



2023

Annual Report





Thank you for taking the time to read and review our 2023 Annual Report.

This past year was full of some exciting events, completion of projects, and the continuance of planning for the future of Taylor. This annual report serves as a reflection of the accomplishments that the City has made over the last year.

Some of these accomplishments include completing improvements to our city's quality-of-life enhancements, downtown infrastructure, and parks system. We also completed Drainage, Water and Wastewater Master Plan updates as well as various utility upgrades to support development. Some of the major projects that were completed this year include the construction of the Soccer Mini-Pitch in Murphy Park, the installation of Percussion Park, and the Animal Shelter reconstruction.

As we look back on 2023, we extend our gratitude to the residents, businesses, and community partners who have played a pivotal role in the continued success of our City. The achievements highlighted in this report are a testament to the dedication of our City Council, staff and community.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to creating a vibrant, diverse and inclusive community for all.

Sincerely,
Brian LaBorde
Taylor City Manager

CITY COUNCIL



Bottom left to right: Mayor Brandt Rydell - District 1, and Mayor Pro Tem Gerald Anderson - District 3. Top left to right: Council Members Dwayne Ariola - At Large, Mitch Drummond - District 2, and Robert Garcia - District 4.

The City Council adopted a Strategic Plan in 2020 to guide City Staff in developing programs and strategies for the good of the community. The plan includes a vision of Taylor as a vibrant, diverse, friendly, growing community that retains its historic character and small-town feel.

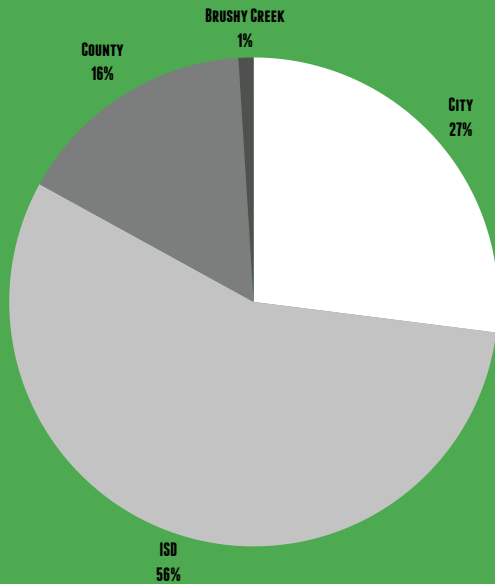
In 2023, the Council's goal was to move forward with plans put in place in previous years, which included the Envision Taylor Comprehensive Plan, Drainage Master Plan, Street Analysis and Improvement Plan, and a Parks Master Plan. Council also continued to focus on fiscally responsible growth management. With Council's guidance, the City's bond rating was upgraded from AA- to AA this year.

Taylor City Council Mission Statement:

“To be a productive, fiscally responsible organization that takes proactive steps to ensure economic growth and the safety, well-being, and success of Taylor residents and the growth of business. Our vision for Taylor is a vibrant and diverse community that provides residents the best lifestyle Texas has to offer.”

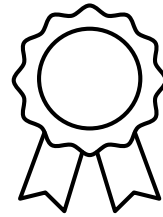
FY 2023 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Property Tax Allocation



\$0.6287

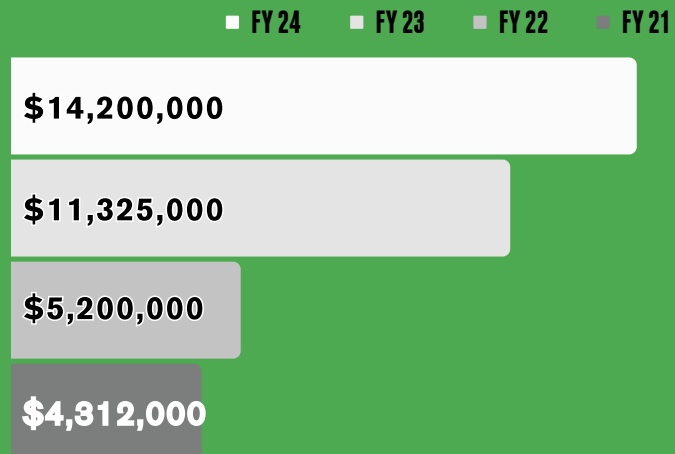
Adopted Tax Rate



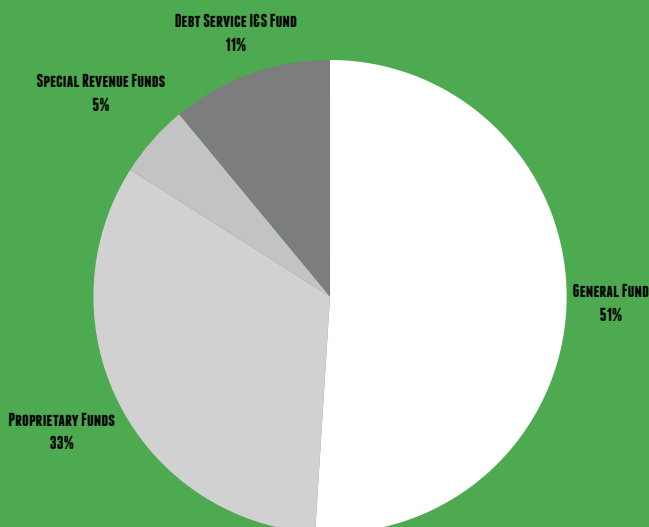
City Credit Rating Upgraded to AA

In 2023 the City of Taylor received a credit rating upgrade from Standard & Poor (S&P) Global from AA- to AA. This upgrade reflects the City's strong financial management and robust economic outlook. The City's debt rating was last upgraded to AA- in December 2013.

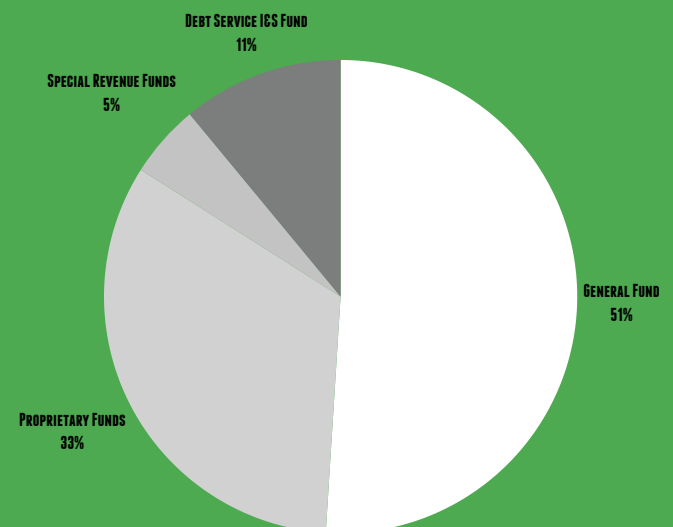
Sales Tax Collections



Total Revenues \$61,761,985



Total Expenditures \$61,871,070



2023 CIP PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

A capital improvement project is any major improvement to a city's infrastructure or city facilities. Projects may include the construction or renovation of parks, water towers, or libraries, repaving streets, drainage improvements, replacing water and wastewater lines, and smoke or leak detection programs.

Collectively, these projects are referred to as a Capital Improvements Program.

Taylor City Council Allocated \$58.7M for 2023-24 CIP Projects



Buildings/Facilities Improvements

- Completion of the Animal Shelter rebuild in September
- Airport Lift Station improvements
- New Fuel Farm
- Beginning phases of the Justice Center & City Hall

Downtown Improvements

- Installation of streetscapes on Second Street and Main Street
- Striping to add additional parking
- Wayfinding signage



Parks Improvements

- Design phase of the reconstruction of the Doris Roznovak Aquatic Center
- New backstop nets and backstop netting replacement at Taylor Regional Park
- Replacement of playground at Bull Branch Park

Transportation Improvements

- Mallard Lane Maintenance
- Fourth Street Maintenance
- Second Street Maintenance



WINTER STORM MARA CLEAN UP



In February, Winter Storm Mara left a large amount of debris in the City of Taylor.

The City stepped up to help residents with clean-up efforts culminating in several weeks of picking up debris and allowing residents to drop off debris free of charge.

In total, the City collected over 650,000 cubic yards of brush, enough to fill up 260,000 standard size truck beds.



EVENTS





FRED KERLEY MURAL CEREMONY | FEBRUARY 4, 2023



PERCUSSION PARK RIBBON CUTTING | FEBRUARY 18, 2023



SOCCER MINI PITCH RIBBON CUTTING | JUNE 10, 2023



FOURTH OF JULY PARADE & FIREWORKS | JULY 4, 2023



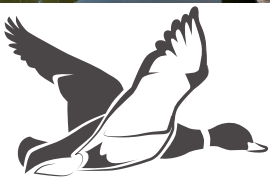
SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT THE TAYLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANIMAL SHELTER GRAND OPENING | OCTOBER 21, 2023

PARKS & RECREATION

In 2023, the Parks and Recreation Department saw a lot of exciting changes and is looking forward to more improvements in our parks system in the coming year. The year kicked off with the completion grand opening of Percussion Park in Murphy Park. Parks held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Soccer Mini Pitch also in Murphy Park. There were improvements to Taylor Regional Park with the replacement of backstop netting. Parks also had additional staff added to the department roster with the hiring of a Recreation Coordinator. Our Recreational Coordinator helped increase programs and community involvement in our Parks and has been a welcome addition!



Murphy Park Centennial Celebration



Murphy Park was founded in 1923. To mark the occasion, the Parks and Recreation Department held a Centennial Celebration in November. Here's to 100 more years in Murphy Park!

POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Taylor Police Department was awarded a 1-year continuation grant in the amount of over \$65,000 from the Office of the Governor for our Victim Services Coordinator position to continue through 2023. We also reapplied and received the Department of Justice's Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership.

For this grant, funding will cover 50% of vests purchased.

Detective Aaron Koch was honored with the Hope Alliance Officer of the Year Award for providing outstanding service to victims of a crime. Victim Service Coordinator Priscilla Moreno was selected by the Williamson County Sheriff's Department as their Victim Services Professional of the Year. The Department also made major improvements to the Police Department to upgrade and refurbish the Communications Center.

The Taylor Animal Shelter was given a favorable rating during its annual state inspection in May and celebrated the completion of building reconstruction in October.



FIRE DEPARTMENT



In 2023, the Fire Department added five new hazardous material technicians and obtained four Fire Marshal certifications. The department developed specifications for a new squad and ladder truck and completed the Fire Service Strategic Plan.

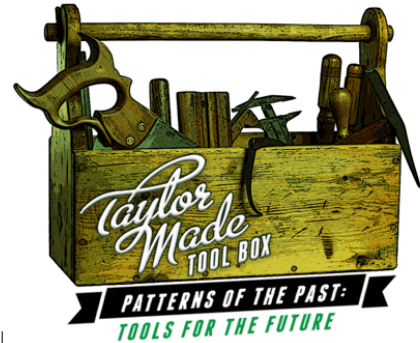
A total of 1,844 children across public and private schools, as well as daycares, were educated on fire prevention measures in 2023, fostering a culture of safety from a young age. Recognizing the importance of proactive measures, the Fire Department has introduced a new Fire Prevention Officer position, resulting in a remarkable 500% increase in business inspections to ensure safety standards are met and maintained.



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Land Development Code

In 2022, the City of Taylor's Development Services Department undertook a major overhaul of the City's Land Development Code (LDC). On November 9, 2023, the City adopted the new code including Zoning, Subdivision, Sign, and Historic Preservation regulations. The LDC is the vehicle to implement the Envision Taylor Comprehensive Plan. The LDC provides development standards that re-legalize the traditional development pattern of Taylor to create walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods organized around a network of streets that create small blocks that provide for a variety of lot sizes and building types.



2023 Accomplishments

- 110 single-family residential units permitted October 2022-July 2023, with a value of over \$22M
- Four neighborhoods under construction
- Construction work continued at the 700-acre RCR rail park industrial site



In 2023, four homes were turned over to Taylor residents under the HOME Program. The program provides funding for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of single-family homes for eligible applicants.

PUBLIC WORKS & AIRPORT

The Streets and Grounds crew completed 69 street segments for level-ups, spanning five miles.

The City also started the Municipal Drainage Utility System (MDUS) crew for drainage maintenance and the Transportation User Fee (TUF) crew for continuous street maintenance. The crew improved training and safety programs to encompass balanced training for all employees. In addition, the Streets and Grounds crew increased street asphalt patching work.

The Cemetery improved roads and secured cemetery management software to improve mapping/record keeping. The Cemetery cleaned up cemetery clutter to improve the overall appearance. Plans have also started for a new Cemetery office.



The Airport secured the approval and approximately \$300,000 FAA Grant funding to begin the design phase for the rehabilitation of our existing aircraft parking apron. We continued the execution of additional projects within the existing TxDOT CIP program and continued participation in the annual TxDOT RAMP.

The Airport applied for the Federal Airport Terminal Program and received a reimbursement from TxDOT State funding grant in the amount of \$650,000 to replace the fuel farm.

2023



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