

Millage Rate and Budget Discussion

Presented by

Ashley Simpson, Revenue Director

Melissa Carter, Chief Budget Officer

Millage Rate Calendar

Initial Consideration	Budget Retreat – November 2018
Receive Digest from Chatham County	June
Workshop Discussion	July 18
Advertisement of 5-Year History	July 25
1 st and 2 nd Reading/Adoption	August 1
Report Millage Rate to State	August 31
Begin 2 nd Installment Billing	September 1
2 nd Installment Bills Due	November 15

*In years where a millage rate is set that is higher than the Rollback Rate, the City must hold 3 public hearings, one of which must occur at least one week prior to the adoption of the millage rate.

City of Savannah Digest Growth

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Gross Digest	\$ 5,332,126,923	\$ 5,386,197,680	\$ 5,742,392,195	\$ 6,038,822,582	\$ 6,430,700,791
Less: Exemptions	234,112,379	264,742,373	337,884,676	397,893,783	461,896,511
Less: FLPA Reimbursement	2,001,080	2,019,658	2,016,008	-	608,000
Net Digest	5,100,015,624	5,123,474,965	5,406,523,527	5,640,928,799	5,969,412,280
% Digest Growth	7.34%	0.46%	5.52%	4.34%	5.82%
Net Other Changes	\$ 321,204,167	\$ (1,210,269)	\$ 195,483,802	\$ 134,852,449	\$ 274,393,222
New Construction	27,338,638	24,669,610	87,564,760	99,552,823	54,090,259
% New Growth	0.54%	0.48%	1.62%	1.76%	0.91%

Property Tax Revenues

	FY18 Actual Collections	FY19 Budgeted Collections	FY19 Projected Collections (Budgeted Millage)	FY19 Projected Collections (Rollback Rate)
Millage Rate	13.4	13.2	13.2	12.856
Revenue	\$ 66,831,242	\$ 70,994,860	\$ 71,083,867	\$ 69,231,378
VS FY19 Budget			\$ 89,007	\$ (1,763,482)

Revenue Implications – Millage Rate Reduction

Adopted property tax revenue based on 13.2 mills	\$70,994,860
Projected property tax revenue based on 12.86 mills	\$69,231,378
Projected Budgetary Imbalance	\$1,763,482

**Suggested funding strategy is to cover imbalance
with unanticipated sales tax revenue*



Challenges & Bright Spots on the Horizon



- Capital improvement needs
- Increased costs for Medical benefits
- Fair and competitive wages
- Funding Public Safety needs
- Economic recession on the horizon



- Effective cost controls
- Property digest stable
- Tourism strength

Succession Planning & Workforce Sustainability

- Setting & Expecting Standards of Excellence
- Investment in Employees
 - ❖ Balance recruitment & retention strategies
 - ❖ Defined Training & Development for Career Growth
 - ❖ Filling Voids in Public Safety Career Path
 - ❖ Pay & Compensation Study
 - ❖ Exposure to on-the-job training opportunities
 - ❖ Matching employee strengths with organization needs



THANK YOU

