

**CITY OF CRYSTAL
FREQUENTLY ASKED BUDGET QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
2015 BUDGET**

1. What is the City’s adopted property tax levy for 2015?

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u>
General Fund	\$8,237,000	\$8,302,000	\$65,000	0.79%
Pool bonds debt service	209,000	209,000	0	0%
County Highway 81 debt service	<u>563,153</u>	<u>563,153</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total City Tax Levies	\$9,009,153	\$9,009,153	\$65,000	0.72%
Economic Development Authority	<u>208,000</u>	<u>239,000</u>	<u>31,000</u>	<u>14.90%</u>
Total All Tax Levies	\$9,217,153	\$9,313,153	\$96,000	1.04%

2. How will the tax levy affect my property taxes for 2015?

The change in the City’s tax levy is relatively small; many properties will see little change in the City portion of their property tax bill for 2015. However, other factors, such as a change in the assessed value of your property and changes in the amount of taxes levied by the county and school district, may cause your 2015 property tax to be higher or lower than your 2014 property tax.

3. What is the City’s adopted budget for 2015?

The proposed budget for the General Fund for 2015 is \$12,752,102. This is an increase of \$186,510 or 1.48% from the adopted 2014 budget of \$12,565,592.

4. How much does the city spend per citizen per year?

If the proposed General Fund 2015 budget (\$12,752,102) is divided by the population of Crystal (estimated at 22,645), the result is that the city will spend \$563.13 per person per year, or \$1.54 per person per day.

5. What City services do I receive for my tax dollar?

Services supported by property taxes and the percentage of the city property tax going to fund each are as follows:

- Police & fire protection 40.0%
- Street maintenance, park maintenance, building maintenance & forestry 21.8%
- City Council, Administration, Assessing, Legal, Elections, Finance 15.0%
- Planning & Zoning, Building Inspections 5.4%
- Debt service on bonds 5.2%
- Recreation programs 10.1%
- Redevelopment 2.5%

6. When will I find out what my 2015 tax bill will be?

Proposed Property Tax Statements showing the estimated taxes for every property were computed by Hennepin County based upon the preliminary tax levies passed by the city, county, and school district in early September. These notices were mailed in November.

When the final property tax levy was adopted by the City Council in early December, the levy was reduced by \$100,000. This may result in a small reduction in the city portion of your property tax from what was shown on the Proposed Property Tax Statements. Tax statements with the final tax bill for 2015 will be mailed out by Hennepin County in March 2015.

7. How can I communicate my feelings to the City Council?

You may appear at the Citizen Input Hour at 6:00 P.M. on the third Tuesday of each month. You may contact the Council Members or staff at the following numbers:

Jim Adams	Mayor	612-805-5101	Jim.Adams@crystalmn.gov
Laura Libby	Wards 1 & 2	763-670-2721	Laura.Libby@crystalmn.gov
Elizabeth Dahl	Ward 1	612-567-3353	Elizabeth.dahl@crystalmn.gov
Jeff Kolb	Ward 2	612-314-5652	Jeff.kolb@crystalmn.gov
Olga Parsons	Wards 3 & 4	612-217-2337	olga.parsons@crystalmn.gov
Casey Peak	Ward 3	763-531-1008	Casey.Peak@crystalmn.gov
Julie Deshler	Ward 4	612-306-5808	uuijad@aol.com
Anne Norris	City Manager	763-531-1140	anne.norris@crystalmn.gov
Charles Hansen	Finance Dir.	763-531-1110	charles.hansen@crystalmn.gov