



Legislation Text

File #: 23-0154, Version: 1

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2022

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: JAMES F. PARAJON, CITY MANAGER /s/

FROM: KENDEL TAYLOR, INTERIM DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

DOCKET TITLE:

Consideration of the Monthly Financial Report for the Period Ending August 31, 2022.

ISSUE: Receipt of the Monthly Financial Report for the Period Ending August 31, 2022.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council receives the Monthly Financial Report.

BACKGROUND: The following discussion is a summary of the Monthly Financial Report for this period. Detailed comparative schedules are attached.

As of August 31, 2022, General Fund revenues totaled \$28.7 million, a difference of 102 percent compared to the same period in FY 2022. It is important to note that revenues collected in July and some of the revenue collected in August are for taxes owed in June and are therefore accrued to the prior fiscal year. Timing issues are also much more pronounced in the early months of the fiscal year. The first significant tax revenue for FY 2022 is traditionally due on October 5 when personal property taxes for vehicle and business personal property are due. The bills are mailed in mid to late August and payments processed in August can vary significantly. The most significant variance in FY 2023 compared to FY 2022 for the same period is the receipt of payments from the Commonwealth, including HB 599 funds for local law enforcement and Personal Property Tax Relief funds. Both of these were remitted to the City in September of FY 2022.

Revenue may not track consistently with a monthly calendar since many revenue sources have due dates that do not occur evenly throughout the year. The largest revenue source, real estate tax, is remitted twice per year. Personal property tax revenue is due on October 5 each year. Through the first two months of the fiscal year, no category has sufficient receipts to establish a clear pattern. This report includes the unaudited revenue totals for FY 2022. Nearly all categories exceed the budgeted amount. For comparative purposes, the FY 2022 final budget is shown on the revenue schedule (Attachment 1). In subsequent months, the amended budget as of that specific month will be shown to provide a comparison of revenues and expenditures to date against the budget to date. The City's audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report will be presented to City Council in November.

It is important to note that the FY 2022 budget was developed in Spring 2021, when the continued economic impact of the pandemic

was still unknown. Consumer spending charts are attached which compare several significant tax revenue categories to the pre-pandemic level in FY 2019. Sales tax and Meals tax revenues have both rebounded to pre-pandemic levels. Revenues in August for hotel stays that occurred in July 2022 are within 10 percent of pre-pandemic levels, which is the strongest month for Transient Lodging tax revenues since the pandemic.

As of August 31, 2022, General Fund expenditures totaled \$108.8 million, a difference of \$6.0 million over the same time period for FY 2022. Similar to the situation with revenues, it is too soon to make any definitive economic interpretation from the activity that has occurred in the first two months of the fiscal year. No significant expenditure has occurred in the first two months of Fiscal Year 2023 that is unbudgeted or unexpected. The most significant difference is the timing of payments. Debt Service payments scheduled in July are greater in FY 2023 than in FY 2022. In Non-Departmental, lease payments have been posted for a partial year, pending the colocation of DCHS, Health and other employees to a City-owned building.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Comparative Statement of General Fund Revenues
Attachment 2: Comparative Statement of General Fund Expenditures
Attachment 3: Consumer Spending comparison charts

STAFF:

Kendel Taylor, Director, Finance Department/Interim Deputy City Manager
Morgan Routt, Director, Office and Management and Budget