

# Sample Budget Foundation Survey

*Below is a list of possible General Fund items that will help build the upcoming budget. In preparation for the upcoming budget, please complete this survey by placing an "X" in one of the five rating categories. Please provide comments on your ratings if necessary, and return the survey to Barb Matthews.*

	General Fund Foundation Item	In 5-Year Forecast?	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree	Comments
1	Maintain the Real Property Tax Rate at \$0.292	Y						
2	Maintain the Personal Property Tax Rate of \$0.805 and maintain exemptions of 82% for commercial and manufacturing inventory (Mar. 1999) and 100% for manufacturing machinery (Oct. 1990)	Y						
3	Offer the current Homeowners' Tax Credit Program, which benefits low- to moderate-income homeowners (approximately \$400,000)	Y						
4	Assume Fees and Charges on discretionary programs will be adjusted in accordance with achieving cost recovery goals as listed in the adopted Financial Management Policies	Y						
5	Increase annual Employee Compensation by a 2.0% cost of living adjustment consistent with previous two years, recent Employment Cost Index for government employees and the Consumer Price Index for the Baltimore/Washington region (1.75% assumed in forecast)	N						
6	In addition to the cost of living adjustment, provide one-time performance-based pay to regular employees who meet certain criteria on their annual reviews	N						
7	Maintain current Employee Benefits (includes allowances, healthcare, pension, retiree health)	Y						
8	Transfer sufficient funding to the City's Capital Projects Fund to support the current 5-year CIP	Y						
9	Issue new general debt to support new/unfunded/underfunded CIP projects	N						
10	Maintain the following program and service areas (please rate each area) - these areas represent non-enterprise, non-utility functions							
	Arts and Special Events	Y						
	City Communication and Outreach	Y						
	City Forest and Tree Services	Y						
	Mayor and Council Support Services	Y						
	City Parks and Open Space	Y						

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	Employee Relations, Benefit Administration and Development	Y						
	Engineering, Design and Construction Services	Y						
	Financial Management and Budgeting Services	Y						
	Information Technology Systems and Telephone Services	Y						
	Inspection Services	Y						
	Public and Community Recreation Facilities	Y						
	Outside Agency Grants	Y						
	Planning and Zoning Services	Y						
	Police Services	Y						
	Recreation Programs	Y						
	Roads, Sidewalks and Traffic Services	Y						
	Senior Citizen Services	Y						
	Social Services	Y						
	Neighborhood Services	Y						
	Environmental Management	Y						
11	Other	N/A						
12	Other	N/A						
13	Other	N/A						
14	Other	N/A						