

POPULAR  
ANNUAL  
FINANCIAL  
REPORT

**PAFR**



For the year ended  
December 31, 2025



The City of Hilliard's Finance Department is pleased to present the City's Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for fiscal year ended December 31, 2025. The purpose of the PAFR is to provide summarized financial data as a means of increasing awareness and knowledge of the operations of the City. We believe our citizens deserve transparency when it comes to their tax dollars. This report is designed to help you gain a better understanding of the City's resources and how we put your tax dollars to use. Additionally, we have highlighted some of the economic development activity and capital improvements that are occurring. The PAFR is unaudited and presented in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) basis unless otherwise noted.

The City of Hilliard's Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports (ACFRs) for the years ended 2021-24 were awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting. The 2025 ACFR has been submitted to GFOA for consideration.

In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government unit must publish an easily readable and

efficiently organized Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards. Such an Annual Comprehensive Financial Report must satisfy both Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current Annual Comprehensive Financial Report continues to conform to the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another Certificate of Achievement.

The ACFR 2025 was prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and audited by Wilson, Shannon and Snow. The City received an unmodified opinion on the audit, which means that no significant deficiencies were identified. The City's ACFR can be obtained on the City's website at: [www.hilliardohio.gov](http://www.hilliardohio.gov), once fully approved by Auditor of State.

**Jennifer Kahle**  
Director of Finance

**Joshua Rauch**  
City Manager

# AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



2023 - 2025



2023 - 2025



2022 - 2025



*"Best Suburb to Do Business"*  
2023 - 2025



*Ohio Auditor of State Award  
with Distinction 2024*



*Global recognition in the  
Economic Development  
category 2025*



*GFOA Certificate of  
Achievement for Excellence in  
Financial Reporting 2024*



*Five PRISM Awards 2025*



# THE well

HILLIARD RECREATION  
& WELLNESS CENTER

The City of Hilliard celebrated a major milestone in 2025 with the opening of The Well, the community's new recreation and wellness center, in September. The facility quickly became a focal point for fitness, recreation, social connection, and community engagement, contributing significantly to the Recreation & Parks Department's strong financial and operational performance throughout the year.

Community Center programming, including operations at The Well and associated functions, generated approximately \$2.51 million in total revenue during 2025. Memberships served as the largest revenue source, accounting for nearly 48 percent of total revenue and generating approximately \$1.2 million. Program participation also remained strong, with Community Center programs contributing approximately 26 percent of total revenue and community summer camp programs accounting for an additional 12 percent. Long-term leasing and partnership agreements, including arrangements with The Ohio State

University Wexner Medical Center and Alchemy, provided approximately 11 percent of total revenue, helping diversify funding sources beyond memberships and programming.

Beyond facility operations, the Recreation & Parks Department hosted 29 special events in 2025, including new offerings such as Sprout's Live, Opening Day at the Ballpark, and the First Responders Park Rededication. Sponsorship revenue for 2025 totaled more than \$228,000, helping to enhance event experiences while offsetting costs.

The department also continued to see strong participation in parks and athletic field activities, generating more than \$214,000 in field rental revenue. Additionally, 239 volunteers contributed more than 1,000 hours of service to Hilliard parks, creating an estimated \$32,663 in value through their time and efforts.

# RECREATION & PARKS



## Fast Stats

**25**

Parks Maintained

**462**

Acres of Parks Maintained

**10**

Playgrounds

**4**

Aquatic Facilities

**2**

Splash Pads

**89,000**

Outdoor Pool Patrons

**1,007**

Volunteer Hours Dedicated

**239**

Community Volunteers

**29**

Community Events

**167**

Seasonal Employees

**216**

Part-time Employees

**6,165**

The Well Memberships

**41**

Athletic Grass Fields

**2**

Synthetic Turf Fields

**16**

Baseball Diamonds

**\$809,082**

Outdoor Pool Revenue

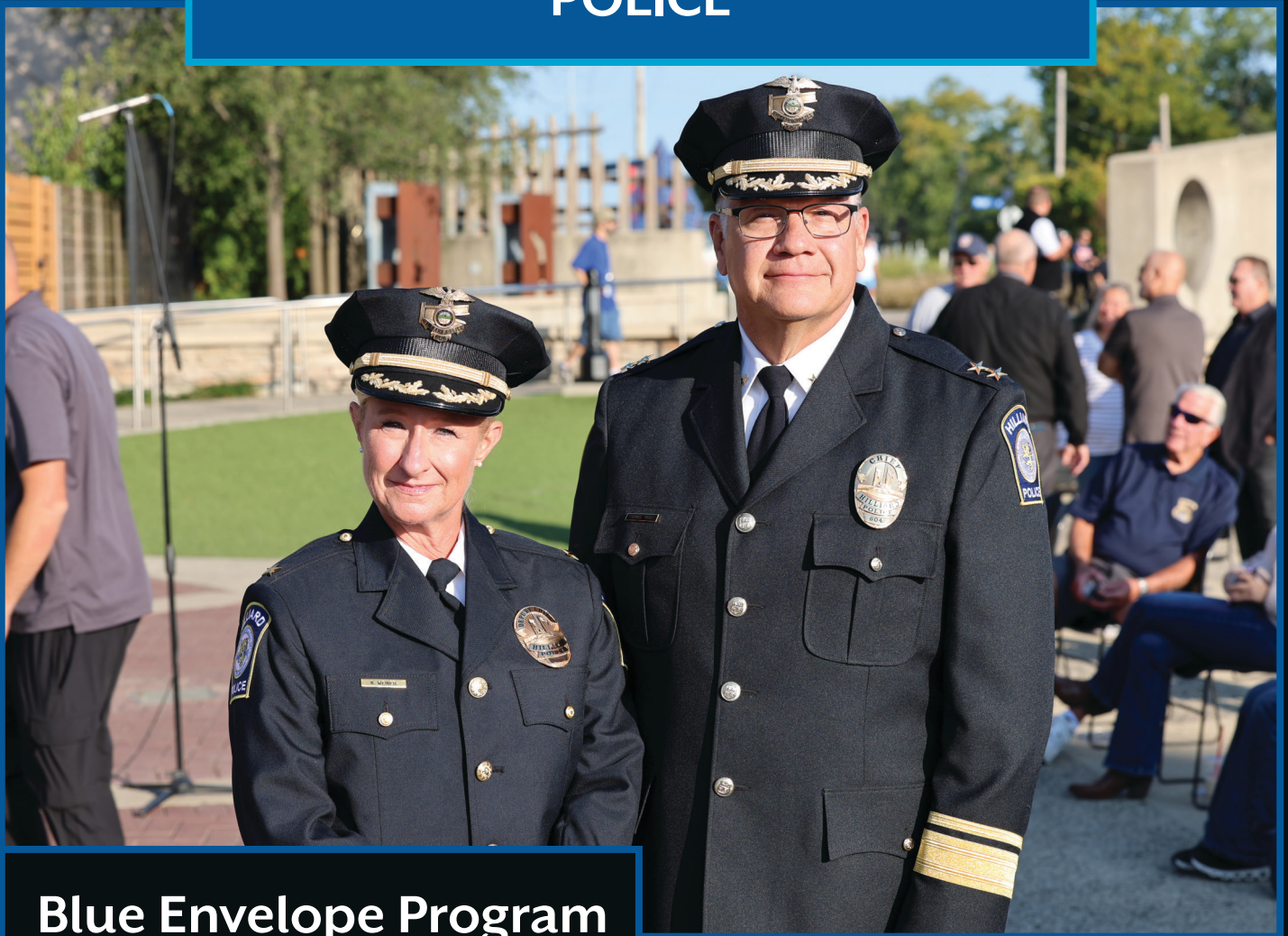
**\$2,128,815**

The Well Revenue

**\$115,384**

Hilliard Social Center Revenue

# POLICE



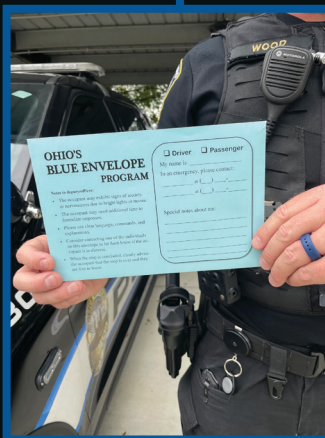
## Blue Envelope Program

The Blue Envelope Program was launched in fall 2025 to make traffic stops safer and more supportive for drivers with disabilities.

This voluntary initiative is intended for people with conditions or disabilities that may impact communication to share vital info with officers during a stop, reducing stress and improving understanding.

Each packet includes:

- A Blue Envelope for documents and accommodation notes
- A car decal to alert first responders
- A simple way to foster empathy and clarity



## Fast Stats

**38,179**

Calls For Service

**1,679**

Citations Issued

**1,683**

Warnings Issued

**176**

Public Appearances

# CITY OF HILLIARD POLICE

The City of Hilliard Division of Police experienced an important leadership transition in 2025 with the retirement of Deputy Chief Ron Clark after a distinguished career of service to the community. The division also welcomed Deputy Chief Kelly Weiner, whose experience and leadership will help guide the department's continued commitment to public safety and community engagement.

The division continued to prioritize proactive policing strategies, data-driven decision-making, and strong community partnerships throughout the year. These efforts contributed to measurable

public safety outcomes, including an 18 percent reduction in property crime compared to 2024. The decrease reflects ongoing work by patrol officers, detectives, civilian staff, and community members to prevent crime, identify trends, and respond effectively to public safety concerns.

As Hilliard continues to grow, the Division of Police remains focused on maintaining a safe community through professional service, innovation, and strong relationships with residents and businesses.



## TruePointe Update

TruePointe, Hilliard's \$250 million mixed-use development, continued to take shape over the past year as its first tenants opened and construction progressed across the campus. A major milestone was the opening of the new Advanced Drainage Systems corporate headquarters, while residents also began moving into Tempo luxury apartments.

Additional businesses are coming soon, including Home2 Suites by Hilton, Teriyaki Madness, Drunch Eatery + Bar, Old Scratch Pizza, Smoked Lick BBQ, and more.

When complete, the campus will also feature green space, miles of walking trails, a six-acre lake, a dog park, and public gathering areas.



## Downtown Facade Improvement Grants

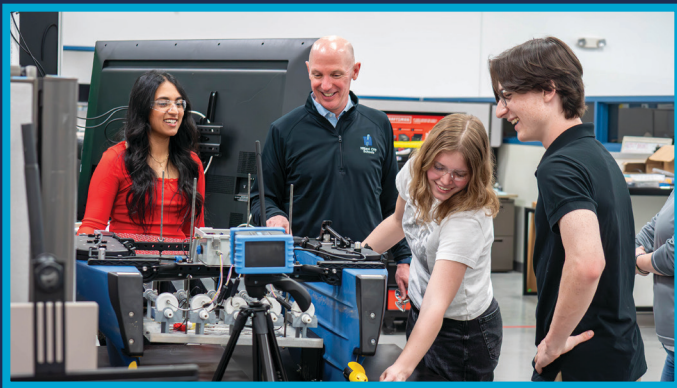
The City continued investing in the revitalization of Downtown Hilliard through its Downtown Facade Improvement Program, which helps property and business owners enhance building exteriors. These

improvements support local businesses, preserve the character of downtown, and contribute to a vibrant, welcoming destination for residents and visitors.



## Our Business Community Makes Hilliard Quality-of-Life a Reality

Income tax is the jet fuel that pays for the parks we play in, the streets we drive on, the community events we enjoy, and the first responders who protect and serve us every day. Income taxes primarily come to the City through employment withholding, followed by individual filing and business net profit taxes.



## Hilliard Business Fast Stats:

- 1,100+ companies in Hilliard
- 17,000+ employees of Hilliard businesses
- Generate \$1 billion+ in annual sales
- Generate \$56.8 million in City income tax revenue

## Hilliard City Lab continues to thrive

Starting or growing a business often means facing obstacles when seeking support. Hilliard City Lab removes these barriers by connecting entrepreneurs with funding, opportunities to test ideas, and valuable networks. We've already helped over 40 local businesses, creating a thriving ecosystem for innovation in our city.

## City Lab Fast Stats

**1,261**

Jobs Supported

**47**

Ideas Awarded

**\$2.85  
Million**

Annual Income  
Tax

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



The City of Hilliard continued to invest in critical infrastructure, transportation, and utility improvements in 2025 while supporting ongoing residential and commercial growth throughout the community.

A major milestone was the completion of the \$12 million Cosgray Road Extension through the Hilliard Recreation and Wellness Campus. The project includes three roundabouts, more than two miles of shared-use trails, and enhanced pedestrian crossings that improve connectivity between surrounding neighborhoods, The Well, park amenities, and nearby commercial areas. Additional transportation improvements included the repaving of Alton Darby Road and construction of a new crosswalk connection linking neighborhoods west of the corridor to the Wellness Campus.

The City completed more than \$4.5 million in street maintenance and asphalt resurfacing projects and continued its commitment to neighborhood infrastructure through Year 3 of the Sidewalk Maintenance Program, which included improvements along Scioto Darby Road and within the Hillcrest and Beacon subdivisions. To address long-term utility needs, Hilliard also launched a comprehensive sanitary sewer evaluation study focused on several established neighborhoods with aging infrastructure.

Planning for future improvements continued throughout the year. The City secured funding and began design of the Leap Road South Improvements project, which will include roadway reconstruction, new utilities, sidewalks, shared-use paths, enhanced crosswalks, and street lighting. Design also advanced on the Cemetery Road Trail Overpass over I-270 and the Dublin Road Shared-Use Path connection to Quarry Trails Metro Park.

**161**

Single-Family New Homes Built (\$62.8 million value)

**\$113M**

Value of New Commercial Buildings

**2,887**

Permits Issued by Engineering, Planning, and Building Standards

**14**

Days Average Time for Commercial Building Plan Review

# PUBLIC SERVICE



## Fast Stats

**154**

Miles of Roadway  
Maintained

**3,255**

Work Orders  
Completed

**285**

Trees Planted

**12,674**

Street Trees  
Maintained

**750**

Tons of Road  
Salt Applied

**289**

Streetlights  
Repaired

**31,439**

Utility Locations  
Performed

**9**

Facilities  
Maintained

**27,000**

Pounds of  
Styrofoam  
Collected

**131**

Vehicles  
Maintained

**34**

Traffic Signals  
Maintained

**30**

Equipment  
Maintained

**136**

Fire Hydrants  
Repaired

**398**

Fire Hydrants  
Painted

**1,045**

Chipper Service  
Requests

**22**

Life Stations  
Maintained

# DEFINITIONS

## **Income Taxes**

Revenues received from a 2.5% income tax levied on substantially all income earned within the City by residents, businesses, and employees of businesses in the City.

## **Payments in Lieu of Taxes**

Revenues received from tax increment financing (TIF) districts. Owners within the TIF district must pay amounts equal to the property taxes that would have been assessed had the TIF district not been established.

## **Property Taxes**

Revenues received from the City's portion of the taxes due on real property and public utilities. The City assesses a property rate of \$1.60 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

## **Charges for Services**

Revenues received related to charges billed to users of various City services. These can include fines and forfeitures, cable franchise fees, building permits and facility rentals.

## **Operating Grants and Contributions**

Revenues received from intergovernmental sources that are restricted for operations. These include amounts received related to gas tax and motor vehicle license fees.

## **Capital Grants and Contributions**

Revenues received from various sources that are restricted for capital projects. These include amounts received from federal grants, the State of Ohio and development partnerships throughout the City.

## **Other Revenues**

Revenues received such as unrestricted grants and entitlements for local government support, investment earnings, and other miscellaneous revenues.

## **General Government**

General City administration, including City Council, City Manager's Office, Finance Department, Community Relations, Technology, Mayor's Court, and Legal.

## **Security of Persons and Property**

The operations of the City of Hilliard's Division of Police.

## **Public Health**

Payments to the Franklin County Board of Public Health.

## **Transportation**

The Public Service Department, Engineering Division, and Transportation and Mobility Division.

## **Leisure Time Activities**

The operations of the City's Recreation and Parks Department.

## **Basic Utility Service**

Refuse collection and recycling programs.

## **Economic Development**

The operations of the City's Economic Development Department.

## **Interest and Fiscal Charges**

Interest and other fees charged on City's debt.

## **General Obligation Bonds**

Long-term debts that are repaid from the City's available resources.

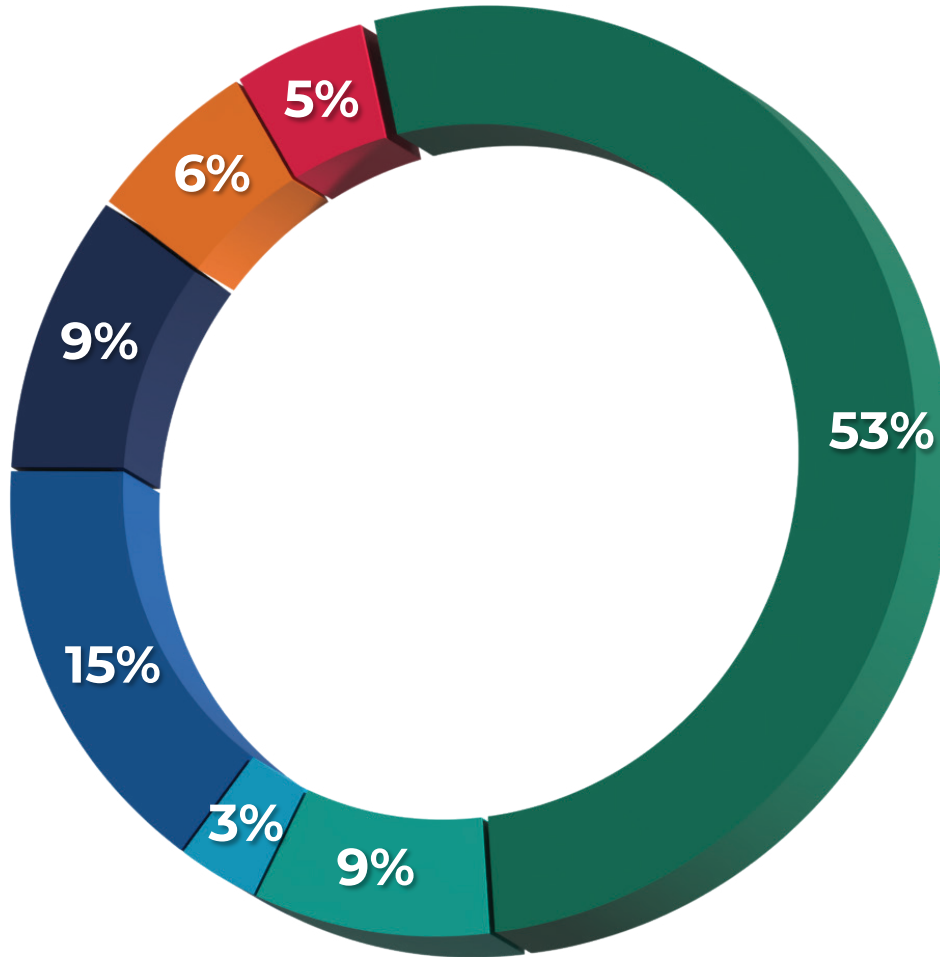
## **Loans**

Low-interest loans from the Ohio Public Works Commission and various bank loans to support capital improvements.

# Where the Money Comes From

The City receives funding to provide services to our residents and the business community from a variety of sources. The chart below summarizes governmental activities revenue by source for 2025. Income taxes comprise of governmental activities revenue. This reinforces the need for a strong local tax base to keep this funding source secure.

The increase in capital grants and contributions was largely due to an increase in grants by the City for various infrastructure projects. The increase in other revenues was primarily the result of a increase in fair value of the City's investment portfolio due to rising interest rates.



	2025	2024	2023
Income Taxes	\$56,663,474	\$54,417,382	\$53,214,551
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	9,146,379	9,385,175	10,176,781
Property Taxes	3,354,280	3,230,336	2,754,311
Charges for Services	16,678,267	16,494,752	14,604,617
Operating Grants & Contributions	10,412,092	8,631,821	9,229,964
Capital Grants & Contributions	6,526,368	4,342,030	8,365,504
Other Revenues	5,335,744	4,331,104	4,326,514
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>108,116,604</b>	<b>100,832,600</b>	<b>102,672,242</b>

# Income and Property Taxes

Income taxes represent the largest source of revenue for the City. Income tax collections are comprised of three sources: taxes withheld from employees working in the city, taxes from individual residents, and taxes on net profits of businesses operating in the city. Revenue from withholding represents approximately 75% of the City's total income tax revenue. The significance of withholding revenue underscores the financial importance of nonresidential development in the city. In November 2021, Hilliard residents voted to increase the City income tax rate from 2.0 to 2.5%.

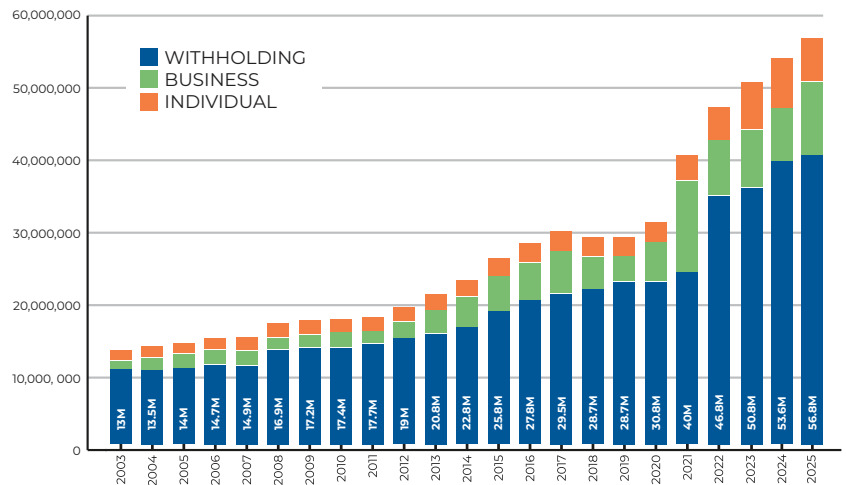
The increase was permanently dedicated to support Recreation and Parks Department operations and capital projects, including construction of The Well, Hilliard's Recreation and Wellness Center.

Income taxes are paid first to the municipality where an individual works and then where they live. Although there is no reciprocity between municipalities, the City of Hilliard provides a 100% credit up to 2.5% for taxes paid to the municipality where residents work.

## Property Taxes

Property tax is based on the amount charged per \$1,000 worth of taxable property value, also known as millage. Amounts collected for levies, other than general operating levies, must be used for those specific purposes, such as those listed to the right. The Franklin County Treasurer's office collects property taxes and the Franklin County Auditor's office distributes those taxes to the appropriate jurisdictions.

Approximately 2.1 cents of every dollar of property tax paid by Hilliard property owners supports City operations. The numbers to the right depict the distribution of annual taxes for every \$100,000 of assessed value in Hilliard. The school district receives the largest portion of taxes paid by Hilliard residents.



## Property Taxes (per \$100,000 of assessed value)



**\$2,745 (58.26%)**  
Hilliard City School District



**\$112 (2.37%)**  
Tolles Career & Technical



**\$485 (10.3%)**  
Children's Services, Developmental Disabilities, Senior Citizens



**\$103 (2.19%)**  
Alcohol and Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services



**\$99 (2.11%)**  
City of Hilliard



**\$91 (1.94%)**  
Franklin County General Fund



**\$162 (3.43%)**  
Columbus & Franklin County Public Library District



**\$39 (0.82%)**  
Metro Parks



**\$831 (17.63%)**  
Norwich Township



**\$22 (0.47%)**  
Columbus State Community College

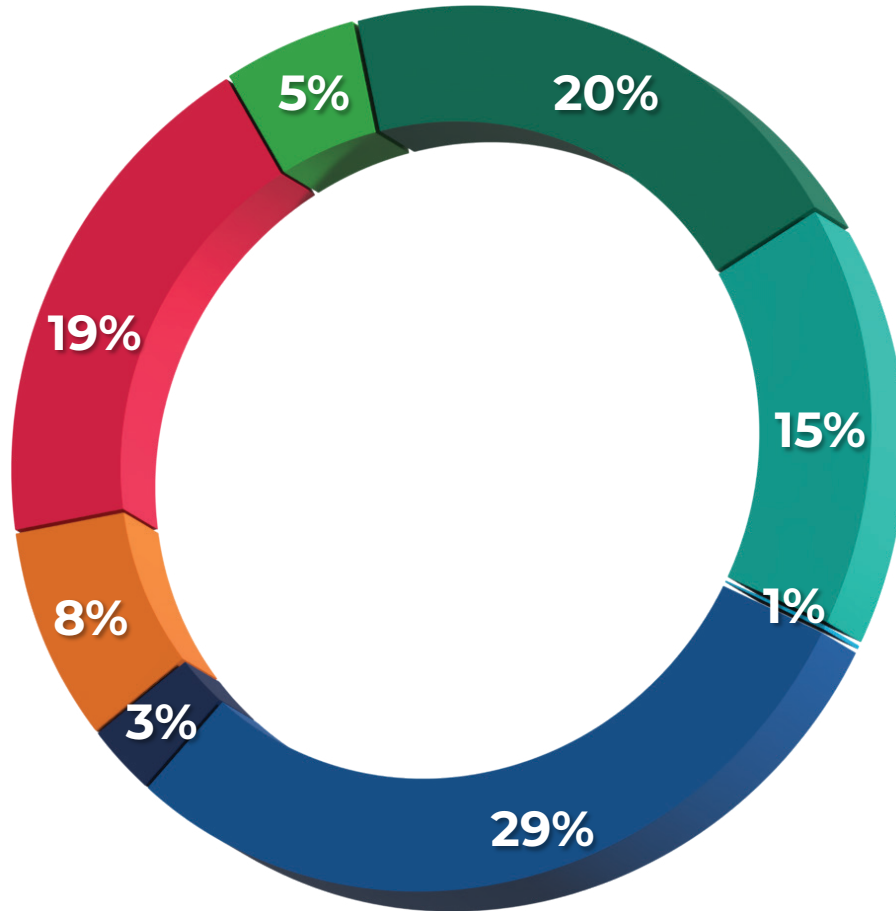


**\$23 (0.48%)**  
Columbus Zoo

# Where the Money Goes

Governmental activities account for most of the basic services provided by the City's various departments. The City's expenses are reported at the function level, which describes the primary purpose of the expense. Within each function, the expenses of one or more City departments are reported.

Total expenses reported for governmental activities increased significantly from 2024. Leisure time and activities increased significantly due to the opening of The Well, Hilliard's Recreation and Wellness Center.

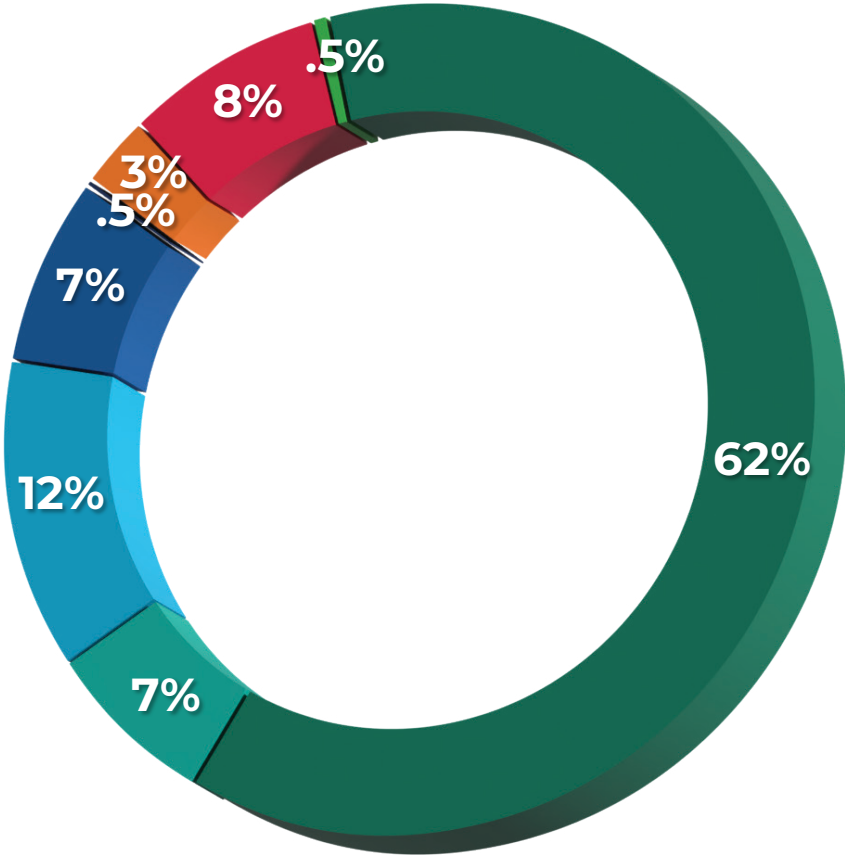


	2025	2024	2023
General Government	\$21,041,491	\$22,102,156	\$19,480,242
Security of Persons and Property	16,064,721	15,226,735	16,536,935
Public Health	523,555	550,571	481,181
Leisure Time and Activities	30,729,986	11,614,554	9,215,652
Community & Economic Development	2,841,124	3,199,739	3,015,084
Basic Utility Services	8,454,638	10,879,614	6,903,836
Transportation	19,550,315	18,600,748	11,695,929
Interest and Fiscal Charges	5,102,774	4,031,546	5,344,613
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>104,308,604</b>	<b>86,205,663</b>	<b>72,673,472</b>

# General Fund Analysis

The General Fund is the City's primary operating fund. It accounts for the majority of all financial activity of the City and pays almost all personnel costs of City employees, as well as day-to-day operating expenditures with the exception of those associated with street maintenance and repair. In 2025, the General Fund accounted for 46% of the total government fund revenue and 40% of governmental fund expenditures. These numbers are presented using the modified accrual basis of accounting, which means that revenues are only accrued when measurable and available, in this case, within 60 days of year-end. More than 90% of the City's General Fund revenue is derived from three sources: Municipal Income Taxes, Property and Other Taxes, and Charges for Services. The charts on this page show the classifications of revenues and expenditures in the General Fund.

## Revenues

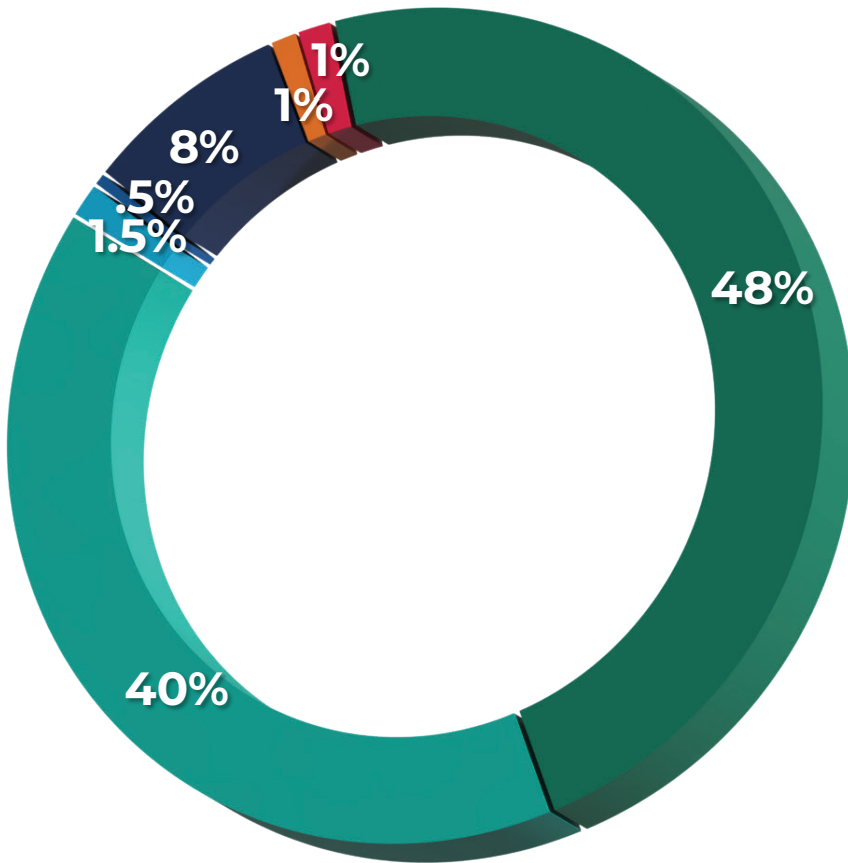


	2025	2024	2023
Municipal Income Taxes	\$29,748,843	\$28,863,697	\$26,734,682
Property and Other Taxes	3,353,023	3,221,685	2,753,070
Charges for Services	5,759,442	6,500,124	5,889,629
Licenses and Permits	3,461,613	3,762,245	3,352,129
Fines and Forfeitures	141,923	158,874	114,366
Intergovernmental	1,275,059	1,120,481	1,013,748
Investment Earnings	3,788,822	2,392,726	2,705,504
Miscellaneous	165,222	250,272	293,529
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>47,693,947</b>	<b>46,270,104</b>	<b>42,856,657</b>

# General Fund Analysis

## Expenditures

Total expenditures increased by \$641,573 in 2025 from 2024. The key components of this increase were a \$1,313,935 increase in General Government.



	2025	2024	2023
General Government	\$16,601,937	\$15,288,002	\$14,318,877
Security of Persons and Property	13,727,430	13,419,536	13,081,005
Public Health	523,555	550,571	460,356
Leisure Time and Activities	198,150	16,780	-
Community & Economic Development	2,730,665	2,874,944	2,713,376
Basic Utility Services	400,220	1,551,053	512,247
Transportation	446,451	285,949	300,874
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>34,628,408</b>	<b>33,986,835</b>	<b>31,386,735</b>



# Outstanding Debt

The repayment of debt is primarily funded using income and property tax collections and payments in lieu of taxes that have been set aside for capital investments or its related debt. Ohio law limits the amount of outstanding debt allowed to 10.5% of the taxable value of property.

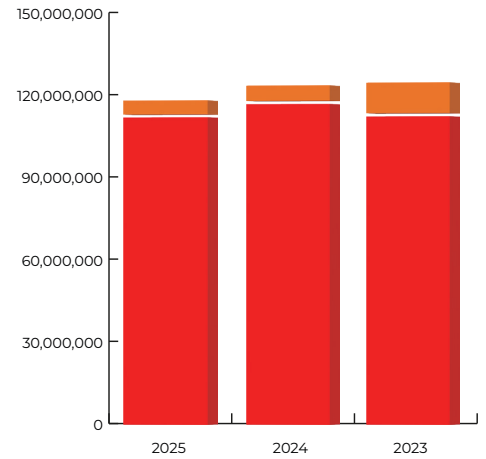
The City's general obligation debt, less amounts set aside for debt repayment, represents just 6.43% of the

estimated taxable value of property. The table below provides a summary of the type and amount of debt outstanding. The tables and chart below provides the balance of bonds and loans payable outstanding.

The City is AAA rated by Standard and Poor's. This is the highest rating issued by Standard and Poor's and allows the City to borrow at the best rate.

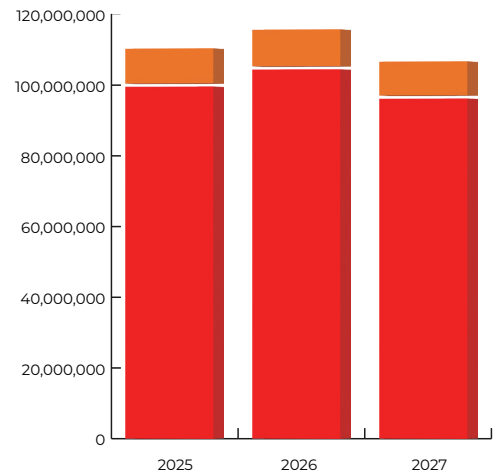
## Actual Debt

	2025	2024	2023
General Obligation Bonds	\$112,645,000	\$117,570,000	\$112,877,390
Loans	6,126,324	6,643,379	12,208,715
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>118,771,324</b>	<b>124,213,379</b>	<b>125,086,105</b>



## Projected Debt

	2026	2027	2028
General Obligation Bonds	\$99,645,000	\$95,375,000	\$90,945,000
Loans	10,291,182	9,377,596	8,493,678
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>109,936,182</b>	<b>104,752,596</b>	<b>99,438,678</b>



# WHO WE ARE

## City Council Members



Greg Betts



Emily Cole  
President



Tina Cottone  
Vice President



Kathy  
Parker-Jones



Nadia  
Atway Rasul



Andy Teater



Cynthia Vermillion

## Contact Us

### Municipal Building

3800 Municipal Way  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-7361  
[hilliardohio.gov](http://hilliardohio.gov)

### Division of Police

5171 Northwest Parkway  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-7321 (Non-emergency)  
[hilliardohio.gov/police](http://hilliardohio.gov/police)

### The Well

3993 Cosgray Road  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-0747  
[recandparks.hilliardohio.gov](http://recandparks.hilliardohio.gov)

### HSC 55+

3993 Cosgray Road  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-0747  
[recandparks.hilliardohio.gov](http://recandparks.hilliardohio.gov)

### Hilliard Family Aquatic Center

3850 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-4296  
[recandparks.hilliardohio.gov](http://recandparks.hilliardohio.gov)

### CBS Community Pool

4450 Schirtzinger Road  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 334-4024  
[recandparks.hilliardohio.gov](http://recandparks.hilliardohio.gov)





CITY OF  
**HILLIARD**

OHIO • 1853

3800 Municipal Way  
Hilliard, OH 43026  
[www.hilliardohio.gov](http://www.hilliardohio.gov)