



# 2025 Recommended Budget

Finance Committee  
August 22, 2024





# BUDGET TIMELINE

2025  
Recommended  
Budget

8/14

**Finance Committee Meeting – General Overview of Budget Process**

8/16

**Deadline for DLGF to release 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 LIT estimates**

8/22

**Finance Committee Special Budget Meeting – High level overview of recommended 2025 budget**

8/26

**Finance Committee Special Budget Meeting – Departmental Budgets**

9/4

**Finance Committee Meeting – Regular Monthly Meeting & additional discussion if needed**

9/9

**City Council Meeting – Public Hearing & 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of 2025 Budget**

10/7

**City Council Meeting – Budget Adoption**



## Notable Projects and Funding, Prioritized in 2024 Budget:

### Neighborhood & Community Vibrancy:

- 🌱 \$750,000 awarded to 46 neighborhoods
- 🌱 \$1,000,000 allocated to sidewalk repairs
- 🌱 \$2,100,000 allocated to landscaping medians and roundabouts
- 🌱 \$250,000 allocated to urban forestry program
- 🌱 \$500,000 allocated to Teacher Innovation Grant program

### Quality of Life

- 🌱 Geist Greenway opened
- 🌱 Community Center groundbreaking (Q4 FY25 opening)
- 🌱 Fishers Event Center nearing completion (Opening in November 2024)

### OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- 🌱 3 additional Firefighters, 3 additional Police Officers, 2 additional School Resource Officers, 1 additional Police Forensic Technician, 1 additional Public Health Inspector, 1 additional Public Health Nurse, and 2 additional Public Works staff added to support our community.

# 2024 RECAP

CITY OF FISHERS 2025



Geist Greenway



Fishers Event Center



# FISCAL STRENGTH

## 2024 Awards & Audit Results

The City maintained its financial durability throughout 2024, maintaining a AA+ general obligation bond rating, while having the lowest municipal tax rate among the largest municipalities in Hamilton County.



**Lowest municipal tax rate in Hamilton County\***

\* Among 4 Largest Municipalities in Hamilton County



**AA+ Bond Rating** (Investment Grade Security, very strong capacity to meet financial commitments)



**Strong General Fund Cash Reserve** (\$33,913,709)



**Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)**

**35<sup>th</sup>** Straight Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Report for year ending 12/31/23

**17<sup>th</sup>** Straight Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for fiscal year 2024 Budget

CITY OF FISHERS 2025



# 2025 Budget Highlights

## Notable Upcoming Projects in 2025:

- First full year of operations at the Fishers Event Center
- Complete Construction on the Community Rec. Center
- Start and complete 116<sup>th</sup> & Allisonville Roundabout



FLAT PROPERTY TAX RATE  
4<sup>th</sup> STRAIGHT YEAR OF FLAT OR REDUCED TAX RATE



CONTINUED INVESTMENT IN NEIGHBORHOOD  
VIBRANCY & TEACHER INNOVATION






INVESTMENT IN QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY CENTER

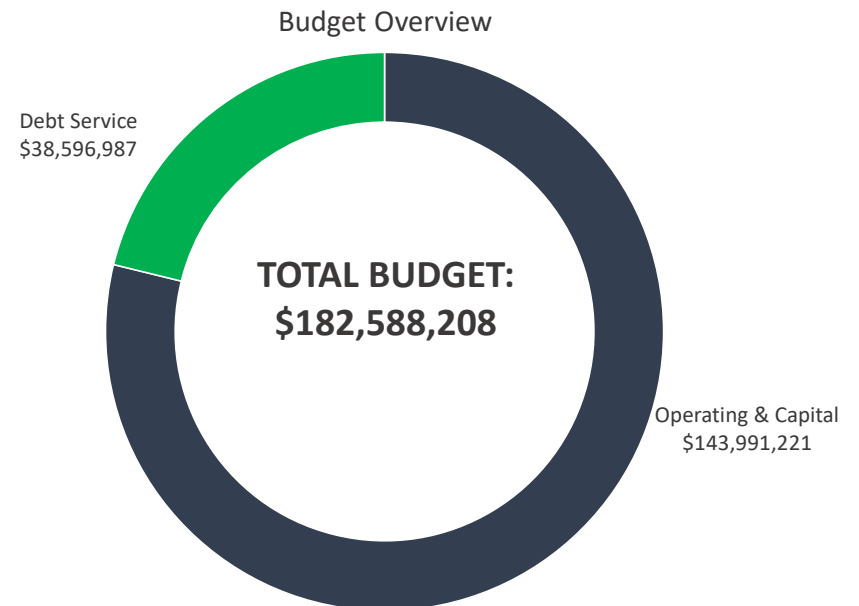


CONTINUED INVESTMENT IN OUR ROAD  
INFRASTRUCTURE

# 2025 BUDGET OVERVIEW

## ALL FUNDS

-  **2025 Operating & Capital**  
=\$143,991,221
-  **2025 Debt Service**  
=\$38,596,987
-  **2025 Cash Reserves (All Funds)**  
=\$62,457,417

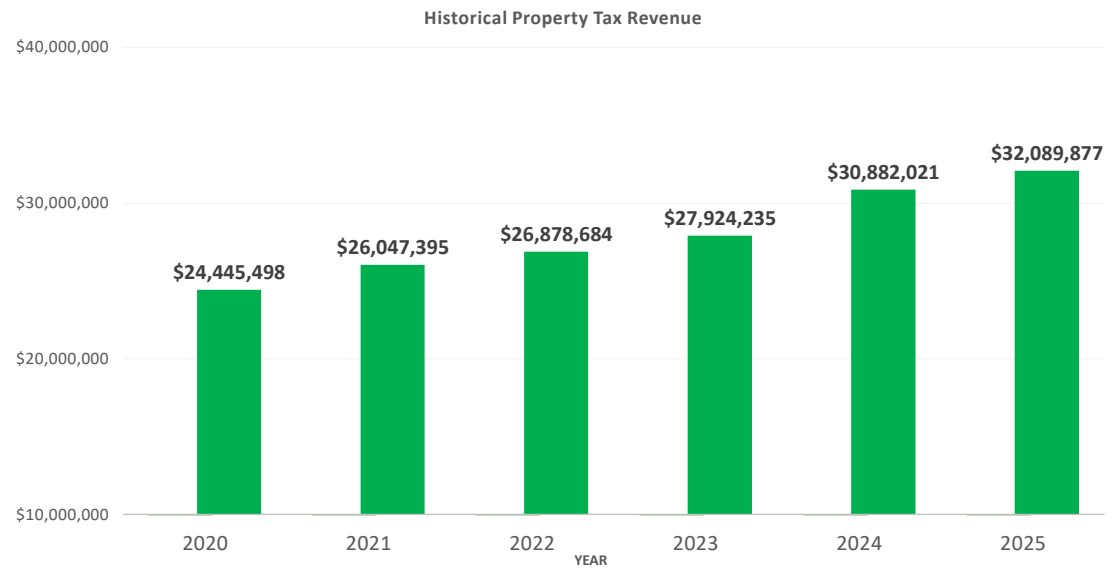




Nickel Plate Station & Trail

# PROPERTY TAX

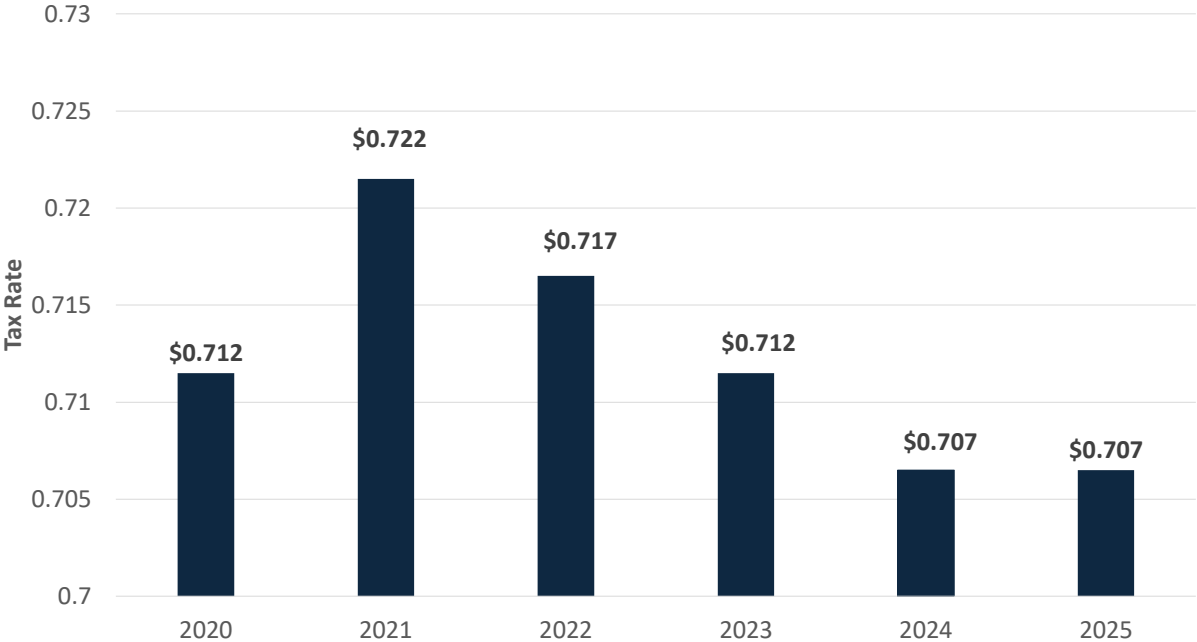
## 2025 General Fund





# 2025 Property Tax Rate

In 2025, the recommended City budget proposes maintaining a flat tax rate.



Arts & Municipal Complex

The City of Fishers will maintain a pre-2020 property tax rate.





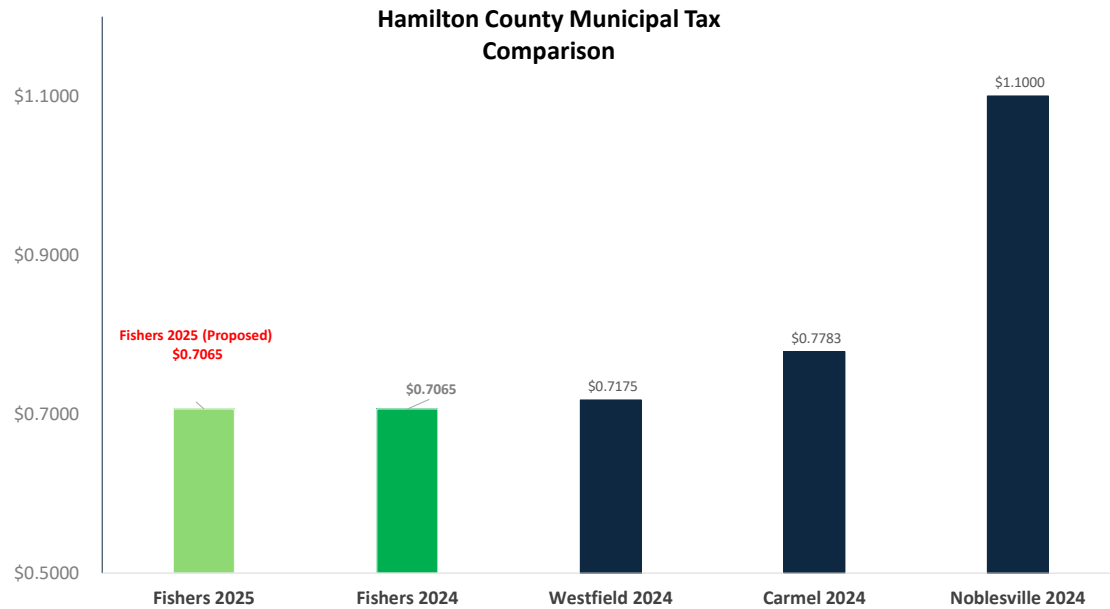
The Nickel Plate Trail

The City of Fishers has maintained the lowest tax rate, when compared to the largest Hamilton County municipalities.

CITY OF FISHERS BUDGET PRESENTATION 2025

# TAX RATE

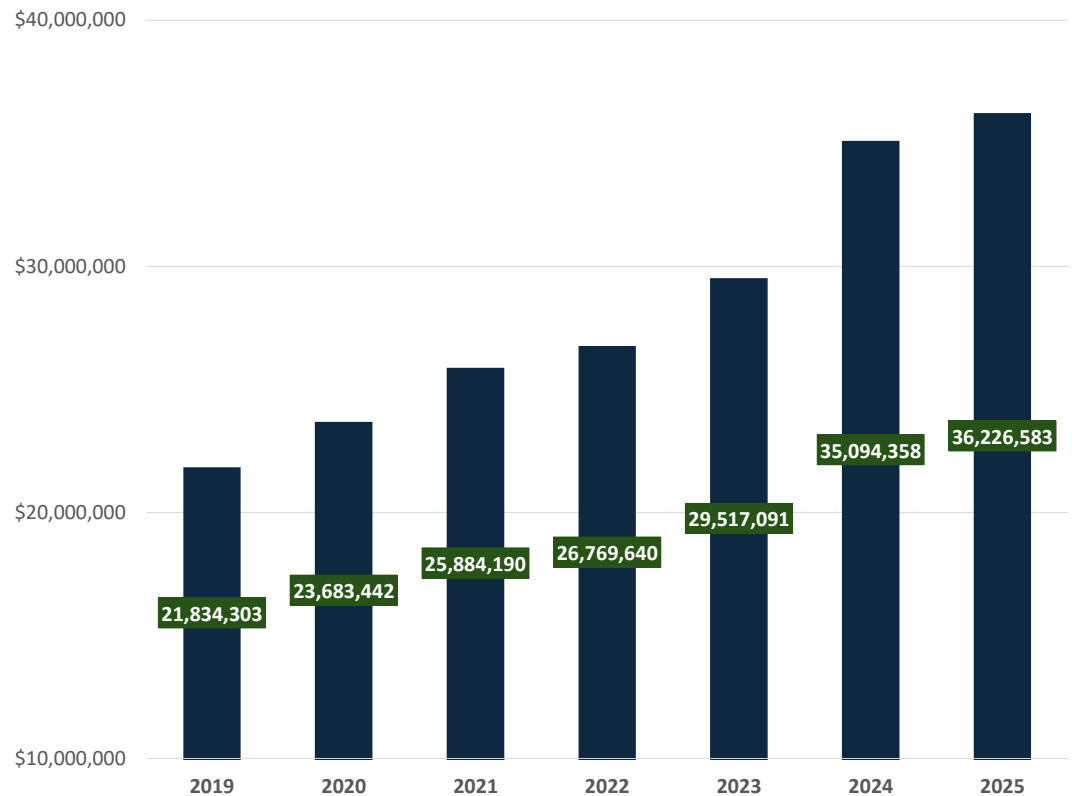
Comparison to Largest Hamilton County Municipalities



# Local Income Tax

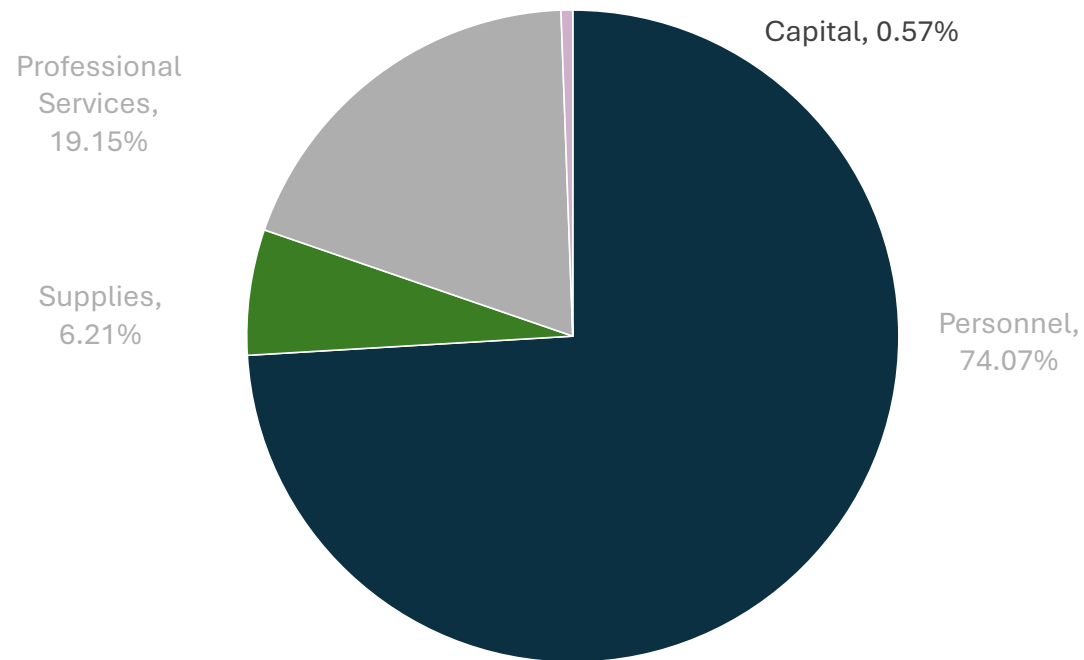
## 2025 General Fund

- Hamilton County 2025 Local Income Tax distribution will be \$262,044,874
- This is an increase of \$28,046,404, just under 12%
- Cities & Towns will receive \$168,238,262 of the \$262,044,874
- Fishers will receive 13.8% of the Hamilton County total - \$36,226,583
- Other Hamilton County Cities & Towns will receive \$132,011,679
  - Noblesville - \$35,898,402
  - Westfield - \$27,300,403
  - Carmel - \$64,950,661
  - Remaining Hamilton County Towns - \$3,862,213



# 2025 BUDGET OVERVIEW

## General Fund - Proposed



Total Revenue	87,526,615
Personnel	65,065,095
Supplies	5,454,865
Other Services & Charges	16,827,026
Capital	500,000
Unused Appropriation	(400,000)
Total Expenses	<u>87,446,986</u>
Excess/(Deficit)	<u><u>79,629</u></u>



# OPERATIONAL INVESTMENT

## Non-Infrastructure Investments

### INVESTING IN HEALTH & SAFETY, OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE, & QUALITY OF LIFE

#### HEALTH & SAFETY

Fire Department	Police Department	Health Department
Possession of new Ladder Truck New Engine/Medic Taking over Project Lifesaver from Hamilton County	Community Services Officer 2 New SROs	Addition of Vaccine Program Move into Permanent Home in Community Center



**6% Salary Increase**

#### OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Department of Public Works	Controller's Office
Enhanced landscaping contract	Employee to assist with Trash billing & payments



**Increase of \$1,000 to City 457  
Match (total of \$2,500)**

#### QUALITY OF LIFE

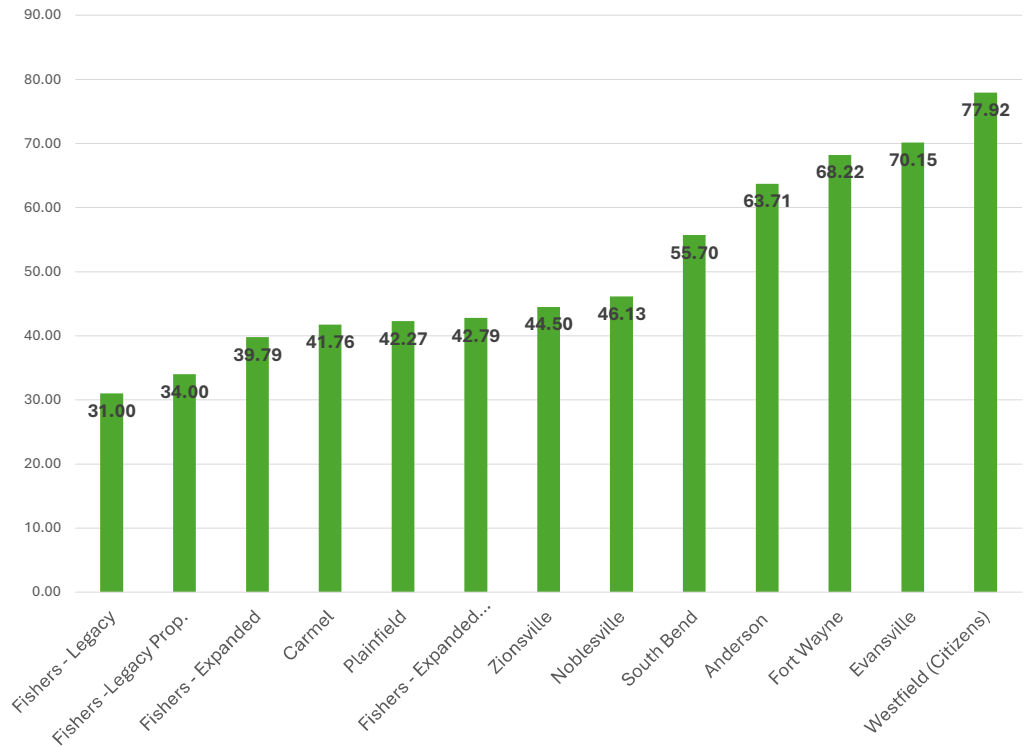
Parks & Recreation
Agri Park Manager (for new Agri Park) Completion of Agri Park Restrooms Hiring through 2025 for 13 full time Community Center positions Community Center Grand Opening – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2025



**\$3M in Fleet Replacement**  
including police vehicles, DPW assets, and a medic

# Sewer Rate 2025 Adjustment

- City is proposing a \$3 rate increase for the Sewer Utility as part of the 2025 Budget
- This would be only the 2<sup>nd</sup> rate increase for legacy customers in 27 years and the proposed rate increase would be the first in 8 years for customers who were previously with Hamilton Southeastern Utilities
  - Previous rate increase for legacy customers was effective 1/1/2016 and previous rate increase for former Hamilton Southeastern Utility customers was also in January 2016.
- The utility has felt the effects of rising inflation in its costs of operating the sewer utility, particularly in supplies and repair and maintenance expense.
- Proposed rate increase would keep the Fishers sewer utility in line with other cities in Indiana
- Chart to right shows the unmetered/non-metered flat rate for selected comparable municipalities

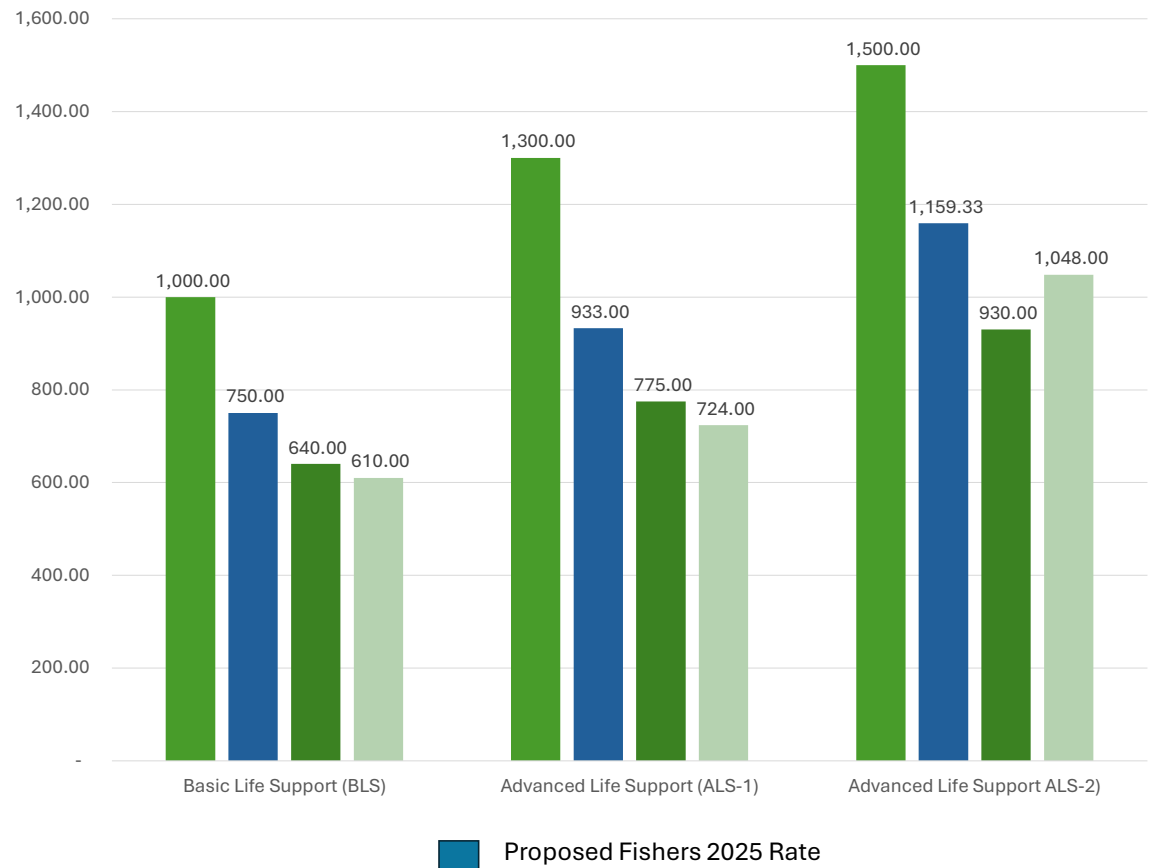


# EMS Rate 2025 Adjustment

📍 Increase will bring Fishers in line with average of surrounding Hamilton County municipalities.

📍 Proposed Resident Rates:

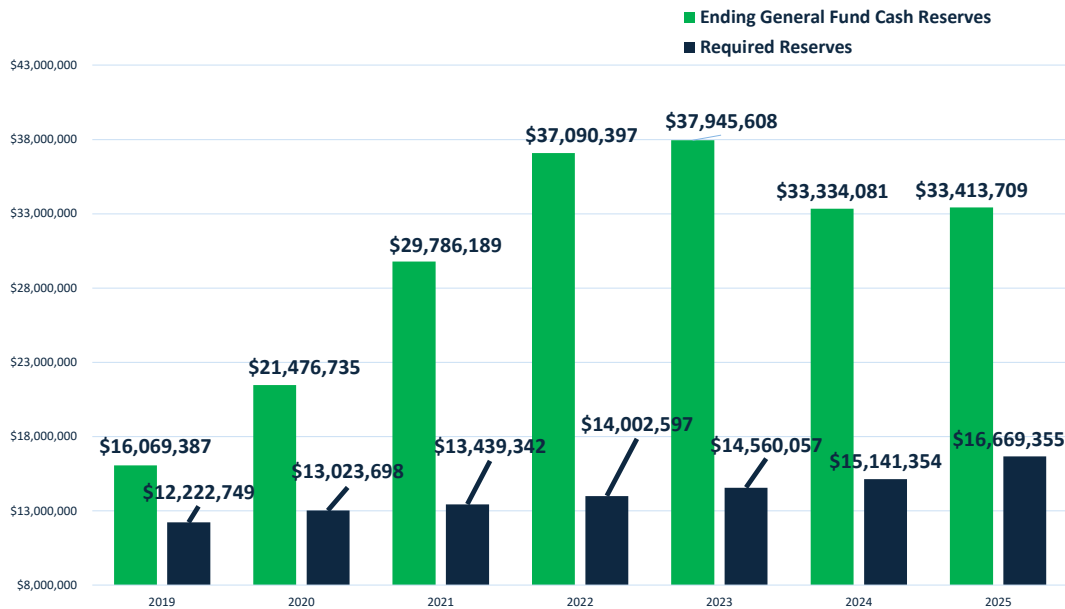
- 📍 Basic Life Support (BLS) - \$750.00
- 📍 Advanced Life Support 1 (ALS-1) - \$933.00
- 📍 Advanced Life Support 2 (ALS-2) - \$1,159.33





# CASH RESERVES

## 2025 General Fund



Newly constructed 126<sup>th</sup> and Southeastern RAB

# 2025 BUDGET OVERVIEW

## Community Center



Anticipated '25 Revenue	462,160
Personnel	1,805,500
Supplies	50,500
Other Services & Charges	309,500
Capital	<u>500,000</u>
Total Expenses	2,665,500
Anticipated Funding	2,300,000

# Non-Profit Grants

## 2025 Proposal

### Allocate \$250,000 towards Non-Profits

#### Conner Prairie

- \$75,000
- Indiana's first Smithsonian affiliate and one of the most visited outdoor museums in the country.

#### YMI and YAP

- Combined \$90,000
- Mentoring program supporting students at Hamilton Southeastern Schools
- Provides family education, summer meals program, tutoring, food, clothing, and financial assistance to students and families in Fishers

#### Cherish Center

- \$35,000
- Provides abuse intervention and prevention services within Hamilton County

#### Community Center Programming

- \$50,000
- Allocated to the Community Center to support the establishment of programs that support quality of life initiatives at the new facility

- Procedurally: Eliminate the Non-Profit Committee, and charge the City Administration with allocating these funds





# Infrastructure Investments

## 2025 Priority Road Projects

### NEW PROJECTS

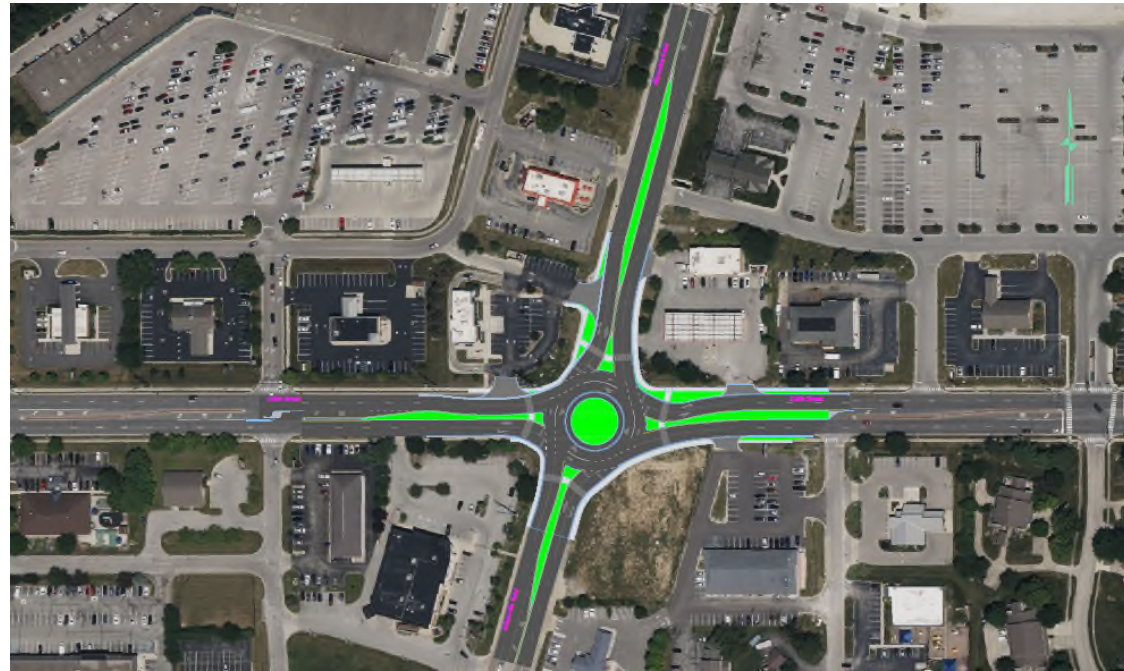
- 116<sup>th</sup> & Allisonville Road → Construction: start and finish in 2025
- Nickel Plate Trail Bridge over 96<sup>th</sup> Street → Construction: start and finish in 2025
- 136<sup>th</sup> Street Widening → Construction Start Q4 2024
- \$4,300,000 road resurfacing package proposed for 2025

### PROJECTS COMPLETE IN 2024

- 126<sup>th</sup> & Southeastern RAB
- 96<sup>th</sup> & Allisonville RAB
- 141<sup>st</sup> & Prairie Baptist

### ACTIVE PROJECTS

- SR 37 & 141<sup>st</sup> Interchange



116<sup>th</sup> & Allisonville RAB - rendering

# 2025 Budget Highlights

- Property Tax Rate is unchanged, marking the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of a flat or reduced property tax rate
- 6% Raise for all City Staff, including elected officials
  - Increase of \$1,000 to City's match for 457 contribution, from \$15,00 to \$2,500 per employee
- Establishing and appropriating cash reserves towards the Community Center fund for pre-opening operations
- Continued City Investment in Education;
  - \$50,000 proposed for teacher innovation grants
  - City contribution to Hamilton Southeastern Schools Experiential Learning Program (Agri Park & Makers Space)
- Continued Investment in the Fishers Community and Neighborhoods with \$200,000 proposed for neighborhood vibrancy grants
- Continued significant infrastructure investment in road improvements, trails, and resurfacing