

City of Oakland

BUDGET BASICS

Fiscal Year 2023-25

Overview of the City Budget Process



What is the City's budget process?

From January to June, every other year, City staff, the Mayor and City Council work together to create a balanced budget by June 30, as required by law.



How is the City's budget funded?

The City of Oakland's budget is funded through local taxes, service fees, grants, voter-approved bonds, and other sources.

When you pay taxes, such as sales or property tax, a percentage comes to the City to fund local programs and services. For example, for every dollar that you pay in property tax, the City of Oakland receives a little less than 26 cents. The rest goes to other local government agencies like Alameda County, AC Transit, and Oakland Unified School District.

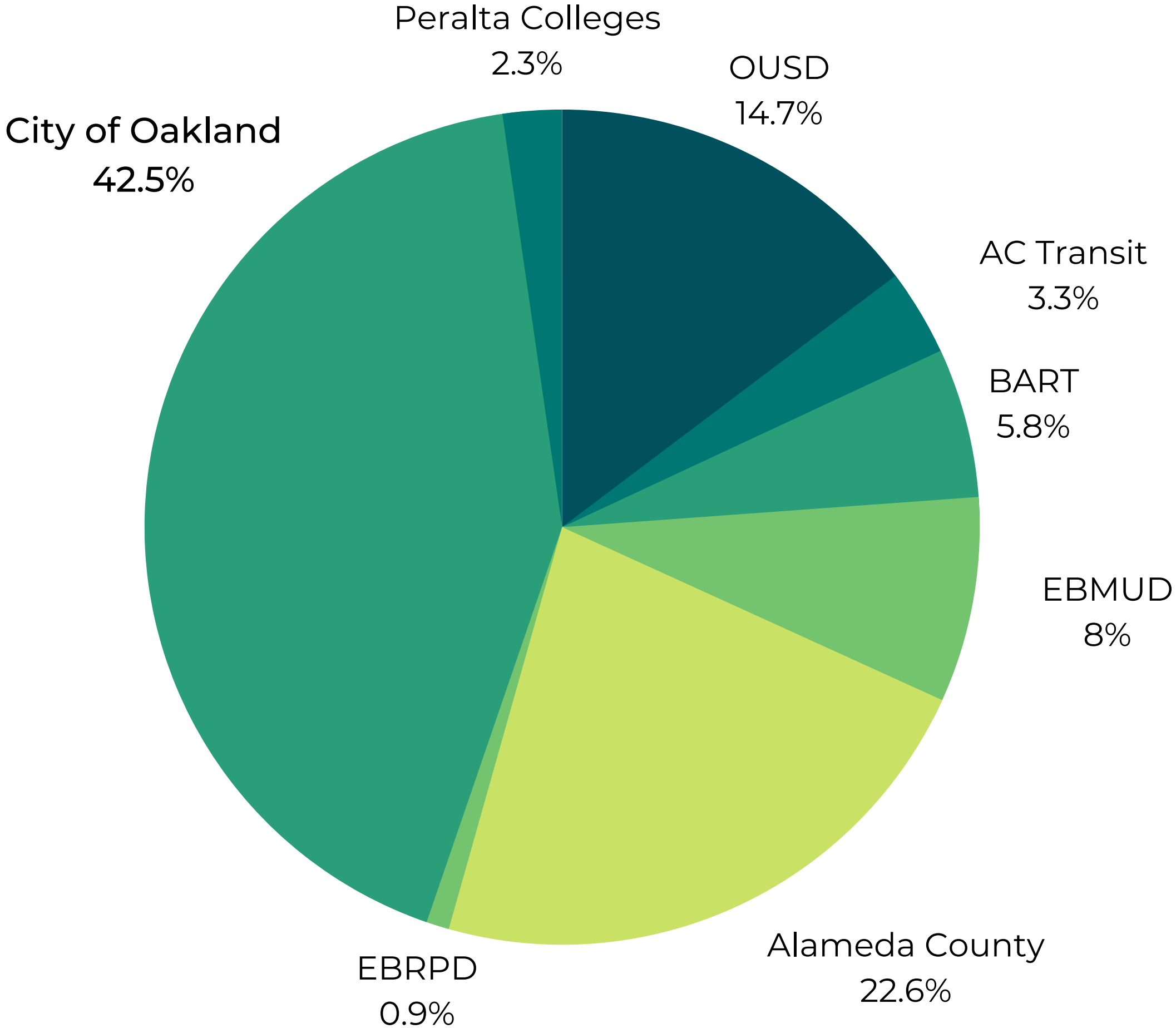


SUPPORT FOR THE OAKLAND COMMUNITY BY PARTNER GOVERNMENT AGENCY

Many Government Agencies provide support for the Oakland community.

Together, we provide essential services and support to our community-- from maintaining roads, sewers, and parks to providing education, transit, and clean water.

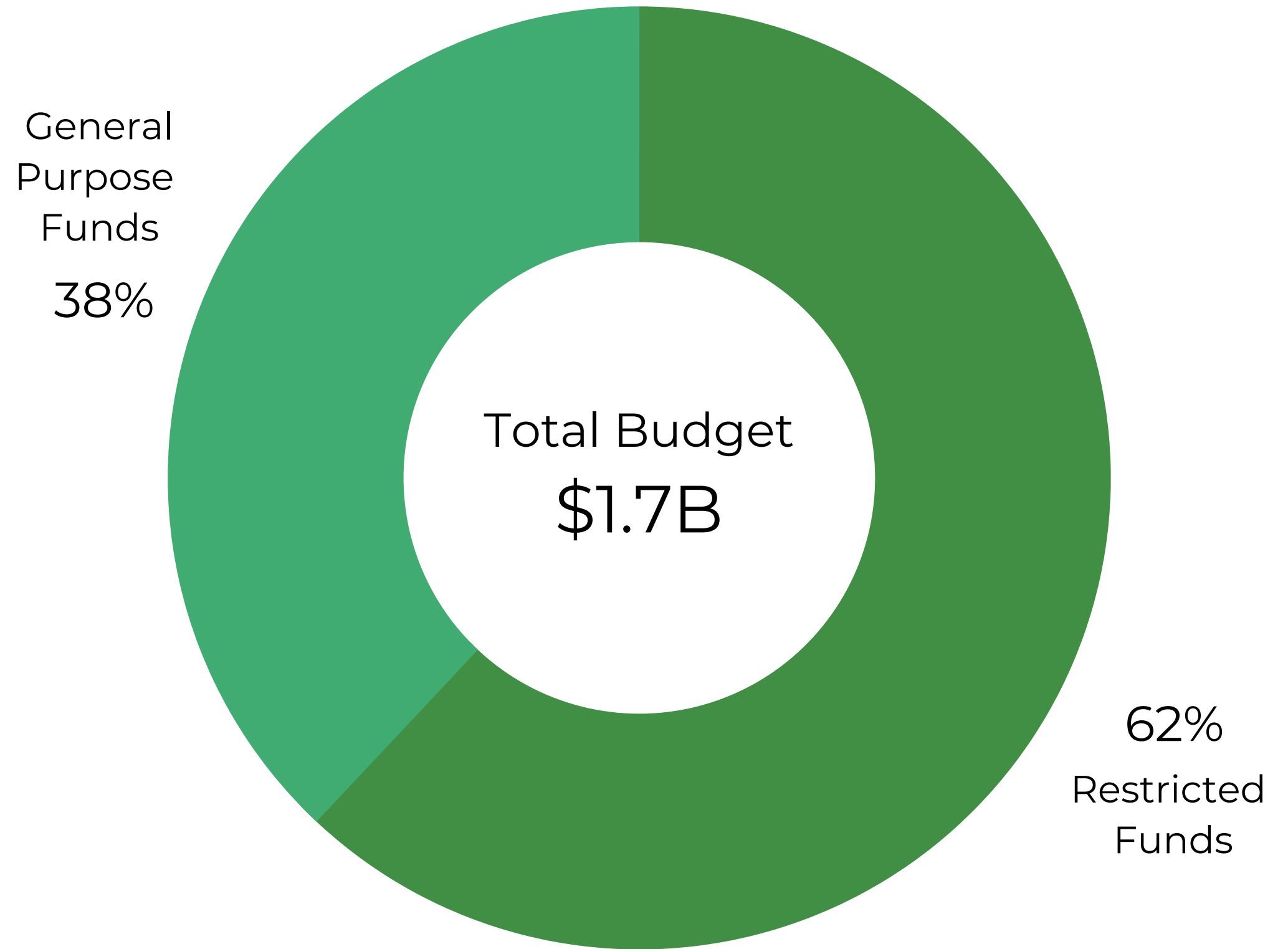
Many of the services that Oaklanders care about such as public & mental health, water, education, transportation, and homeless services are not in the City's budget.

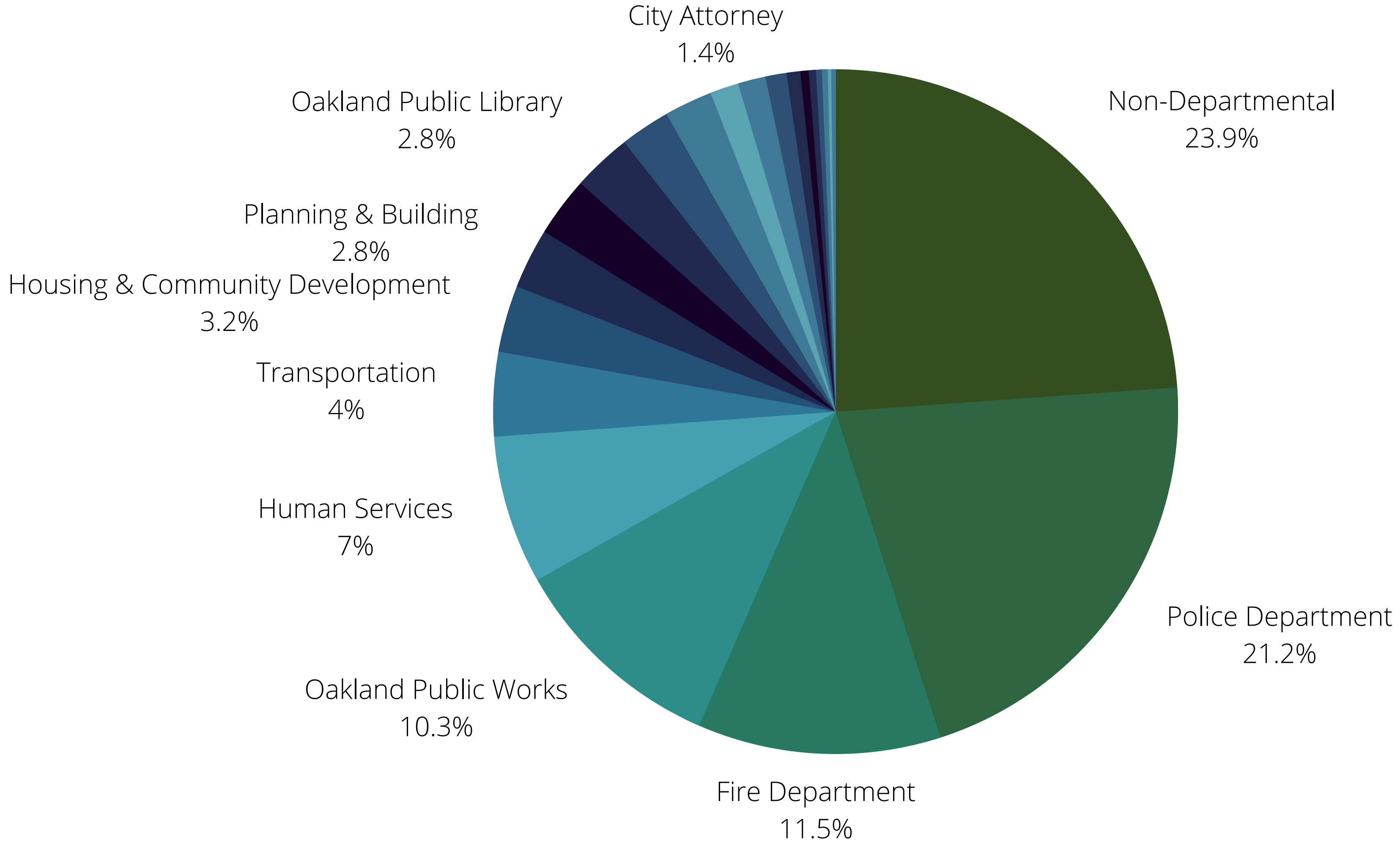


The City of Oakland's total annual budget is approximately \$1.7B.

62% of our budget comes through grants and voter-approved bonds (like the Library or parks bond) and legally must be used for specific purposes; these are called **Restricted Funds**.

General Purpose Funds are generally supported by tax revenue and make up 38% of our budget. They are the most flexible with regards to what they can be spent on. Public safety (police and fire) are primarily funded through the General Purpose Fund, in part because we don't typically charge for these services.





The source of the funds is varied.

While over half of our revenue comes from taxes, we also earn revenue from service charges, fees, bonds, grants, and other sources.

Taxes include: Property Tax, Sales Tax, Transient Occupancy Tax, Utility Consumption Tax, Business License Tax, Real Estate Transfer Tax, and Parking Tax.

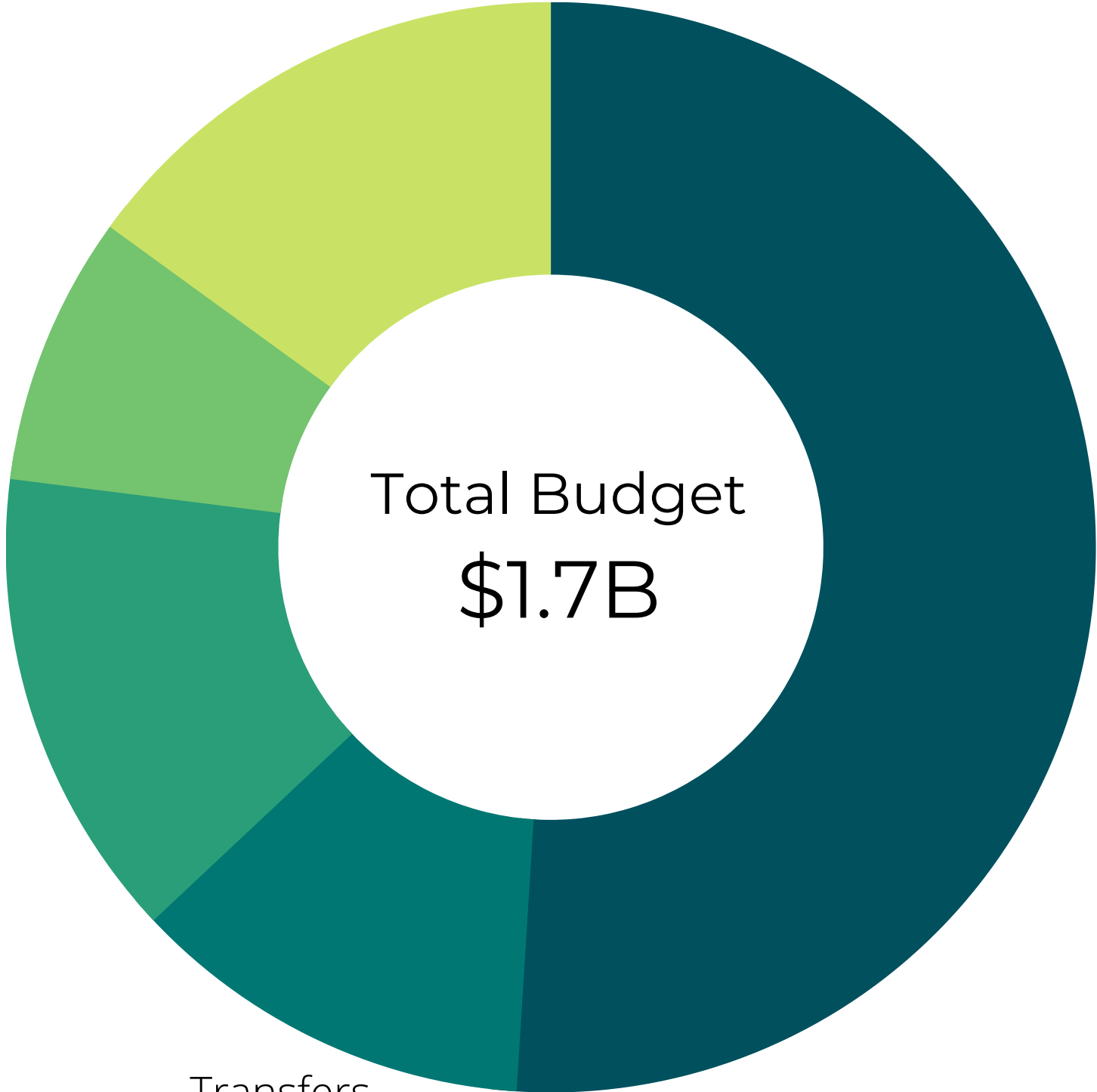
Service Charges, Fines, Licenses & Permits
15%

Grants & Subsidies
8%

Bonds & Other
14%

Transfers
12%

Taxes
51%



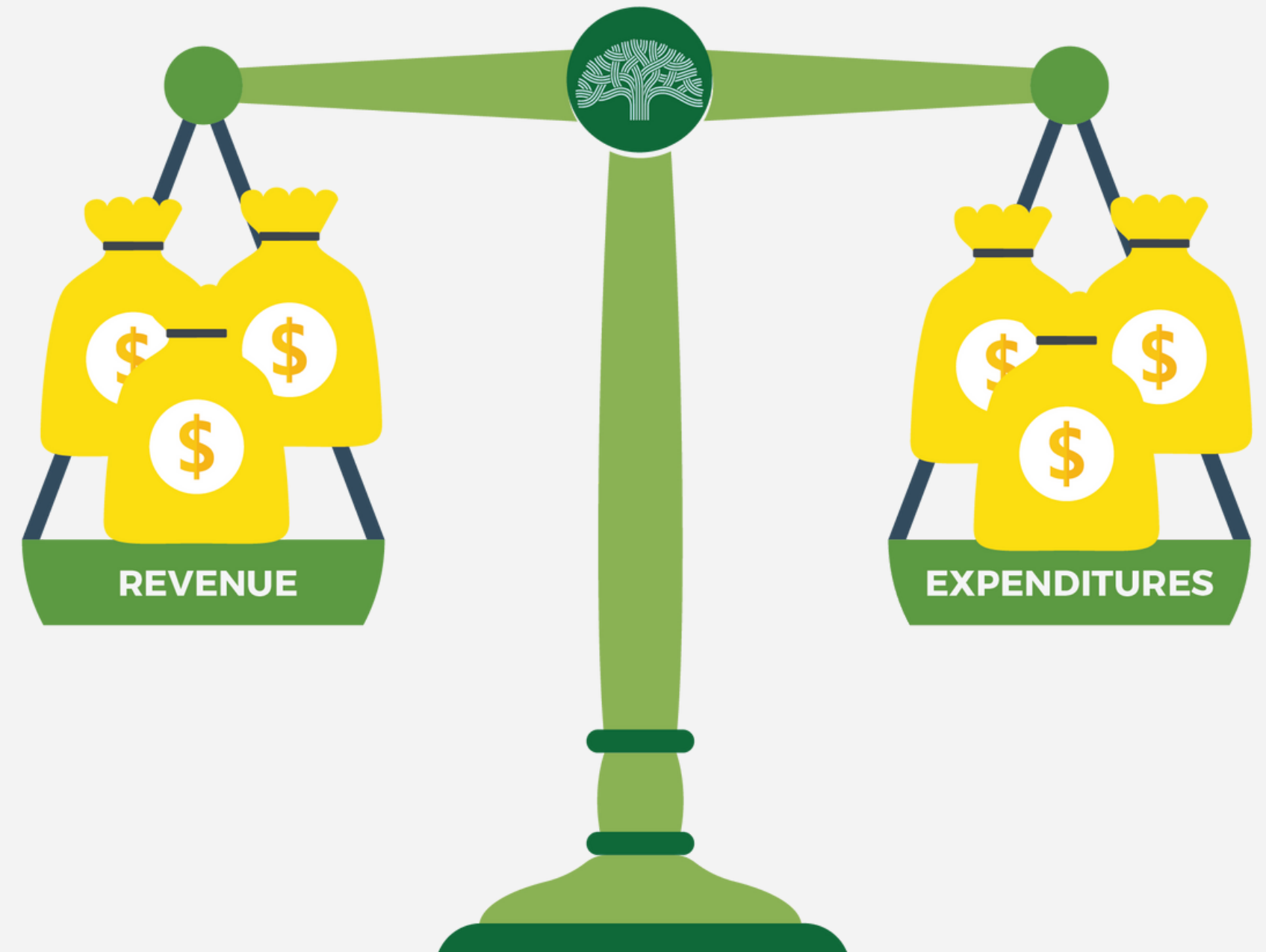
Total Budget
\$1.7B

THE GOAL

A BALANCED BUDGET

The budget is our plan for how we will spend City money on services that support our community.

A balanced budget ensures our "revenues" (the amount of money the City brings in) are equal to or greater than our "expenditures" (the amount of money the City spends). While other cities and government agencies have different cycles, Oakland approves a budget every two fiscal years. The budget currently under consideration runs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.



FY 2023-25 ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET VALUES

As we consider difficult tradeoffs, these are the values that will guide our decision making.

- **Centering Equity** – Centering equity is an intentional effort to prevent exacerbating racial disparities and to reduce racial disparities wherever possible.
- **Valuing the City Workforce** – Prioritizing the wellbeing and professional development of our dedicated & talented workforce, especially during this difficult time and into the future.
- **Strategic Thinking** – Encouraging creative and innovative strategies to become a more efficient and effective City. Soliciting ideas for improvement Citywide regarding service delivery, organizational structures, communication, deployment of human resources, City processes, and utilization of technology, to become more efficient, effective, and equitable given limited resources.

Budget Process

Community and Council priorities, public engagement, and input from City staff inform the proposed budget that the Mayor and City Administrator present to City Council. The Council then hosts public deliberations and ultimately adopts the final budget.

JANUARY

Citywide budget poll and staff engagement commence.

APRIL

The Mayor engages the public to gather community insights.

MAY - JUNE

City Council leads public budget forums.

JUNE 30

City Council Deadline to adopt the Final Budget

MARCH

Five-Year Forecast presented to City Council's Finance Committee. Council priorities developed.

MAY 1

The Mayor releases the Proposed FY 2023-25 Budget.

JUNE

City Council develops alternative budget proposals.

JULY 1

The new fiscal year begins.

GET INVOLVED

Learn more about the budget, attend upcoming budget town halls, ask budget questions, and share your ideas.

[OAKLANDCA.GOV/BUDGET](https://oaklandca.gov/budget)