

Governmental Operating Fund

Fund	Budget
General Fund	\$89,416,137
Subtotal - Governmental Operating Fund	\$89,416,137
Governmental Capital Funds	
Governmental Capital Fund	\$9,623,449
Subtotal - Governmental Capital Funds	\$9,623,449
Special Revenue Funds	
Adams County Open Space Fund	\$960,000
Adams County Road and Bridge Fund	3,676,400
Conservation Trust Fund	1,054,000
Open Space Fund	2,120,701
Parks Fund	1,061,485
Parks and Open Space Fund	750,964
Subtotal - Special Revenue Funds	\$9,623,550
Internal Service Funds	
Information Technology Fund	\$5,301,647
Reprographics Fund	633,074
Risk Management Fund	2,951,955
Consolidated Service Center Fund	566,180
Subtotal - Internal Service Funds	\$9,452,856
Debt Service Fund	
Debt Service Fund	\$3,241,860
Subtotal - Debt Service Fund	\$3,241,860
Enterprise Funds	
Water Fund	\$47,561,412
Sewer Fund	11,402,122
Environmental Services Fund	4,763,210
Subtotal - Enterprise Funds	\$63,726,744
GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$185,084,596

Citizen Input

The City of Thornton's budget is an ongoing process combining citizen input, Council desires and direction, and staff recommendations to meet community needs. Thornton Citizens have many opportunities to participate in the budget process. A citizen survey is conducted regularly to measure performance, effectiveness, and citizen satisfaction with services. It also serves as a valuable tool for the City in making policy decisions.

Additionally, citizens are encouraged to attend Ward Meetings, Ice Cream Socials, and other public meetings, including the Public Hearings on the annual budget each fall. These are outstanding opportunities to discuss services, projects and other issues with Council face-to-face. This dialogue often serves as the basis for Council-staff discussions during the budget planning process and can pave the way toward enhancing a current service or funding a new project.

For additional information, contact:
City of Thornton
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Thornton, Colorado 80229
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www.cityofthornton.net

2012 Budget Brief

A Synopsis of the
City of Thornton Budget

Budget Basics

The City's budget is comprised of several different funds, which are used to monitor revenues and expenditures relating to a wide variety of services. The Governmental Operating Fund and the Governmental Capital Fund provide for basic government services and general capital projects. Some of these services include police, fire, parks and recreation, street maintenance, and snow removal. Sales tax, general property tax, fees, charges for service, State and Federal funds, and other taxes support these operations.

Special Revenue Funds account for specific revenue sources that are earmarked for specific projects such as roads and bridges or parks, recreation and open space projects. Internal service funds account for services provided by the City and charged to the various funds.

Enterprise funds are used to account for the revenues and expenses of "City businesses" such as water, sewer, trash removal, and recycling. These businesses rely on specific revenues, which generally come in the form of user charges, to pay the costs of the services.



Sales Tax

Cities in the Denver Metro area have different sales tax rates. In Thornton, the total sales tax rate is 8.60 percent, of which 0.25 percent is dedicated by the City for parks and open space acquisition. Sales and use taxes comprise approximately 75 percent of General Fund revenue, while property tax contributes only 15 percent. Thornton's property tax mill levy remains unchanged in 2012 at 10.21 mills.

Sales Tax

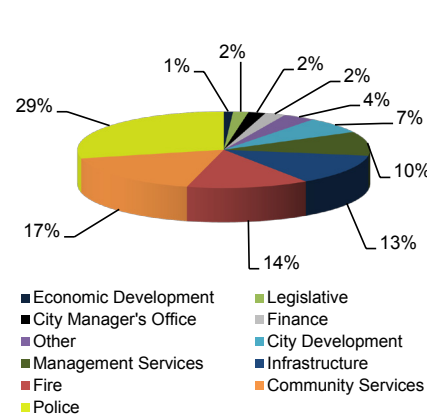
Tax	Percent
City of Thornton	3.50
City of Thornton - Parks and Open Space	0.25
State of Colorado	2.90
Regional Transportation District (RTD)	1.00
Adams County Road and Bridge	0.55
Adams County Open Space	0.20
Metropolitan Football Stadium District	0.10
Science and Cultural Facilities District	0.10
Total Sales Tax	8.60%

General Fund

Cost of City Services

The chart on the next page describes how each dollar received in the General Fund is spent to provide services for our community. The Legislative Department establishes policy governing Thornton. The City Manager's Office implements City Council policy. Finance manages all revenues that the city collects while Economic Development promotes economic growth. Community Services provides park, recreation, senior, and arts and culture programs. The Fire Department provides fire and emergency medical services. The Police Department provides police and crime prevention services. City Development reviews residential and business construction proposals as it guides the growth of the City. Infrastructure oversees street maintenance, snow removal and traffic operations. Management Services provides internal support, such as Communications and Human Resources to all City departments. The "Other" category includes costs not attributable to a single department, such as the City's liability insurance coverage.

Service Provided for Each \$ Received in the General Fund



Major Initiatives

The 2012 Budget includes a number of initiatives aimed at maintaining and improving the level of service delivered to the community. Listed below are a few of the highlights:

- Deployment of a fourth ambulance, ensuring that current response levels for fire and medical emergencies are maintained
- A partnership with Mapleton School District which will provide the City with additional recreation programming space
- A partnership with School District 12 to administer four middle school sports programs located in Thornton that were eliminated
- Additional resources for maintenance of arterial streets with the goal of prolonging the life of key transportation routes
- An expanded economic development program that will focus on primary employer attraction, retention, and expansion as well as retail development
- Construction of site improvements to the Margaret W. Carpenter Recreation Center to be completed in early 2013.

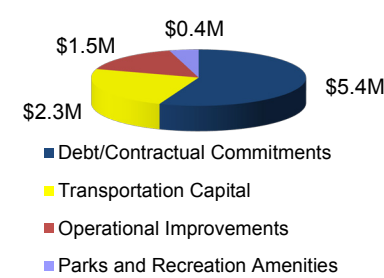
Budget Details

The 2012 Budget reflects a 0.9 percent increase over the 2011 Budget. It funds 801.25 regular full-time positions, a net 3.75 increase over 2011. The increase in personnel is primarily due to staffing the fourth ambulance. The 2012 Budget also includes over 400 part-time positions, which is the same level funded in the 2011 Budget. Most of these temporary employees operate recreation facilities and provide summer park maintenance.

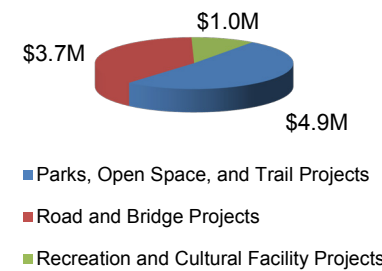
Capital Improvement Projects

Capital improvement projects are funded through the Governmental Capital Fund and Special Revenue Funds. The Governmental Capital Fund is used to account for general capital projects while the Special Revenue Funds account for specific revenue sources that are earmarked for specific projects such as roads and bridges or parks, recreation and open space projects.

2012 General Government Capital: \$9.6M



2012 Special Revenue Capital: \$9.6M



2012 Highlighted Capital Improvement Projects

Project	Budget
120th and Colorado Intersection Improvements	\$1,934,000
Holly Street and Brantner Gulch Improvements	1,775,402
Irrigation Replacement and Park Rehabilitation	561,000
Washington Street Widening-design	206,000
Playground Rehabilitation	184,000
Open Space Identification and Fencing	118,000
88th and York Intersection Improvements	92,000
84th and I-25 Landscape Rehabilitation-design	25,000

Enterprise Funds

The City of Thornton has three enterprise funds: Water, Sewer, and Environmental Services. The Water operating budget covers water acquisition, distribution, and treatment while the Sewer operating budget covers sewer collection and treatment. The Environmental Services operating budget funds trash and recycling collection and disposal.

Enterprise Funds - Operating Budgets

Function	Budget
Water Acquisition	\$5,056,736
Water Distribution	4,403,663
Water Treatment	5,220,459
Sewer Collection	1,438,466
Sewer Treatment	7,016,708
Trash and Recycling	4,763,210
Debt Service/Other	17,155,442

The Water and Sewer enterprises also pay annual debt service for previously constructed capital projects. The 2012 Capital Improvement Project budget for the Water enterprise funds project planning for the Northern Water Project, which will bring water to Thornton from northern Colorado. It also includes construction of two large raw water reservoirs.

2012 Water Capital: \$17.6M

