



Recommended Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

Feb. 20, 2023

**Annual City Council
Goal-Setting Sessions
were held in August 2022**

Proposed Property Tax Levy

	FY2023	Proposed FY2024	% Change
Total Tax Levy	\$26,205,437	\$26,623,475	1.60%
Tax Rate	\$9.7169	\$9.9075	1.96%

Proposed Property Tax Levy

	% Change from FY23	\$ Change from FY23
Property Tax Rate	1.96%	\$0.19
Property Tax Asking	1.60%	\$418,038
Avg. Residential Property	3.00%	\$23.75
Avg. Commercial Property	8.84%	\$270.61
Avg. Industrial Property	6.62%	\$299.27

Residential Rollback

The reduction in residential rollback
from 56.4919% to 54.6501%
results in a tax revenue loss for the City of
\$627,641 in FY2024.

City Property Tax Rate Comparison



Waterloo = 91.5% higher than Dubuque

Average = 51.3% higher than Dubuque

Recommended Rates & Fees

	FY2023 Rate	Recommended FY2024 Rate	% Change
Water	\$33.18	\$35.82	8.0%
Sanitary Sewer	\$47.42	\$51.18	8.0%
Curbside Collection	\$15.38	\$15.83	2.9%
Stormwater	\$9.00	\$10.00	11.1%

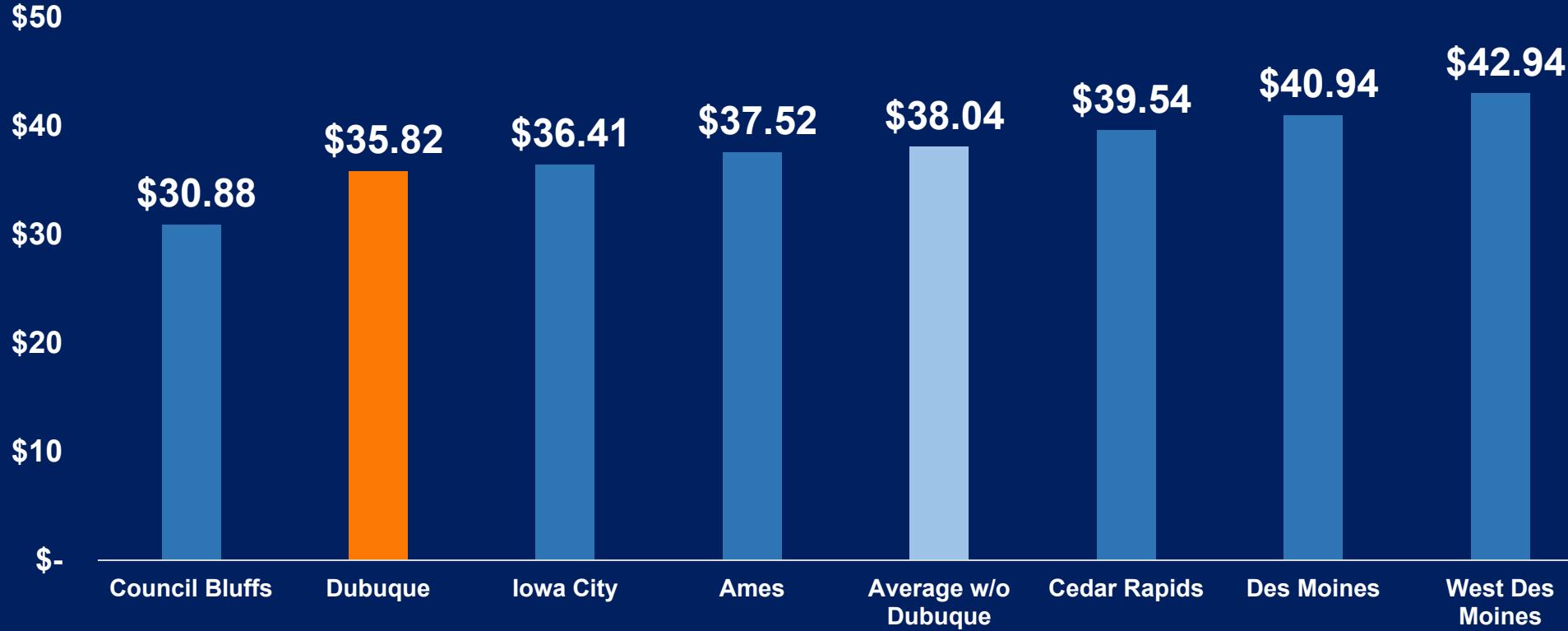
Average monthly cost for City utilities would increase by \$7.87.

*The City offers income-qualified residential customers a reduction
in monthly fees for all four utilities of up to 50%.*

Water Rate Comparison



Proposed FY24 Water Rates Comparison



The highest rate (West Des Moines) is 19.88% higher than Dubuque's proposed rate, and the Average Rate is 5.31% higher than Dubuque.

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



State-Funded Backfill on Commercial & Industrial Property Tax

- Beginning in FY2023, the backfill will be eliminated over an 8-year period.
- Projected backfill for Dubuque for the two-tier assessment limitation in FY2024 is estimated to be \$619,735.

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



Gaming Revenue

- Revenues from DRA estimated to decrease \$429,640 in FY2024
- Change from past use of DRA distributions

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



Multiresidential Property Class Combined with Residential in FY2024

- Annual loss in tax revenue of \$1,186,077 in FY 2024 will not be backfilled by the State.
- Reduction in residential rollback from 56.4919% to 54.6501% results in a tax revenue loss of \$627,641 in FY24.

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



Interest Revenue

- Interest revenue increased from \$461,015 in FY 2023 to \$1,500,016 in FY 2024. The FY 2024 budget is based on current general fund cash balance and an interest rate of 4.00%.

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



Ambulance Revenue

- Increase in Medicaid payments and reimbursement rates results in net revenue of \$1,866,377

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



Moody's Investors Service Methodology Change

- Enterprise funds considered together with general fund revenues and balances.

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



Debt Reduction

- FY 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program is currently being reviewed and balanced, so there are no revised Fiscal Year 2024 debt projections yet.

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



General Fund Reserve Goal = 20%

	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
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City's Spendable General Fund	\$35,459,518	\$29,659,518	\$23,859,518	\$18,059,518	\$18,059,518	\$18,059,518
Cash Reserve Fund Balance						
% of Projected Revenue	49.16%	50.18%	33.76%	25.56%	25.56%	25.56%

Significant Issues Impacting Budget



Recommended Wage Increases

- 6% for sworn Police, sworn Fire, and 9-1-1 Dispatchers
- 5% for all other collective bargaining agreements and non-represented employees
- Total cost to General Fund = \$1,234,458

Recruitment Challenges

The City currently has over 51 open positions.

Overall, the City's workforce is currently almost 7% below the funded level for FY 2023.

Recruitment Challenges

Examples:

- **Engineering:** Environmental Civil Engineer II (vacant from April 2021 to July 2022) and Traffic Surveillance Equipment Technician (vacant since June 2022)
- **Finance:** 5 current full-time vacancies including Budget Director (vacant since July 2022) and Finance Director (vacant since Sept. 2022)
- **Public Works:** 8 current full-time vacancies including Traffic Signal Technician (vacant since Oct. 2022) and Environmental Technician (vacant since July 2022)

Recruitment Challenges

Police Department

Early 2022, department had 17 vacancies. 14 were hired throughout 2022 and January 2023.

Current Employee Shortage: 15 FTE

- 9-12 months to train a new officer
- Used to have hundreds of applicants test for open positions.
- 29 applicants for the last testing in November: 14 tested, 7 passed, 3 withdrew almost immediately. Four applicants remain.

Recruitment Challenges

Fire Department

- 7 recruits short throughout 2022
- Reduced medical certification requirements for new hires.
- Previously would have hundreds of applicants.
- Established civil service list of 21 recruits in Nov. 22. Only 5 eligible remain.
- 10 new hires currently in training/academy
- Training new hires takes 4-6 months
- 10 staff currently eligible for retirement

Recruitment Challenges

Emergency Communications (9-1-1 Center)

Current Employee Shortage: 5.2 FTE

3 Full-Time Public Safety Dispatcher openings:

- 1 Vacant since June 11, 2022
- 1 Vacant since July 8, 2022
- 1 Vacant since Feb. 4, 2023

3 Part-Time Public Safety Dispatcher openings:

- 1 Vacant since April 2021
- 1 Vacant since October 21
- 1 Vacant since September 2022

Recommended New Public Safety Positions in FY2024



- Police: 2 Police Officer positions as part of the crisis intervention team and enhancements to the Secondary Responder Model
- Fire Department: Additional Firefighter position and an additional Administrative Assistant.
- 9-1-1 Emergency Communications: Addition of a full-time Dispatcher position

Recommended New Positions in FY2024



- **Airport: more Fixed Based Operator Line Service hours**
- **Housing & CD: elimination of a part-time position and creation of a full-time Combination Inspector**
- **Multicultural Family Center: an additional 910 hours of site supervision**

Recommended New Positions in FY2024



- **Leisure Services:** a new full-time Confidential Account Clerk
- **Library:** upgrade of a part-time Circulation Lead Library Assistant to a full-time
- **Public Works:** a Data Scientist position and a part-time Intern position
- **Engineering:** a part-time AmeriCorps position and two Intern positions

Recommended New Positions in FY2024



- Water: a full-time Water Distribution Maintenance Worker and elimination of a Water Meter Repair Worker and creation of a Water Meter Foreman position
- Water & Resource Recovery Center: creation of Assistant Water and Resource Recovery Manager position, along with the recent creation of the Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator position

Recommended Improvement Packages



- The FY2024 budget recommendation funds \$688,895 for annually recurring improvement packages funded by property taxes in the General Fund and \$691,417 for non-recurring improvement packages funded by FY2024 DRA Distribution.
- For FY2024 there are \$2,997,416 in general fund improvement package requests with a net property tax impact of \$2,461,286, with \$1,380,312 recommended for funding.

5-Year Capital Improvement Program



Private Lead Water Service Line Replacement Project

\$32.2 million total

Project will include replacing approx. 3,600 lead service lines for low-income customers.

City will submit a 90% forgivable SRF loan application.

5-Year Capital Improvement Program



Catfish Creek Sewer Improvements
\$31.2 million total

5-Year Capital Improvement Program



Five Flags Building Improvements
\$24.1 million total

5-Year Capital Improvement Program



East-West Corridor Capacity Improvements
\$8.8 million total

5-Year Capital Improvement Program



Fire Station Expansion/Relocation
\$4.8 million total

Construction estimated in FY2027

5-Year Capital Improvement Program



**Central Avenue Streetscape Master
Plan Implementation
\$1.26 million total**

CREATING AN EQUITABLE COMMUNITY OF CHOICE

A High-Performance Organization (and Community)
that is Data-Driven and Outcome-Focused built on the
four pillars of:

Resiliency Sustainability Equity Compassion

Through Planning, Partnerships, and People

Budget Public Input Opportunities



- Public Meetings: February 21 and 27, March 7, 8, 9, 21, and 22
- Public Hearing to Adopt: March 23
- Budget Comment Form & Balancing Act Simulator at
www.cityofdubuque.org/FY2024budget
- Contact City Council:
www.cityofdubuque.org/councilcontacts