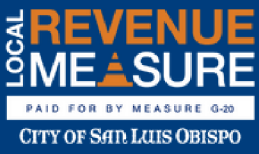


# HOW YOUR 1.5 PERCENT SALES TAX IS SPENT



## ANNUAL COMMUNITY REPORT IN BRIEF

Fiscal Year 2022-23 (July 2022-June 2023)



### WHAT IS THE LOCAL REVENUE MEASURE?

The Local Revenue Measure - also known as Measure G-20 is a one-and-a-half percent (1.5%) local sales tax approved by City voters in November 2020 to replace an existing one-half-percent (0.5%) local sales tax. It supports and maintains essential services and facilities, such as open space preservation, bike lanes and sidewalks, public safety, neighborhood street paving and code enforcement, flood protection, senior programs, and other services and capital improvement projects vital to a thriving community.

The adopted community spending priorities help guide the Citizens' Revenue Enhancement Oversight Commission (REOC) when making recommendations to the City Council about Local Revenue Measure uses. The Council uses the REOC's input, and additional public feedback, to prioritize use of the Local Revenue Measure funding as part of the City's two-year financial plan process.

This report in brief highlights the revenue and uses of the Local Revenue Measure in Fiscal Year 2022-23.

The REOC will continue its oversight role on the use of the Local Revenue Measure to support accountability, transparency, and public engagement efforts. The Local Revenue Measure continues to be a vital resource to deliver the community's highest priorities and support San Luis Obispo's economic stability. Community members can learn more about the Local Revenue Measure by visiting [www.slcity.org/localrevenue](http://www.slcity.org/localrevenue).



### FY 2022-23 Local Revenue Measure funds were used on the following Council-adopted priorities:

- |            |  |           |   |
|------------|--|-----------|---|
| <b>31%</b> | STREET MAINTENANCE AND TRANSPORTATION* - \$9.4M          | <b>5%</b> | OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION - \$1.4M        |
| <b>15%</b> | COMMUNITY SAFETY - \$4.6M                                | <b>4%</b> | CREEK AND FLOOD PROTECTION - \$1.3M     |
| <b>12%</b> | ALLOCATION TO CAPITAL RESERVE - \$3.6M                   | <b>3%</b> | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - \$0.9M           |
| <b>11%</b> | SAFE AND CLEAN PUBLIC AREAS - \$3.4M                     | <b>3%</b> | ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS - \$0.8M        |
| <b>8%</b>  | OTHER VITAL SERVICES AND CAPITAL PROJECTS - \$2.5M       | <b>1%</b> | PROTECTING FINANCIAL STABILITY - \$0.4M |
| <b>7%</b>  | YOUTH/SENIOR SERVICES AND RECREATION FACILITIES - \$2.1M |           |   |



\*Projects listed in the "Street Maintenance and Transportation" category also include significant bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

#### Addressing Homelessness

Addressing housing and homelessness in our community is a Council adopted Major City Goal. The City collaborates with local non-profit partners, non-governmental agencies, the county, the state, and federal governments to advocate for increased funding and implementation of comprehensive and effective strategies to prevent and reduce homelessness. The Local Revenue Measure is the main funding source for the City's homelessness response efforts.



#### Public Infrastructure - Roadways

Over \$9.4 million of Local Revenue Measure funding was allocated towards streets maintenance and transportation in FY 2022-23. The City owns and maintains approximately 143 centerline miles of roadway, 56 bridges, 76 miles of bike facilities, and 71 traffic signals. This infrastructure is maintained by maintenance staff in the Public Works Department or by contractors through the Capital Improvement Plan.



#### Open Space and Natural Areas

The Local Revenue Measure provides funding to help acquire and maintain the City's open spaces. Rangers funded by the measure recently completed two new trail projects -- Bog Thistle and the King Trail re-route -- and completed design and layout for the Righetti Loop Trail. They are also instrumental in helping with fire fuel reduction and flood control efforts.

# REVENUE

Local sales tax revenue totaled \$30.5 million in FY 2022–23, accounting for approximately 26 percent of general fund revenue. The Local Revenue Measure has generated more than \$160 million since its original adoption in November 2006.

**\$30.5M**

*The Local Revenue Measure funds over 50 full-time positions and is the primary funding source for the vehicles and equipment used to keep the City safe and clean.*

# BUDGETED USES

**Operating Uses (\$8.8M // 29%) – To fund positions that provide community services**

Examples of operating expenditures include funding for positions such as police officers, fire fighters, open space rangers, homelessness response positions, and flood control staff.

**Capital Uses (\$21.6M // 71%) – To fund construction and investment in infrastructure & equipment**

Examples of capital expenditures include construction of major new projects like the Orcutt Tank Farm Roundabout as well as the maintenance of existing City infrastructure.



## Parks Maintenance and City Beautification

A recently hired Parks Maintenance Beautification Gardener has done incredible work making the downtown core look vibrant, with a focus on native and water-wise landscaping.

## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

### 2023 Storm Recovery and Creek and Flood Protection

The City experienced multiple severe storms during the first few months of the 2023 calendar year which damaged key infrastructure. Because the storms resulted in emergency declarations at the Federal, State and local level, the City will be eligible for reimbursement for a lot of the cost; however the timing of reimbursement can take years. The Local Revenue Measure was instrumental in allowing the City to begin repair work immediately and will continue to help support funding the City's recovery from the storms. City staff across all departments stepped up to respond to the 2023 storms. The LRM funds positions ranging from Streets Maintenance workers to the City's designated Emergency Response Manager, each essential in their own way to keeping operations running in an emergency.

*Creek protection is one of the priorities identified for the Local Revenue Measure (LRM). It helps fund annual maintenance of the City's storm drain infrastructure to minimize property damage from flooding. In 2022-23, LRM funded over \$1.3 million for creek and flood protection (not including the emergency storm repair costs).*



*Pictured above is the recently completed retaining wall along San Luis Drive. The storms sliced a 25-foot vertical cut into the creek embankment, endangering a natural gas line, a diesel line, and the sole access road for over 180 homes. The City was able to complete this major project in less than 12 months.*

