MARK DION (MAYOR)
PIOUS ALI (A/L)
APRIL FOURNIER (A/L)
BENJAMIN GRANT (A/L)

SARAH MICHNIEWICZ (1)
WESLEY PELLETIER (2)
REGINA L. PHILLIPS (3)
ANNA BULLETT (4)
KATE SYKES (5)

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Executive Session / FY27 Budget Primer Presentation / Goal Setting Session #2

January 26, 2026 at 4:30 PM via Zoom

REMOTE PARTICIPATION:

The City Council will conduct this meeting remotely via Zoom pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Portland City Council.

To join the meeting, please visit: https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/86225179958?pwd=Of6CvlGSaqOEBGVYnK28Z95Jv4x0sL.1

If you are not able to attend in person, a recording will be available in the Agenda Center following the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Pursuant to 1 MRS 405(6)(e), the City Council is expected to hold an executive session to consult with Corporation Counsel regarding litigation in the case of State of Minnesota v. Noem, 0:26-cv-00190 (D. Minn.).

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. FY27 Budget Primer and FY27 City Council Guidance (Brendan O'Connell, Finance Director)

City Finance Director Brendan T. O'Connell will provide an update on the FY26 budget to date as well as a preview of FY27 Budget Challenges and Opportunities. The City Council will be asked to discuss their guidelines and targets for the FY27 budget and changes in the tax levy.

II. Goal Setting Session #2 (Lena Geraghty)

ADJOURNMENT:

FY27 Budget Primer

City of Portland, Maine

January 26, 2026

AGENDA

- **Introduction**
  - Budgeting basics
  - Excerpts from September 2025 Finance Committee FY26 budget recap
  - Review of City FY27 Budget Calendar
- **FY26 Budget Update**
  - Review of budget to actual info for FY26
  - Pause for Questions and Answers
- **Looking Ahead to FY27**
  - Budget Challenges
  - Budget Opportunities
  - Pause for Questions and Answers
- **Council Budget Guidance Discussion**

Budgeting Basics

The City of Portland budget is a fiscal plan setting out anticipated revenues and expenditures for accomplishing City services over the course of our fiscal year (which runs each July 1st through June 30th). Setting an annual operating budget is required by the City Charter. **Total City of Portland FY26 approved budget = $529.7M**

The City budget includes both the **general fund** and four **enterprise funds.**

General Fund

- FY26 Approved City General Fund Budget - $285.1M

Enterprise Funds

- Jetport (FY26 Approved Budget - $37.8M)
- Sewer (FY26 Approved Budget - $34.9M)
- Stormwater (FY26 Approved Budget - $7.4M)
- Fish Pier (FY26 Approved Budget - $1.8M)

School Department

- FY26 Approved General Fund Budget - $162.8M

Learn more at *portlandmaine.gov/finance*

General Fund

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Budgeting Basics (continued)

The **general fund** is the largest of the City's funds and includes funding for basic municipal services such as public safety, health and human services, and public works. The general fund is supported by property taxes and a variety of other sources including excise taxes, licenses and permits, State of Maine revenue sharing and general assistance reimbursement, charges for services from City Departments and more.

Budgeting Basics (continued)

The **enterprise funds** are self supporting funds that rely on their own revenues to support their expenditures. They do not utilize any property tax revenue to support their operations.

General Fund

- FY26 Approved City General Fund Budget - $285.1M

Enterprise Funds

- Jetport (FY26 Approved Budget - $37.8M)
- Sewer (FY26 Approved Budget - $34.9M)
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School Department

- FY26 Approved General Fund Budget - $162.8M

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Budgeting Basics - Inflation and CPI

Inflation

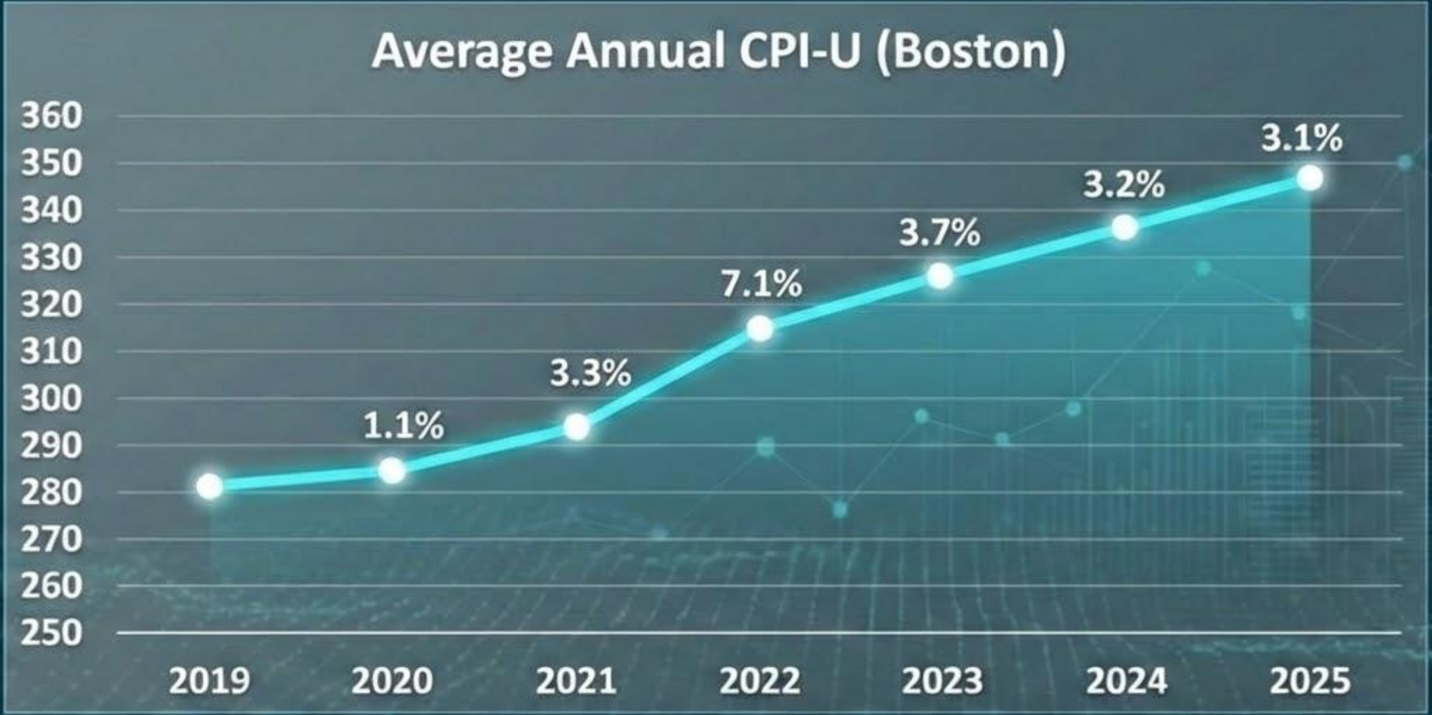
Inflation can be defined as a persistent rise in the general price of goods and services of common or daily use — such as clothing, food, fuel, transport, etc — which results in an increase in the cost of living. Inflation is the measure of change in average price of services and commodities, done at regular intervals

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** tracks any shift in retail prices of essential and daily goods and services consumed by households across the country. In short, it captures changes in price level at the consumer level.

CPI-U Boston Historical Data

(CPI-U is our preferred local CPI index for all urban consumer data)



Budgeting Basics - Tax Levy vs Tax Rate

TAX LEVY: The City Council sets the tax levy, not the tax rate. The City **tax levy** is the amount of property taxes required to be collected from Portland property taxpayers to fund municipal operations.

TAX RATE (aka MILL RATE): The City Assessor uses the property tax levy approved by the City Council and divides it by the total taxable valuation of the City to come up with the final tax rate (also known as the mill rate or the millage rate). The tax rate represents the amount of taxes payable per dollar of assessed property value. This usually occurs in midsummer. Tax rates shown during the budget process are ESTIMATES.

5 Year Tax Levy History

The City Council has approved tax levy increases of approximately $53M since FY22 (a 28% increase over the five year period).

Tax Levy - 5 Year History		
FY22	$	190,098,182.00
FY23	$	200,437,989.00
FY24	$	214,409,661.00
FY25	$	227,318,310.00
FY26	$	243,152,498.00

The FY25 to FY26 tax levy increase of approximately $15.8M (7%) would have been in excess of $30M if not for the use of $15M+ in one time funds (fund balance / debt service reserves).

Budgeting Basics - FY25 to FY26 Tax Levy Comparison

Department	FY 2025 Tax Levy	FY 2026 Tax Levy	$ chg	% chg	FY25 Tax Rate	% of Levy	FY 26 Tax Rate	% of Levy
Education	119,402,624	127,225,979	7,823,355	7%	$7.88	*52.5%*	$6.27	*52.3%*
Public Safety	38,084,774	39,214,808	1,130,034	3%	$2.51	*16.8%*	$1.92	*16.0%*
Debt Service	27,126,361	25,314,018	(1,812,343)	-7%	$1.79	*11.9%*	$1.26	*10.5%*
Public Works	11,554,474	11,689,861	135,387	1%	$0.76	*5.1%*	$0.58	*4.8%*
County Tax	8,414,304	9,082,446	668,142	8%	$0.56	*3.7%*	$0.45	*3.7%*
Library	4,891,900	5,136,495	244,595	5%	$0.32	*2.2%*	$0.25	*2.1%*
General Govt	4,181,861	3,388,836	(793,025)	-19%	$0.28	*1.8%*	$0.17	*1.4%*
HHS	6,938,343	15,666,715	8,728,372	126%	$0.46	*3.1%*	$0.77	*6.4%*
Parks	4,195,013	3,927,399	(267,614)	-6%	$0.28	*1.8%*	$0.19	*1.6%*
Metro	2,528,655	2,505,941	(22,714)	-1%	$0.17	*1.1%*	$0.12	*1.0%*
	227,318,309	**243,152,498**	**8,010,834**	**7%**	**$15.01**	***100.0%***	**$11.98**	***100.0%***

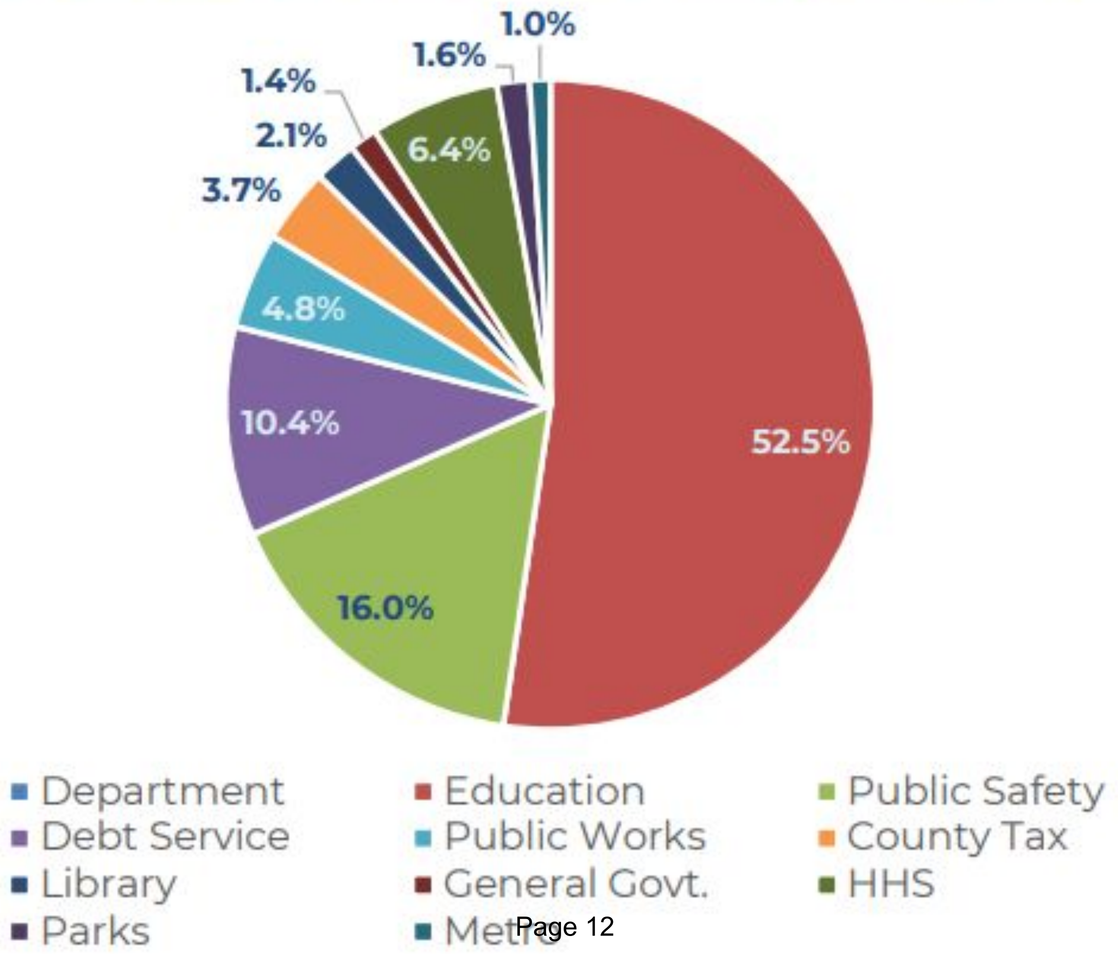
Notes:

-Pension and insurance costs have been allocated proportionally among department budgets

-Revenues not specific to departments have been allocated proportionally among department budgets

-Revaluation occurred in FY 2026

Percentage of FY 2026 Levy by Department



5 Year Tax Rate History

- Due to rising valuations and revaluation in the City, the tax rate has decreased from $12.99 to $11.98 over the last five years.
- However, as noted on the previous slide, total property taxes levied (the Tax Levy) rose by $53M overall despite the drops in the tax rate.
- From FY25 to FY26, tax rate dropped by approximately 25% after completion of the FY26 revaluation.

Tax Rate - 5 Year History		
FY22	$	12.99
FY23	$	13.61
FY24	$	14.41
FY25	$	15.01
FY26 (pre-revaluation)	$	16.05
FY26 (post-revaluation)	$	11.98

Assessment Data from City Tax Assessor "Total Taxable Value"

Each year the City Tax Assessor commits property taxes based on the **total taxable property value** in the City of Portland. Total taxable property value refers to the dollar amount of all property value that is subject to property taxes after all eligible exemptions and deductions have been applied. This figure rose significantly in FY26 as a result of the most recent property revaluation.

FY25 Total Taxable Value: $15,153,264,507
FY26 Total Taxable Value: $20,099,365,123
FY27 Total Taxable Value: TBD but rising!

Total Taxable Value Increase: $4,964,100,616

Assessment Data from City Tax Assessor "Median Home Value"

The **median** is defined as the middle number in a sorted list of numbers. To find the median, you arrange the data points from smallest to largest and identify the central number. When we arrange all of the values of the taxable homes in the City, the **median home value** (the central number in our list) rose significantly as a result of the revaluation:

Median Home Value (pre-revaluation): $396,700
Median Home Value (post-revaluation): $566,600

Increase ($): $169,900
Increase (%): 42.8%

Assessment Data from City Tax Assessor: Property Tax on Median Home FY25 to FY26

Using the FY25 and FY26 median home values and property tax rates, we can calculate the increase in annual property tax bill for a median home.

FY25 Median Home Value: $396,700
FY25 Tax Rate: $15.01
FY25 Median Home Tax Bill: ($369,700/1000) * $15.01 = $5,954

FY26 Median Home Value: $566,600
FY26 Tax Rate: $11.98
FY26 Median Home Tax Bill: ($566,600/1000) * $15.01 = $6,788

Property taxes on a median valued home in Portland increased by $834 (14%) from FY25 to FY26

Additional Breakdown: FY26 Property Tax Increase

The median property tax bill in FY25 was $5,954

We can calculate that $415 of the $834 increase in a median property tax bill was due to Council action (FY26 budget, voting to increase the property tax levy by $15.8M (6.965%) from $227.3M to $243.1M).

$5,954 median home value * 6.965% tax increase = $415

School tax levy increase = $205 of the $415
City tax levy increase = $192 of the $415
County tax levy increase = $18 of the $415

Remaining $419 increase due to other factors, most notably a value shift from commercial property to residential property.

Affordability - A Potential City Council Priority / Goal for FY27?

With a 14% increase on median homeowner property taxes in FY26, "Affordability" and the pace of property tax increases are frequently mentioned by residents in district meetings and on calls / emails to City Hall.

A broader affordability objective has not been part of City Council Common Goals since FY22. Council agreed in late 2021 to "Adopt a budget that factors in the capacity of City staff to do the work, taxpayers to pay for it, and its effects on small businesses."

Although 2026 City Council Common Goals have not yet been established, the affordability of each goal and impact on property tax rates should be considered.

Budgeting Basics - School Budget

The school budget is separate from the City budget, but is part of the overall tax levy. As per the City Charter, the PPS Superintendent proposes a school budget, which is approved in detail first by the Board of Public Education, and then ultimately by the City Council. This amount is then approved by voters in June of each year. The Charter specifically indicates that “[t]he City Council...shall...appropriate one gross amount for the support of the public schools” City Charter, Article III Section 5.

The FY26 school budget (per the appropriation resolve) is $162.8M with a required school tax levy of $127.2M.

Budgeting Basics - City Budget Schedule

- December/January/February – City Departments compile/enter their budget requests based on current year actuals and guidance from City Manager and City Council.
- February – Finance/HR Department review of submissions for completeness/accuracy and other minor changes
- March – City Manager detailed review of submissions (full day Department presentations), preparation of recommended budget, consultations with Mayor and meetings with Councilors.
- April – Presentation of City Manager recommended budget to City Council, referral to Finance Committee for detailed review meetings, Finance Committee public hearing and vote (occasionally extends into early May).

FY26 Budget: Expenditures Status by Department

Note: General fund revenues are 50.1% collected through 6 months

General Fund:			
City Council	$687,937	257,768	37.5%
City Clerk	869,026	325,752	37.5%
City Manager	1,736,794	674,956	38.9%
Assessor	851,874	440,826	51.7%
Finance	2,447,341	1,309,939	53.5%
Legal	1,307,446	581,341	44.5%
Human Resources	1,680,747	751,085	44.7%
Parking	2,634,694	1,168,919	44.4%
Housing & Economic Development	1,896,494	706,320	37.2%
Police Department	20,346,258	10,489,927	51.6%
Fire Department	23,207,269	11,057,721	47.6%
Dispatch Services	4,585,476	2,194,524	47.9%
Planning & Development	1,757,893	840,850	47.8%
Permitting & Inspections	3,405,931	1,509,232	44.3%
Information Technology	3,365,861	2,117,739	62.9%
Public Works	18,874,176	8,241,240	43.7%
Parks, Recreation, & Facilities	14,138,397	7,262,616	51.4%
Public Buildings & Waterfront	6,867,690	3,155,110	45.9%
HHS Administration	793,870	320,853	40.4%
Public Health	4,074,557	1,303,501	32.0%
Social Services	28,652,282	12,649,594	44.1%
Barron Center	18,307,608	7,976,218	43.6%
Debt Service	60,899,384	15,253,663	25.0%
Library	5,136,495	2,486,177	48.4%
Pension	11,521,999	5,532,178	48.0%
Employee Benefits	30,721,273	17,805,660	58.0%
Contingent	250,000	28,571	11.4%
Liability Insurance	1,258,404	581,486	46.2%
County Tax	9,082,446	9,082,446	100.0%
Memberships / Other	3,690,557	3,495,104	94.7%
Wage Adjustment	-	-	-
Total General Fund:	**$285,050,179**	**129,601,316**	**45.5%**

1) Rapidly Rising Health Insurance Costs

2) Cumberland County Tax Increase

3) HHS / Social Services Expanded Shelter Operations and Rising Costs

4) Contractually Obligated Wage Increases

5) Other Expected Cost Increases of Note (METRO, GPCOG & More)

FY27 Budget Challenge #1:
Rapidly Rising Health Insurance Costs

City of Portland - Health Insurance Budget to Actual Expenditures History		
Fiscal Year	Budget	Actual
FY 2017	16,937,500	15,636,795
FY 2018	17,084,410	18,388,053
FY 2019	19,179,880	16,327,123
FY 2020	18,848,578	16,171,612
FY 2021	17,498,615	18,021,371
FY 2022	17,287,680	16,890,095
FY 2023	16,492,718	18,187,591
FY 2024	18,840,192	20,696,772
FY 2025	21,234,793	24,359,578
FY 2026 (1st 6 Months)	25,164,114	15,501,635

Projecting in excess of $31M in total FY26 Health Insurance Costs

FY27 Budget Challenge #2: Cumberland County Tax Increases

- Current estimate is an approximately $500,000 increase (just under 8%) from ~$9.1M for FY26 to ~9.6M for FY27 (budget not yet finalized).

- There is a scenario that is possible for FY27 where an additional $2.5M of County Tax would need to be levied against Cumberland County property owners <u>if a contract with the Federal government to house inmates is cancelled</u>

  - City of Portland residents would see an additional 8-12% increase in the County Tax amount if the contract with the Federal government is cancelled.

FY27 Budget Challenge #3: Expanded Social Service Operations and Increases in Local Cost

City has significantly expanded our shelter operations in recent years (300 beds in early 2023 to 583 beds by the end of that year). Significant expansions in shelter ops included:

- Construction / leasing of brand new Homeless Services Center (increase in capacity to 258 beds) with significant increases in services offerings and also significant increases in operating costs.

- City opened a temporary 179 bed shelter location for asylum seekers at 166 Riverside Industrial Parkway in Dec. 2023 to address arrival levels at that time (term ends Nov. 2026).

- City currently operates 146 bed Family Shelter on Chestnut Street in Portland Maine (lease expiration June 2026).

City of Portland Social Services Budgets by Fiscal Year	
FY19	11,908,346
FY20	13,167,747
FY21	14,623,335
FY22	16,714,830
FY23	60,000,745
FY24	36,827,723
FY25	32,758,139
FY26	28,652,282
FY27	TBD

FY27 Budget Challenge #3: Expanded Social Service Operations and Increases in Local Cost

- Service expansion is only a portion of the financial story. There has also been a cost shift from State and Federal funding to the local property tax levy in recent budget cycles.

- The FY26 budget included a nearly $12M decrease in budgeted "Intergovernmental Revenue" due to proposed changes at the State and losses in Federal revenues.

- As a result, the City faced an ~$8.7M increase in the estimated local cost of Social Services in FY26 (see chart) included in the City tax levy.

- $8.8M in one time reserve funds were used to balance the budget and ensure no reductions to HHS service levels or further burden to local property taxpayers would be necessary.

Department	FY 2025 Tax Levy	FY 2026 Tax Levy	$ chg	% chg
Education	119,402,624	127,225,979	7,823,355	7%
Public Safety	38,084,774	39,214,808	1,130,034	3%
Debt Service	27,126,361	25,314,018	(1,812,343)	-7%
Public Works	11,554,474	11,689,861	135,387	1%
County Tax	8,414,304	9,082,446	668,142	8%
Library	4,891,900	5,136,495	244,595	5%
General Govt.	4,181,861	3,388,836	(793,025)	-19%
HHS	6,938,343	15,666,715	8,728,372	126%
Parks	4,195,013	3,927,399	(267,614)	-6%
Metro	2,528,655	2,505,941	(22,714)	-1%
	227,318,309	**243,152,498**	**8,010,834**	**7%**

FY27 Budget Challenge #3: Expanded Social Service Operations and Increases in Local Cost

- Council has had several recent HHS and Public Safety Committee meetings and City Council Workshops on the topic of our shelter operations.

- Nightly usage of the shelter at 166 Riverside Industrial Parkway has dipped significantly compared to prior fiscal years, impacting revenue reimbursement from State of Maine, but not significantly reducing overall Social Services operating costs (majority of operating costs are fixed, and revenue reimbursement is variable based on census and GA eligibility). The composition of GA eligible vs non-GA eligible shelter guests has continued to shift towards non-GA eligible, also impacting State revenue reimbursement.

- New Federal funding streams highly unlikely to be available for FY27 shelter ops

- Year 2 of State of Maine biennial budget cycle offers limited opportunities for changes to shelter funding streams. However, in FY26 the the City was able to deter many harmful proposed changes to the State's General Assistance program. As a result, actual FY27 Social Service results have been positive vs budget.

FY27 Budget Challenge #4: Contractually Obligated Wage Increases

Settled FY27 COLA's by Bargaining Unit:

CEBA – 2%
Communications – 3%
Labor & Trades – 3%
Supervisors – 3%
Pro-Tech – 4%
PBA - 5%
SOA – 5%
Fire - TBD - Contract was set to expire on 12/31/26 after a 4% COLA on 1/1/26. Recent renegotiation changed expiration to 6/30/26, authorized 4% COLA at 1/1/26, and paid a 1.5% bonus in final pay period of 2025. The contract is now fully unsettled for FY27 but negotiations are well underway.

FY27 Budget Challenge #5: Other Expected Increases of Note (METRO, GPCOG, PSTEP & MORE)

- METRO bus system used one time funding to expand service levels during prior fiscal years. Federal funding is expiring and their FY26 budget, which has already been accepted by Council, assumes Portland will locally fund the same service levels in FY27 and FY28. Budget increase for FY27 is $600,000 or 20%. City was informed we should expect a similar or larger requested increase in FY28.

- GPCOG has communicated intent to raise dues between 2.7% (per capita dues) and 5% (recently created GPCOG/PACTS Unified Planning Work Program)

- City Finance Committee voted to recommend an increase in PSTEP funding for FY27 to $600,000 and for future increases to $800,000 and $1M in FY27/FY28.

- City Clerk FY27 budget will include minimum wage increases and Clean Elections tracking software - impact TBD but expected to be <$80k

1) Year 2 of State of Maine Biennial Budget - Coordinated Lobbying Efforts

2) Potential for increases in several non-property tax revenues (excise taxes, building permits, parking)

3) Transportation TIF funds available to offset METRO budget increase

4) Changes to mitigate Health Insurance Plan increases

5) Continued Growth in Tax Base

FY26 Budget Opportunity #2: Growth in Key Non-Property Tax Revenues

Automobile Excise:

	FY 2022	% chg	FY 2023	% chg	FY 2024	% chg	FY 2025	% chg	FY 2026	% chg
July	1,105,148	-9%	1,009,735	-9%	1,031,635	2%	1,168,392	13%	1,349,243	15%
August	1,036,138	-6%	929,232	-10%	1,241,460	34%	1,073,791	-14%	1,291,922	20%
September	1,024,083	-15%	1,057,741	3%	1,055,013	0%	1,104,985	5%	1,321,463	20%
October	931,195	-16%	992,541	7%	1,031,499	4%	1,229,640	19%	1,252,258	2%
November	825,358	-5%	1,081,712	31%	1,121,642	4%	979,199	-13%	960,551	-2%
December	917,178	3%	1,019,685	11%	982,351	-4%	1,130,200	15%	1,090,663	-3%
January	863,548	-2%	840,727	-3%	1,036,283	23%	1,082,294	4%		-100%
February	734,373	-6%	911,959	24%	870,715	-5%	887,055	2%		-100%
March	945,516	-7%	1,127,316	19%	1,059,319	-6%	1,157,003	9%		-100%
April	1,069,571	25%	1,015,600	-5%	1,014,072	0%	1,358,749	34%		-100%
May	1,271,291	30%	1,292,384	2%	1,502,548	16%	1,617,773	8%		-100%
June	1,146,498	-2%	1,241,931	8%	1,382,842	11%	1,366,312	-1%		-100%
	11,869,898	-2%	12,520,561	5%	13,329,379	6%	14,155,394	6%	7,266,100	-49%
Budget	10,500,000	0%	10,500,000	0%	11,250,000	7%	12,000,000		13,500,000	
	1,369,898		*2,020,561*		*2,079,379*		*2,155,394*		*(6,233,900)*	

FY26 Budget Opportunity #2: Growth in Key Non-Property Tax Revenues

Building Permits

	FY 2022	% chg	FY 2023	% chg	FY 2024	% chg	FY 2025	% chg	FY 2026	% chg
July	247,943	130%	545,802	120%	238,335	-56%	167,713	-30%	212,228	27%
August	141,852	13%	203,209	43%	254,621	25%	3,830,073	1404%	221,260	-94%
September	240,193	22%	393,505	64%	358,860	-9%	646,103	80%	234,686	-64%
October	172,825	26%	696,206	303%	588,005	-16%	157,962	-73%	553,995	251%
November	172,125	-33%	111,919	-35%	238,524	113%	177,835	-25%	156,118	-12%
December	336,036	117%	196,047	-42%	82,668	-58%	371,130	349%	451,533	22%
January	1,132,257	446%	78,998	-93%	57,489	-27%	307,367	435%		-100%
February	213,933	135%	218,440	2%	100,662	-54%	541,975	438%		-100%
March	838,434	25%	357,437	-57%	415,753	16%	215,586	-48%		-100%
April	166,878	-50%	376,717	126%	173,184	-54%	807,937	367%		-100%
May	146,744	27%	690,697	371%	190,452	-72%	262,048	38%		-100%
June	436,220	93%	548,560	26%	251,411	-54%	599,641	139%		-100%
	4,245,441	62%	4,417,537	4%	2,949,963	-33%	8,085,369	174%	1,829,820	-77%
Budget	2,400,000	-16%	2,550,000	6%	2,600,000	2%	2,630,000	1%	3,500,000	33%
	1,845,441		1,867,537		349,963		5,455,369		(1,670,180)	

FY26 Budget Opportunity #2: Growth in Key Non-Property Tax Revenues

State Revenue Sharing

	FY 2022	FY 2023	% chg	FY 2024	% chg	FY 2025	% chg	FY 2026	% chg
July	1,218,592	1,457,477	20%	1,334,798	-8%	1,185,104	-11%	1,169,869	-1%
August	870,335	965,817	11%	825,641	-15%	1,068,659	29%	982,172	-8%
September	889,463	1,059,968	19%	895,517	-16%	976,946	9%	1,028,572	5%
October	1,185,958	-	-100%	1,245,265		1,249,568	0%	1,318,031	5%
November	929,783	1,511,740	63%	-	-100%	943,126		1,032,309	9%
December	813,020	1,995,488	145%	1,744,420	-13%	853,172	-51%	-	-100%
January	960,454	1,132,264	18%	986,819	-13%	1,032,968	5%		-100%
February	1,111,984	-	-100%	1,131,171		1,122,179	-1%		-100%
March	521,999	1,846,314	254%	315,715	-83%	351,985	11%		-100%
April	-	786,822		574,558	-27%	-	-100%		
May	-	1,681,899		1,261,488	-25%	1,957,512	55%		-100%
June	3,702,697	1,154,245	-69%	921,140	-20%	944,385	3%		-100%
	12,204,285	13,592,035	11%	11,236,531	-17%	11,685,603	4%	5,530,953	-53%
Budget	7,400,000	10,900,000	47%	10,661,944	-2%	11,031,410	3%	11,776,976	7%
	4,804,285	*2,692,035*		*574,587*		*654,193*		*(6,246,023)*	

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2) Potential for increases in several non-property tax revenues (excise taxes, building permits, parking)

3) Transportation TIF funds available to offset METRO budget increase

4) Changes to mitigate Health Insurance Plan increases

5) Continued Growth in Tax Base

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City of portland

Questions & Answers

Contact *finance@portlandmaine.gov*

City Council FY27 Budget Guidance Discussion

City of Portland | Executive Department
Danielle West, *City Manager*

Portland City Council 2026 Goal Setting Workshop

Draft Common Council Goals for Discussion at 1/26 Workshop

As the elected voice of Portland's residents and businesses, the City Council sets the City's policy direction. The Council's Common Goals define the policy priorities and provide a clear focus for the Council's work in the year ahead.

Accelerate Housing Production and Strengthen Affordability Protections
Address Portland's housing challenges by encouraging the development of more homes and protecting affordability, so current and future residents can live and thrive in our community.

Reduce Chronic Homelessness
Decrease the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness by advancing policy to enhance support systems and address the underlying causes that lead to housing instability in our community.

Reduce Pedestrian and Bicyclist Fatalities
Create safer streets for all users by advancing policy to prevent traffic deaths and injuries while improving accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users.

Support Affordability for All Residents Through New Revenue Policies and Targeted Tax Relief
Ease the tax burden for Portland residents by finding new ways to fund city services and providing direct tax relief to households who need it most.

Advance the Goals of One Climate Future
Address climate change by cutting carbon emissions, expanding clean energy and energy-efficient buildings, supporting sustainable transportation, and preparing Portland for a resilient, low-carbon future.

Miscellaneous actions to be discussed

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