

**CITY OF CRYSTAL
FREQUENTLY ASKED BUDGET QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
2014 BUDGET**

1. What is the City's adopted property tax levy for 2014?

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u>
General Fund	\$8,150,000	\$8,237,000	\$87,000	1.07%
Pool bonds debt service	210,400	209,000	-1,400	-0.67%
County Highway 81 debt service	<u>563,153</u>	<u>563,153</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total City Tax Levies	\$8,923,553	\$9,009,153	\$85,600	0.96%
Economic Development Authority	<u>239,156</u>	<u>208,000</u>	<u>-31,156</u>	<u>-13.03%</u>
Total All Tax Levies	\$9,162,709	\$9,217,153	\$54,444	0.59%

2. How will the tax levy affect my property taxes for 2014?

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 2014. 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 2014 property tax to be higher or lower than your 2013 property tax.

3. What is the City's adopted budget for 2014?

The proposed budget for the General Fund for 2014 is \$12,565,592. This is an increase of \$148,765 or 1.2% from the amended 2013 budget of \$12,416,827.

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

If the proposed General Fund 2014 budget (\$12,565,592) is divided by the population of Crystal (estimated at 22,417), the result is that the city will spend \$560.54 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 45.9%
- Street maintenance, park maintenance, building maintenance & forestry 20.4%
- City Council, Administration, Assessing, Legal, Elections, Finance 15.2%
- Debt service on bonds 8.4%
- Recreation programs 7.8%
- Redevelopment 2.3%

6. When will I find out what my 2014 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 \$8,000. This is unlikely to change 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 2014 will be mailed out by Hennepin County in March 2014.

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
Mark Hoffmann	Ward 1	763-531-1006	MrkHoffmann@aol.com
Joseph Selton	Ward 2	763-535-3564	iamjcsjr@aol.com
John Budziszewski	Wards 3 & 4	763-531-1003	john.m.budziszewski@gmail.com
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