
Mayor's Message



Mayor Joe Marine

2023



Transmittal of 2023 Preliminary Budget

Dear Council and Mukilteo Community,

I respectfully submit for your review and action the 2023 budget. This budget is lean, and yet through the continuing hard work and dedication of our city employees and a commitment to public safety, this budget will finance quality services to residents. Mukilteo has been selected several times as one of the best places to live in America. I am very proud of our special recognition. We are recognized for the natural beauty of our surroundings, our good schools, our beautiful Rosehill Community Center, and in part for the efforts of our City government.

In this budget we have a net projected increase of \$768,000 in the General Fund and related subsidized funds (Street & Emergency Medical Services). However, our expenses are projected to outpace that amount, largely due to increased investment in our workforce as we stay competitive with other jurisdictions. We were able to decrease the budget shortfall amount by relying on Council to fund certain one-time capital expenses using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, but we are still left with a shortfall of just over \$500,000 (depicted in a graph below). For this reason, I am recommending the City collect the 1% property tax increase allowed by state law.

Despite challenging economic times, we have protected our environment, maintained our streets and public spaces, beautified our community, and used our funds wisely to keep Mukilteo safe and sound. Today, I present a balanced budget that carefully and thoughtfully dedicates our scarce funds to protect our homes and citizens, maintain the valuable infrastructure we have invested in; protect our unique and special waterfront, gulches, and open spaces, and create an environment that will encourage and facilitate family wage paying businesses.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Thank you, Councilmembers, for committing so much of your time to exploring and articulating the community's priorities thus far in the budget process. This budget is truly a team effort. I want to give a special thanks to Tara Dunford, City Administrator Steve Powers, and all our department heads for their work in putting this budget together. My top priority continues to be keeping our community safe and attractive to businesses and residents and making living in our community one of the best investments in the region. I want to thank all of our City staff for their continued hard work through difficult times. Thank you, citizens and businesses, for your trust in the Council, Mayor and employees. Together, we will keep Mukilteo as a top city in the country. My staff and I look forward to working with the Council over the next several weeks and responding to any budget-related questions that may arise from you or interested citizens.

Thank you,

Joe Marino



BUDGET PRIORITIES

01

Fiscal Responsibility

One of my top priorities in drafting the 2023 budget was ensuring fiscal responsibility. As you likely know, we are in a time of economic uncertainty. I want to ensure we are being responsible stewards of your taxpayer dollars.

02

Public Safety

Without a safe community, nothing else truly matters. It is of utmost importance that we prioritize public safety year in and year out. Among other things, this budget includes continued funding for the Police Body Camera Program, annual traffic calming, and four new public safety vehicles.

03

Maintenance & Preservation

We need to maintain and preserve our existing infrastructure here in Mukilteo. This budget preserves community gems like the Rosehill Community Center and invests in keeping our City one to be proud of.

BUDGET IN BRIEF

