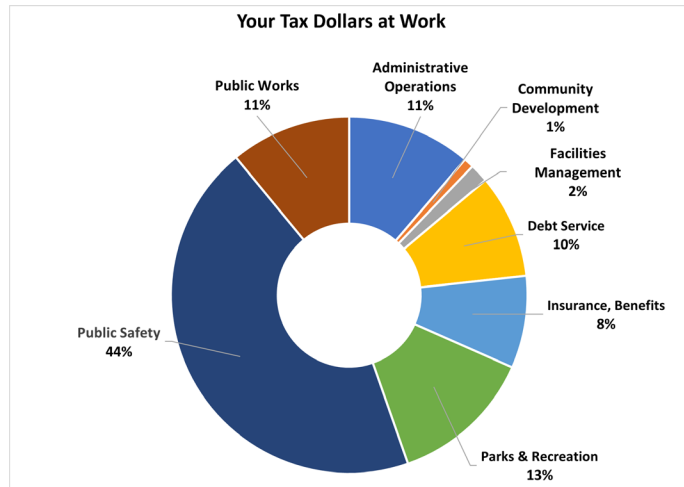


Hastings Plans Greater Investments in Public Safety, Streets, Trails and Personnel

The Hastings City Council approved a preliminary 2024 Budget of \$38.8 million and set a preliminary property tax levy not to exceed \$18.6 million to invest in public safety, street and trail improvements and personnel costs. The proposed property tax levy represents a 7.34% increase over 2023, nearly 40 percent of which will come from increased property values. A homeowner with a median value home (\$312,900) will see an estimated annual property tax increase of \$106, or \$8.83 per month, from the city's portion of property taxes. The Council also scheduled a Truth in Taxation public hearing for December 4 at 7 p.m.

Learn more at www.hastingsmn.gov/Budget



2024 budgeted levy spending



“The 2024 proposed budget and property tax levy allows for modest growth in expenses, even as inflation continues to cut into the budget. The city continues to invest in public safety, aging roads, necessary equipment assets and our staff. The main things driving the increase are inflation, prior funding commitments and asset preservation.” - City Administrator Dan Wietecha

Budgeted requests include:

- Ongoing funding for the hiring of two full-time firefighter/EMTs, approved in the 2023 budget.
- Increased costs related to road salt, building maintenance, IT maintenance and security.
- Increasing funding for skim patching and mill & overlay to maintain aging roads.
- Dedicated savings for half the cost of a new \$1.9 million Fire Department ladder truck for the 2025 budget.
- \$393,000 for Parks and Recreation trail rehabilitation.
- Ongoing funding for the Community Investment Fund for public partnership projects.
- Ensuring market rate wages for staff recruitment and retention, including continued phasing-in of last year’s Compensation Study.
- Adding a part-time office support specialist to the Parks and Recreation Department and a part-time communications intern.

