

CITY OF KENT, WASHINGTON

# MAYOR'S PROPOSED 2025-26 BIENNIAL BUDGET



## SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP

**OCTOBER 8, 2024**

**ANSWERS TO  
COUNCIL QUESTIONS**

[KENTWA.GOV](http://KENTWA.GOV)



# AGENDA

- Council Questions
- Timeline

# QUESTION #1

## HOW DO PARKING PENALTIES INCREASE THIS SIGNIFICANTLY?

Monthly Average Parking Enforcement Revenues					
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
\$8,370	\$6,780	\$6,520	\$4,270	\$5,800	\$20,370

## QUESTION #2

**IS THERE A SET AMOUNT OF B&O THAT GOES TO PARKS CAPITAL? WILL THE PROPOSED INCREASE IMPACT PARK ALLOCATIONS?**

Annual Allocations from the Capital Resources Fund				
	2023	2024	2025	2026
IT	1,650,000	1,683,000	1,716,660	1,750,990
Parks	2,750,000	2,805,000	2,861,100	2,918,320
Public Works	8,250,000	8,415,000	8,583,300	8,754,970
	<b>12,650,000</b>	<b>12,903,000</b>	<b>13,161,060</b>	<b>13,424,280</b>

# QUESTION #3

## WHAT'S THE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET INCREASE? THIS INCREASE IS NOT SHOWN ON PAGE 107.

	2024	2025	Difference
Salaries & Benefits	387,500	383,940	(3,560)
Supplies	3,410	3,520	110
Services	19,440	19,830	390
Internal Allocations			
IT	12,140	50,230	38,090
Multimedia	10,100	20,280	10,180
Other	15,890	17,080	1,190
<b>Total</b>	<b>448,480</b>	<b>494,880</b>	<b>49,960</b>



## QUESTION #4

**CAN THE FLOOD PLAIN ENGINEER BE FULLY FUNDED BY THE DRAINAGE FUND? WHY NOT?**

# QUESTION #5

## WHAT IS THE “NEW CONNECTIONS PARKING LOT”?

The New Connections Parking Lot is adjacent to the New Connections Building, which is across the street from the Police Department. See the area highlighted in yellow in the image to the right. The City owns this property.

The New Connections building has a long-term lease, managed through the Facilities Division, so this building and adjacent lot are the responsibility of the Parks Department.

Due to the recent legal mandate change on stormwater NPDES requirements, this property was identified as a location within the full inventory in Parks, that needs servicing annually.



# QUESTION #6

**WHERE EXACTLY IS THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE OF \$1.3M AND \$3.2M GOING? ARE THESE THE MAJOR EXPENDITURE CHANGES?**

General Fund	2025 Proposed	2026 Proposed
<b>Revenues</b>		
Prior Year Budget	121,149,030	126,695,510
Baseline Adjustments	1,603,690	1,412,170
Scheduled B&O Tax Increase	3,000,000	-
Proposed Changes	942,790	3,470
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>126,695,510</b>	<b>128,111,150</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Prior Year Budget	123,225,080	128,022,970
Baseline Adjustments	2,668,180	749,670
Proposed Changes	2,129,710	2,568,330
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>128,022,970</b>	<b>131,340,970</b>
<b>Use of Fund Balance (Exp-Rev)</b>	<b>1,327,460</b>	<b>3,229,820</b>



# QUESTION #7

## WHERE CAN I FIND INFORMATION ON THE HUMAN SERVICES PER CAPITA REVENUE? WHAT IS THE PER CAPITA RATE?

Page 119 is outlining Human Services Fund for HB 1406 and 1590

The Human Services per capita rate is part of the Health & Human Services in the General Fund, the budget is based on the following calculation:

Year	Updated			Total Allowed Spending	
	Base	CPI Est	Base		
<b>2023</b>	\$ 8.4446	3.0%	\$ 8.6979	137,900	1,199,440
<b>2024</b>	\$ 8.6979	3.0%	\$ 8.9588	139,100	1,246,170
<b>2025</b>	\$ 8.9588	3.0%	\$ 9.2276	140,400	1,295,550
<b>2026</b>	\$ 9.2276	2.5%	\$ 9.4583	141,770	1,341,000

# QUESTION #8

## IS THE SPOTLIGHT SERIES NOT SELF-SUSTAINING?

- The short answer is no.
- Kent Parks provides 10 performances annually serving an estimated 2,500 – 3,000 annually.
- The average cost recovery (fees pricing vs. expenses) ranges from 85% to 100% annually.
  - Discounted tickets for seniors (age 60+) and young adults (age 25 and below) are subsidized by the general fund.
- Costs have risen sharply for:
  - Artistic fees
  - Travel for touring artists
  - Food for performer hospitality
  - Performing Rights Organizations (PROs) licensing fees for all music uses
    - This includes live performances in our cultural programs and all parks and city events.
    - The number of PROs we must pay has increased from two (ASCAP and BMI) to four, now including SESAC and GMR.

# QUESTION #9

**WHAT HAPPENED TO THE VETERANS DRIVE PROJECT FROM THE LAST BUDGET?**

# QUESTION #10

## ARE WE CONTINUING THE STREET LITTER CLEANUP PROGRAM?

	Litter Strike Team	Contracted Services
Total Budget	1,647,660	1,010,000
August YTD Expenditures	625,138	259,848
Budget Remaining	1,022,522	750,152
Funded Through (Estimated)	2028	2026

# QUESTION #11

**ARE WE STILL PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE LAKE MERIDIAN FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY?**

Yes.



## **QUESTION #12**

**DOES THE KC PROSECUTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THEY WILL NOT ACCEPT AI-ASSISTED REPORTS HAVE ANY IMPACT ON THE PROGRAM COUNCIL JUST APPROVED FOR BWV TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES?**

# QUESTION #13

## HOW MUCH ADDITIONAL REVENUE WOULD WE RECEIVE IF THE B&O RETAILING GROSS RECEIPTS CAP WAS \$25M AND \$100M?

Retailing Gross Receipts				
Scenario	Maximum Cap	Other Cap	Tax Calculation	2025 Additional Revenue
A	\$20 Million (keep as is)	None	Taxable only up to \$20 Million	\$0
B	\$25 Million	None	Taxable only up to \$25 Million	\$86,800
C	\$20 Million	Excess of \$100 Million	Taxable up to \$20 Million & anything over \$100 Million	\$60,000
D	\$20 Million	\$100 Million	Taxable on all	\$300,000
E	\$25 Million	\$100 Million	Taxable on all	\$370,000

\*Apply CPI-W on each maximum cap beginning January 1, 2026.

# QUESTION #14

**CAN WE USE B&O REVENUES TO FUND POLICE OFFICER POSITIONS?**

**IF SO, COULD WE USE ANY ADDITIONAL B&O TAX FUNDS GENERATED BY THE CHANGE IN RETAILING GROSS RECEIPTS TAX TO HIRE ONE OR TWO ADDITIONAL OFFICERS?**

Council discussion.

## QUESTION #15

**I AM SO GLAD TO SEE THE BUDGET INCLUDES TWO NEW SERGEANTS AND ONE PATROL OFFICER. THIS DOES PROVIDE SOME HELP TO THE DEPARTMENT BUT WE ALL KNOW MORE OFFICERS ARE NEEDED. IN THE COMING YEAR, WILL IT BE A LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TO ASK THE STATE FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR POLICE?**

As with the last legislative session, we are continuing our advocacy efforts to change state law to allow the City to increase the sales tax by 0.3% or otherwise create a mechanism(s) to allow the City to receive \$12 million annually.

# TIMELINE

<b>COUNCIL WORKSHOP</b> .....	<b>Oct 15</b>
Questions and Final Decisions	
<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b> .....	<b>Oct 15</b>
Public Hearing – 2025 Property Tax Levy	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing – 2025-26 Biennial Budget	
<b>COUNCIL WORKSHOP (Special Meeting if needed)</b> .....	<b>Oct 22</b>
<b>PREPARE BUDGET ADOPTION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS</b> .....	<b>Oct 16-Nov 19</b>
<b>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING</b> .....	<b>Nov 5</b>
2025-26 Budget Recommendation	
<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b> .....	<b>Dec 10</b>
Adoption of the 2025 Property Tax Levy	
Adoption of the 2025-26 Biennial Budget	



# NEXT STEPS

- Next Tuesday's Budget Workshop will be the last opportunity to go over Council's questions
- Human Services presentation – Merina Hanson
- Please send questions you have our way
  - Paula Painter – [ppainter@kentwa.gov](mailto:ppainter@kentwa.gov)
  - Michelle Ferguson – [mferguson@kentwa.gov](mailto:mferguson@kentwa.gov)