

Auditors Comment #49
BOS Recd- 6-11-24

From: Joe H. Harn
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 11:30 AM
To: Tiffany Schmid; Emma L. Owens; Sue Hennike; John Hidahl; Brooke Laine; George Turnboo; Lori Parlin; Wendy Thomas
Cc: Kim Dawson; BOS-Clerk of the Board; Emma L. Owens; David A Livingston
Subject: RE: June 11, 2024 Agenda-County Budget
Attachments: 24-0997 - D - FY 2024-25 Recm'd Budget 5-Year Projection.pdf

El Dorado County's Budget, although legally balanced, is not structurally balanced.

This Budget makes it very likely that we will be in a worse financial situation one year from now.

Please remember, we are using a "rate holiday" of our Retirees Health Program to legally balance this Budget. That is not sustainable budget solution.

Further, as I have previously reported to you, the future of on-line sales tax revenues is bleak.

Please carefully review the CAO's 5 year Budget Projection.

We have a lot of budget adjustment work to do in the next 12 months.

Joe Harn
Auditor-Controller
El Dorado County



Fiscal Year 2024-25 Recommended Budget General Fund 5-Year Projections

Summary of Major Differences

	Cautious	Conservative	Moderate
Property Tax after FY 2024-25	2% growth from prior year	3.5% growth from prior year	4.5% growth from prior year
Transient Occupancy Tax	2% decrease from prior year	No growth	2% growth from prior year
Sales & Use Tax / Public Safety Sales Tax	2% growth in FY 2024-25 and no growth after that	2% growth in FY 2024-25 and 0.5% growth after that	Based on HDL projection of 2% growth in FY 2024-25, 2.8% in 2025-26, 3.0% in 2026-27, 2.9% in 2027-28 and FY 2028-29.

Summary of Revenue Surplus / (Shortfall)

	FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget	FY 2025-26 Projected	FY 2026-27 Projected	FY 2027-28 Projected	FY 2028-29 Projected
Cautious	\$ 0	(\$12.65 M)	(\$18.76 M)	(\$25.10 M)	(\$31.65 M)
Conservative	\$ 0	(\$10.45 M)	(\$14.27 M)	(\$18.21 M)	(\$22.26 M)
Moderate	\$ 0	(\$8.24 M)	(\$9.65 M)	(\$11.08 M)	(\$12.47 M)

COUNTY OF EL DORADO
FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget
General Fund 5-Year Conservative Budget Projection

In Millions	FY 2024-25 Recommended Budget	FY 2025-26 Projected	FY 2026-27 Projected	FY 2027-28 Projected	FY 2028-29 Projected
REVENUES					
Property Tax & Property Tax In-Lieu VLF	\$ 123.05	\$ 127.36	\$ 131.82	\$ 136.43	\$ 141.20
Transient Occupancy Tax	\$ 8.75	\$ 8.75	\$ 8.75	\$ 8.75	\$ 8.75
Cannabis Activities Tax	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50
Sales and Use Tax	\$ 18.67	\$ 18.76	\$ 18.86	\$ 18.95	\$ 19.04
Public Safety Sales Tax	\$ 16.31	\$ 16.39	\$ 16.47	\$ 16.55	\$ 16.64
Other Local Taxes	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.86	\$ 3.86
Licenses/Permits/Franchises	\$ 13.47	\$ 13.47	\$ 13.47	\$ 13.47	\$ 13.47
Fines/Forfeitures/Penalties	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.23
Use of Funds/Property	\$ 3.01	\$ 3.01	\$ 3.01	\$ 3.01	\$ 3.01
Intergovernmental Revenue (2%)	\$ 62.03	\$ 63.27	\$ 64.54	\$ 65.83	\$ 67.15
Charges for Service	\$ 24.91	\$ 24.91	\$ 24.91	\$ 24.91	\$ 24.91
Other Revenue (2%)	\$ 8.23	\$ 8.39	\$ 8.56	\$ 8.73	\$ 8.91
Transfers from Other Funds	\$ 64.56	\$ 64.56	\$ 64.56	\$ 64.56	\$ 64.56
Total Current Revenues	\$ 348.56	\$ 354.45	\$ 360.52	\$ 366.77	\$ 373.21
Appropriation from Fund Balance - Operations	\$ 36.45	\$ 39.93	\$ 41.03	\$ 42.17	\$ 43.33
Appropriation from Fund Balance - Capital	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Use of Designations/Reserves	\$ 31.58	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Revenues	\$ 416.60	\$ 394.38	\$ 401.55	\$ 408.93	\$ 416.54
APPROPRIATIONS					
Salaries/Benefits (3%)	\$ 247.86	\$ 260.31	\$ 267.81	\$ 275.52	\$ 283.47
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 111.44	\$ 109.70	\$ 112.99	\$ 116.38	\$ 119.88
Fixed Assets (incl. re-budget)	\$ 8.35	\$ 8.35	\$ 8.35	\$ 8.35	\$ 8.35
Transfer to Other Funds	\$ 39.93	\$ 12.93	\$ 12.93	\$ 12.93	\$ 12.93
Increase to Reserves/Designations	\$ 1.17	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00
Appropriation for Contingency	\$ 7.85	\$ 7.54	\$ 7.74	\$ 7.96	\$ 8.18
Total Appropriations	\$ 416.60	\$ 404.83	\$ 415.82	\$ 427.14	\$ 438.80
Revenue Surplus/(Shortfall)	\$ 0.00	(\$ 10.45)	(\$ 14.27)	(\$ 18.21)	(\$ 22.26)

Assumptions in Developing the 5-Year Projection

Property Tax & Property Tax In-Lieu VLF	Increases by 3.5% from the previous year in FY 2024-25 and in future years.
Transient Occupancy Tax	No projected growth.
Sales and Use Tax & Public Safety Sales Tax	Based on HDL projection of 2% growth in FY 2024-25, 0.5% growth in future years.
Intergovernmental Revenue	Increases by 2% annually.
Appropriation from Fund Balance - Operations	The projection for future years is based on 10.2% of that year's projected appropriations, excluding increases to reserves/designations and contingency. This is based on historical fund balance to appropriations ratios from prior years' Final Budgets.
Appropriation from Fund Balance - Capital	Beginning in FY 2024-25, funding from the Capital Projects Designation is returned to the designation at the end of the FY instead of being rolled into General Fund Fund Balance. Instead of the amount showing in Fund Balance, it is now shown in Use of Designations and Reserves.
Use of Designations and Reserves	After FY 2024-25, doesn't use designated funds.
Salaries/Benefits	Projected with a 3% increase from the previous year on salaries and associated subobjects after adding Retiree Health back in starting in FY 2025-26. Adds \$2.5m for Jail expansion operating costs starting in FY 2025-26.
Other Operating Expenses	Increases by 3% annually. After FY 2024-25, removes \$4.9m in one-time TOT fund balance expenses.
Transfers	After FY 2024-25, removes DOT HMGP Project and ACO General Fund Contribution.
Increase to Reserves / Designations	Future years include \$6m Capital Projects.
Appropriation for Contingency	Projected from the ratio of Total Appropriations (less Increase to Reserves/ Designations) to \$7.85m of Contingency (3% Adjusted GF Appropriations).