



# ONE CITY. ONE DIRECTION: FORWARD

City of Savannah, Georgia  
2017 Annual Report



SAVANNAH

savannahga.gov



Good Government



# Creation of a New Strategic Plan

City staff worked with hundreds of residents, community stakeholders and City Council to establish new priorities for Savannah, define what success will look like over the next seven years, and create concrete strategies on how to get there.



**SAVANNAH FORWARD**  
*help shape your city*



NEIGHBORHOOD  
REVITALIZATION



PUBLIC SAFETY



ECONOMIC STRENGTH &  
POVERTY REDUCTION



INFRASTRUCTURE

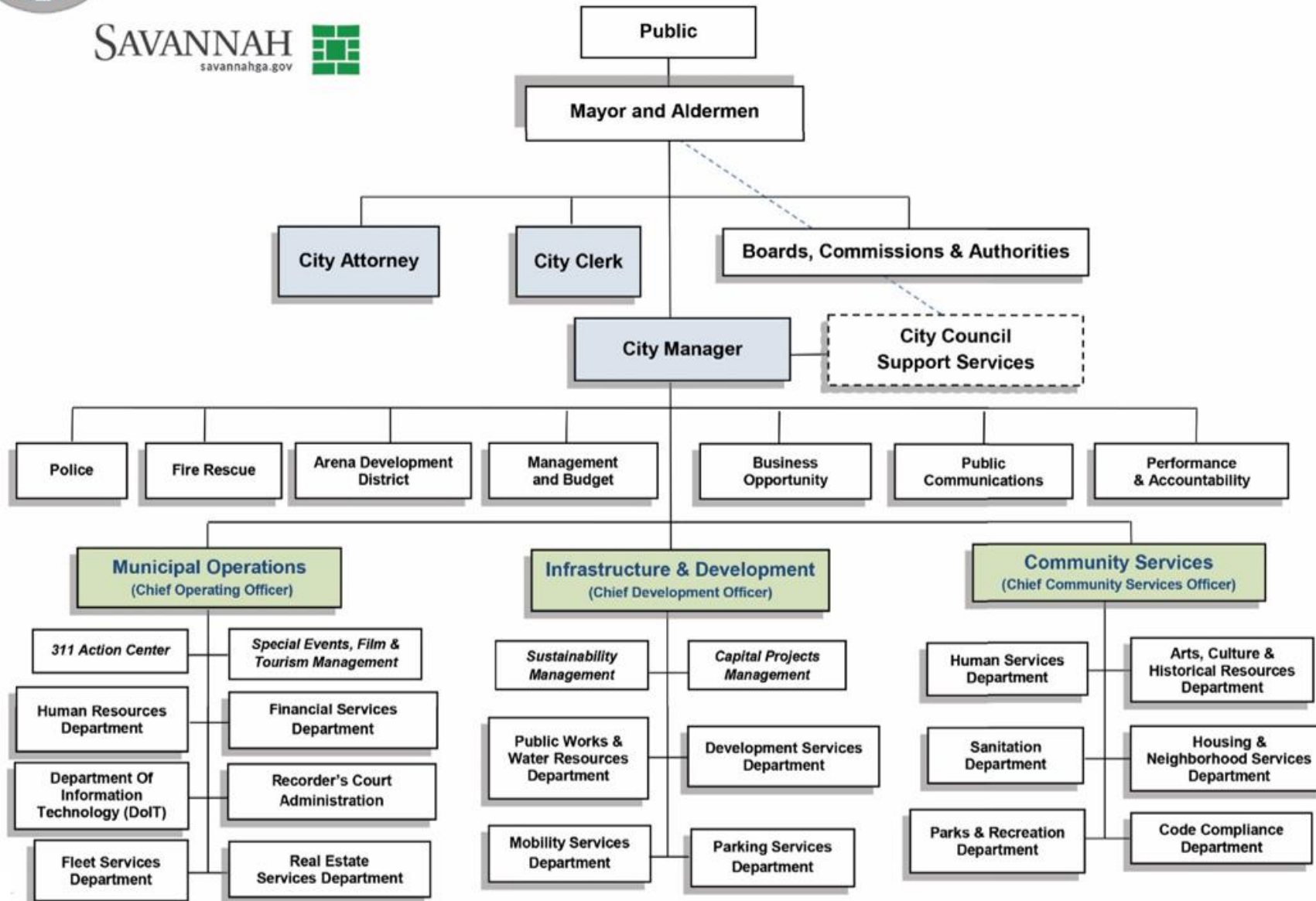


GOOD GOVERNMENT



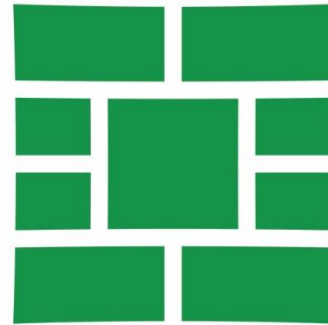
# Adoption and Implementation of Restructuring Plan

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# Launch of New City Brand

The new City brand aligns our logo with our partners at Visit Savannah and the Savannah Economic Development Authority.



SAVANNAH

[savannahga.gov](http://savannahga.gov)



The City of Savannah communicates with our residents in a variety of ways:

## Engaging Our Community

- 200,381 Website Visits
- Over 70,000 calls to 311
- New electronic City Council Agenda
- Surveys
- Studies

- Improving Customer Service
- Public Input Meetings
- City Staff Interactions
- Social Media
- Online Billing

Mayor & City Council  
Clerk of Council  
City At-Large  
City Code/Ordinances  
Office of the City Manager  
Chief Operating Officer  
Chief Infrastructure & Development Officer  
Chief Community Services Officer  
Fire Savannah Fire Rescue  
Police Savannah Police  
Open Government  
Savannah Under Construction  
City Employment

Visit Our Government - Savannah Under Construction

### Savannah Under Construction

The City of Savannah is committed to providing greater transparency and accountability with regards to the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). To learn more information about an individual project, see the interactive map linked below.

Click Here To Access the Interactive Map

We hope you are using the latest version of Internet Explorer or Google Chrome.

SAVANNAH savannahga.gov

Resources for Residents Tools for Business Tips for Visitors Meet Your Government

### How can we help...

- Keep Me Informed
- City Jobs
- Make a Payment
- Bids & Contracts
- 311 Need Some Help?

Open Neighborhoods



# Adoption of Parking Matters Plan & Launch of Park Smart App





## Public Safety





## Savannah Fire

Highlights for the year include

- Savannah Fire responded to 7, 919 incidents in 2017. Of those, 927 were fires
- Validated CFAI International Accreditation
- Completed Fire Training Center construction
- Ground Broken for Sweetwater Fire Station
- Awarded a \$20,000 Hartford Fire Safety Education grant in partnership with Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools
- Awarded a \$55,000 GEMA grant to support Georgia Search & Rescue
- Initiated installation of Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) in all response apparatus





The Savannah Police Department is **nationally & state accredited.**

**536** Sworn police officers

**18** New Police officers  
Budgeted in 2017

**23** New Police officers  
Budgeted in 2018

**25** New Public Safety surveillance cameras installed





## Crime Stats and Initiatives

- 6% Reduction in Part 1 Crimes
- 7% Reduction in Violent Crimes
- 30% Drop in Homicides
- 102 End Gun Violence Custom notifications to Groups/Gangs
- 24% Drop in Group/Gang member shootings
- 3,300 Operation Rolling Thunder Citations for DUI, Speeding , No Seat Belts, etc.



## Transition to Savannah Police Department and New Facilities





## Neighborhood Revitalization



## Development of Downtown Streetscape Plans





## Savannah Shines and Blight Tax Implementation





## Construction of Neighborhood Entryway Signs







# Alcohol Density and Hotel Overlay Districts





## Short Term Vacation Rental Ordinance





## Construction Undwerway on Cultural Arts Center





# Infrastructure



## Street Maintenance



- 3, 548: Miles of rights of way lanes mowed
- 7,542: Feet of new sidewalk constructed
- 597: Number of sidewalk repairs made
- 4,003: Potholes repaired
- 15.9 Miles of lane overgrowth cut back
- 6.07: Miles of street resurfaced



## Traffic Engineering



- 6, 758: Traffic signs repaired
- 432: New traffic signs installed
- 1,102: Traffic studies performed
- 435: Pedestrian crosswalks installed
- 218: Traffic signal lamps replaced
- 75: Street miles striped
- 65: Traffic calming proposals
- 35: Citizen-requested street lights installed
- 2: Traffic Calming trial measures installed



## Greenscapes



- 4,186: Number of trees serviced
- 610: Tree stumps removed
- 219: Number of park acres maintained
- 136: Blocks of sidewalk pressure washed
- 1,486 Tree plans reviewed



## Stormwater



- 3,557: Inlets cleaned
- 747: Miles of ditches mowed & treated
- 208: Pipe repairs made
- 35: Miles of pipes cleaned





## Widening of Bilbo Canal and President Street Rebuild





## Completion of Canal District Vision Plan



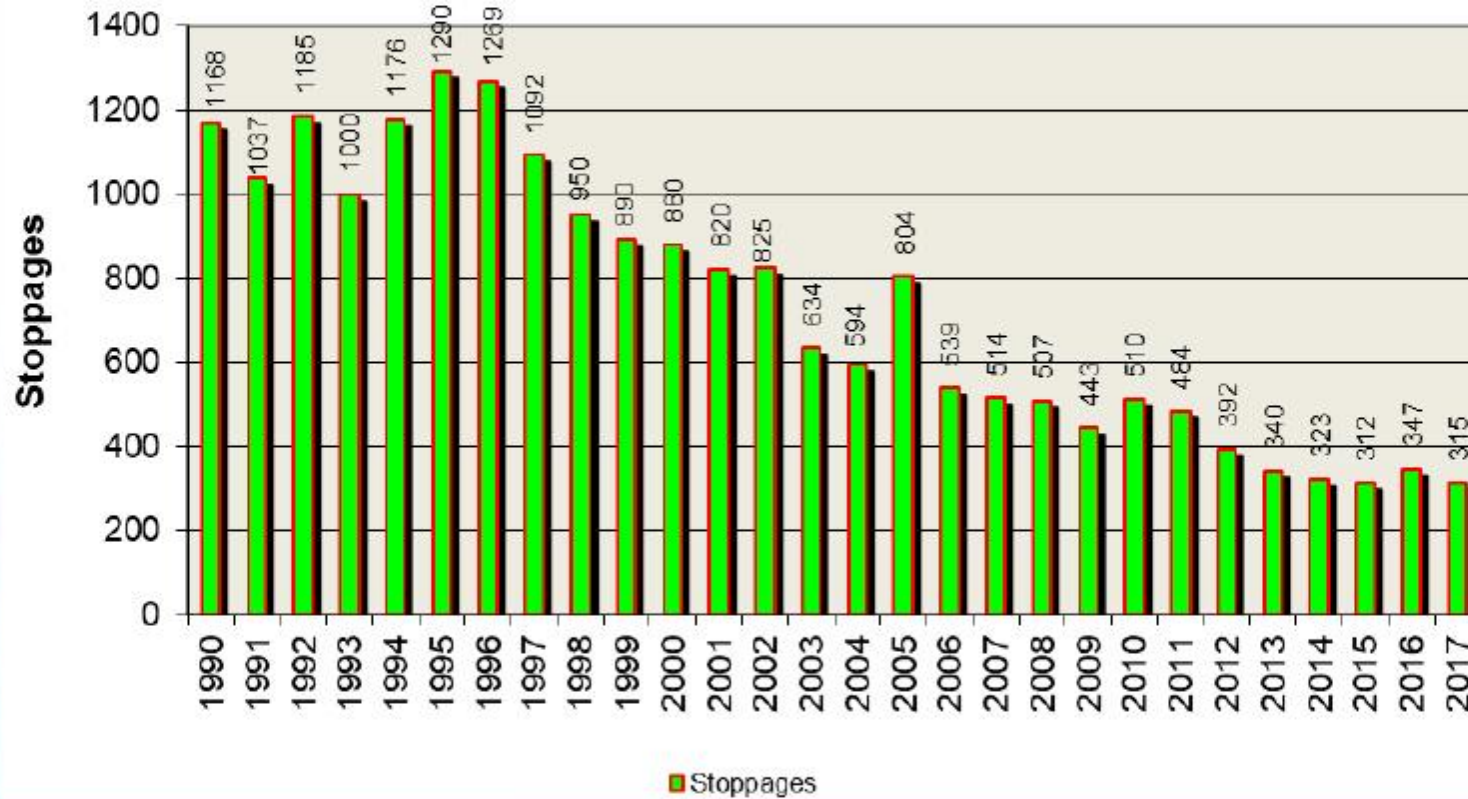


City produces 19.3 billion gallons of drinking water in 2017





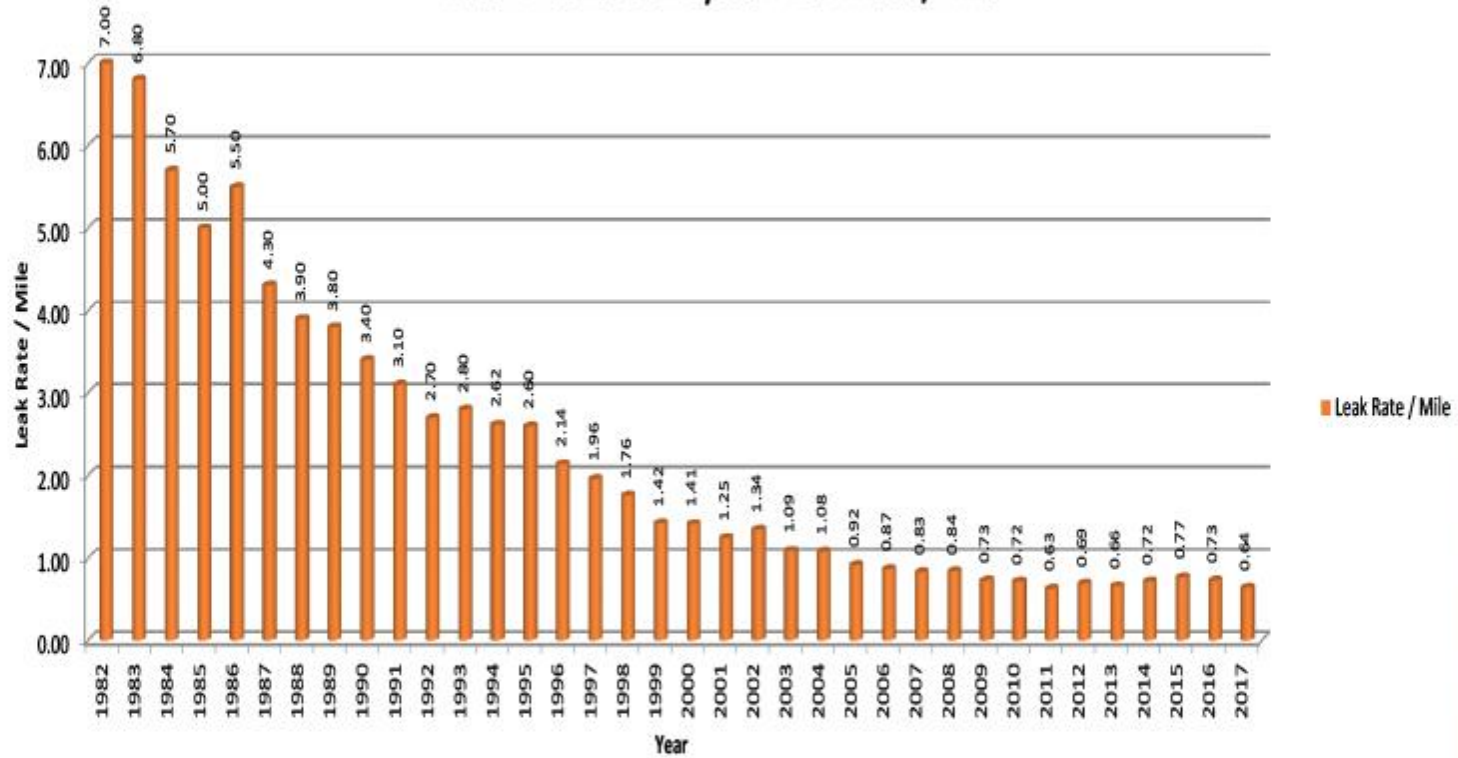
# Sewer Stoppages





# Water Leaks

### Water Distribution System Leak Rate / Mile





## Creation of Greenscapes Division





## Launch of \$20M Biosolids Project at President Street Water Reclamation Plant





## Completed Agreement for 2 New Public Parking Decks at Savannah River Landing







## Public-Private Partnership Extending Riverwalk to West River Street





## Economic Strength & Poverty Reduction



## Creation of Savannah Business Opportunity Program



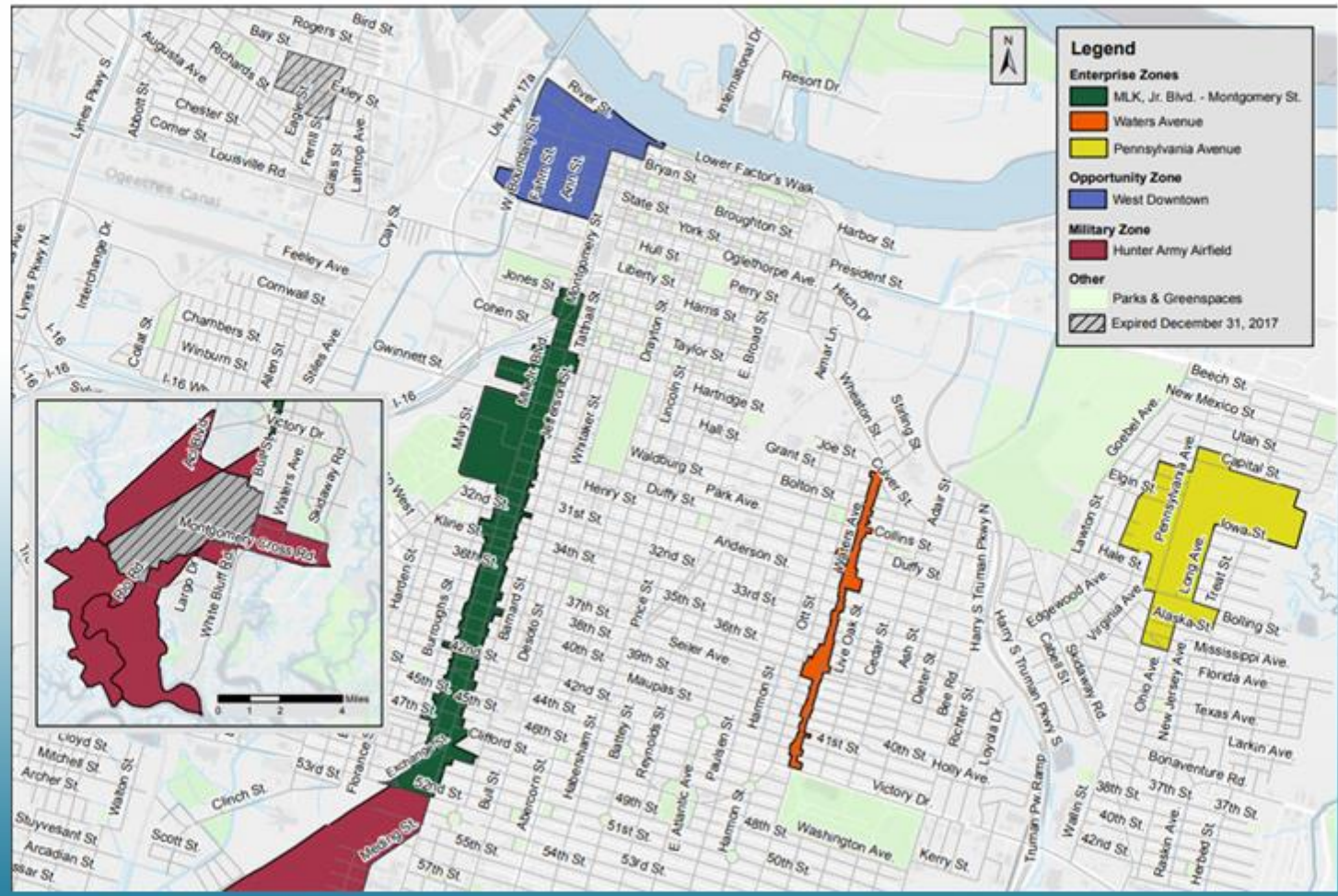


## Housing and Neighborhood Services are changing lives





# Enterprise Zones Attracted \$20 million in Private Investments in 2017





## Implementation of Food Truck Ordinance





## Creation of Hire Savannah Program

### HIRE SAVANNAH FOLLOW-UP SESSIONS

The City of Savannah is designing a program to increase hiring of Savannah residents on City contracts.

The Hire Savannah Initiative will provide recruitment and training assistance to City contractors.

You are invited to join a follow-up discussion to learn more about the program and provide feedback.

#### YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT TO US

AUG. 10	5:30PM-7:00PM	WorkSource Coastal
AUG. 30	11:30AM-1:00PM	Moses Jackson Advancement Center
SEPT. 13	11:30AM-1:00PM	Savannah Entrepreneurial Center
SEPT. 28	11:30AM-1:00PM	Armstrong Center
OCT. 5	5:30PM-7:00PM	Savannah Civic Center

Space is limited and light snacks will be provided.  
Please RSVP: (912) 354-6174





## Hurricane Matthew Recovery: \$10.4 million FEMA reimbursement







## 650 Students Put to Work Since inception of Summer 500 Program





## Moses Jackson Advancement Center and Business Education/Training





## New Debt Issued in 2017



- \$2 million in General Obligation Bonds

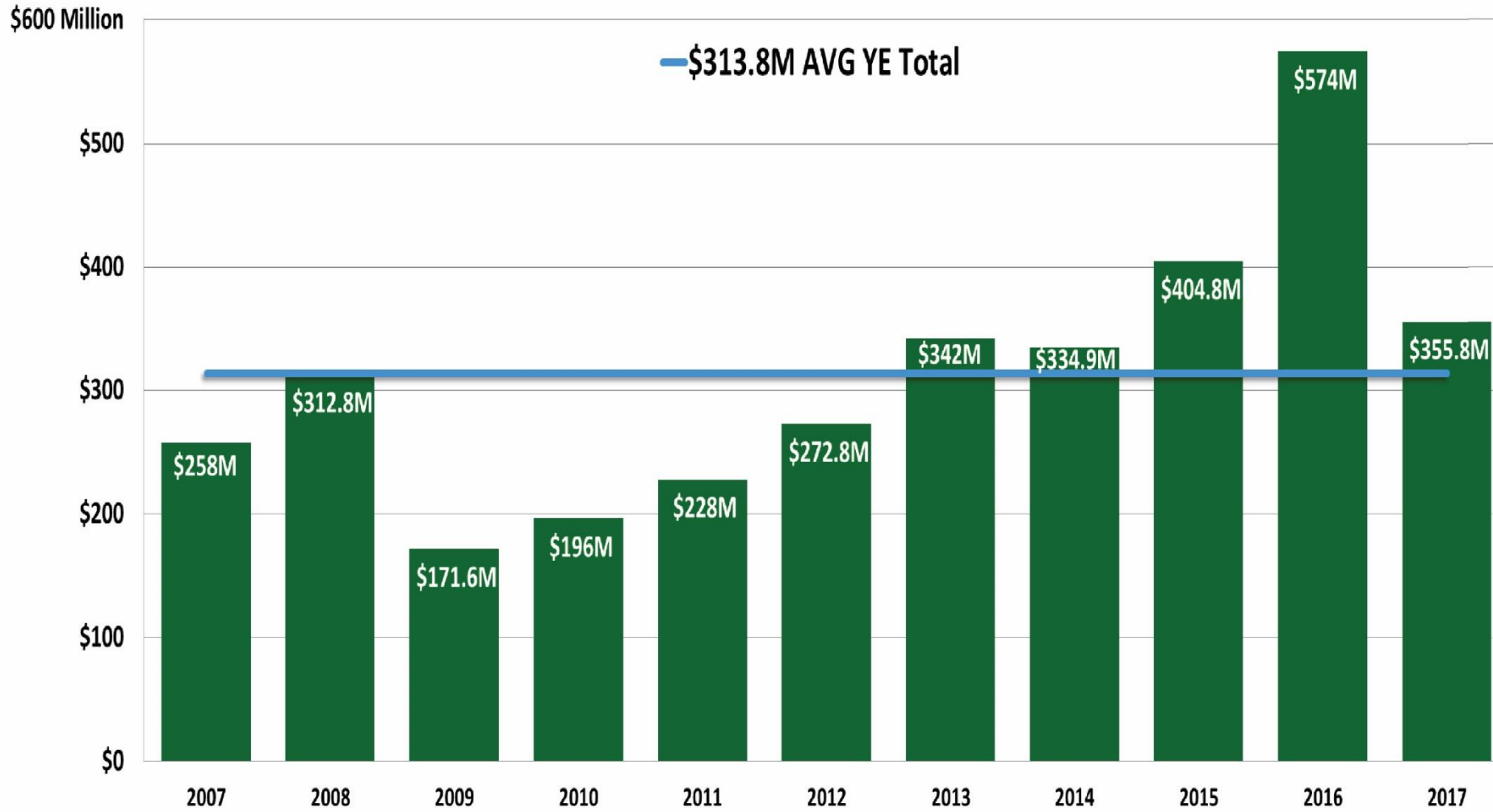


- \$6.58 million in Downtown Savannah Authority Revenue Bonds

# Development Services



## Annual Construction Cost (Valuation) of Total Permits Issued



**11,793**  
Permits  
Issued

**55,112**  
Inspections  
Conducted

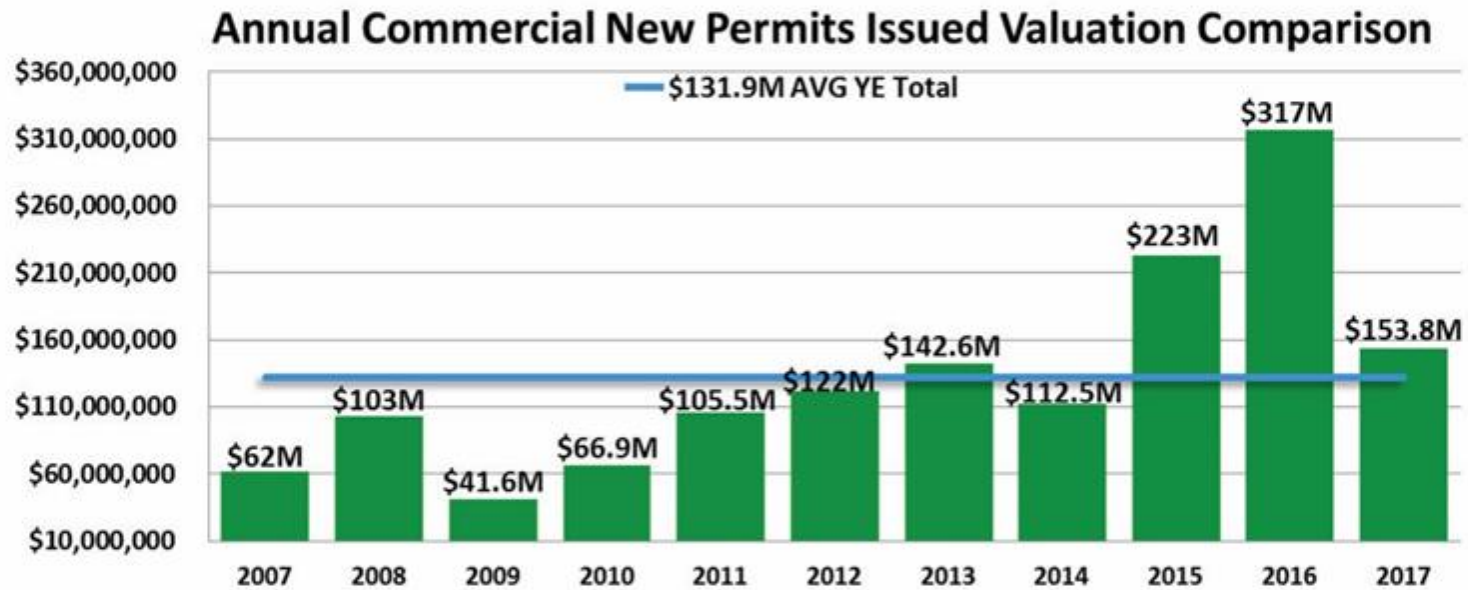
**13,606**  
Code Cases

**7,125**  
Plan Cases

**Valuation of 2017 Permits Still Under Review: \$233M**



## Development Services issued record number of permits in 2017



**Exceeded all post-recession levels, excluding 2015 & 2016!**



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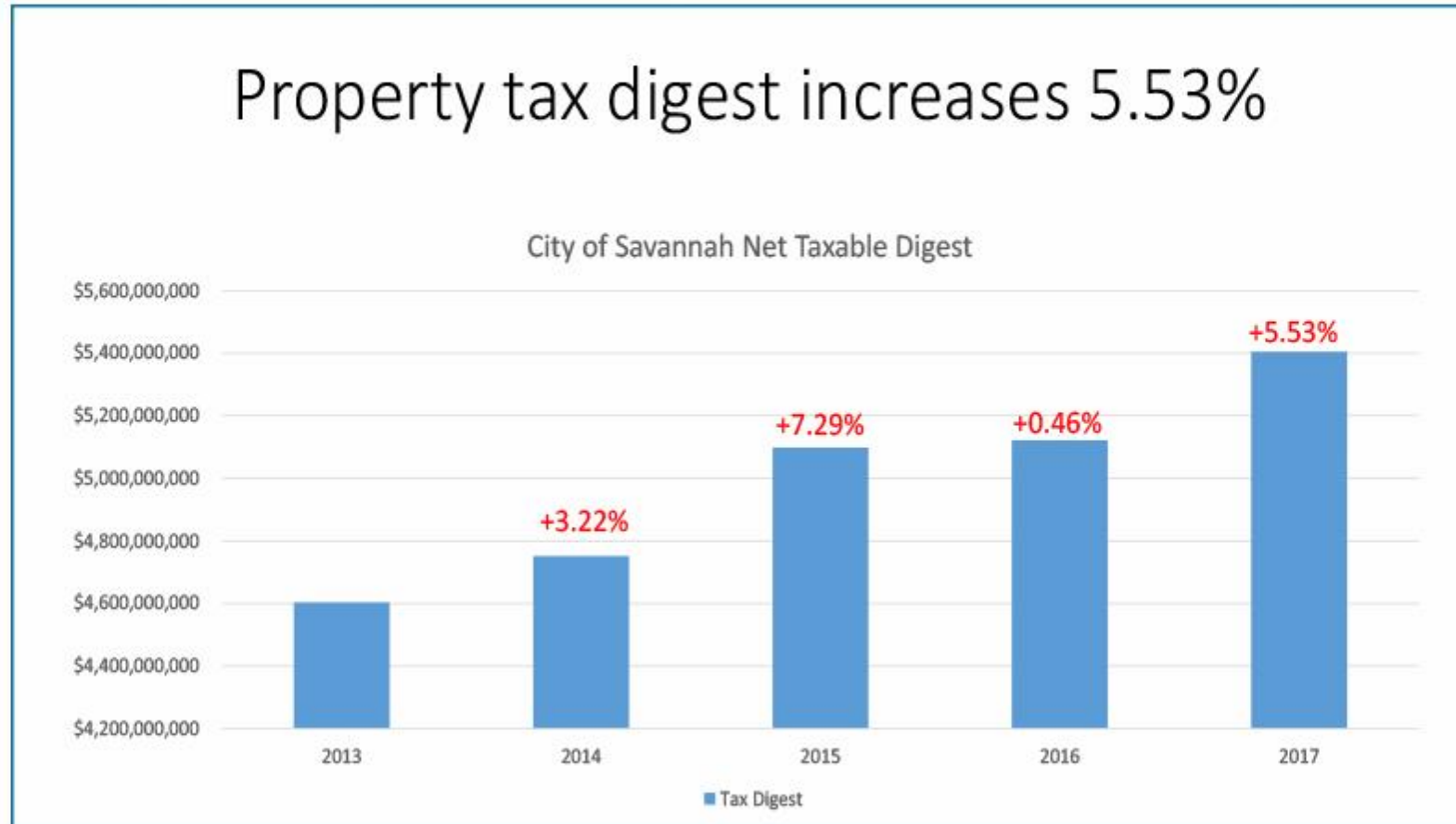
**Exceeded all prior years on record!**



# State of Our Finances

A significant structural imbalance in the annual budget was addressed in 2017 through a reduction in force and new revenue sources.

## Property tax digest increases 5.53%

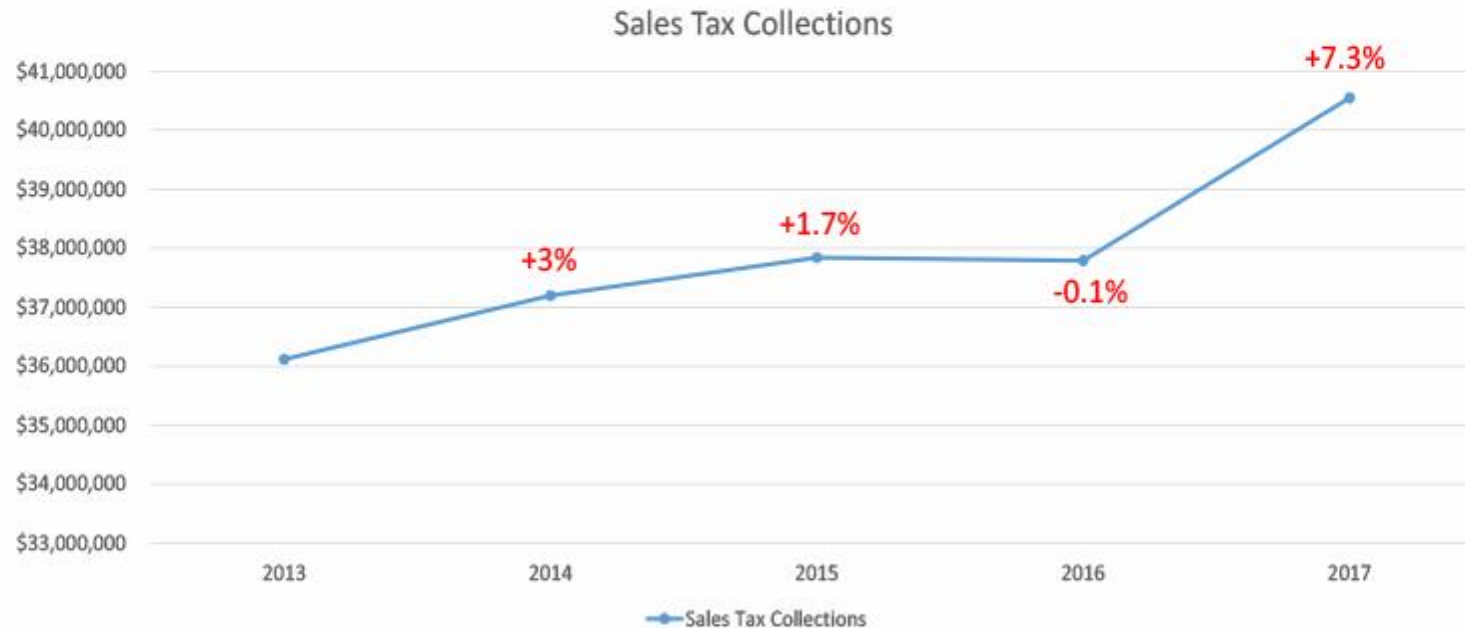




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### Sales tax revenue increases \$2.7M in 2017







## State of Our Finances

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### Hotel/Motel Tax Revenue Tops \$20.7M in 2017

