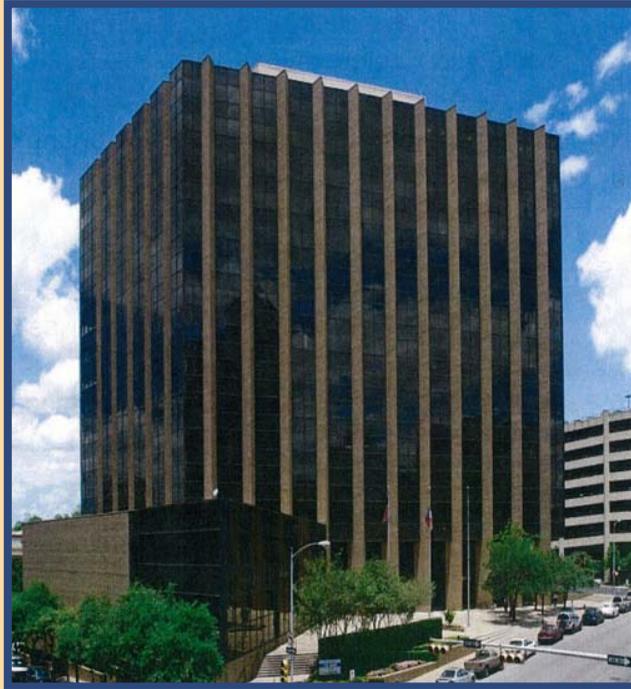


TRAVIS COUNTY BUDGET-IN-BRIEF

FISCAL YEAR 2011



VIEW OF NEW TRAVIS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT 700 LAVACA - FUTURE SITE OF COMMISSIONERS COURT ROOM

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

SAMUEL T. BISCOE
COUNTY JUDGE

RON DAVIS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 1

SARAH ECKHARDT
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 2



KAREN HUBER
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 3

MARGARET J. GÓMEZ
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 4

www.co.travis.tx.us
(512) 854-9106

THE VISION, VALUES AND MISSION OF TRAVIS COUNTY

The following statements have been developed by the Commissioners Court in an effort to describe Travis County's vision, values and mission.

THE VISION FOR TRAVIS COUNTY

We envision an open, diverse community where all people are safe and healthy and can fulfill their hopes and dreams; one which provides a good quality of life and protects our natural resources for ourselves and future generations.

THE VALUES THAT GUIDE TRAVIS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Taking responsibility, public trust and accountability, good customer service, excellence in performance, sound fiscal policy, respect for the individual, honesty and openness, caring, collaboration and cooperation.

THE MISSION OF TRAVIS COUNTY

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, and manage county resources in order to meet the changing needs of the community in an effective manner.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FY 11 BUDGET

TAXES

The Tax Rate increased by \$0.0443, from \$0.4215 to \$0.4658 per \$100 of appraised value. This is a 2.28% increase above the Effective Maintenance & Operations + Debt Tax Rate of \$0.4554. The average of all Travis County homesteads will see an increase of \$42.26 in their County property tax payments (totaling \$1,016.64 annually in FY 11 compared to \$974.38 in FY 10). The average homestead value dropped from \$288,963 in FY 10 to \$272,820 in FY 11.

BIG PICTURE

The County is in a sound financial position. County finances are stable and a superior (AAA) bond rating was recently confirmed for the 9th consecutive year. The General Fund budget increased from \$455.7 million to \$494.4 million, an increase of \$38.7 million, or 8.5%, from FY 10 to FY 11.

SELECT BUDGET ISSUES

This budget meets the County's existing contractual and programmatic commitments. There are funds for a 2.5% across-the-board compensation increase for all employees. Health insurance rates increased for FY 11. A small increase was needed to maintain retirement benefits and fund a 2% cost of living increase for retirees.

Large departmental reductions in the FY 11 budget include:

- \$1,205,718 for the Sheriff's Office to add 20 new officer positions to law enforcement, corrections and courthouse security.
- \$757,955 for Information Systems maintenance agreements.
- \$739,752 for Emergency Management Services (EMS) to fund two new county EMS ambulance units for northeast and southwest areas of Travis County.
- \$715,943 for Facilities Maintenance and Repairs.
- \$690,000 to fund program reviews in ITS and Corrections.
- \$670,098 for Increased Transfer to the Balcones Canyonlands Preservation Fund.
- \$617,016 for Juvenile Probation department to fund in the General Fund programs that were previously grant funded.
- \$502,899 for Sheriff's Office medical services and maintenance.
- \$411,341 for Records Management and Communications Resources for records storage and other operating expenses.
- \$400,000 for Civil Courts indigent attorney fees.

THE STRUCTURE AND ROLE OF TEXAS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Texas County government focuses primarily on the judicial system, health and social service delivery, law enforcement, 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 County-wide (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 being the presiding officer of the Commissioners Court.

Other elected officials in Texas Counties are:

- District Judges,
- County Court-at-Law Judges,
- Justices of the Peace,
- The County Sheriff,
- A District and/or County Attorney,
- The County and District Clerks,
- The County Tax Assessor-Collector
- The County Treasurer,
- And one or more Constables.

The State District Judges in each county select the County Auditor, who serves as the chief financial officer for the County.

In Travis County, a Purchasing Board comprised of three State District Judges and two members of Commissioners Court appoint a Purchasing Agent who oversees a centralized procurement function.

The Commissioners Court serves as both the legislative and executive branch of county government, and exercises budgetary authority over virtually all county departments, 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 Operating Officer and a Board that focus on broad policy matters.

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

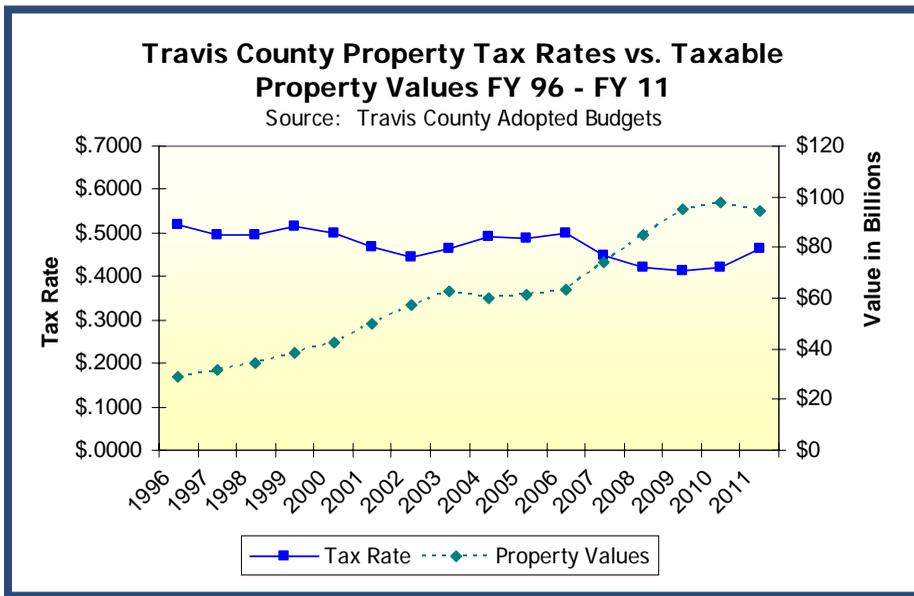
The Travis County Commissioners Court follows a fiscal year starting on October 1st and ending on September 30th. The Planning & Budget Office (PBO) begins the annual budget process by meeting with the Commissioners Court to discuss the framing of the next fiscal year’s budget and preparing a set of guidelines that are used to develop budget recommendations for the Commissioners Court. Elected Officials and County Departments submit their requested budgets to PBO in early Spring for review and evaluation. PBO prepares a draft budget called the Preliminary Budget and makes a presentation to the Commissioners Court in mid-July. The Preliminary Budget is used by the Commissioners Court as a platform for the deliberations that occur during August and September at various public hearings, work sessions and voting sessions of the Commissioners Court. The Adopted Budget is approved by the Commissioners Court in late September.

Apr/May	June/July	Aug/Sept	Oct
Review submissions/ develop recommendations	Develop/Present Preliminary Budget	Budget Deliberations & Adoption	New Fiscal Year Begins

PROPERTY TAX RATE

The total taxable value for all Travis County property dropped from \$98.36 billion in FY 10 to \$94.39 billion for FY 11. This includes the adjusted value in property and the value of new construction and is the final amount certified by the Travis Central Appraisal District (TCAD). New property value added to the tax roll totals \$1.88 billion, compared to new property value of \$2.93 billion in FY 10. The table below depicts the impact of the final adopted tax rate of \$0.4658 per \$100 of taxable value on the average residential homeowner claiming the homestead exemption. This rate is \$0.0443 above the FY 10 tax rate of \$0.4215.

All taxable property values in Travis County are set by the Travis Central Appraisal District. The Central Appraisal District is an independent body that is separate from Travis County Government. For information on a specific property contact **TCAD at (512) 834-9317** or visit them online at www.traviscad.org.



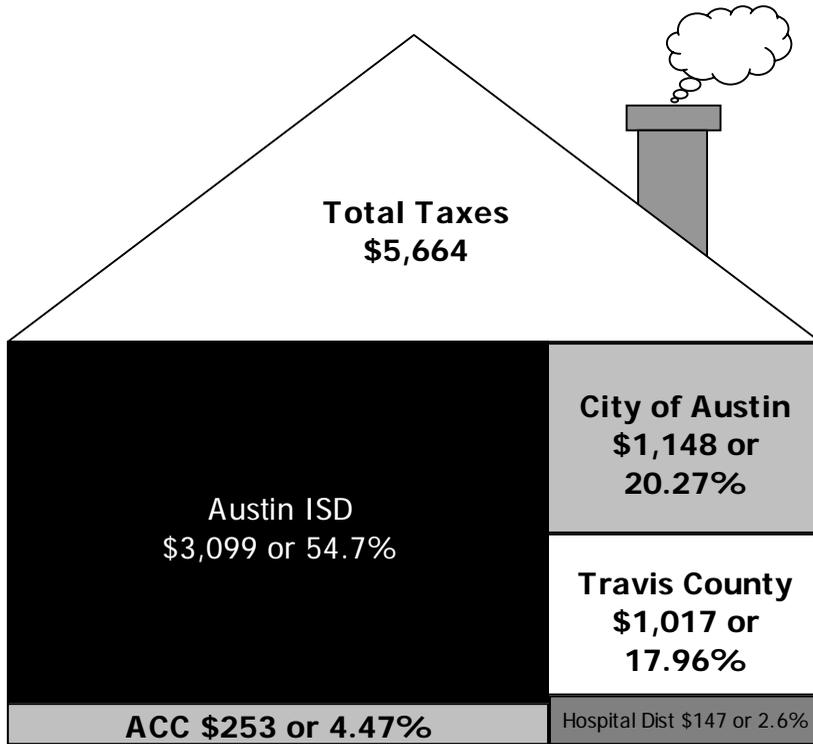
IMPACT ON AVERAGE HOMESTEAD

(All homestead values per final Travis Central Appraisal District value)

	FY 10	FY 11	Difference	
Average Homestead Value	\$288,963	\$272,820	(\$16,143)	-5.59%
Taxable Value*	\$231,170	\$218,256	(\$12,914)	-5.59%
Tax Rate per \$100	\$0.4215	\$0.4658	\$0.0443	10.51%
Average Tax	\$974.38	\$1,016.64	\$42.26	4.34%

* After 20% exemption granted by Travis County

**FY 11 PROPERTY TAX FOR AVERAGE TRAVIS COUNTY HOMESTEAD
VALUED AT \$272,820 (WITH \$218,256 TAXABLE VALUE)**



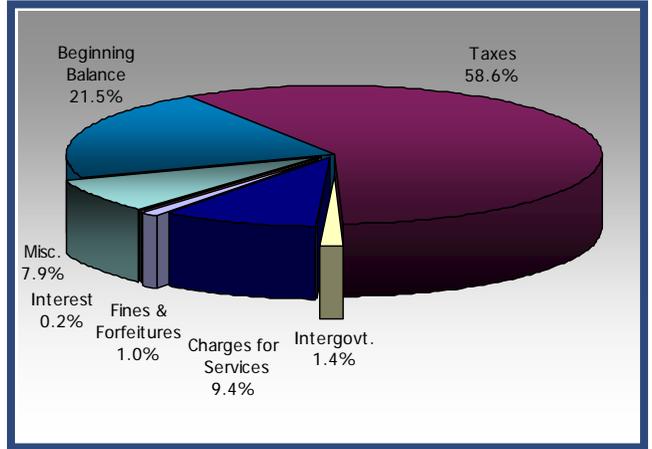
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS/TAX RELIEF & TAX RATES

Additional exemptions are offered by each jurisdiction for homesteads or disabled homeowners and those over 65 years of age. Homeowners do not have to pay a fee to claim any exemptions. For more information regarding specific exemptions for which you may be eligible, please contact the [Travis County Tax Office at 854-9473](tel:854-9473).

	Over 65 Years Old	Disabled	Homestead	
Jurisdiction	Exemption	Exemption	Exemption	Tax Rate
Austin ISD	\$35,000	\$25,000	\$15,000	1.2020
Travis County	\$65,000	\$65,000	20%	0.4658
City of Austin	\$51,000	\$51,000	-	0.4209
ACC	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$5,000/1%	0.0946
Hospital Dist.	\$65,000	\$65,000	20%	0.0674

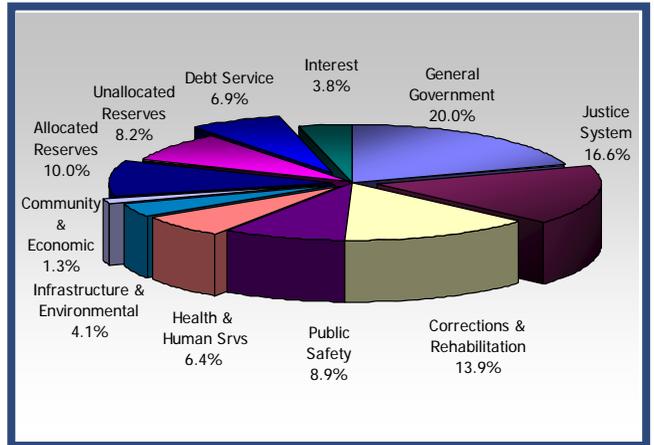
WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM? ALL FUNDS

	FY 2011 ADOPTED BUDGET
Beginning Balance	\$151,538,813
Taxes	\$413,678,806
Intergovernmental	\$9,696,972
Charges for Services	\$66,722,574
Fines & Forfeitures	\$7,152,336
Interest	\$1,482,560
Miscellaneous	\$55,642,103
Total All Funds	<u>\$705,914,164</u>

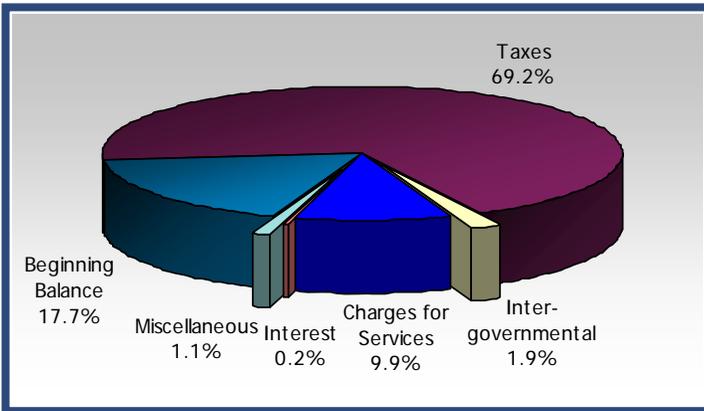


WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO ? ALL FUNDS

	FY 2011 ADOPTED BUDGET
General Government	\$141,210,712
Justice System	\$117,331,888
Corrections & Rehabilitation	\$97,871,107
Public Safety	\$62,892,498
Health & Human Services	\$44,942,421
Infrastructure & Environmental	\$28,858,565
Community & Economic Dev	\$9,070,203
Allocated Reserves	\$70,498,557
Unallocated Reserves	\$57,768,878
Debt Service	\$48,450,000
Interest	\$27,019,335
	<u>\$705,914,164</u>



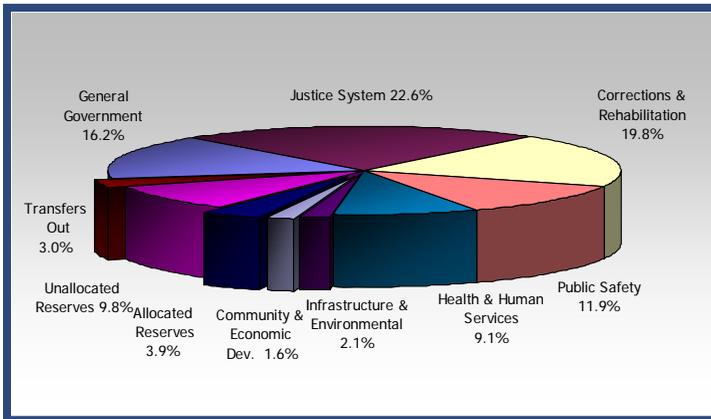
WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM? GENERAL FUND



FY 2011 ADOPTED BUDGET	
Beginning Balance	\$87,322,976
Taxes	\$342,378,536
Intergovernmental	\$9,265,662
Charges for Services	\$48,998,774
Fines & Forfeitures*	\$1,002,468
Interest	\$971,570
Miscellaneous*	\$1,762,673
Transfers In*	\$2,659,109
Total General Fund	\$494,361,768

* Fines & Forfeitures and Transfers In combined with Miscellaneous on pie chart due to small percentage amount.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO? GENERAL FUND



FY 2011 ADOPTED BUDGET	
General Government	\$80,199,093
Justice System	\$111,870,245
Corrections & Rehabilitation	\$97,871,107
Public Safety	\$58,822,676
Health & Human Services	\$44,942,421
Infrastructure & Environmental Svcs.	\$10,191,033
Community & Economic Development	\$7,805,342
Allocated Reserves	\$19,497,758
Unallocated Reserves	\$48,595,756
Transfers Out	\$14,566,337

FISCAL YEAR 2010 – 2011 GENERAL FUND FTE & DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS

Dept. Dept Name	FY 11 FTE *	Adopted Budget FY 2010	Adopted Budget FY 2011	Difference Adopted 09	% Change
1 County Judge	5	\$418,859	\$436,267	\$17,408	4.16%
2 Commissioner-Pct 1	4	\$338,579	\$350,370	\$11,791	3.48%
3 Commissioner-Pct 2	4	\$326,180	\$349,000	\$22,820	7.00%
4 Commissioner-Pct 3	4	\$333,405	\$337,118	\$3,713	1.11%
5 Commissioner-Pct 4	4	\$333,166	\$338,869	\$5,703	1.71%
2-5 Commissioners-Pcts 1-4	16	\$1,331,330	\$1,375,357	\$44,027	3.31%
6 County Auditor	82	\$8,968,003	\$9,208,465	\$240,462	2.68%
7 County Treasurer	6	\$543,817	\$560,738	\$16,921	3.11%
8 Tax Assessor-Collector	130	\$7,529,035	\$7,755,998	\$226,963	3.01%
9 Planning and Budget	16	\$1,634,025	\$1,715,664	\$81,639	5.00%
10 General Administration	3	\$3,223,641	\$4,199,288	\$975,647	30.27%
11 Human Resource Mgmt	16	\$3,656,921	\$9,805,652	\$6,148,731	168.14%
12 ITS	105	\$17,150,583	\$17,973,728	\$823,145	4.80%
14 Facilities Management	128	\$8,289,602	\$9,552,758	\$1,263,156	15.24%
15 Purchasing	33	\$2,847,062	\$3,048,166	\$201,104	7.06%
16 Veterans Services	6	\$308,069	\$311,836	\$3,767	1.22%
17 Historical Commission	0	\$1,942	\$1,942	\$0	0.00%
18 Texas AgriLife Extension Service	14	\$987,757	\$1,005,243	\$17,486	1.77%
19 County Attorney	186	\$14,743,971	\$15,668,034	\$924,063	6.27%
20 County Clerk	108	\$8,904,839	\$8,887,168	(\$17,671)	-0.20%
21 District Clerk	108	\$6,826,084	\$7,058,279	\$232,195	3.40%
22 Civil Courts	72	\$5,632,650	\$5,833,942	\$201,292	3.57%
23 District Attorney	167	\$15,951,691	\$16,459,821	\$508,130	3.19%
24 Criminal Courts	85	\$6,581,460	\$7,193,301	\$611,841	9.30%
25 Probate Court	9	\$1,621,905	\$1,652,133	\$30,228	1.86%
26-30 Justices of the Peace Pcts 1-5	100	\$6,134,858	\$6,250,110	\$115,252	1.88%
31-35 Constables-Pcts 1-5	159	\$11,131,037	\$11,712,640	\$581,603	5.23%

37	Sheriff's Department	1,473	\$122,020,867	\$128,715,390	\$6,694,523	5.49%
38	Medical Examiner	36	\$3,792,875	\$3,982,890	\$190,015	5.01%
39	Comm Super & Corr	6	\$550,124	\$559,867	\$9,743	1.77%
40	TCCES	44	\$3,329,896	\$3,401,333	\$71,437	2.15%
42	Pretrial Services	57	\$3,598,891	\$3,687,910	\$89,019	2.47%
43	Juvenile Public Defender	13	\$1,305,629	\$1,350,131	\$44,502	3.41%
45	Juvenile Probation	458	\$31,032,068	\$33,021,091	\$1,989,023	6.41%
47	Emergency Services	17	\$4,287,796	\$4,369,890	\$82,094	1.91%
49	TNR	183	\$25,281,554	\$26,620,542	\$1,338,988	5.30%
54	Civil Service Commission	1	\$89,877	\$83,002	(\$6,875)	-7.65%
55	Criminal Justice Planning	10	\$3,046,380	\$3,098,843	\$52,463	1.72%
57	RMCR	28	\$4,539,453	\$4,722,953	\$183,500	4.04%
58	Health & Human Services	178	\$27,030,294	\$27,614,979	\$584,685	2.16%
59	Emergency Medical Services	33	\$15,493,023	\$16,314,853	\$821,830	5.30%
89	Hospitalization Contra	0	(\$3,225,621)	(\$2,800,783)	\$424,838	N/A
91	Centralized Rent & Utilities (Facilities)	0	\$4,686,458	\$4,796,177	\$109,719	2.34%
93	Civil Court Legally Mandated Fees	0	\$1,063,947	\$1,489,295	\$425,348	39.98%
94	Criminal Court Legally Mandated Fees	0	\$7,914,683	\$7,914,683	\$0	0.00%
	Total Dept Budgets Excluding CAR	4,087	\$390,257,335	\$416,609,576	\$26,352,241	6.75%
	Total CAR Budgets		\$7,754,080	\$9,658,678	\$1,904,598	24.56%
	Total Dept Budgets		\$398,011,415	\$426,268,254	\$28,256,839	7.10%
	Reserves					
	Capital Acquisition Resources Reserve		\$454,223	\$496,980	\$42,757	9.41%
	Regular Allocated Reserves		\$6,639,865	\$8,953,199	\$2,313,334	34.84%
	Emergency Reserve		\$4,950,000	\$4,950,000	\$0	N/A
	Unallocated Reserves		\$43,812,685	\$48,595,756	\$4,783,071	10.92%
	Other Reserves		\$1,793,092	\$5,097,579	\$3,304,487	184.29%
	Total Reserves		\$57,649,865	\$68,093,514	\$10,443,649	18.12%
	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	4,087	\$455,661,280	\$494,361,768	\$38,700,488	8.49%

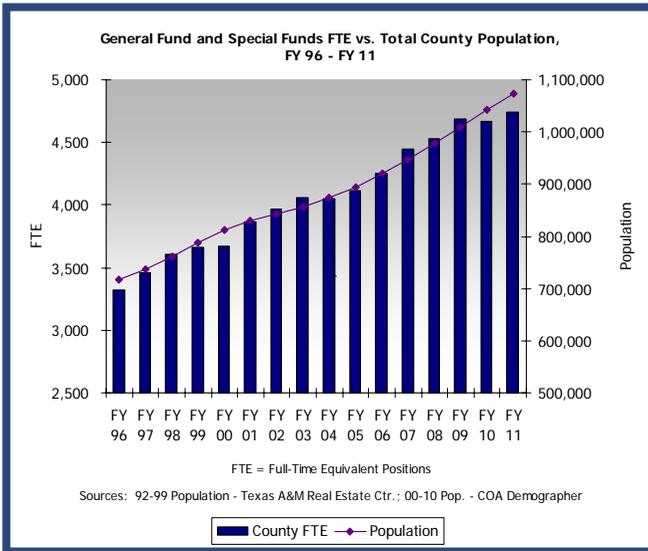
* Total FTE for all budgeted funds is 4,738

FY 11 CHANGES IN NUMBER OF FULL TIME EMPLOYEES

A net of 63.91 regular FTE were added to the FY 11 General Fund. This includes 38.75 FTE that required new funding, were revenue related or were internally funded. Another 26.16 existing FTE were moved from various other funds to the General Fund. One position was removed because it was no longer supported by revenue.

General Fund	Net Chg
<u>New Funding, Internal Funding or Revenue</u>	
<u>Related:</u>	<u>38.75</u>
New Funding Approved for FY 11 or Mid-year FY 10 (Sheriff, County Attorney, County Auditor's Office & Purchasing)	23
Revenue Related (TCSO, Constable Pcts. 2 & 4, Justice of the Peace Pcts. 1, 4 & 5, District Clerk, County Clerk & County Attorney)	13
Internally Funded (TCSO, Tax Office, Medical Examiner, Justice of the Peace Pct. 2 & HHS)	2.75
<u>Existing FTE Moved to Gen Fund from Other Funds</u>	<u>26.16</u>
Juvenile Probation Title IV-E Grant Staff (12 requiring new funding, 12 internally funded)	24
Other Special Fund Positions (District clerk, County Clerk, Civil Court & ITS)	2.16
<u>Positions Removed</u>	<u>-1</u>
No Longer Supported by Revenue (Constable 3)	-1
Grand Total	63.91

GROWTH IN COUNTY FTE VS. POPULATION



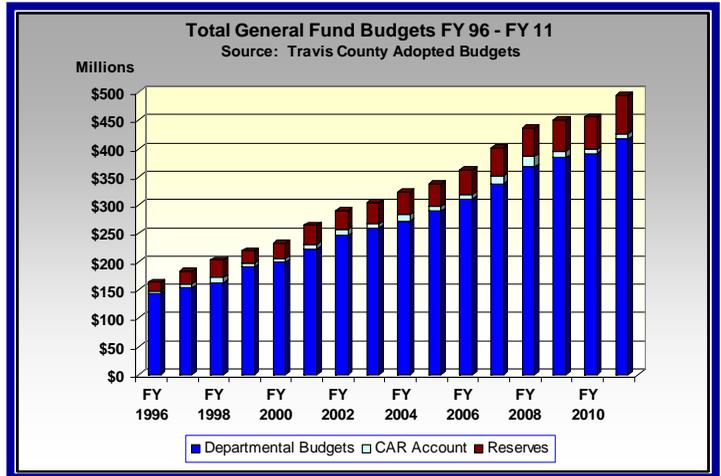
Since FY 96, the County's workforce for all funds has increased from 3,321 FTE to 4,738 FTE in FY 11, or about 42.7%. As reflected in the table to the left, this annual increase has essentially matched the annual increase in the County's population over the same time frame. While County staffing levels have increased proportionately with population growth, County budgets have increased at a much higher percentage. This reflects increases in personnel costs and programmatic growth to meet statutory changes and citizen expectations.

OVERVIEW OF GENERAL FUND BUDGETS & RESERVES

The following table provides an overview of the makeup of the total General Fund budget for Travis County.

In addition to Departmental Budgets, the County's budget includes three types of reserves;

- Unallocated Reserve
- Allocated Reserve, and
- The Capital Acquisition Reserve (CAR).



There are also departmental and County-wide reserves established for a special purpose and do not necessarily remain in the budget from year-to-year.

The Unallocated Reserve is not intended to be spent except in the case of a disaster or dire emergency, and makes up much of the budgeted ending fund balance. The level of this reserve demonstrates the County's fiscal strength. The County's bond and financial advisors recommend maintaining a ratio between 8 and 12% of the General Fund balance for sound financial management. Maintaining this ratio at a steady 11% of the General Fund has contributed to the superior (AAA) bond rating currently earned by the Travis County Commissioners Court.

The Allocated Reserve is dedicated to known or potential expenditures, and some or all of the reserve is likely to be spent during the year. There are possible claims against the Allocated Reserve called "Earmarks" that signal the Commissioners Court that a department may have a justified need for a mid-year transfer of resources to their budget for a specific purpose.

The Capital Acquisition Resources Account Reserve (CAR Reserve) is similar to the Allocated Reserve, but is instead used for one-time expenditures for capital items. It is for additional capital purchases or projects that are developed during the year or to pay for cost increases in already approved capital projects.

FY 11 CAPITAL FUNDING

To meet the County's capital needs, a total of **\$37,602,502** is included in the Adopted Budget from the following basic sources:

- **\$10,155,658** General Fund Capital Acquisition Resources account,
- **\$5,620,000*** Voter Authorized bonds approved in 2005,
- **\$21,555,000*** Short-term Certificates of Obligation, and
- **\$271,844** Other funds.

In addition, \$4,117,800* in capital needs will be funded from savings in Existing Certificates of Obligation.

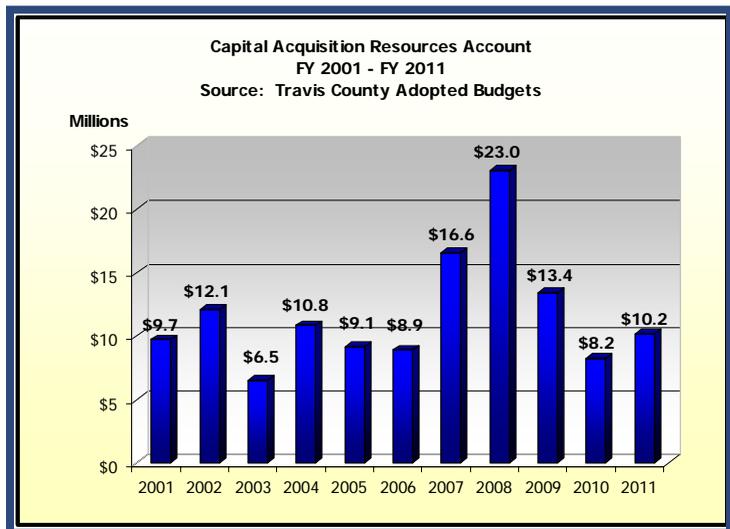
*These numbers may change during discussions to finalize the CO and Bond Issuance. Such discussions frequently occur through December of a given fiscal year. The final list will be published on the County website at http://www.co.travis.tx.us/planning_budget/default.asp

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL ACQUISITION RESOURCES ACCOUNT

The General Fund Capital Acquisition Resources (CAR) account is used to pay for capital equipment and facilities. This account has been quite variable over the years, driven by economic circumstances, capital needs, and other sources and constraints on debt financing.

The FY 11 Adopted Budget establishes the CAR account at \$10,155,658. This amount includes a Reserve of \$496,980 and \$1.1 million of CAR resources appropriated in FY 10 and re-budgeted into FY 11.

The following table shows the history of the Capital Acquisition Resources Account since 2001.



VOTER AUTHORIZED DEBT 2000, 2001 AND 2005

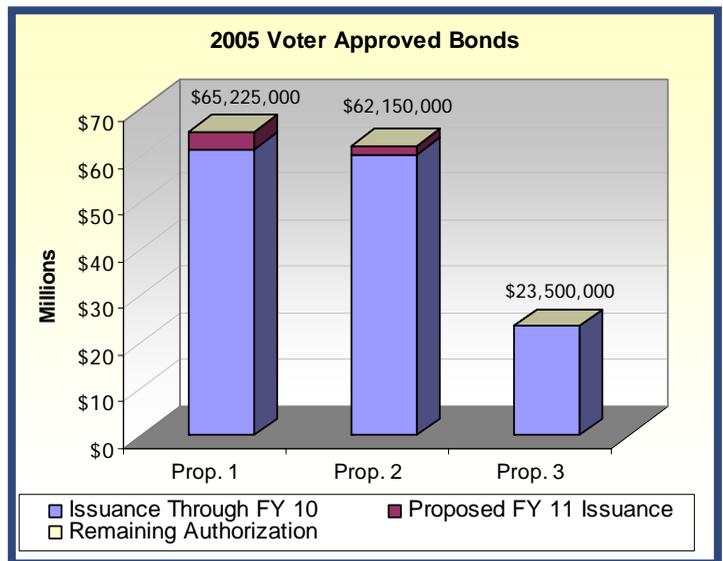
In November 2000, voters authorized the Commissioners Court to issue \$28,000,000 in General Obligation bonds for the acquisition of right-of-way for state highway projects located within Travis County. A total of \$2,000,000 related to a US Hwy. 290 West project remains from this authorization.

In November of 2001, the Travis County voters authorized \$184,955,000 in General Obligation bonds. Of this amount, \$3,115,000 has not been issued and is not planned to be issued in FY 11. Most of the remaining authorization is savings due to the issuance of Certificates of Obligation in lieu of bonds to complete some of the projects.

In November 2005, the voters of Travis County authorized an additional \$150,875,000 in General Obligation bonds for capital projects related to the following propositions:

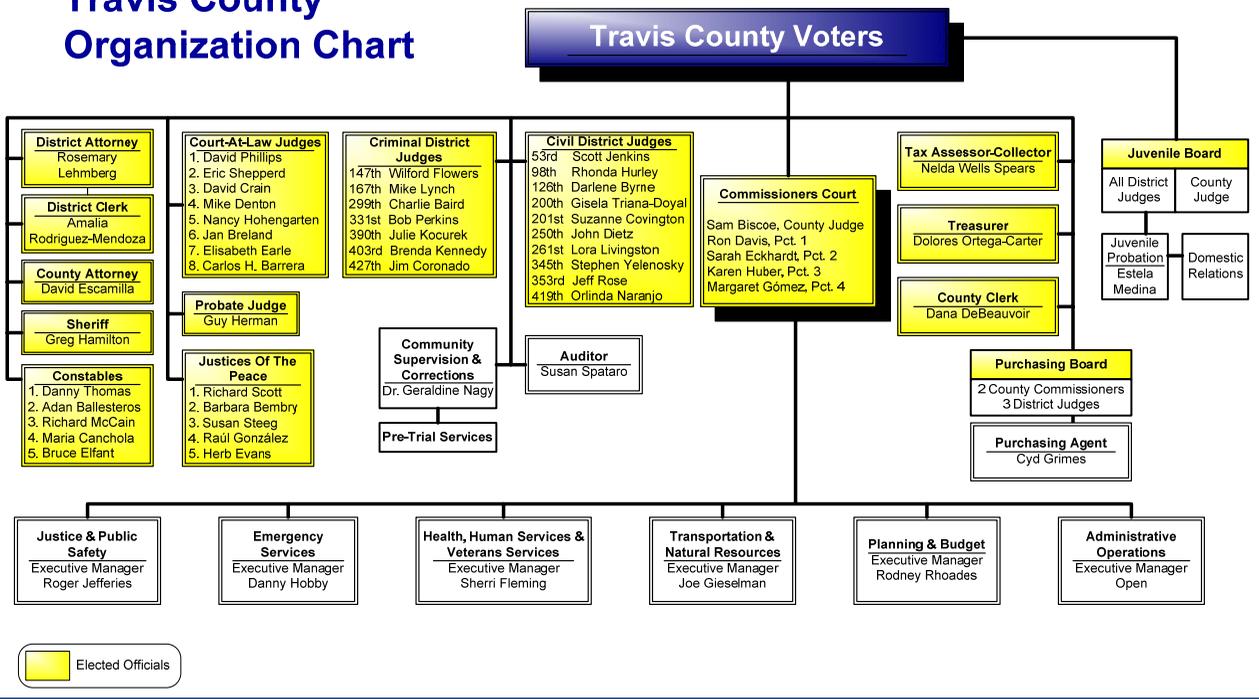
- Proposition 1 for Road improvements, right-of-way acquisition and road related drainage.
- Proposition 2 for Parks and open space parkland.
- Proposition 3 for Jail replacement beds and renovations.

The county will issue \$5,620,000 of the remaining authorization in FY 11 for Proposition 1 (\$3,765,000) and Proposition 2 (\$1,855,000).



Travis County Organization Chart

As of October 2010



Prepared by the Travis County Planning & Budget Office
 For additional copies call (512) 854-9106 or go to:
www.co.travis.tx.us/planning_budget/default.asp