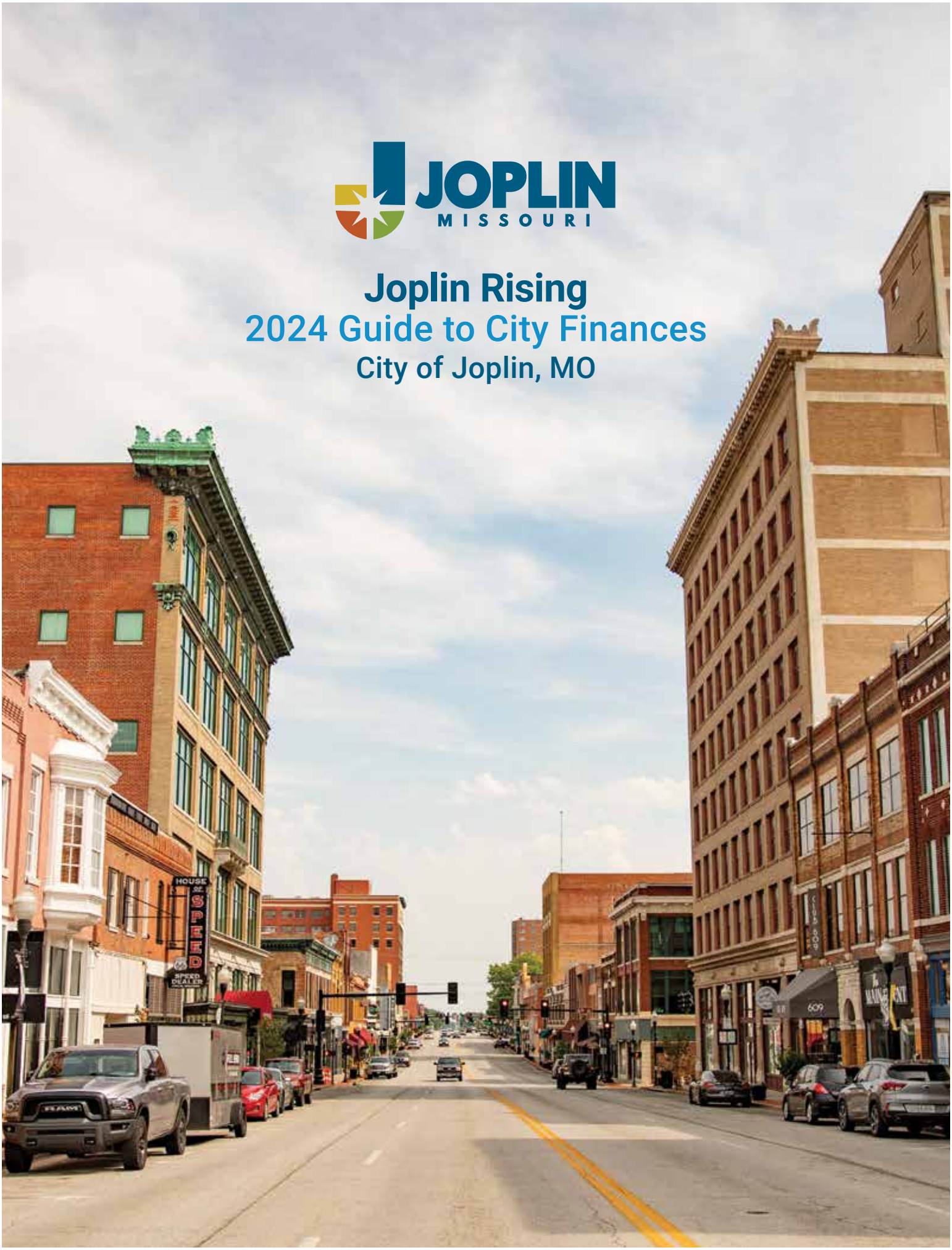


Joplin Rising

2024 Guide to City Finances

City of Joplin, MO

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About this document

The City provides a significant amount of financial detail in its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). For those without an accounting background, the ACFR can be difficult to understand. This is why the City has created the document you are reading now, the Guide to City Finances.

This guide is designed for those without an accounting background and aims to make it easier to interpret and understand the City's financial data. This document can also be referred to as a "PAFR", or Popular Annual Financial Report. A PAFR is a recommended practice of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA): the authority on best practices in governmental accounting and financial reporting. This is Joplin's first-ever PAFR.

This guide focuses on financial results for the most recently completed fiscal year, FY2024, along with a summary of what is planned for the FY 2025 budget. Financial information is derived from the independently audited statements which are part of the ACFR, and includes condensed and simplified information from the ACFR, budget, and other reports.

Joplin's ACFR has won the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 34 consecutive years – proof our Finance Department repeatedly gets things right when it comes to financial accounting and reporting. To earn this designation, the City must annually publish an easily readable and efficiently organized ACFR that conforms to standards established by the GFOA. The ACFR and PAFR must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and accepted legal requirements.

Financial Reports

Government Finance Officers Association

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Presented to

City of Joplin
Missouri

For its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended

October 31, 2023

Christopher P. Morrill

Executive Director/CEO

A letter from the City Manager

I am pleased to present the City of Joplin's first-ever Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ending 2024 (FY24). This report is designed to provide our stakeholders, residents, and community members with an accessible and concise summary of our financial health and overall operations. Our goal is to ensure transparency in our fiscal management while offering valuable insights into how public funds are allocated to serve the needs of our community.

The PAFR is an extension of our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) but is specifically tailored for ease of understanding. We recognize how important it is for our residents to have an awareness of their city's financial position, and this report aims to make complex financial information more digestible. By presenting key financial highlights, revenue sources, expenditure breakdowns, and community investments, we hope to foster greater engagement and trust in our financial stewardship.

In this year's report, we outline the strategic initiatives and fiscal policies that have guided our decisions to ensure responsible management of public funds. Our financial position remains strong, driven by sound fiscal planning, efficient resource allocation, and continued economic growth within Joplin. Key highlights include:

- Revenue Performance: A breakdown of our primary revenue streams, including taxes, grants, and other funding sources, ensuring stable financial footing.
- Expenditure Overview: A detailed analysis of our budget allocations in essential areas such as public safety, parks, infrastructure, and social services.
- Community Investments: A spotlight on projects that enhance the quality of life, including sustainability initiatives, public works improvements, and economic development programs.
- Future Outlook: An overview of financial projections and strategies that will shape the coming fiscal years to sustain long-term growth and stability.

We take pride in the fact that the City continues to operate with transparency, efficiency, and accountability.



The information presented in the PAFR reflects our commitment to responsible fiscal management and the delivery of high-quality public services.

We invite you to explore the full report and share any feedback you may have. Your engagement is essential as we work to serve the best interests of our community and maintain the highest standards of financial stewardship. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspect of this report, please feel free to reach out to me or a member of our finance team.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. We look forward to collaborating with you to build a stronger and more prosperous future.

Best regards,

Nicholas Edwards
City Manager

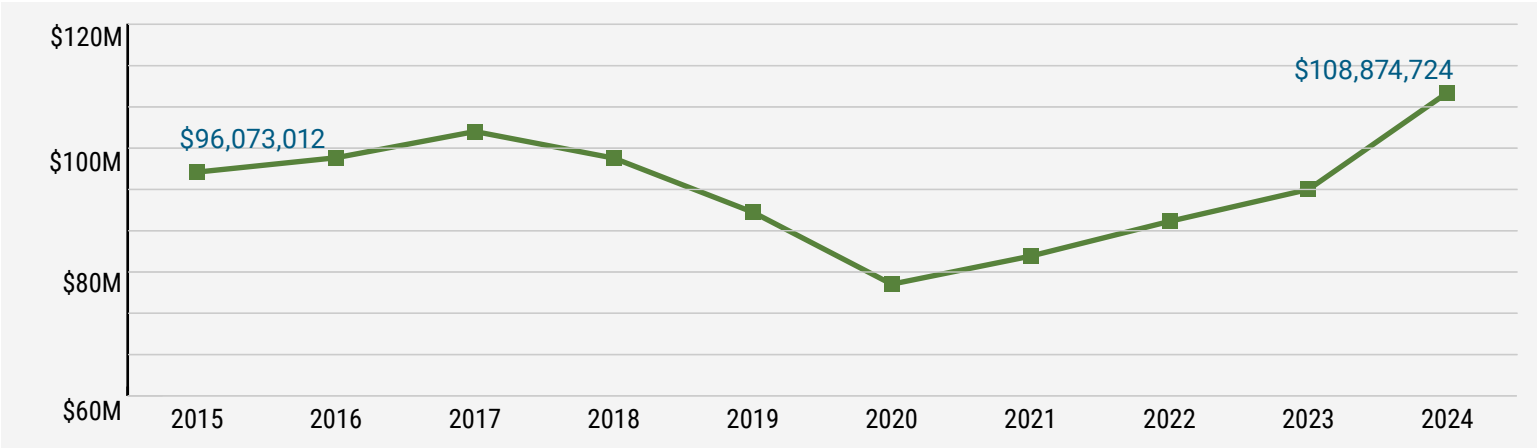
Understanding Governmental Funds Revenue Sources



Governmental funds revenue come mostly from taxes. The largest portion of the City's tax revenue comes from the 3.125% sales and use tax, which is comprised of 1% general, 0.5% general for public safety purposes, 0.5% general for public safety pension purposes, 0.25% parks and stormwater, 0.5% transportation, and 0.375% capital improvement sales tax. Sales and use tax is paid by anyone when they make a purchase at a business inside the city limits or when they purchase something online to be delivered to a Joplin address. All of the sales taxes are restricted for specific uses, except the 1% general sales tax. Use tax is restricted to the "Action Plans." Joplin collects a small amount of real property tax based on assessed value for parks, health, and solid waste management. Joplin does not collect any personal property tax. Franchise tax is also a major revenue source. Franchise tax is collected based on the gross sales on utilities, including electric, gas, water, telephone and cable, because the utility service providers use the City's rights-of-way to deliver their services.

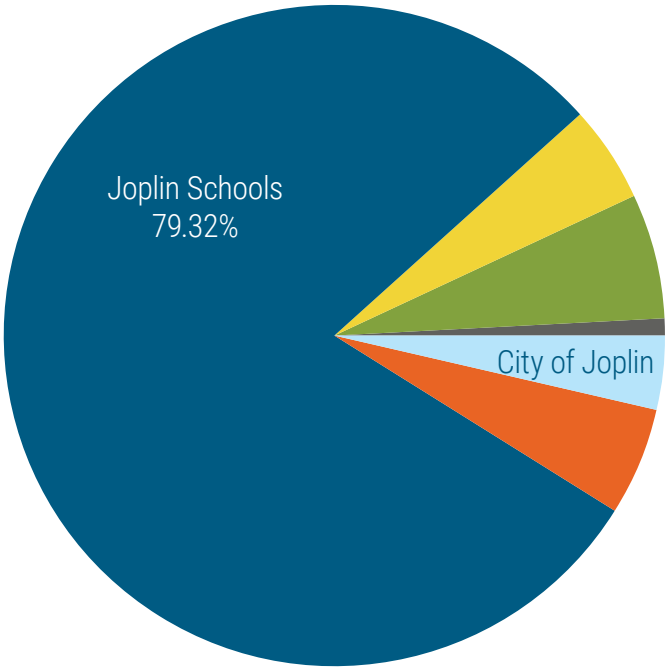
2024 Direct & Overlapping Sales Tax Rates	
City of Joplin	3.125%
Jasper County	1.375%
Newton County	1.625%
State of Missouri	4.225%
Total Sales Tax Rate (Jasper Co)	8.725%
Total Sales Tax Rate (Newton Co)	8.975%

10-Year Governmental Funds Revenue



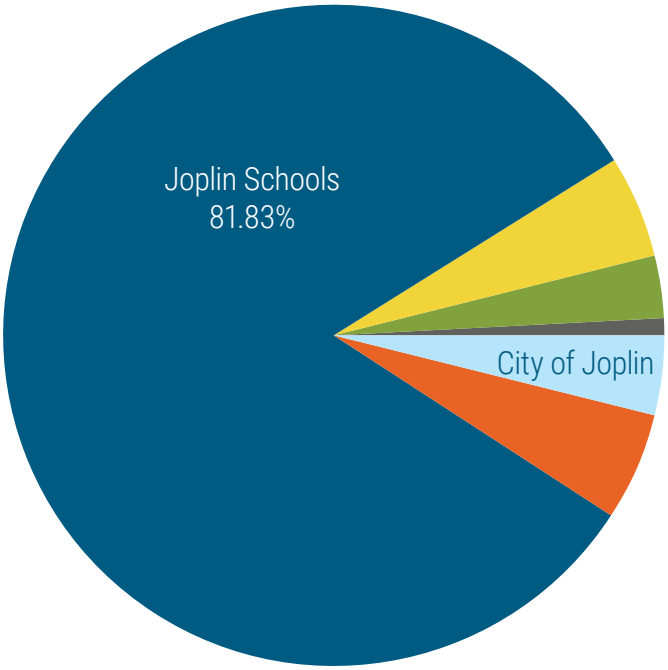


How much of your Property Tax is for City Government in Jasper County?



Joplin Schools	$3.6600	79.32%
Joplin Road District	$0.2235	4.84%
Jasper County	$0.2804	6.08%
State of Missouri	$0.0300	0.65%
City of Joplin	$0.1746	3.78%
Joplin Library	$0.2459	5.33%
Total Revenue	$4.6144	100.0%

How much of your Property Tax is for City Government in Newton County?

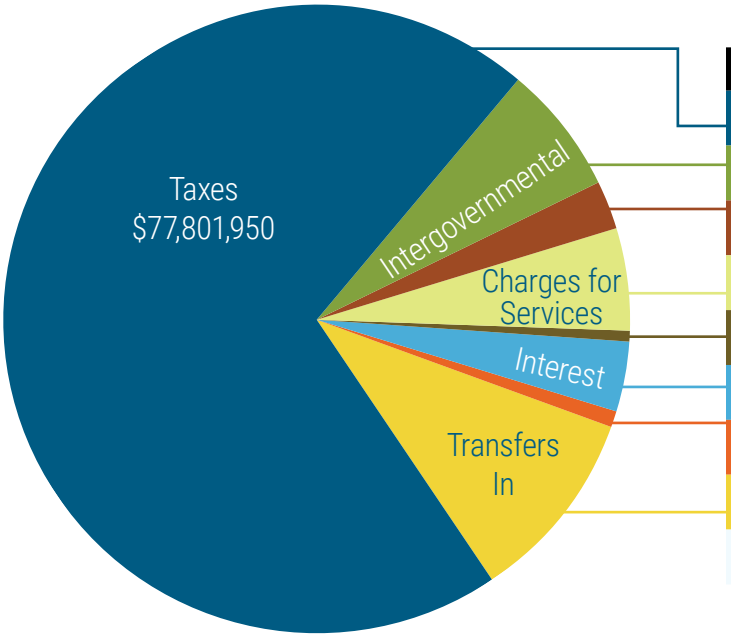


Joplin Schools	$3.6600	81.83%
Joplin Road District	$0.2235	5.00%
Newton County	$0.1389	3.11%
State of Missouri	$0.0300	0.67%
City of Joplin	$0.1746	3.90%
Joplin Library	$0.2459	5.49%
Total Revenue	$4.4729	100.0%

Where does the money come from?

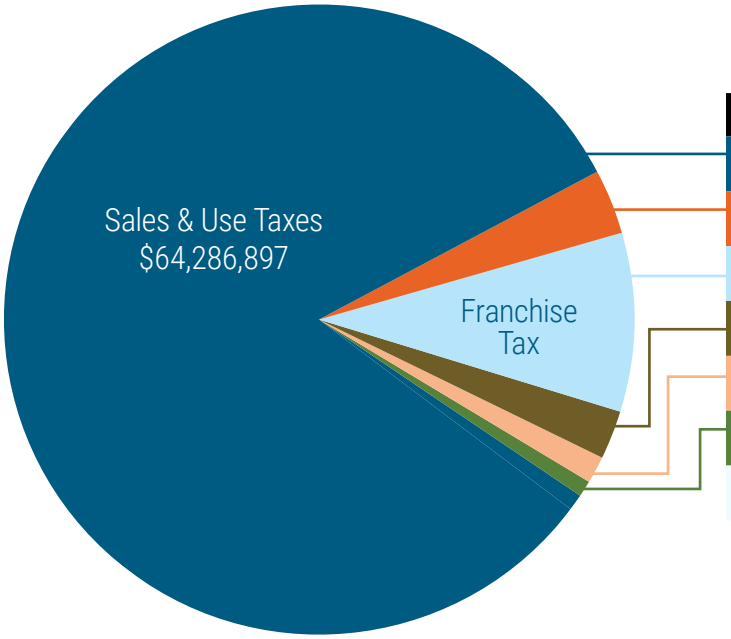


2024 Governmental Fund Revenue Sources:



Description	FY 2024 Revenue	%
Taxes	$77,801,950	70.8%
Intergovernmental	$7,233,123	6.6%
Licenses & Permits	$2,804,650	2.6%
Charges for Services	$5,534,105	5.0%
Fines & Forfeitures	$866,867	0.8%
Interest	$3,957,819	3.6%
Other	$714,429	0.6%
Transfers In	$11,007,568	10.0%
Total Revenue	**$109,920,511**	**100.0%**

2024 City Tax Revenue By Source:



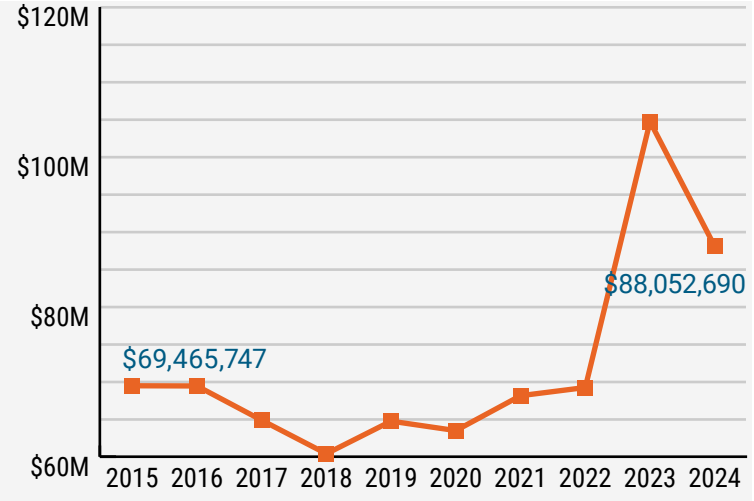
Description	FY 2024 Tax Revenue	%
Sales & Use Taxes	$64,286,897	82.6%
Gas & Motor Vehicle Taxes	$2,743,486	3.5%
Franchise Taxes	$7,133,565	9.2%
Hotel/Motel Taxes	$1,827,421	2.4%
Property Taxes	$1,267,647	1.6%
Other Taxes	$542,934	0.7%
Total Tax Revenue	**$77,801,950**	**100.0%**

Where does the money go?

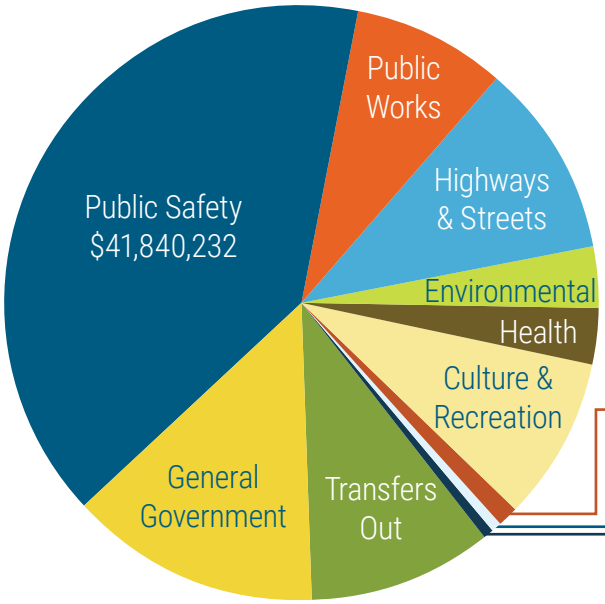
Understanding Governmental Funds Expenditures by Function

The City spends governmental funds on different functions divided by department. Expenditures within each department function include personnel services, operational supplies, other purchases & services, capital outlay, and transfers out. Expenditures can vary widely due to capital outlay and capital projects. Paying our debts and enterprise funds (airport, golf and sewer) are separate functions.

10-Year Governmental Fund Expenditures

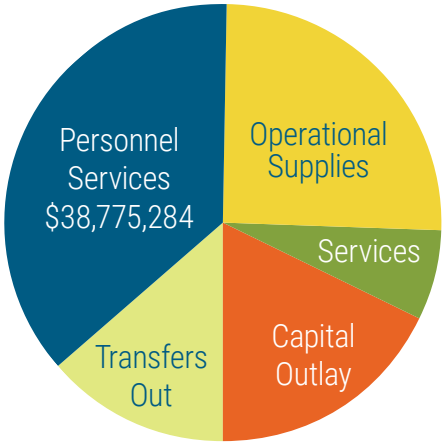


2024 Governmental Fund Expenditures by Function



Description	FY 2024 Expenditures	%
General Government	$14,431,815	13.8%
Public Safety	$41,840,232	40.0%
Public Works	$8,626,767	8.3%
Highways & Streets	$11,069,518	10.6%
Environmental	$3,420,213	3.3%
Health Services	$3,247,595	3.1%
Culture & Recreation	$9,246,692	8.9%
Social Services	$1,139,457	1.1%
Capital Outlay	$619,540	0.6%
Debt Service	$427,891	0.4%
Transfers Out	$10,406,022	10.0%
Total Expenditures	**$104,475,742**	**100.0%**

2024 Governmental Expenditures by Type



Description	FY 2024 Expenditures	%
Personnel Services	$38,775,284	37.1%
Operational Supplies	$26,657,764	25.5%
Other Purchases/ Services	$9,834,800	9.4%
Capital Outlay	$18,801,872	18%
Transfers Out	$10,406,022	10%
Total Expenditures	**$104,475,742**	**100%**

Where does the money go? Capital Projects



Capital Project Plan

The City has multi-year Capital Project Plans for streets, stormwater, parks, sidewalks, sewer, bridges, and building maintenance. Other than sewer, these are funded through special sales taxes: ¼-Cent Parks & Stormwater; ½-Cent Transportation Sales Tax and 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax. Each of these taxes include a Capital Project Plan. The capital project plans are developed through master plans built on citizen input. The City first collects the funds through the sales tax, and builds up the funds before starting the projects. The Parks & Stormwater and Capital Improvement Sales Taxes have sunset dates. The sunset date is on the collection of the tax. Because the projects are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, the projects take longer than the sunset time period to complete. Many capital projects take multiple years to design, obtain any needed right-of-way, relocate utilities as needed and finally construct the project. Consequently, the projects might be reflected in budgets over several years, even after the sunset of the tax collection.

Top 10 Capital Projects in Progress

Description	FY 2024 Amount to Date	Funding Source
Sanitary Sewer Line Improvements & Rehabilitation	$7,853,398	Sanitary Sewer Fund
Airport ARFF Building	$4,648,290	Airport Fund (Partially Grant Funded)
Turkey Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements	$2,656,492	Sanitary Sewer Fund
Connecticut - 32nd to 44th - Improve from 2-Lanes to 5-Lanes	$1,620,107	Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund
Airport SRE Building	$1,293,653	Airport Fund (Partially Grant Funded)
20th Street - Schifferdecker to Country Club Rd (3 Lanes)	$1,248,538	Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund/ ARPA (Partially Grant Funded)
Zora - Range Line to MO 249 - Improve from 2 Lanes to 3 Lanes	$769,538	Capital Improvement Sales Tax Fund (Partially Grant Funded)
Airport Runway 13-31 Mill & Overlay Design	$601,263	Airport Fund (Partially Grant Funded)
Ewert Splash Park and Ice Ribbon	$419,852	Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax/Use Tax
MOmentum Bike Park	$376,002	Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax/Use Tax/ ARPA/CVB (Partially Grant Funded)



Fire Engine 2 at the Joplin Public Safety Training Center for a scheduled training exercise.

Top 10 FY 2024 Capital Expenditures

Description	FY 2024 Amount	Funding Source
Replacement Fire Engine #2	$990,760	General Fund
Replacement Fire Engine #3	$982,362	General Fund
Replacement Fire Apparatus	$730,369	General Fund
Replacement Museum Water Boiler/Chiller	$435,036	General Fund
City Hall Renovations	$415,715	Use Tax (General)
Replacement MAPS Transit Buses (3)	$407,019	TST (Partially Grant Funded)
Replacement Police Vehicles (5)	$313,450	General Fund
Health Mobile Inspection Van	$134,013	Health Fund (Grant Funded)
Justice Center Electrical Upgrades	$102,477	ARPA Fund (Partially Grant Funded)
Replacement Leaf Vacuum	$84,300	Solid Waste Fund

Grants: Multiplying your dollars to raise Joplin up

ARPA and BIL Grants

In order to help people and communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Federal Government first passed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which brought nearly $13.8 million to the City. Following this grant opportunity, the State of Missouri offered competitive ARPA grants for various categories of improvements such as sewer, stormwater, local tourism, community revitalization and public safety. Additionally, the federal government then passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which has brought millions of dollars of grant opportunities for improvements to local communities across the country. Through patience, local leadership strategically made the decision to leverage the Federal ARPA award in an effort to bring additional State ARPA. This effort leverages over $33.8 million to bring over $55.5 million in grant funds to complete nearly $95 million in improvements to Joplin.



City utilized $5 million from ARPA grants to harden the network against storms as Allo invests $40 million to implement citywide broadband across all of Joplin.

City Of Joplin Grant Funded Project List As Of April 2025

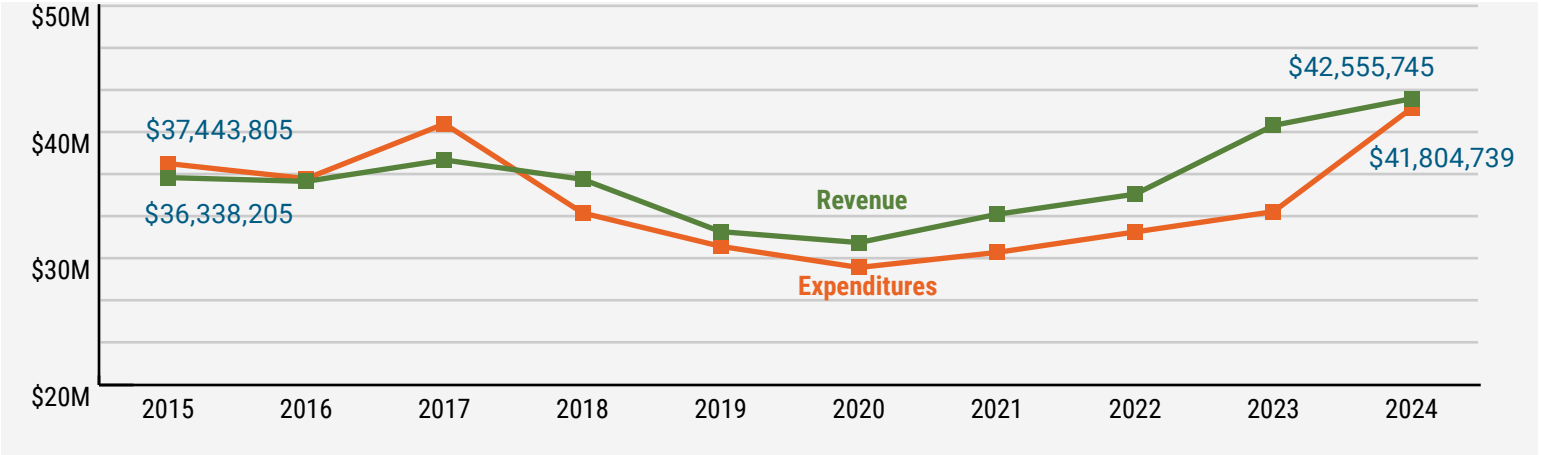
Grant	Project Description	Grant Award	Match Amount	Total Amount	Status
HUD Streetscape	Streetscape Main St. from 8th to 15th Street	$3,000,000	$3,000,000	$6,000,000	In Design
Justice Center	Various Improvements to the Justice Center	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	$2,000,000	Underway
Drinking Water	Extend Water along Zora, 7th S. & CR 180	$5,000,000	$-	$10,000,000	Underway
Stormwater	9 Separate Stormwater Improvement Projects	$5,000,000	$3,676,000	$8,676,000	Underway
Stormwater	Additional Funding for 9 Separate Stormwater Improvement Projects	$3,625,546	$2,529,881	$6,155,427	Underway
Wastewater	Wastewater Improvements at 12th & Iowa	$3,599,782	$1,667,000	$5,266,782	Underway
20th Street Widening	Widening and Improvement of 20th Street from Schifferdecker to Central City	$4,500,000	$9,420,000	$14,220,000	Underway
MOSWIN Interoperability Radio	Gives Police Department ability to communicate across the State by radio	$637,048	$-	$637,048	Underway
Zora Widening	Widening and Improvement of Zora Street from Range Line Road nearly to I49	$4,000,000	$6,454,000	$10,754,000	Underway
Community Revitalization	Down Payment Assistance, Home Repairs and Demolitions	$7,000,000	$-	$7,000,000	Underway
Emergency Medical Services	EMS Equipment	$41,894	$-	$41,894	Complete
Peace Officer	Additional Body Cameras	$42,000	$-	$42,000	Complete
Fire Protection	Begin 2nd Set of Turnout Gear	$54,594	$-	$54,594	On Order
Local Tourism	Dover Outdoor Recreation Area (DORA)	$4,008,280	$2,766,227	$6,774,507	Underway
Cybersecurity	Equipment and Training	$123,497	$-	$123,497	Complete
AOPP	Sustainable Transit Structure Study	$400,000	$100,000	$500,000	Underway
REO	Recycling Outreach & Education	$1,740,000	$615,244	$2,355,244	Underway
TAP	Grand Falls Trail	$600,000	$796,005	$1,396,005	In Design
EECBG	City Facilities Energy Evaluation	$119,050	$-	$119,050	Grant Paperwork in Process
City ARPA	Citywide Broadband Implementation	$5,000,000	$-	$5,000,000	Underway
City ARPA	MSSU Health Science Innovation Center	$1,500,000	$-	$1,500,000	Complete
City ARPA	Tin Cup Bridge	$750,000	$915,698	$1,665,698	Underway
Outdoor Recreation Legacy	Parr Hill Park Improvements	$484,230	$484,230	$968,460	Grant Paperwork in Process
Recreational Trails Program	Trail Amenities across the City	$147,210	$98,140	$245,350	NEPA Review in Process
Lead Hazard Reduction	Lead Remediation for residential homes	$3,150,000	$350,000	$3,500,000	Grant Paperwork in Process
		$55,523,131	$33,872,425	$94,995,556	

General Fund Challenge

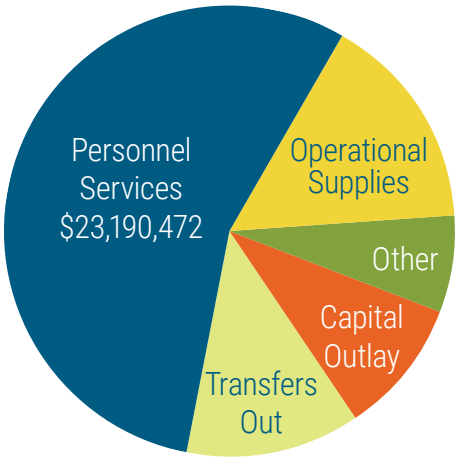
Expenditures Growing Faster than General Fund Revenue

The General Fund is the main operating fund of the City. Police and Fire services are the major services of this fund, along with other administrative services like Neighborhood Improvement, Cemeteries, and Engineering to name a few. As shown in the General Fund graph, expenditures outpaced revenues from 2015 through 2017. Revenues exceeded expenditures in 2018. Then in 2020, COVID-19 struck the world. Over the next several years inflation grew, resulting in higher sales tax collections. Investment earnings increased significantly due to higher interest rates. Recovery from the pandemic also brought unprecedented grant opportunities to the City of Joplin, as well as other local governments across the United States. At the same time, the voters approved a Use Tax which is collected on sales that occur outside of city limits, but are shipped to a location inside city limits. As a result, General Fund revenues from 2020 through 2023 outpaced expenditures. However, continued pressure on wages and a flattening of sales tax collections has narrowed the General Fund surplus.

10-Year General Fund Revenue Vs Expenditure

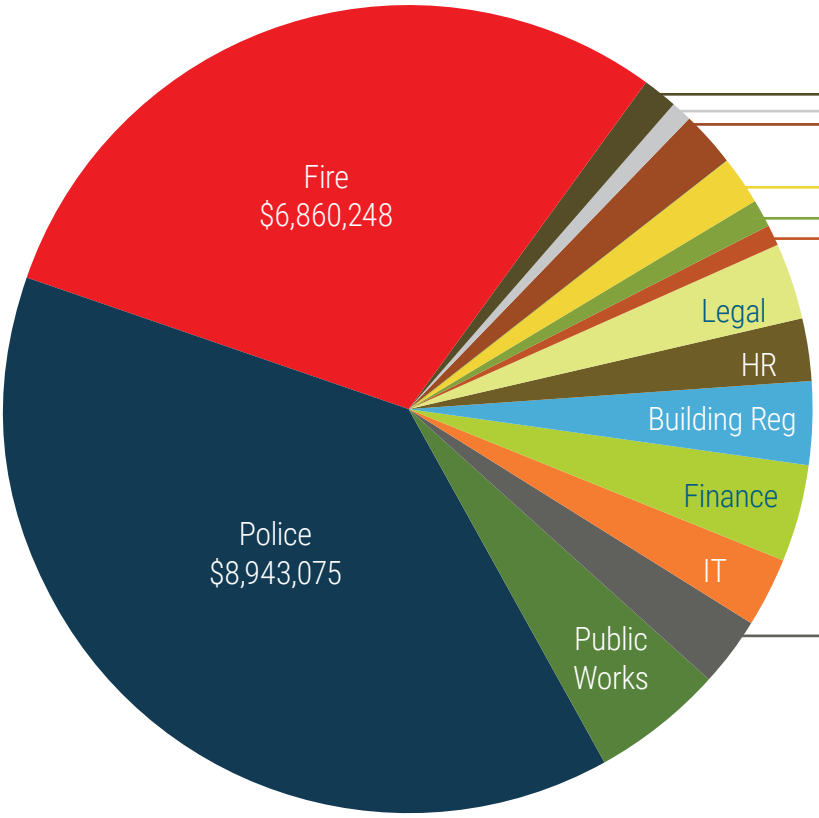


2024 General Fund Expenditures by Type



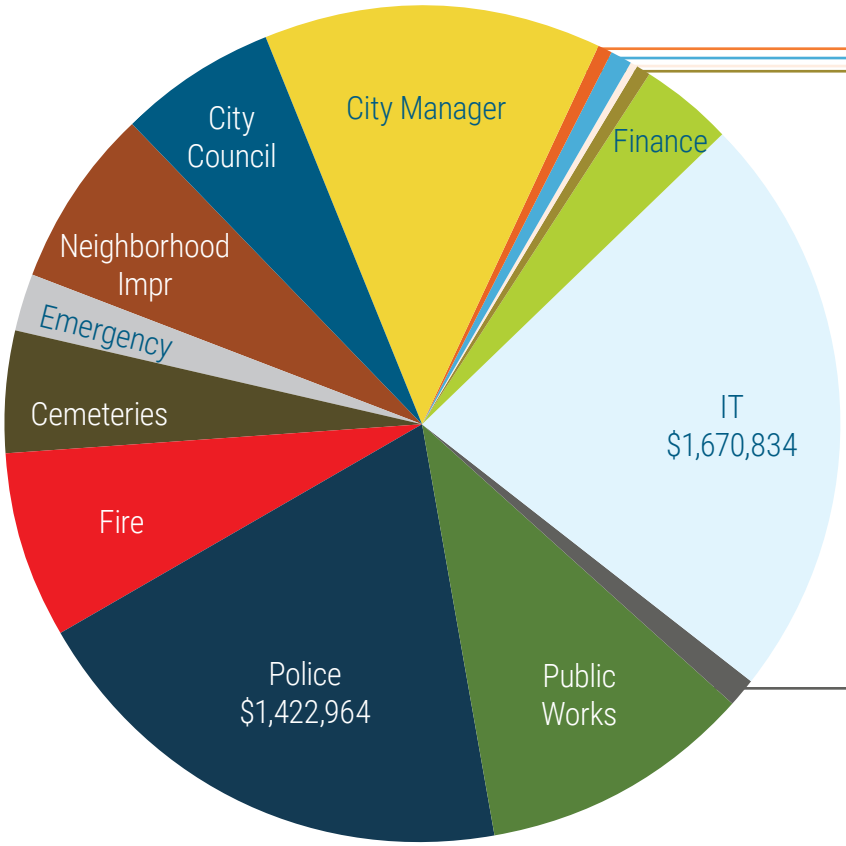
Description	FY 2024 Expenditures	%
Personnel Services	$23,190,472	55.5%
Operational Supplies	$6,532,606	15.6%
Other Purchases/Services	$2,872,099	6.9%
Capital Outlay	$4,070,562	9.7%
Transfers Out	$5,139,000	12.3%
Grand Total	$41,804,739	100%

2024 General Fund Personnel Expenditures by Department



Department	Personnel Services
Cemeteries	$340,826
Emergency Mgmt	$158,007
Neighborhood Impr	$506,820
City Council	$1,354
City Manager	$486,621
Communications	$270,938
City Clerk	$174,681
Legal Services	$706,600
Human Resources	$603,317
Building Regulations	$739,377
Finance	$934,180
IT	$595,922
Municipal Court	$704,121
Public Works	$1,164,385
Police	$8,943,075
Fire	$6,860,248
Total General Fund	$23,190,472

2024 General Fund Operational Supplies by Department



Department	Operational Supplies
City Council	$451,901
City Manager	$962,510
Communications	$52,055
City Clerk	$44,250
Legal Services	$18,091
Human Resources	$7,502
Building Regulations	$34,524
Finance	$281,603
IT	$1,670,834
Municipal Court	$78,950
Public Works	$767,558
Police	$1,422,964
Fire	$540,402
Cemeteries	$109,875
Emergency Mgmt	$42,045
Neighborhood Impr	$47,542
Total General Fund	$6,532,606

Enterprise Funds and Debt

Enterprise Funds

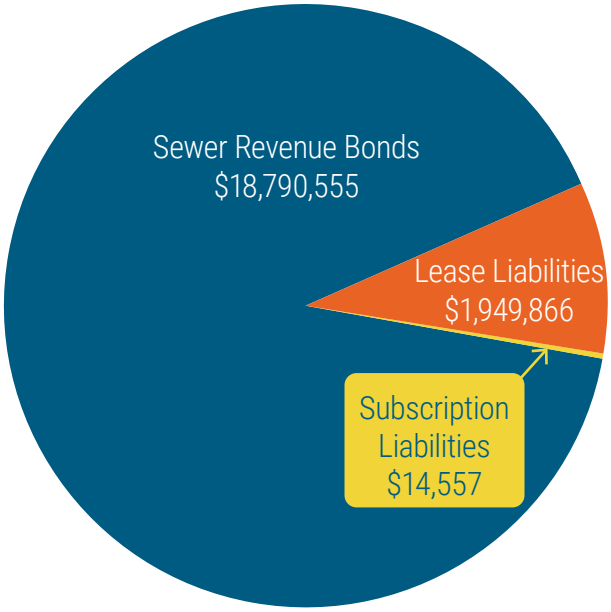
Enterprise funds are "business-type funds" that are generally self-supporting either by outside fees or internal charges. Enterprise funds are used to account for government-owned services supported primarily by service charges or user fees. The enterprise funds for the City of Joplin include Sanitary Sewer, Airport, and Golf Course.

Debt

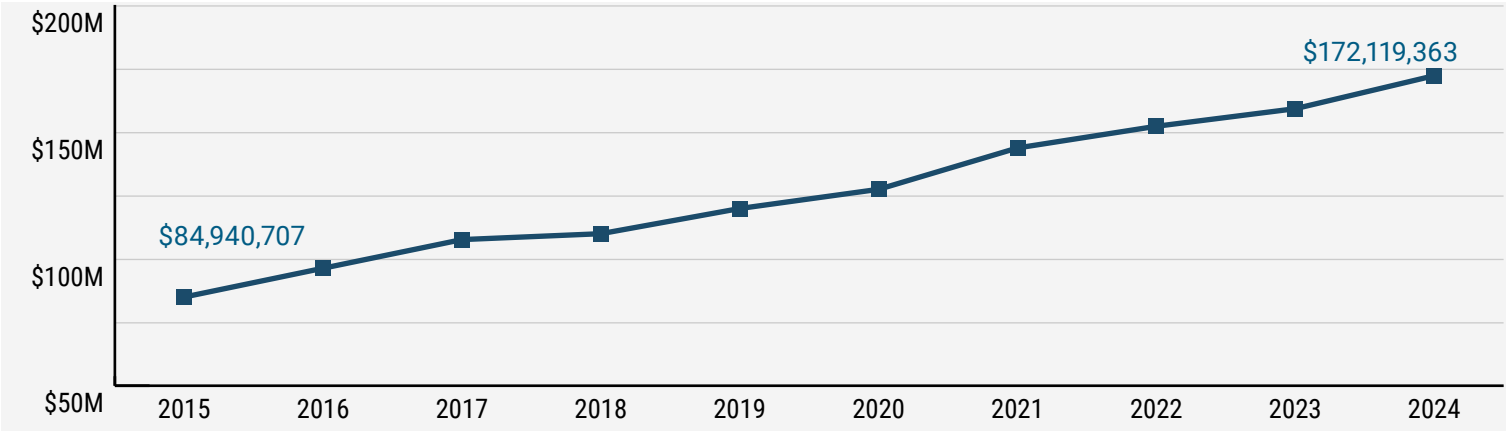
The City of Joplin has a long-standing history of being a pay-as-you-go city. This means the City saves money until there are sufficient funds to pay for a project. This can also result in higher reserves in certain funds as resources are aggregated for the project. There are some exceptions, however. Typically, the City issues revenue bonds for improvements to the Sanitary Sewer Treatment Plants. In most cases, the revenue bonds are issued by the State of Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) through a low-interest loan program. Additionally, the City will enter into leases for equipment when it is more cost effective than an outright purchase.

How Much Does The City Owe?

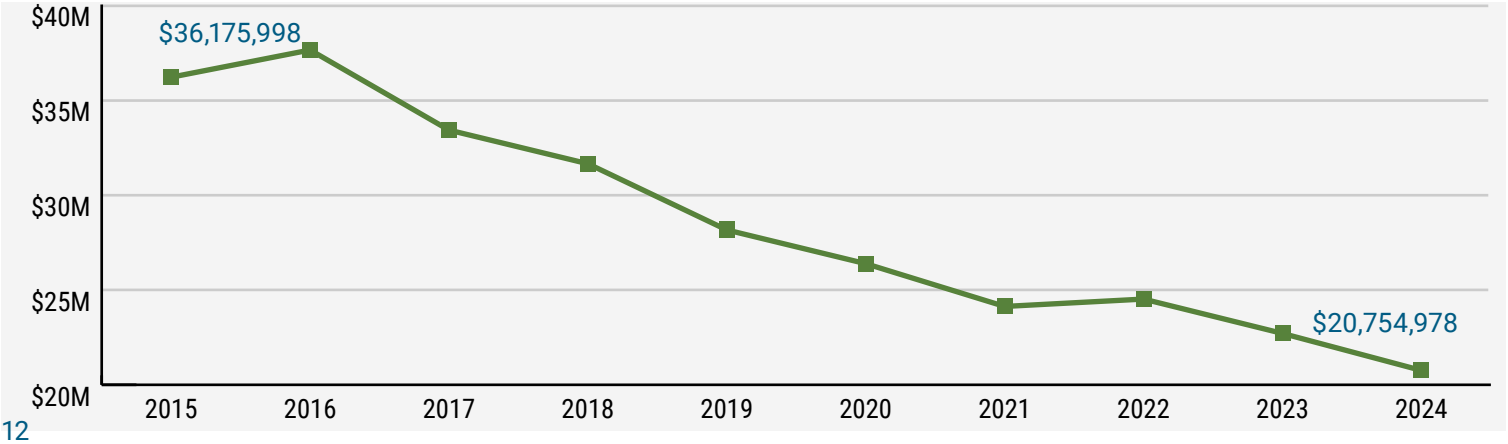
Outstanding Debt: $20,754,978



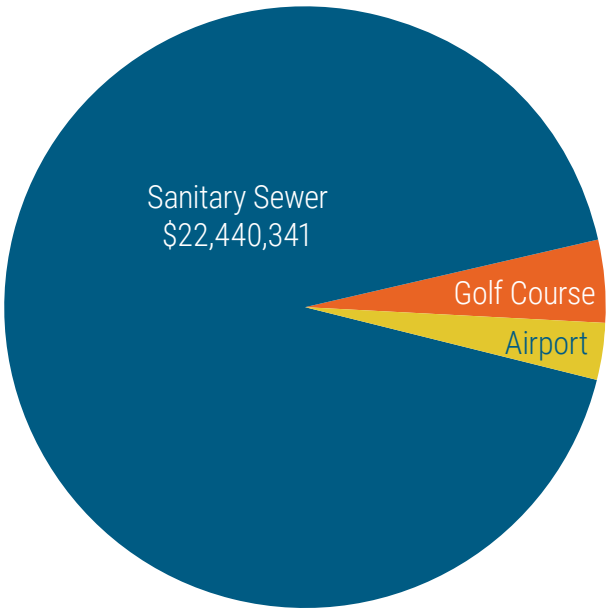
10- Year Enterprise Funds Net Position



10- Year Outstanding Debt



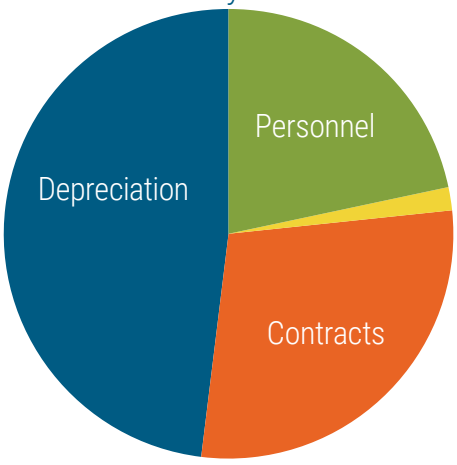
Enterprise Fund Operating Revenue By Fund



Description	FY 2024 Revenue	%
Sanitary Sewer	$22,440,341	92.6%
Golf Course	$1,026,479	4.3%
Airport	$761,646	3.1%
Total Revenue	$24,228,466	100.0%

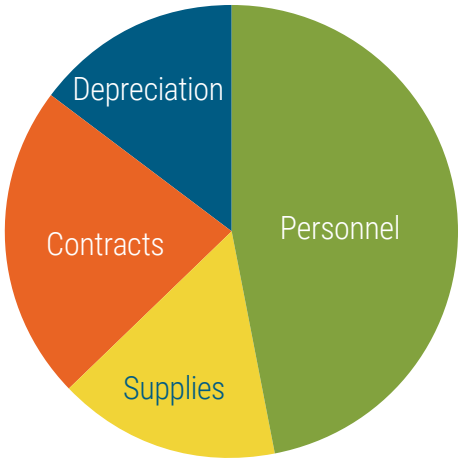
FY 2024 Enterprise Fund Expenses

Sanitary Sewer



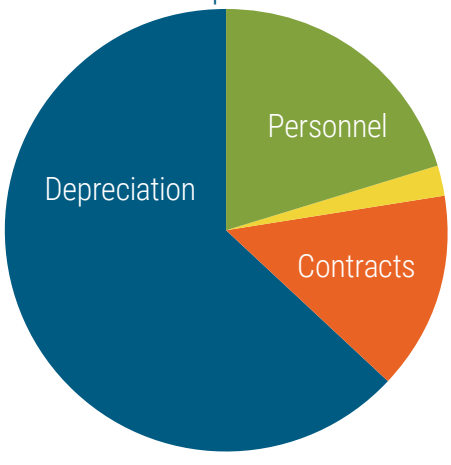
Description	Expenses	%
Personnel	$3,223,438	21.7%
Supplies	$255,191	1.7%
Contracts	$4,237,943	28.6%
Depreciation	$7,128,425	48%
Total	$14,844,997	100.0%

Golf Course



Description	Expenses	%
Personnel	$584,731	47.0%
Supplies	$196,656	15.8%
Contracts	$279,093	22.5%
Depreciation	$182,313	14.7%
Total	$1,242,793	100.0%

Airport



Description	Expenses	%
Personnel	$869,438	20.3%
Supplies	$97,883	2.3%
Contracts	$621,196	14.4%
Depreciation	$2,699,115	63.0%
Total	$4,287,632	100.0%



How much money does the City have?

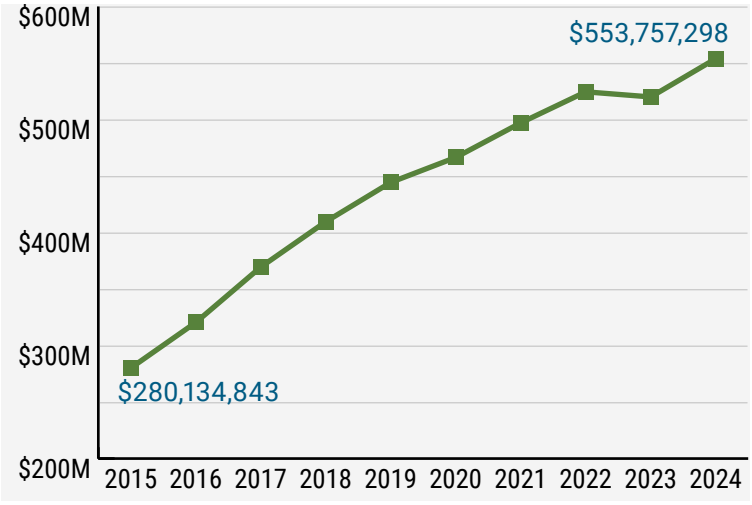
Understanding the City's Net Position

Net position is a good indicator of the general financial health of the City. Net position is the difference between the City's assets plus deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities plus deferred inflows of resources. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the City of Joplin is improving or deteriorating.

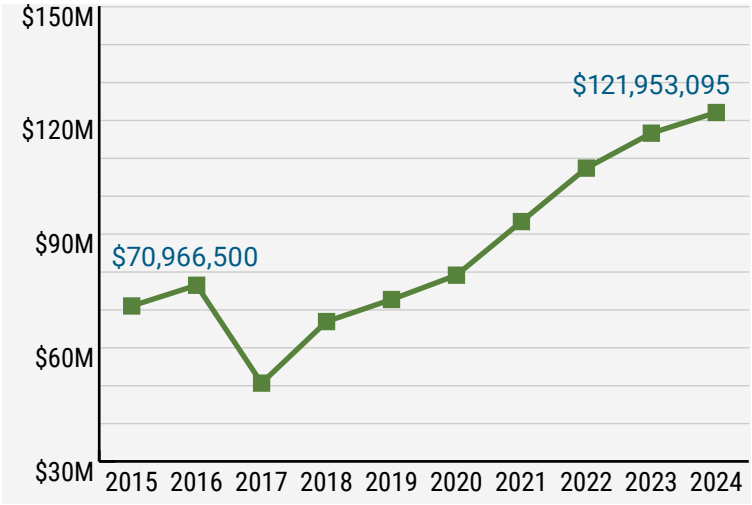
Understanding the City's Governmental Fund Balance

Governmental Fund Balance refers to the governmental type funds only. Government Fund Balance is the difference between a governmental fund's assets and liabilities, representing its net financial position, not just cash, showing available resources for future spending, emergencies or tax stability, broken down into nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned categories to show spending constraints. This is a key measure of a government's fiscal health, indicating its ability to handle unexpected costs or revenue shortfalls.

10-Year Government Wide Net Position



10-Year Governmental Fund Balance



5 Classifications Of Governmental Fund Balances:



Governmental Funds Report The Following Fund Balance Classifications:

Non-Spendable – This consists of amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted – These are amounts where constraints are placed on the use of those resources which are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed – This consists of amounts which can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by an ordinance passed by the City Council. Committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the City Council removes or changes the specified amounts by use of the same formal action that it employed to previously commit those amounts.

Assigned – These are amounts which are constrained by City management's intent for these to be used for a specific purpose but are neither formally restricted by external sources nor committed by City Council action. The City's GASB 54 policy authorizes informal City Council action or the City Manager to assign amounts for specific purposes in this category. Likewise, the City Manager has the authority to take necessary actions to unassign amounts in this category.

Unassigned – This consists of the residual fund balance that does not meet the requirements for the non-spendable, restricted, committed, or assigned classifications. A positive unassigned fund balance is only possible in the general fund.

The City has a minimum unassigned Fund Balance policy for the General Fund and the Public Safety Sales Tax Fund equal to 25% of operating expenditures. If the fund balance falls below this level, then the City shall reduce operating expenditures to the lowest possible level until such time as the minimum level of fund balance is reached.

Total Governmental Fund Balances = $121,953,095

General Fund	
Nonspendable	$247,046
Restricted	$0
Assigned	$3,823,121
Unassigned	$26,198,621
Total General Fund	$30,268,788

Transportation Sales Tax Fund	
Nonspendable	$552,082
Restricted	$19,319,577
Committed	$0
Unassigned	$0
Total Transportation Sales Tax Fund	$19,871,659

2025 Budget in Brief

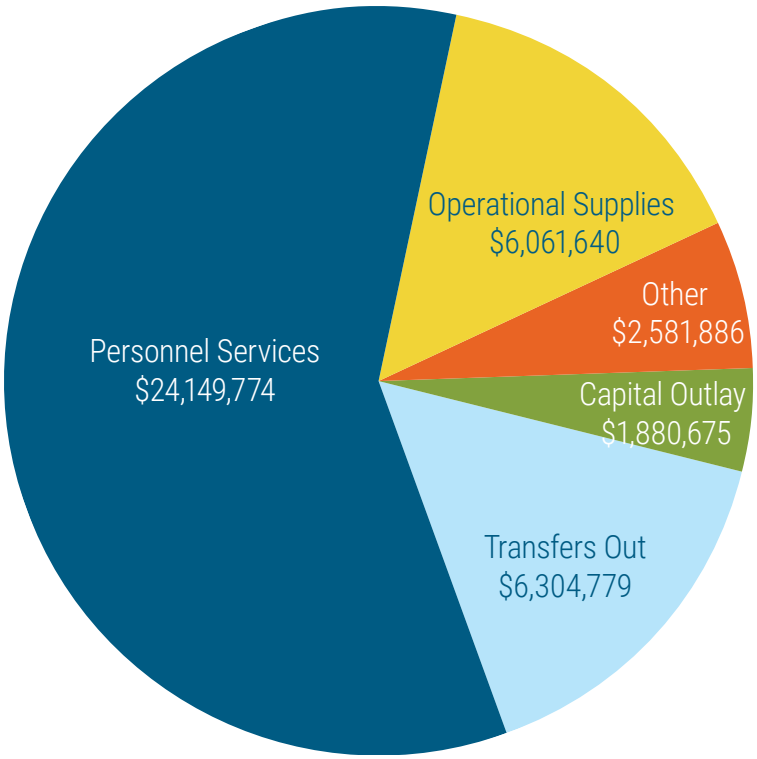
FY 2025 Total Budget Summary

Fund Type	FY 2025 Total Revenue	FY 2025 Operational Expenditures	FY 2025 Capital Expenditures	FY 2025 Transfers Out	FY 2025 Total Expenditures	%
General Fund	$41,389,548	$32,793,300	$1,880,675	$6,304,779	$40,978,754	19.2%
Special Revenue Funds	$99,809,258	$54,402,075	$58,801,746	$11,026,779	$124,230,600	58.2%
Capital Project Funds	$7,637,184	$1,712,000	$8,580,319	$-	$10,292,319	4.8%
Enterprise Funds	$36,171,100	$20,550,834	$-	$1,826,439	$22,377,273	10.5%
Internal Service Funds	$18,160,064	$15,325,988	$-	$164,320	$15,490,308	7.3%
Total Funds	$203,167,154	$124,784,197	$69,262,740	$19,322,317	$213,369,254	100.0%

The General Fund is the primary operating fund for the City, used to account for all revenues and expenditures not required to be in a separate fund.

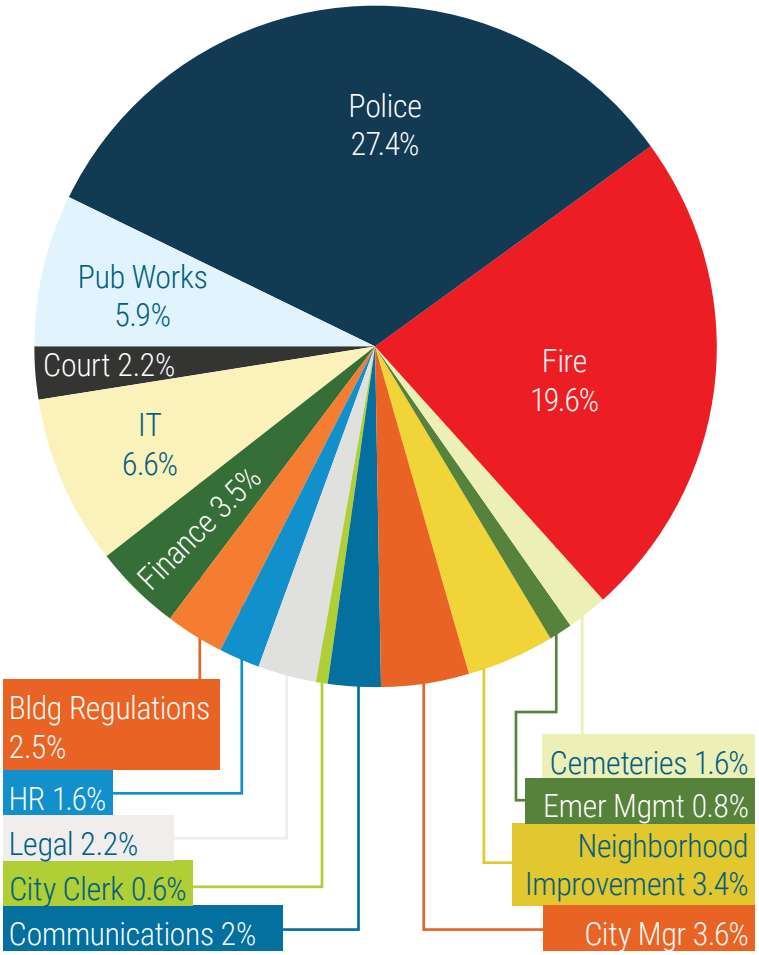
It is the main fund for the day-to-day operations of the City, which includes services like general administration, police services, fire services, engineering, cemeteries and neighborhood improvement, funded by sources such as sales taxes, franchise taxes and various fees.

General Fund Expenditures by Category



Total: $40,978,754

Total Budget By Function/Department





2025 General Fund Positions by Department

A full-time equivalent (FTE) is a unit of measurement that shows the number of full-time employees to do all of the work, which combines both full-time and part-time staff time. It is calculated by dividing the total hours worked by all employees by the number of hours in a full-time workweek, which is commonly 40 hours. For example, an employee working 20 hours a week is 0.5 FTE, while a 40-hour-a-week employee is 1.0 FTE.

City Manager 3.15	Communications 5.00	City Clerk 2.00	Legal 7.25
Human Resources 4.40	Building Regulations 11.00	Information Technology 6.00	Finance 11.00
Court 10.50	Public Works 17.65	Police 109.30	Fire 72.00
Cemeteries 7.20	Neighborhood Improvement 8.20	Emergency Management 2.00	

Total General Fund FTE: 276.65

Across all funds, the City has 634.95 FTE's, made up of 583.45 Full-Time and 51.5 Part-Time positions.

2025 Budgeted Capital Projects

Capital Improvement Projects Over $100,000

Category	Project Name	Cost
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	ARPA Stormwater Projects Group B	$2,958,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Sunnyvale Stormwater Improvements	1,138,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Ewert Splash Park with Ice Ribbon	4,172,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Ewert Park Covered Basketball Court	550,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Ewert Park Amphitheater	250,000
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Dover Outdoor Recreation (DORA)	2,733,288
Parks & Stormwater Sales Tax	Playground Updates	441,250
Transportation Sales Tax	Street Maintenance	150,000
Transportation Sales Tax	Neighborhood Improvement	500,000
Transportation Sales Tax	Street Projects (Overlay)	2,500,000
TST - Proposition Action	10th & Main Beautification Project	500,000
Capital Improvement - Prop Action	10th & Main Beautification Project	500,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Building Maintenance - Replacement Chiller - City Hall	400,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Zora - Rangeline to MO 249 (ROW)	100,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Neighborhood Transportation Improvement	150,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Zora - Rangeline to MO 249 Phase I & II	7,100,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	6th & Virginia Parking Garage Modifications	4,000,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	20 Street - Schifferdecker to Country Club Road	10,000,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	7th Street City-Owned Sidewalks	2,000,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	20th Street - Country Club to Central City Road	3,000,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	7th Street & Illinois Intersection	500,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	ADA Citywide Sidewalks	625,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Street Surface Repair	835,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Bridge Maintenance	125,000
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Traffic Signal Updates	210,000
American Rescue Plan Act Fund	Justice Center Grant	573,875
American Rescue Plan Act Fund	Citywide Broadband Project	5,000,000
American Rescue Plan Act Fund	Drinking Water Infrastructure	5,000,000
Infrastructure Improvement	Infrastructure CDBG-DR	3,000,000
Infrastructure Improvement	Cox Ave Box Culvert	300,000
Infrastructure Improvement	Streetscape 8th to 15th Street along Main Street	5,136,269
Airport	Runway 13-31 Rehabilitation	11,800,000
Sanitary Sewer	East 20th Sewer Extension (Design)	300,000
Sanitary Sewer	Sewer Rehabilitation (I&I)	1,500,000
Sanitary Sewer	Crane Road - Arbor Hills Lift Station Elimination	3,000,000

Future Budget Outlook



City Council's six priority pillars

Since 2020, the Joplin City Council have been focused on the following six priority pillars. These strategic priorities influence decisions throughout the organization about how to allocate resources and where to focus time and energy. The six priorities influence the development of key initiatives and the capital improvement plan, and those plans determine what should be budgeted. This way, we can ensure spending is oriented to help the City achieve its strategic priorities.

- Crime & Safety
- Resilient Revenue
- Declining Neighborhoods
- Economic Development
- Community Appearance
- Addressing Homelessness

Unfunded Needs

The City has many unfunded needs. The capital improvements master plan contained over $225.3 million in needed improvements, yet the 12-year tax will only generate approximately $95 million. Likewise, the stormwater master plan included about $60 million in identified projects, while the parks master plan included another $45 million of needed improvements. Yet, the parks and stormwater sales tax generates approximately $41 million over ten years. The City must keep pace with maintaining the infrastructure already in place, while continuing to bring new improvements to help ensure a vibrant and thriving community.

In addition to the unfunded capital projects, sales tax growth is having a difficult time keeping pace with the cost of capital equipment replacement, as well as competitive wages to attract and retain quality employees to provide good services to residents and visitors to our community.

Fiscal Year 2025 Key Initiatives

City staff continually plan new programs and projects, what we call our "Key Initiatives". Each year, the heads of each City department create the list of key initiatives for their department. These do not describe normal ongoing operations, rather, the strategically prioritized work which is in addition to our normal operations, services and programs. During the budget process, City Council are presented with the full list of key initiatives and provide input, because these initiatives define which novel activities the City must plan for and budget. For 2025, the City identified 86 unique key initiatives, with some initiatives highlighted as follows.

Department/Division	FY 2025 Key Initiative
City Manager	Facilitate the delivery of Grant/ARPA Projects
City Manager	Plan for the Demolition of Memorial Hall and the Construction of Memorial Park
Communications	Evaluate Website needs, Develop and Present the Proposed Plan for the Website Redesign
Communications	Enhance the Sharepoint Intranet for Employee Use
Communications	Expand and Enhance Proactive Electronic Communications efforts
Communications	Conduct Planning and Preparations for City "State of the Community" event to be held in 2026
Legal Services	Implement Special Tax Bill collection program that includes filing of litigation, post-judgment collections, and quiet title cases (action plan)
Legal Services	Oversee Charter Review Commission
HR	Update Existing Compensation Study
HR	Review and Update Employee Handbook and selected Job Descriptions
Building Regulations	Develop and Create Vacant/Dangerous Building Program (action plan)
Building Regulations	Continuation of Online Building Permit options
Finance	Continue Implementation of Vacant Lot Inventory and County Lot Transfer Program (action plan)
Finance	Begin Transition to an Online Business License Option
Finance	Continuation of Time & Attendance Software Implementation
Finance	Update & Improve the Communication of Financial Information through Website and a Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)
IT	Upgrade VOIP Servers at two locations
IT	Upgrade City Hall CCTV/Security Camera Server
Public Works	Implementation of Central Square Enterprise Asset Management System
Public Works	Facilitate Implementation of Grants Projects
Police	Establish and Implement Crime Tip Line by telephone or online
Police	Implementation of a Co-Responder Unit of Social Workers at the Police Department to assist with various societal issues
Fire	Improve and Update Special Operations Programs including Swift Water, Confined Space, and Haz-Mat
Cemetery	Update Information Stations, Bridge and Picnic Tables
Cemetery	Evaluate Software Programs to improve financial system tracking and data cataloging
Emergency Mgmt	Update Tornado Siren Replacement Plan
Neighborhood Impr	Begin Development of Neighborhood Improvement Program (action plan)
Neighborhood Impr	Begin Enforcement of Property Maintenance Code (action plan)
Neighborhood Impr	Update Sign Code and begin Enforcement of the Code (action plan)
Police Public Safety	Continuation of Implementation of Strategy 3 of Reduce Crime & Increase Safety with addition of 2 Police Officers
Police Public Safety	Continuation of Implementation of Strategies 4 & 5 of Reduce Crime & Increase Safety through downtown Bike Patrols
CVB	Assist Joplin Celebrations Commission with 2026 USA 250 and Route 66 Centennial
CVB	Complete the Visitor Profile and begin implementation of recommendations
CVB	Establish a Concierge Counter within CVB
Health	Conduct a Department Review resulting in a Strategic Plan for possible future Accreditation
Health	Evaluate and Develop MOU's with neighboring Health Departments to provide mutual aid assistance
Parks	Construct, Install and Implement Smithsonian Institute Traveling Exhibit Habitats in several parks
Parks	Develop new Exhibits to Promote 100th Anniversary of Route 66
Solid Waste Mgmt	Facilitate and Coordinate the delivery of the REO Grant

Department/Division	FY 2025 Key Initiative
Parks/Stormwater	Evaluate Park Ranger Software Programs to assist with streamlined reporting to Police and Parks Departments
TST	Complete 2025 expanded Overlay/Microsurfacing Program through improved project management and inspection
TST	Implement Improved Scheduling and Routing of Street Sweeping
TST	Implement School Zone Pavement Markings for Advanced Warning at School Zones with Existing Flashers
TST	Transition to Semi-Automatic Transit Trip Scheduling Software
TST	Begin Online Transit Ride Scheduling
TST	Facilitate and Coordinate the delivery of the AOPP Grant (to explore potential regional transit system expansion)
Capital Improvement Sales Tax	Implement the Incorporation of Beautification Standards into Capital Improvement Projects
Planning	Research possible updates to Joplin Development/Zoning Code
Planning	Continuation Strategy 1 of Increase Economic Opportunities through a Strategic Annexation Plan
Airport	Complete Construction of ARFF/SRE Building and Runway 13/31 Rehabilitation Project
Golf Course	Implement Pace of Play Program
Sanitary Sewer	Complete ARPA Grant Project
Health Self-Insurance	Coordinate 5-Year Bid of Health Insurance and Ancillary Lines of Insurance
Emergency Comm	Installation of Portable Radio Console in order to expand training opportunities for Dispatch

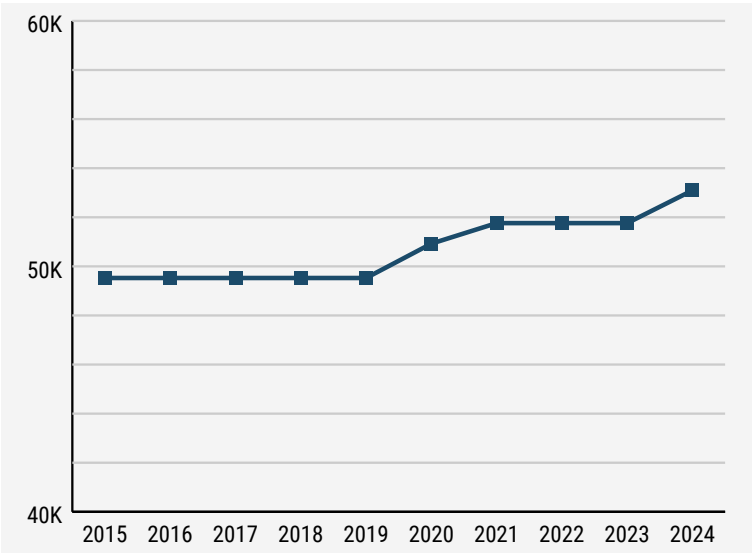


2025 Key Initiatives included maintenance to the Schifferdecker Park & Golf complex.

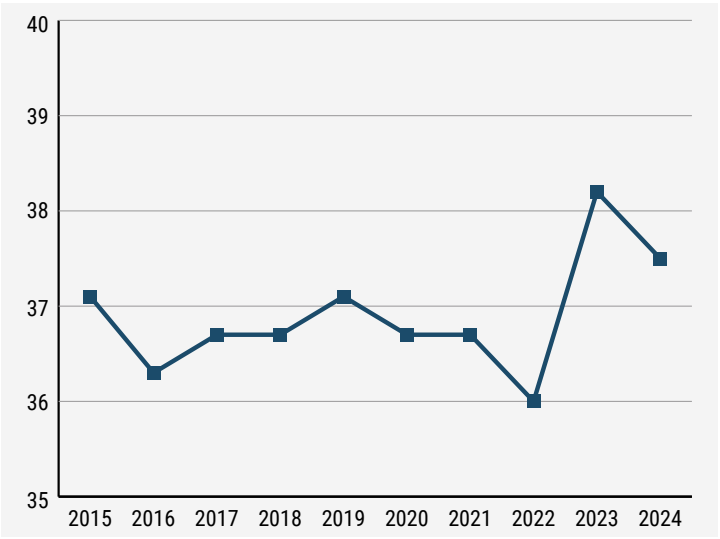
Joplin by the Numbers



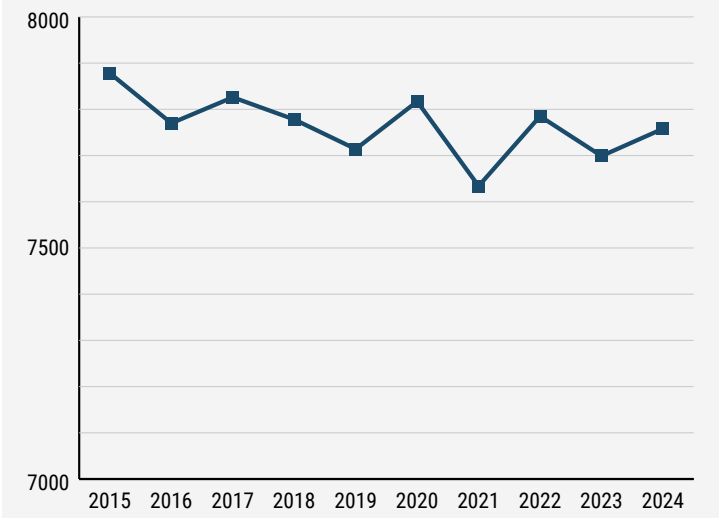
10-Year Population Growth



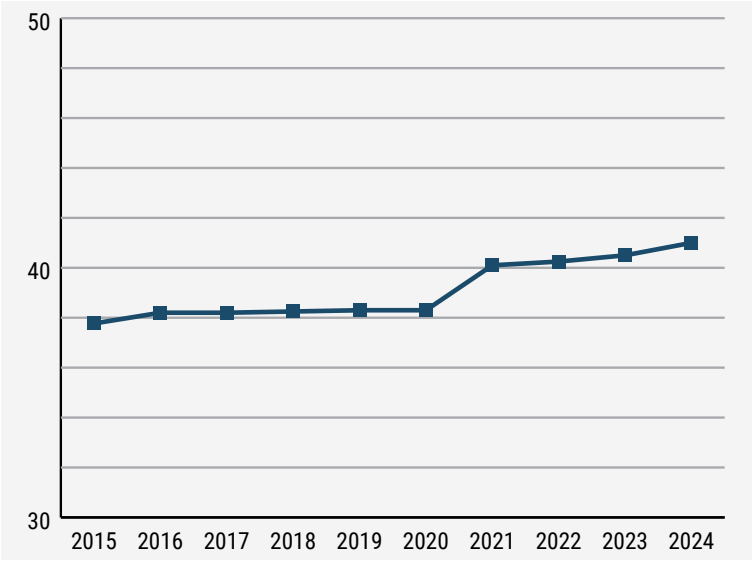
10-Year Median Age



10-Year Public School Enrollment

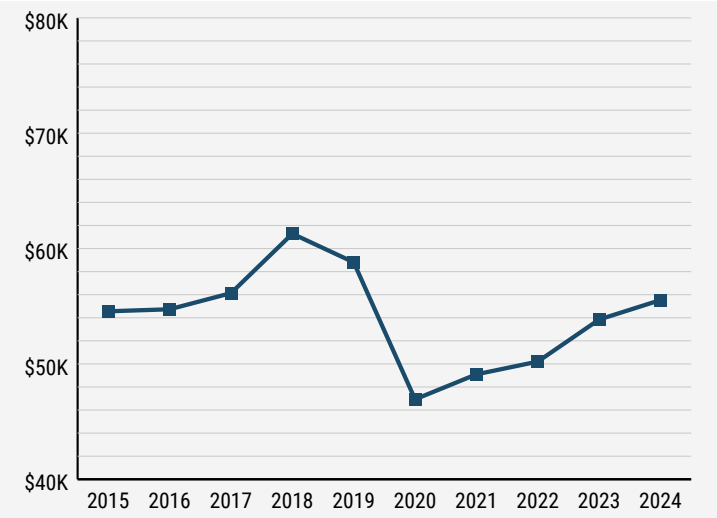


10-Year Total Area in Square Miles

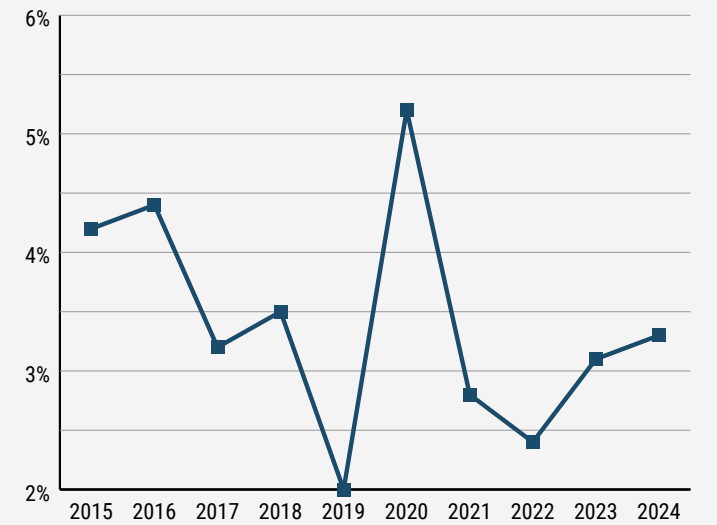




10-Year Median Household Income



10-Year Unemployment Rate



Principal Employers for 2024

Employer	Employees	% of Total City Employment
Freeman Health System	3,150	3.58%
Contract Freighters Inc (CFI)	2,800	3.18%
Mercy Hospital Joplin	2,500	2.84%
Joplin Schools	1,425	1.62%
Ajinomoto Foods	955	1.09%
Lowe's	902	1.03%
Liberty Utilities	875	0.99%
Jasper Products	825	0.94%
Wal-Mart	800	0.91%
Cornerstone Caregiving	782	0.89%
TAMKO Building Products	700	0.80%
City of Joplin	626	0.71%
Alorica	600	0.68%
EaglePicher Technologies	600	0.68%
Transportation Distribution Company	575	0.65%
Ozark Center	536	0.61%
Target	516	0.59%
Missouri Southern State University	506	0.58%
General Mills	490	0.56%
AT&T Mobility	448	0.51%
Total	**20,611**	**23.42%**

Did you know?



Population:

53,605 – Census Bureau estimate July 1, 2024

Population Growth:

3.5% increase – Since April 1, 2020 estimate

Top Ten Job Sectors 2010-2024

Sector	2024 Jobs	2010-2024 % Change	Avg. Earnings
Manufacturing	6863	29% ▲	$75,246
Health Care & Social Assistance	6574	6% ▲	$60,286
Retail Trade	5982	2% ▲	$39,225
Transportation & Warehousing	4270	16%	$65,938
Accommodation & Food Services	3758	14% ▲	$23,915
Government	3121	24% ▲	$57,046
Administrative & Support	2003	43%	$41,929
Construction	1956	29% ▲	$70,591
Wholesale Trade	1947	17% ▲	$72,583
Other Services	1629	2% ▲	$34,640

Unfunded Public Safety Needs

One major challenge for Joplin's public safety departments is hiring and retention. Pay is not as competitive as it should be compared to other departments in the region – especially when comparing the workload and calls for service.

Other unfunded challenges include the need for new facilities and equipment. For example, Joplin Fire needs to renovate or replace the aging Fire Station #3. Eventually, the City also needs to find a solution for replacing the aging Justice Center which headquarters all our public safety.

Police and Fire Annual Pay Scale Comparison

Job Title	Joplin Starting Pay	Regional Average Starting Pay	Joplin Max Pay	Regional Average Max Pay
Firefighter/EMT	$36,720	$47,633	$55,542	$65,402
Fire Battalion Chief	$60,231	$85,794	$91,104	$120,391
Police Officer	$40,800	$49,765	$61,713	$72,158
Police Captain	$67,860	$91,048	$103,257	$116,979

Regional benchmark cities: Springfield, Branson, Jefferson City, Liberty, and St. Joseph in Missouri, plus Bentonville and Ft. Smith in Arkansas.

Fiscal Year 2024 Department Service Numbers:



Police Incident Calls
83,225



Fire Calls for Service
9,435

JOPLIN
PARKS & RECREATION

Rounds of Golf Played
33,174

Pool Admissions
32,610

Museum Admissions
8,280

JOPLIN
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Animal Control Service Calls
5,447

Vital Records Provided
8,626

Vaccinations Provided
2,028

JOPLIN
PUBLIC WORKS

Street Maintenance in Miles
1.50

Right-of-Way Mowing in Miles
3,000

Street Cleaning in Curb Miles
5,947

Number of Sewer Customers
23,644

JOPLIN
REGIONAL AIRPORT

Airport Enplanements
17,189

Airport Deplanements
17,603

JOPLIN
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

New Business Licenses Issued
1,952

Business Licenses Renewed
4,445

City Council

Mayor & Mayor Pro Tem



Keenan T. Cortez, Sr.
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Josh DeTar
Mayor Pro Tem
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View full financial reports online at joplinmo.org/Financial-Reports