



City of St. George

Dear Council Members:

I submit to you the first General Fund Budget for the City of St. George. This General Fund Budget reflects revenues and expenditures for the portion of the 2024 calendar year, beginning on April 26, 2024, the date the Louisiana Supreme Court reversed the lower courts' denial of incorporation and rendered judgment in favor of the proponents for incorporation and ending on December 31, 2024. I anticipate that this General Fund Budget will require amendments as more current data and cost estimates are provided by the City-Parish.

Revenue assumptions are based on revenue estimates provided by the City-Parish to the Legislative Fiscal Office for the St. George Transition District legislation. Tax revenue streams include the 2 cents sales and use taxes, insurance premiums, and occupational licensees. Fees include those collected for contractor licenses, building permits, and zoning and planning and planning.

Expenditures were estimated based on projections made using expenditures from the City of Central's audit adjusted for the population estimate for St. George.

Judicial costs include a contract for an administrative hearing officer and legal expenditures to present cases involving ordinance violations and the costs for enforcement of Administrative Orders. Executive costs include administrative staff support and city clerk services. Legislative costs include renting space in the St. George Fire Department's building for a City Hall including offices and meetings space, public notifications of meetings, and the demographer to determine city population and council districts.

Administrative costs include accounting and auditing services, and potential legal expenditures to defend the boundaries of the city of St. George. City services costs include maintenance of St. George assets, and intergovernmental agreements to continue services until the primary managing contractor is selected following a thorough vetting of contractor proposals.

General administrative expenditures include the St. George website, general liability insurance and operating costs. Inter-government expenditures include a fee of 1.0% for collection of sales tax. Also included are costs associated with the December 7, 2024 election and providing public information. Additionally, security and safety costs were included if necessary to

supplement the current services provided by the EBRSO and St. George Fire Department. Planning and Zoning Commission costs for start-up is a top priority for St. George.

Priorities during the 2024 calendar year include enacting ordinances necessary to transfer revenues from the City-Parish to St. George, conducting the election to transfer the 2% sales and use tax from the St. George Transition District to the City of St. George on December 7, 2024, establishing council districts for the 2025 municipal elections, appointment of and training for planning and zoning commission members and selecting a fiscal agent.

The proposed financial plan for the next several months includes working with Parish Officials to identify those services which can be provided most cost effectively by utilizing existing services and to seek proposals from third parties which can cost effectively provide other city services and providing a transition plan to seamlessly transition services to third party providers. Soon after adoption of the initial St. George budget, you will be requested to approve the advertisement of a request for proposals for city services with the goal of contracting out services near the beginning of the 2025 calendar year.

We are all aware of the significant needs for additional road and drainage maintenance. The objective of this initial budget is to reserve 25% of the revenues received in 2024 for necessary studies to be conducted in 2025 to develop master plans for maintenance and improvement of infrastructure and to begin addressing much needed capital improvements.

The goals of the proposed General Fund Budget is to continue to deliver basic city services as we develop a foundation for the continued growth of St. George and to position St. George to be able to provide additional services utilizing existing revenue sources.

Sincerely,

Dustin Yates, Mayor

City of St. George

General Fund Budget for April 26, 2024 – December 31, 2024

Revenues	General Fund	8 months
Taxes		
000.313.00	General Sales & Use Tax	\$28,000,000
000.314.50	Insurance Premium Tax	\$670,000
000.321.65	Occupational License Tax	\$670,000
	Total Taxes	\$29,340,000
Fees		
000.321.60	Contractors License Fees	\$670,000
000.322.10	Building Permits & Fees	\$670,000
000.341.30	Zoning & Planning Fees	\$670,000
	Miscellaneous Fees	\$670,000
	Total Fees for Services	\$2,680,000
	TOTAL REVENUES	\$32,020,000
Expenditures		
	Judicial:	
	Administrative Hearing Officer	\$40,000
	Legal Services	\$200,000
	Postage, General Supplies & Office Expense	\$5,000
	Enforcement of Admin Orders	\$50,000
	Total	\$295,000
	Executive:	
	Salary / Wages – Admin	\$25,000
	Payroll Taxes	\$2,000
	City Clerk Services	\$25,000
	Educational & Conferences	\$5,000
000.412.50.610	General Supplies & Office Equipment	\$10,000
	Total	\$67,000
	Legislative:	
	Dues & Subscriptions	\$1,500
	Education & Conferences	\$10,000
000.411.10.441	Rent	\$65,000
	Legal Notices	\$10,000
000.419.30.330	Demographer	\$18,500
	Postage, Supplies and Equipment	\$10,000
	TOTAL	\$115,000

	Administration:	
	Accounting Services	\$100,000
	Auditing	\$50,000
000.412.50.330	Legal Services	\$250,000
	Bank Fees	\$25,000
	Total	\$425,000
	City Services:	
	Contractors - Maintenance	\$3,000,000
	Permit Management Fees	\$500,000
	Intergovernmental Agreement City-Parish	\$8,000,000
	Total	\$11,500,000
	General Administrative Expenditures:	
	Website set-up and maintenance / IT Services	\$150,000
	General Supplies, Office Expense, Postage	\$20,000
	Small Equipment	\$12,000
	Dues & Subscriptions	\$10,200
	Repair & Maintenance	\$6,000
	Insurance – Worker’s Compensation	\$1,000
	Insurance – General Liability	\$200,000
	Insurance - Vehicle	\$1,800
	Fuel	\$3,500
	Utilities	\$6,000
	Telephone	\$12,000
	Internet Services	\$12,000
	Vehicle Leasing	\$8,000
	Total	\$442,500
	Intergovernmental Expenditures:	
	Sales Tax Collection Fee	\$440,000
000.480.340	Animal Control	\$450,000
	Total	\$890,000
	Elections:	
	Elections (39 precincts x \$300)	\$11,700
	Public information	\$50,000
	Total	\$61,700
	Chief of Police:	
	Uniforms & Vests	\$3,500
	Weapons, Small Equipment, Supplies	\$10,000
	Fuel	\$3,000
	Total	\$16,500

	Public Safety:	
	Security	\$500,000
	Safety	\$500,000
	Total	\$1,000,000
	Flood Control:	
	Consulting & Technical Assistance	\$100,000
	Drainage Study	\$100,000
	Drainage Maintenance	\$2,000,000
	Total	\$2,200,000
	Highways & Street Beautification Expenditures:	
	Street Lights	\$65,000
	Weed Control	\$270,000
	Total	\$335,000
	Community Events:	
	Community Events	\$60,000
	Economic Development:	
	Consulting Services	\$150,000
	Public Information, Postage, Supplies	\$25,000
	Total	\$175,000
	Planning & Zoning Expenditures:	
	Education & Conferences	\$10,000
	City Planner Services	\$250,000
	Zone & Elevation Studies	\$200,000
	Notifications	\$15,000
	Legal Services	\$175,000
	Total	\$650,000
	Capital Outlay Funding for 2025	\$6,400,000
	TOTAL Expenditures	\$24,632,700
	Fund Balance	\$7,387,300