use the historic Heman Marion Sweatt (HMS) Courthouse and the older infrastructure will not allow for expansion for additional courts required for current and future space needs. The County purchased land for the proposed project in late 2010. The County plans to include the project in a referendum placed before voters in 2015.

**State Highway Projects**

The County has the authority to issue bonds for state highway projects. In January 2012, Travis County entered into an agreement with the State for two pass-through financing projects for the Farm to Market Road (FM) 1626 Project and the FM 969 Project. The FM 1626 Project will widen the shoulders of FM 1626 from west of Brodie Lane to FM 2304. The FM 969 Project will be completed in two phases and will ultimately widen and reconstruct FM 969 from FM 3177 to Hunter's Bend Road. The first phase will widen the roadway to provide a continuous left turn lane, shoulders and a sidewalk on one side of the roadway from FM 3177 to FM 973. Phase II will provide two additional travel lanes along with a continuous left turn lane, shoulders and a sidewalk on the other side of the road from Phase I. Travis County has an agreement with the State for the partial reimbursement of direct construction costs.

The Commissioners Court also approved an interlocal agreement with the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA) and Hays County for the completion of State Highway 45 (SH45) Southwest between Loop 1 (MOPAC) and FM 1626. The agreement calls for Travis County to contribute \$15 million towards the project. The Commissioners Court approved using State Highway Bonds as the financing method. The County has already contributed \$2.5 million of the \$15 million to the project that will be reimbursed once bond proceeds are received in FY 2015.

The table below shows the amount of the original budget and how much is scheduled to be issued in Fiscal Year 2015, along with the amounts to be issued in future fiscal years.

**Table 21**  
**Projects Funded by State Highway Bonds**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Issued Through 2014</b>	<b>Proposed Issuance in 2015</b>	<b>Remaining Budget</b>
FM 1626	\$12,223,300	\$4,120,000	\$0	\$8,103,300
FM 969 Phase I	10,361,000	2,490,000	7,870,000	1,000
FM 969 Phase II	7,767,600	1,840,000	0	5,927,600
<b>Subtotal – State Highway Bonds Pass-through Financing Projects</b>	<b>\$30,351,900</b>	<b>\$8,450,000</b>	<b>\$7,870,000</b>	<b>\$14,031,900</b>
SH 45 Southwest Project	\$15,000,000	\$0	\$15,000,000	\$0
Estimated Issuance Costs	100,000	0	100,000	0
<b>Subtotal for SH 45 Southwest</b>	<b>\$15,100,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$15,100,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total for State Highway Bonds</b>	<b>\$45,451,900</b>	<b>\$8,450,000</b>	<b>\$22,970,000</b>	<b>\$14,031,900</b>

#### **Certificates of Obligation (COs)**

The amount of total debt proposed to be issued through COs in Fiscal Year 2015 is \$44,415,000, including estimated issuance costs of \$179,912. This funding will cover several significant and critical projects such as the second phase of a new courts system office building on 11<sup>th</sup> Street for the District Attorney's Office called the Ronald Earle Building. The District Attorney's Office currently resides in space at the Criminal Justice Center needed for the two new courts discussed earlier. The new building will provide sufficient space to meet the District Attorney's projected requirements through 2035. Funding for the engineering, design and some minor construction of the building was included in the FY 2014 Certificates of Obligation. Resources needed for the second phase of the project total \$29.7 million and are included in the 2015 planned issuance. This project is currently being reviewed to determine if the budget is appropriately sized for the construction phase. Construction scheduled to begin in September 2014 is pending the outcome of this review. Funding for the final phase of the project will be requested as a part of the FY 2016 budget process and is currently estimated at \$7,091,807.

Another multi-year project included in the proposed FY 2015 issuance is a new Medical Examiner's facility to be located adjacent to the STAR Flight facility at 7800 Old Manor Road. The current facility has exceeded capacity and cannot be readily expanded. The new building will be designed to accommodate future growth and ensure Travis County maintains its National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) accreditation in a state-of-the-art facility. Programming and design funds totaling \$2.2 million was included in the FY 2014 Certificates of Obligation. An additional \$2 million is proposed for the FY 2015 issuance with construction scheduled to begin the second quarter of FY 2015 and last approximately 11 months. An

additional \$25 million will be requested over the FY 2016 and FY 2017 budget processes to complete the building.

The FY 2015 Adopted Budget also includes \$7.5 million in the proposed COs to replace vehicles and heavy equipment that will be budgeted centrally within the fleet program in TNR. The timely and scheduled replacement of these assets ensures lower fuel and maintenance costs and that the vehicles and equipment are available in good working order for County programs. Funding for the Hot Mix Asphalt Concrete (HMAC) and Alternative Paving Program is included to extend the useful life of County road assets and delay more expensive reconstruction expenses thereby saving valuable taxpayer resources. In addition, \$500,000 is included for Phase III of the scheduled upgrade of perimeter security fencing at the Travis County Correctional Complex.

The table that follows shows the projects funded with five-year COs and those funded with twenty-year COs.

**Table 22**  
**Capital Acquisition and Improvements – Certificates of Obligation**

<b>Projects Proposed to be Funded with Five-Year Certificates of Obligation</b>			
<b>Description</b>	<b>New Cost</b>	<b>Replace Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
New Medical Examiner Facility	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
Executive Office Building Window Upgrade	-	352,219	352,219
<b>Facilities Management Department (114) Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 352,219</b>	<b>\$ 2,352,219</b>
Phase III of Upgrade to Perimeter Security Fencing at the Travis County Correctional Complex (TCCC)	-	500,000	500,000
<b>Travis County Sheriff's Office (137) Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>
Centrally Budgeted Vehicles and Heavy Equipment	732,760	6,763,940	7,496,700
HMAC and Alternative Paving Projects	-	4,200,000	4,200,000
<b>Transportation and Natural Resources (149) Total</b>	<b>\$ 732,760</b>	<b>\$10,963,940</b>	<b>\$11,696,700</b>
<b>Short-Term Project Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,732,760</b>	<b>\$11,816,159</b>	<b>\$14,548,919</b>
<b>Short-Term Issuance Costs</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 61,081</b>
<b>Five-Year Short-Term Certificates of Obligation Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$14,610,000</b>
<b>Projects Proposed to be Funded with Twenty-Year Certificates of Obligation</b>			
<b>Description</b>	<b>New Cost</b>	<b>Replace Cost</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Ronald Earle Building	29,686,169	-	29,686,169
<b>Facilities Management Department (114) Total</b>	<b>\$29,686,169</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$29,686,169</b>
<b>Long-Term Project Total</b>	<b>\$29,686,169</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$29,686,169</b>
<b>Long-Term Issuance Costs</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 118,831</b>
<b>Twenty-Year Long-Term Certificates of Obligation Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$29,805,000</b>
<b>FY 2015 Proposed Certificates of Obligation</b>			<b>\$44,415,000</b>
* Amounts and projects subject to change prior to planned issuance in spring 2015.			

Table 23 that follows provides a detailed list of the vehicles and heavy equipment budgeted centrally in TNR and funded by the proposed FY 2015 CO issuance and General Fund Pay-as-You-Go resources. The information is listed by County office and department number and distinguishes between replacement and new equipment and funding source.

**Table 23**  
**Centrally Budgeted Vehicles and Heavy Equipment**

	Description	Unit Cost	Qty	New Cost	Replace	Total Cost
149	1/2 Ton Extended Cab Pickup Truck 4WD For Parks Land Manager Position	30,000	1	30,000	-	30,000
137	Patrol SUV (Chevy Tahoe) For Crime Scene Specialist Position	50,210	1	50,210	-	50,210
137	Patrol SUV (Chevy Tahoe) For Mental Health Transport Officer Positions	50,210	1	50,210	-	50,210
114	Replacement Facility Riding Lawn Mowers	10,500	2	-	21,000	21,000
137	Centrally Budgeted Vehicle Accessories*	Various	Various	-	125,000	125,000
<b>Total for Centrally Budgeted Vehicles and Heavy Equipment in the Capital Acquisition Resources (CAR) General Fund Account</b>				<b>\$130,420</b>	<b>\$ 146,000</b>	<b>\$ 276,420</b>
	Description	Unit Cost	Qty	New Cost	Replace	Total Cost
114	Toro Riding Mower 3070	11,525	1	-	11,525	11,525
114	Personnel Carrier 2814,3031	22,750	2	-	45,500	45,500
114	F350 Pickup Truck With Service Body 2759,2222,2664	32,250	3	-	96,750	96,750
114	One-Ton Cargo Van 2140	25,500	1	-	25,500	25,500
114	Compact SUVs (Hybrid) 2762H, 2763H	25,750	2	-	51,500	51,500
114	Standard Size SUV for Security Manager	28,000	1	28,000	-	28,000
115	Vehicle For Purchasing Warehouse	29,010	1	29,010	-	29,010
119	County Attorney Vehicle 2017	30,000	1	-	30,000	30,000
120	1/2 Ton Crew Cab Pickup Truck	25,750	1	25,750	-	25,750
135	Sedan 2753	35,250	1	-	35,250	35,250
137	3/4 Ton Long Bed Crew Cab Pickup Truck 4WD 1889	29,750	1	-	29,750	29,750
137	1/2 Ton Long Bed Reg Cab Pickup Truck 2WD 1880	25,750	1	-	25,750	25,750
137	SUV Mid 2WD 4D Explorer 2939	49,700	1	-	49,700	49,700
137	Patrol Car Full Size 4D PP 3078,3084,3116,3190,3191,3216,3217,3220,3221,3222, 3225,3228,3356,3357,3358,3362,3363,3365,3369,3458, 3459,3463,3465,3466,3467,3468,3470,3471,3475,3476, 3480,3482,3484,3486,3494,3522,3524,3526,3527,3461, 3462,3496,3497,3498,3151,3232,3233*	49,700	47	-	2,210,900	2,210,900
137	Motorcycle Police 3380,3383,3384,3385,3386	32,500	5	-	162,500	162,500
137	SUV Full 2WD Tahoe PP 3392	49,700	1	-	49,700	49,700
137	Cargo Van Ext 2745, 2746	33,750	2	-	67,500	67,500
137	Cargo Prisoner Van Ext 2747	47,500	1	-	47,500	47,500
137	Cargo Van Ext 2748	47,500	1	-	47,500	47,500
137	15-Passenger Full-Size Van Ext 2585	47,500	1	-	47,500	47,500
139	Eight-Passenger Mini Van 2503	26,750	1	-	26,750	26,750
139	Trailer, 8' Enclosed 2505	4,150	1	-	4,150	4,150
145	Seven-Passenger Mini Van , 2767, 2771	24,500	2	-	49,000	49,000
149	Water Trucks	125,000	2	250,000	-	250,000
149	Recycler	400,000	1	400,000	-	400,000

**Table 23**  
**Centrally Budgeted Vehicles and Heavy Equipment**

	Description	Unit Cost	Qty	New Cost	Replace	Total Cost
149	SUV Mid 4WD 4D Explorer SU2218	25,750	1	-	25,750	25,750
149	1/2 Ton Ext Cab Short Bed Pickup Truck 2WD P2249P	25,750	1	-	25,750	25,750
149	1/2 Ton Ext Cab Short Bed Pickup Truck 4WD P2543	28,500	1	-	28,500	28,500
149	Mower Riding Rotary 52" RI3072	11,525	1	-	11,525	11,525
149	Backhoe Front Loader TNR3210	92,400	1	-	92,400	92,400
149	Dozer Crawler TNR2609	120,000	1	-	120,000	120,000
149	Excavator Telescoping Arm Wheel EX2425	333,500	1	-	333,500	333,500
149	Loader Wheel 4WD TNR2518	249,750	1	-	249,750	249,750
149	Sweeper Broom TNR3508	57,500	1	-	57,500	57,500
149	One-Ton Long Bed Crew Cab Pickup Truck 2WD Drw P276	35,250	1	-	35,250	35,250
149	1/2 Ton Ext Cab Short Bed Pickup Truck 2WD P1628	28,750	1	-	28,750	28,750
149	1/2 Ton Ext Cab Short Bed Pickup Truck 4WD P2756H	27,750	1	-	27,750	27,750
149	3/4 Ton Ext Cab Pickup Truck 2WD P2658	28,750	1	-	28,750	28,750
149	Truck Knuckle Boom Attachment CI2415	187,400	1	-	187,400	187,400
149	Cement Truck 9 Cubic Yard CM1910	150,000	1	-	150,000	150,000
149	Distributor Truck TNR2353	180,000	1	-	180,000	180,000
149	Dump Truck 12 Cubic Yard TNR2192	96,310	1	-	96,310	96,310
149	Emulsion Truck 3840 Gallon TNR2241	165,250	1	-	165,250	165,250
149	One-Ton Crew Svc Body Pickup Truck Srw SB2500	43,500	1	-	43,500	43,500
149	One-Ton Crew Svc Body Pickup Truck Srw SB2508	43,500	1	-	43,500	43,500
149	One-Ton Crew Svc Body Pickup Truck Srw SB2775	43,500	1	-	43,500	43,500
149	One-Ton Crew Svc Body Pickup Truck Srw SB2794	43,500	1	-	43,500	43,500
149	15 Passenger Full Size Van Ext V2778	26,750	1	-	26,750	26,750
149	Mower Riding Rotary 109" RI3185	64,200	1	-	64,200	64,200
149	Mower Riding Rotary 124" RI3305	63,050	1	-	63,050	63,050
149	Mower Riding Rotary 124" RI3306	63,050	1	-	63,050	63,050
149	Mower Riding Rotary 109" RI3307	64,200	1	-	64,200	64,200
149	Mower Riding Rotary 109" RI3308	64,200	1	-	64,200	64,200
149	Mower Riding Rotary 72" RI3309	20,400	1	-	20,400	20,400
149	Personnel Carrier PC2983, PC2984, PC2985, PC2986, PC2989, PC2993, PC2815	22,750	7	-	159,250	159,250
149	1/2 Ton Crew Cab Pickup Truck With Svc Bdy 2WD P2769 P2773	25,750	2	-	51,500	51,500
149	One-ton Pickup Truck with Svc Body Ext SRW2663 SB279	42,500	2	-	85,000	85,000
149	Reg Cab Long Body Pickup Truck 2WD 1/2T P2238P P223	25,750	2	-	51,500	51,500
149	Water Truck 2000 Gallon TNR2230, TNR2231	165,250	1	-	165,250	165,250
149	Excavator Telescoping Arm Wheel EX2424	333,500	1	-	333,500	333,500
149	Emulsion Truck 2000 Gallon TNR2240, TNR2239	130,000	2	-	260,000	260,000
149	Loader Wheel 4WD TNR2521	159,730	1	-	159,730	159,730
<b>Total for Centrally Budgeted Vehicles and Heavy Equipment Within Proposed 2015 Certificates of Obligation</b>				<b>\$732,760</b>	<b>\$ 6,763,940</b>	<b>\$ 7,496,700</b>
<b>Total for Centrally Budgeted Vehicles and Heavy Equipment (All Funding Sources)</b>				<b>\$863,180</b>	<b>\$ 6,909,940</b>	<b>\$ 7,773,120</b>

\*The amount budgeted within the proposed Certificates of Obligation has been reduced by \$125,000 for vehicle accessories, which are centrally budgeted in the Capital Acquisition Resources (CAR) General Fund Account.

## RESERVES

Travis County has three primary types of budgeted reserves, which are referred to as the Unallocated Reserve, General Purpose Reserves, and Special Purpose Reserves.

**Table 24**  
**Reserves History**

Reserve Name	Adopted FY 2013	Adopted FY 2014	Adopted FY 2015	2015 - 2014 Difference	% Change
<b>Unallocated Reserve</b>	<b>\$57,195,853</b>	<b>\$68,085,598</b>	<b>\$71,722,124</b>	<b>\$3,636,526</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
Allocated Reserve	\$6,920,945	\$10,718,725	\$15,227,297	\$4,508,572	42.1%
Capital Acquisition Resources Reserve	\$2,813,944	\$2,431,317	\$2,572,379	\$141,062	5.8%
Reserve for Emergencies & Contingencies	\$2,016,924	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	0.0%
<b>General Purpose Reserves - Subtotal</b>	<b>\$11,751,813</b>	<b>\$18,150,042</b>	<b>\$22,799,676</b>	<b>\$4,649,634</b>	<b>25.6%</b>
Reserve for Replacement of IJS	\$2,164,795	\$5,235,265	\$5,047,525	(\$187,740)	-3.6%
Reserve for Interlocal Agreements	\$2,166,175	\$1,950,308	\$2,147,424	\$197,116	10.1%
Sheriff's Office Overtime Reserve	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$1,715,000	\$715,000	71.5%
STAR Flight Maintenance Reserve	\$1,001,050	\$1,995,050	\$992,259	(\$1,002,791)	-50.3%
Civil and Family Court House Reserve	\$5,496,000	\$5,446,000	\$798,779	(\$4,647,221)	-85.3%
Juvenile Justice Reserve	\$418,959	\$504,726	\$504,726	\$0	0.0%
Reserve for State Funding Cuts	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$250,000	100.0%
Smart Building Maintenance Reserve	\$160,778	\$297,948	\$363,033	\$65,085	21.8%
Reserve for 1115 Waiver Participation	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	(\$1,000,000)	-100.0%
Fuel & Utilities Reserve	\$1,000,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	0.0%
Transition Reserve	\$101,889	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Other Allocated Reserves*	\$465,768	\$1,155,025	\$1,264,606	\$109,581	9.5%
<b>Special Purpose Reserves - Subtotal</b>	<b>\$14,225,414</b>	<b>\$19,134,322</b>	<b>\$13,633,352</b>	<b>(\$5,500,970)</b>	<b>-28.7%</b>
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>\$83,173,080</b>	<b>\$105,369,962</b>	<b>\$108,155,152</b>	<b>\$2,785,190</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

\* Other Allocated Reserves can be found in Note 5 on Table 2

## UNALLOCATED RESERVE

The Unallocated Reserve is established as a buffer in the event of a disaster or an emergency of an extraordinary nature. The Commissioners Court has sometimes called it "the untouchable reserve." This reserve is protected in such a way that if any portion is appropriated during the year for use in anticipation of bond funds being received, it is then replenished within the remainder of the year. The balance in this reserve demonstrates the County's fiscal soundness and is a key consideration in the credit rating process.

The County's bond and financial advisors have historically recommended an Unallocated Reserve level of between 8% and 12% of budgeted spending during any given fiscal year to ensure that adequate contingency funding is in place. Maintenance of this reserve on an ongoing basis is one of the key factors in the County's sound financial management practices. The Commissioners Court's Financial and Budgeting Guidelines have established the goal for the Unallocated Reserve ratio between 10% and 12%. Since 1989, a ratio of at least 11% has been maintained by the Commissioners Court.

Due to an accounting change in Fiscal Year 2013, a portion of the County's fund balance, previously unbudgeted, became available. Because this accounting change created a very rare increase in the beginning balance of the General Fund, the Commissioners Court decided to increase the Unallocated Reserve to 12% of proposed spending in the General Fund. The total Fiscal Year 2015 General Fund Unallocated Reserve is again recommended at 12% of General Fund spending in the Adopted Budget, or \$71,722,124.

## **GENERAL PURPOSE RESERVES**

The County's General Purpose Reserves are budgeted at levels projected to be sufficient to fund expenditures related to emergencies that may arise during the fiscal year and to fund known or potential operating and capital expenditures.

### **Allocated Reserve**

The Allocated Reserve is dedicated to known or potential expenditures, and some or all of this reserve may be spent during the year. Potential claims against funds set aside in the Allocated Reserve are referred to as "earmarks," and are used to signal to the Commissioners Court that a department or office may have a justified need for a midyear transfer of resources to their budget for a specific purpose. The earmarks do not represent appropriations, and are not considered to be departmental resources unless allocation of an earmark is approved by the Commissioners Court during the year and the funds transferred to that department. These proposed earmarks against the Allocated Reserve total \$7,488,711 in the Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget, and a listing of the earmarks is provided in Section II. The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget includes an Allocated Reserve of \$15,227,297.



**Table 25**  
**Earmarks on Allocated Reserve**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Civil Courts	Family Drug Treatment Court Grant	\$ 142,655
Civil Courts-Legally Mandated Fees	Legally Mandated Fees	200,000
Criminal Courts	Veterans Court Grant	180,412
Criminal Courts	Bailiff Transition to Sheriff's Office	35,000
Criminal Courts-Legally Mandated Fees	Legally Mandated Fees	70,000
District Attorney	Environmental Protection Unit Grant	18,010
Emergency Medical Services	STAR Flight Air Communication Specialist	325,000
General Administration	Travis Central Appraisal District	417,087
General Administration	Waller Creek TIF	50,000
Human Resources	Tuition Reimbursement Program	20,000
Human Resources	ACC Internship Program	20,000
Medical Examiner's Office	Deputy Medical Examiner	243,847
Planning and Budget Office	Civil and Family Justice Center	125,000
Purchasing Office	HUB Program Specialist	45,983
Sheriff's Office	Inmate Operating Costs	300,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	West Service Center	4,000,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Road Maintenance Operating Supplement	500,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Maintenance of Current Effort - Fleet Non-Fuel Line Items	160,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Park Forestry Services	50,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Transit Pass Program	40,227
Transportation and Natural Resources	Work Order System Additional Funding	95,490
Undesignated	450th District Court Start-Up Costs	250,000
Undesignated	Contracted Security Services	200,000
<b>Total Allocated Reserve Earmarks</b>		<b>\$ 7,488,711</b>

### **Capital Acquisition Resources Account Reserve**

The CAR Account Reserve is similar to the Allocated Reserve, but is used as a funding source for one-time capital expenditures. It may be used to fund additional capital outlay or project needs that are developed during the year or pay for cost increases associated with previously approved projects. The Fiscal Year 2015 Adopted Budget includes a CAR Reserve of \$2,572,379 with earmarks totaling \$1,519,950.

**Table 26**  
**Earmarks on Capital Acquisition Resources Reserve**

Department	Description	Amount
Civil Courts	Audio Visual and Judges Workbench	\$ 70,000
Information Technology Services	Network End of Life Equipment	200,000
Juvenile Probation	Master Plan Phase II	400,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Hamilton Pool Road	500,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Sidewalks - ADA Upgrades	100,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Guardrail - New Installations	50,000
Transportation and Natural Resources	Failing Vehicles	192,750
Transportation and Natural Resources	Sandy Creek Park Proceeds	7,200
<b>Total Capital Acquisition Resources Reserve Earmarks</b>		<b>\$ 1,519,950</b>

### **Reserve for Emergencies and Contingencies - \$5,000,000**

An Emergency Reserve was first established in FY 2010 with funding of \$4,950,000. The original purpose of the reserve was to provide one-time contingency funding in the event that worsening economic conditions at the national or state level had a significant impact on Travis County. The reserve was used by the Commissioners Court during the budget mark-up process for FY 2013 to fund several one-time needs that totaled approximately \$2.9 million. The funds were replenished in FY 2014 with monies from the one-time accounting change that created an increase in the beginning balance of the General Fund for FY 2014. The FY 2015 Adopted Budget has this reserve budgeted at \$5 million.

### **SPECIAL PURPOSE RESERVES**

Special purpose reserves can represent planned future spending at a funding level that has not yet been refined sufficiently for budgetary allocation to a particular County department or office. These reserves can also be designated as contingency funds that could potentially be tapped if circumstances or events create the unexpected need for additional funds.

#### **Reserve for Replacement of Integrated Justice System – \$5,047,525**

Travis County has joined the Conference of Urban Counties (CUC) in a consortium of Texas counties that need to replace their case management systems for various justice and public safety departments. The participating counties desire to share technology in an effort to maximize efficiency and cost savings. The project has adopted the short name of “TechShare.” In addition, several departments are replacing the Vista document management system (DMS) with the On Base DMS to better organize and store the voluminous records generated by the justice system. This reserve has been established to provide funding to standardize all justice systems on one platform.

The FY 2015 Adopted Budget includes a \$5,047,525 Integrated Justice System (IJS) Reserve. This includes the continued implementation of the Prosecutor module (\$370,659), continued development and implementation of a Criminal Courts module (1,299,842), development of Phase I of the Juvenile Case Management System (\$545,000 rebudgeted from FY 2014),

development of a Civil and Probate Courts module (\$1,000,000), continued implementation of the On Base DMS (\$750,000) and ITS hardware and integration costs (\$910,000). Funding of \$172,024 is also available in the FY 2015 IJS Reserve for two Senior Planners in the Civil Courts. These positions will serve as subject matter experts and provide critical input from the Civil Courts' perspective during the development and implementation of the TechShare Civil and Probate module. Because timelines for this portion of the TechShare project are in flux, funding has been included in the reserve instead of directly in the department. The Civil Courts will request Commissioners Court approval at the appropriate time for the hiring of these two new FTEs midyear in FY 2015.

#### **Reserve for Interlocal Agreements – \$2,147,424**

The County has several cooperative interlocal agreements with area governments and agencies, including the City of Austin and several other state and local partners in public safety and public service efforts. The annual payments for the services covered under these agreements are often under negotiation during the budget development process and have not been finalized at the time the budget is adopted. As a result of this timing issue, \$2,147,424 has been included as a reserve for estimated FY 2015 payments associated with two interlocal agreements, the Combined Transportation, Emergency & Communications Center (CTECC) interlocal and the Regional Radio System (RRS) interlocal.

#### **Sheriff's Office Overtime Reserve – \$1,715,000**

Over the last few years, there have been changes to the pay cycle and pay scale for POPS positions. In addition, a new financial system and operational changes have increased overtime expenditures in FY 2014. The Sheriff's Office typically has been able to absorb overtime expenditures in excess of the budget through vacancy savings. That was not the case in FY 2014 and the Sheriff's Office requested the transfer of the \$1 million overtime reserve to its budget to fund overtime pay. Based on the overtime expenditure growth from FY 2013 to FY 2014, this reserve has been increased from \$1,000,000 to \$1,378,000, plus benefits, for a total amount of \$1,715,000. Having a reserve in addition to budgeting overtime in the Sheriff's Office is prudent in the event that additional resources are needed. The Planning and Budget Office will continue to work closely with the Sheriff's Office to monitor overtime expenditures throughout the year and keep the Commissioners Court apprised of the situation.

#### **STAR Flight Maintenance Reserve – \$992,259**

In FY 2011, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Seton Family of Hospitals and Travis County for the dedicated basing rights of an additional STAR Flight aircraft at the Dell Children's Medical Center. As part of the agreement, Seton provided the County with an unconditional contribution of \$3.2 million. The contribution was to be paid over a five-year period in annual installments of \$640,000. The County received the last \$640,000 payment in Fiscal Year 2014. The Commissioners Court approved the use of the contributions for the establishment of a special maintenance reserve that would fund future major aircraft maintenance for the STAR Flight helicopter fleet.

Over the last few years, repairs and improvements totaling \$1,235,741 have been approved. In Fiscal Year 2015, this reserve totals \$992,259, with the remaining \$972,000 budgeted directly in Emergency Services for aircraft maintenance.

**Civil and Family Justice Court House Reserve – \$798,779**

This special reserve was established for the planning and design of a new Civil and Family Court House and has been used to fund the planning and management work necessary to prepare for a bond referendum for this project in May of 2015. In FY 2014, the reserve was budgeted at \$5,446,000. This amount was equal to the reserve of \$5,496,000 that was carried forward from the prior fiscal year, less a \$50,000 contract executed with the County's consultant, URS Corporation, for Phase IA work. In FY 2014, the Commissioners Court executed contracts with URS for Program Management Services and with Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum LP (HOK) for Independent Representative/Compliance Architect (IR/CA) services. These contracts were funded in part from the Civil and Family Court House Reserve and totaled \$4,453,221. In addition, \$194,000 has been transferred for miscellaneous contracts for the project to prepare final cost estimates. The remaining funds in FY 2014 total \$798,779 and will be carried into FY 2015.

In FY 2015, it is expected that this reserve will be used to fund a judicial planning consultant to bring judicial expertise to the project and a technology consultant for the Civil Courts to develop a strategic technology plan for the new building. The technology consultant will assist the project team during design of the building specifications and performance requirements for the court spaces. Court technology is a unique and dynamic field and development of the facility infrastructure should plan for the advancements of technologies in this arena. The planning consultant will interface with the building architects, the Planning and Budget Office and FMD and will clearly articulate the needs of the judiciary. The cost of these two consultants is \$325,000.

This reserve may also be used to assist in bridging the gap in cash flow funding needed between a successful May 2015 election and the issuance of voter approved debt in FY 2016. It is anticipated that up to \$600,000 will be needed in the summer of 2015 for Phase III of the URS work. Funds remaining in the Civil and Family Justice Court House Reserve are expected to be sufficient to cover a majority of this need. An additional \$125,000 is listed as an Earmark on the General Fund Allocated Reserve in the event it is needed. In addition, these expenses will be eligible for a reimbursement resolution and PBO will work closely with project staff to ensure a funding plan is in place for Phase III of the URS contract as well as Phase IV costs for each of the URS and HOK contracts and the amount required for the Design-Build contract. This will ensure that the County can solicit the work in FY 2015 (all of which can be reimbursed through the bond proceeds) and that no additional funds need to be budgeted into the reserve to cash flow the contracted work. Phase V for each of the contracts will be part of an FY 2016 budget request, along with the funds needed for the Design-Build contract to cash flow the beginning of construction for the project.

**Future Grant Requirements Reserve – \$550,000**

In FY 2010, the Court established a \$500,000 reserve for future grant match requirements. This reserve was increased to \$596,369 in FY 2011 and maintained in FY 2012. It was used once that year to fund a new Grants Financial Auditor position in the County Auditor's Office to assist in the management of an increasing number of county grants. The reserve was dissolved in FY 2013. Nevertheless, over the last few years, the Commissioners Court has approved various earmarks on the County's Allocated Reserve for established grant programs that could potentially lose funding. Many of these programs provide services related to court programs. This reserve is established to allow the Commissioners Court funding flexibility if program monies are lost and the value of the program has been proven through successful performance measures.

**Juvenile Justice Reserve – \$504,726**

The Juvenile Justice Reserve was first established in the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget to provide the Juvenile Probation Department with bridging resources, should they be needed, to address some of the challenges from unsettled issues within the Texas Department of Juvenile Justice statewide system and other unexpected needs, should they arise. The original amount of \$250,000 was increased in FY 2013 to \$418,959 and again in FY 2014 to \$504,726 to provide funding flexibility for increases in the external placement of juveniles. Accordingly, this funding is recommended to be continued to mitigate these additional placement needs. Service levels could also potentially be impacted because of new legislation that would allow more youth to be served.

**Reserve for State Cuts – \$500,000**

This reserve was originally established in FY 2012 after the 82<sup>nd</sup> Texas Legislative Session. The Commissioners Court set aside \$300,000 for potential state budget reductions that could affect Austin Travis County Integral Care (formerly MHMR). A general contingency of \$250,000 was included in the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget. This amount was then continued into Fiscal Year 2014 to mitigate the potential loss of key state-funded FTEs in the Juvenile Probation Department. While the final result of potential state funding cuts to this program area from the Texas Department of Juvenile Justice is not yet known, current projections indicate a potential loss of funding for four juvenile probation officers assigned to the court services unit. These officers provide important services in preparing reports and investigations that are reviewed by the courts for dispositional hearings, and are vital to the operations of the Juvenile Probation Department. It is recommended that this reserve be delineated for the purpose of funding these potential cuts should they occur.

**SMART Building Maintenance – \$363,033**

The SMART Building Reserve will be continued in FY 2015 to cover maintenance costs for the SMART building purchased in FY 2009, and for the new SMART building constructed by the County in FY 2011. The reserve has covered maintenance costs for the new building since January 2012. The FY 2014 projected ending reserve balance of \$270,917 will fall to the General Fund ending fund balance and will be appropriated in the FY 2015 reserve in addition to the

new revenue of \$92,116. This reserve is funded by a maintenance fee included in the lease agreements between Travis County and Adult Probation (CSCD).

**Fuel and Utilities Reserve – \$300,000**

A reserve in the amount of \$300,000 is maintained in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget as a contingency in the event of increased fuel and utilities costs. The countywide fuel budget is driven primarily by changes in the cost of fuel and the number of miles driven by county vehicles. Given that fuel prices can be volatile these funds will help cushion the County if fuel prices were to rise sharply during the fiscal year. The TNR fuel budget was increased by \$888,000 in FY 2014 to reflect recent spending trends.

Utility rates increased in October 2012. Centralized utilities are budgeted at the same levels as FY 2013 since the County has spent less than what was budgeted in recent years. In FY 2014, \$220,000 was transferred midyear from the utility reserve to the utility line items associated with the Travis County Correctional Complex. Additional funds were appropriated to the Sheriff's Budget as a result, but it is reasonable to assume that these budgets will continue to need to be "right-sized" in the coming years as costs are incurred. This reserve will help accommodate such a need.

**Annualization Reserve – \$714,606**

A reserve totaling \$714,606 was established in the FY 2015 Adopted Budget to set aside the budget to fully fund the POPS anniversary step increase in FY 2016. The funding set aside in this reserve accounts for the portion of the anniversary step increase that occurs after the October 1, 2014 start of the fiscal year.

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