



CITY of CRYSTAL

State of the City 2019

CRYSTAL
COMMUNITY
CENTER
www.crystalmn.gov
1400 DOUGLAS HILL

CITY OF CRYSTAL PUBLIC WORKS





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City Council Members



Nancy LaRoche
Section 1 (Wards 1&2)



Therese Kiser
Ward 1



John Budziszewski
Ward 3



Olga Parsons
Section 2 (Wards 3&4)



Brendan Banks
Ward 2



Julie Deshler
Ward 4



Mission Statement:

“The Crystal city government strives to improve and promote the quality of life for all Crystal citizens and provide municipal services in a cost-effective, innovative and professional manner.”



Council Vision:

“Crystal is a city with small-town charm and big city access.

Prosperous and fiscally sound, Crystal offers attractive, stable housing, as well as diverse business, cultural and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.”



Goals to Achieve the Vision

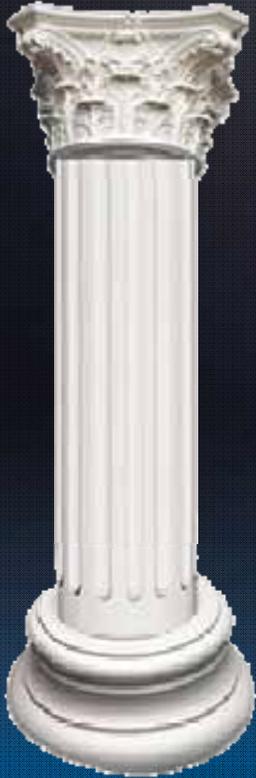
- Develop fiscally sound and stable financial practices.
- Create a thriving business climate.
- Create strong neighborhoods.



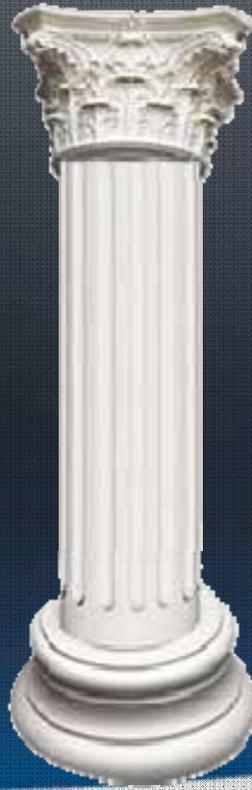
Council Goal: Sound and Stable Financial Practices

Debt Free: Three Pillars

1. No new debt.



2. Repay existing debt.



3. Long-term financial planning and save to pay cash for capital needs.





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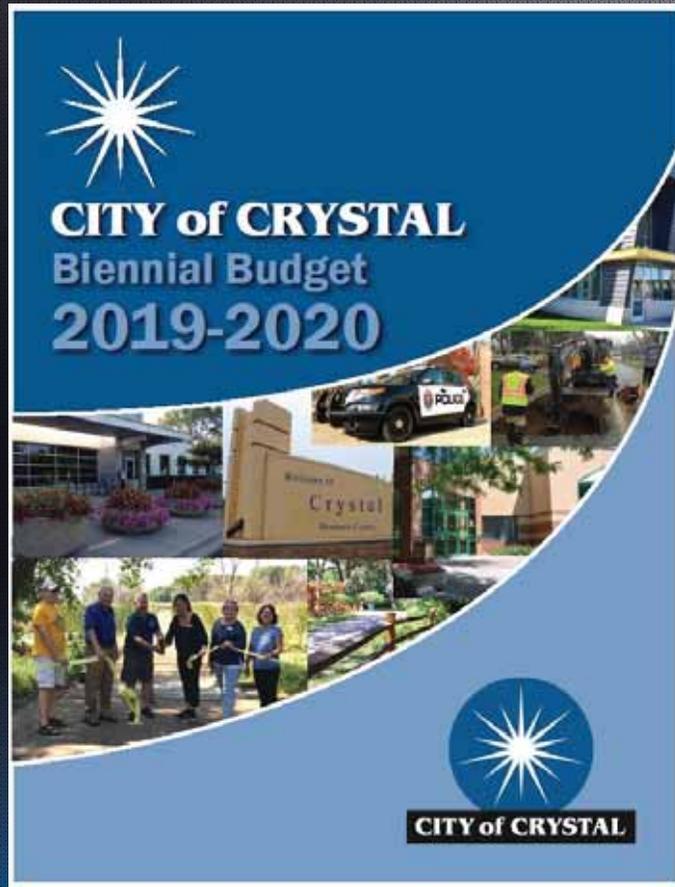
What does Debt Free Mean?



- Lessens risk from:
 - ✓ Unfunded mandates.
 - ✓ Fiscal disparities.
 - ✓ Economic crises.
- Creates financial agility to do more with less.
- Saves interest paid to banks.



Financial Practices in 2018



- First ever biennial budget for Crystal.
 - ✓ Part of debt free plan.
 - ✓ 2019 focus on general operations.
 - ✓ 2020 focus on long-term capital needs.



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Financial Practices in 2018

- Created internal service funds to better understand and plan for ongoing and capital replacement costs.



- ✓ Fleet Fund
- ✓ Technology Fund
- ✓ Building Fund



Financial Practices in 2018

- Created a single street maintenance fund for needed repairs on a pay-as-you-go process.
 - ✓ Future reconstruction needs will be determined by condition of underlying water & sewer lines in addition to pavement condition.
- Planning to eliminate assessments for street projects.
 - ✓ Especially important for people on fixed incomes.

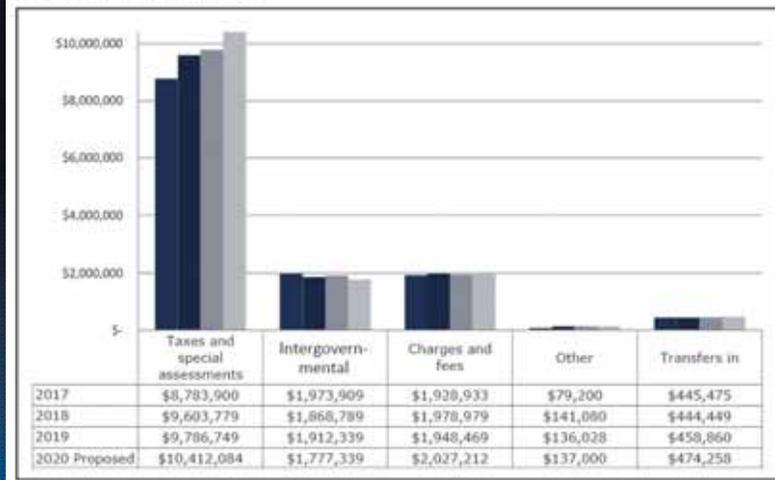




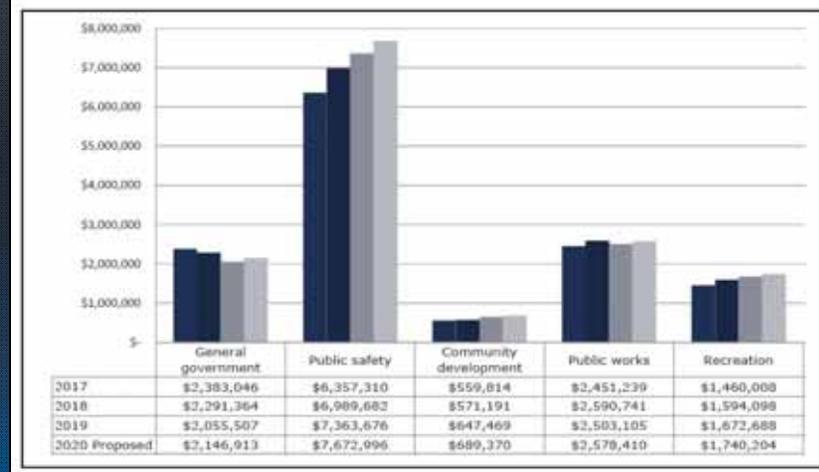
Financial Practices in 2018

- Approved financial policies and a long-term plan.
- In 2019, the council will focus on additional long-term planning for capital investments and reinvestments for parks, buildings, vehicles and infrastructure.

Revenue Sources



Expenditures





Council Goal: Thriving Business Climate



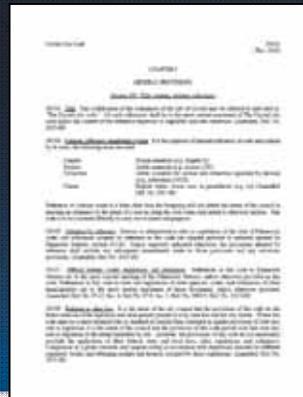
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City Code Review

- The Code Review Task Force.
 - Made code amendment recommendations to better serve residents.
 - 12 residents participated and two business community members invested more than two years.



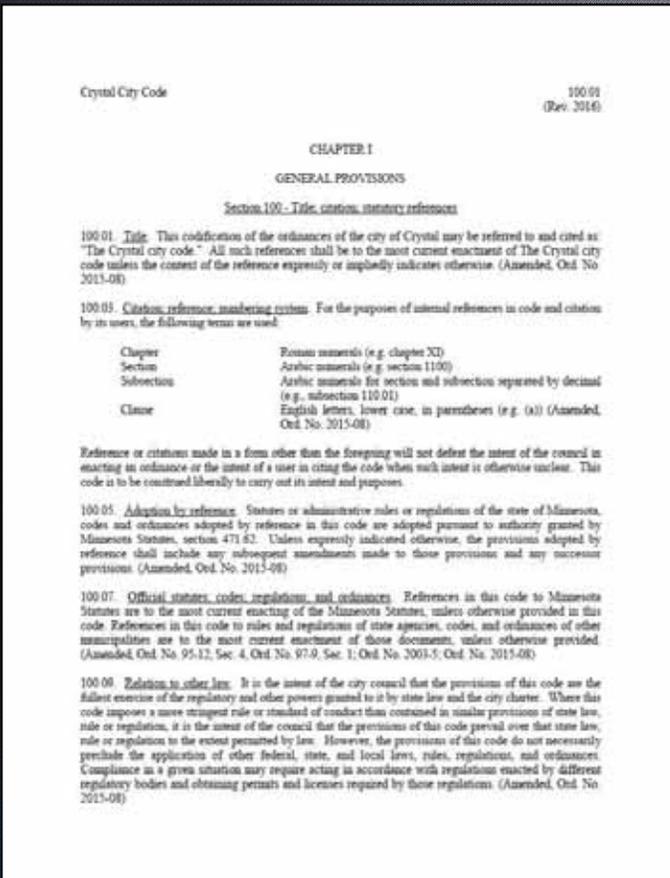


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City Code Review



- Updated and Streamlined the City Code.

- Amended all 20 chapters.
- Deleted 383 ordinances.
- Eliminated unnecessary license requirements. Examples:

- ✓ Dog licenses (but kept rabies vaccination requirement).
- ✓ Licenses for businesses regulated by other agencies (eliminated duplication).



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City Code Review

- New Unified Development Code replaced zoning, subdivision and sign chapters.
 - ✓ Simpler and easier to understand.
 - ✓ Less restrictive and focused on regulating the right things.
 - ✓ Have already been two new Accessory Dwelling Units and one lot split for two new homes; would have been prohibited under old code.
- Fire Suppression System Requirements.
 - Limiting private investment in older buildings.
 - Council to discuss possible changes.



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Thriving Business Community

- Commercial Investment & Construction Underway.
 - ✓ Taco Bell - north end of Target parking lot.
 - ✓ U-haul Self Storage – Repurposing former grocery store.
 - ✓ Extra Space Storage – New 4-story building on former Herzing site.
 - ✓ North Clinic – Renovation & expansion of former Chalet Liquor.





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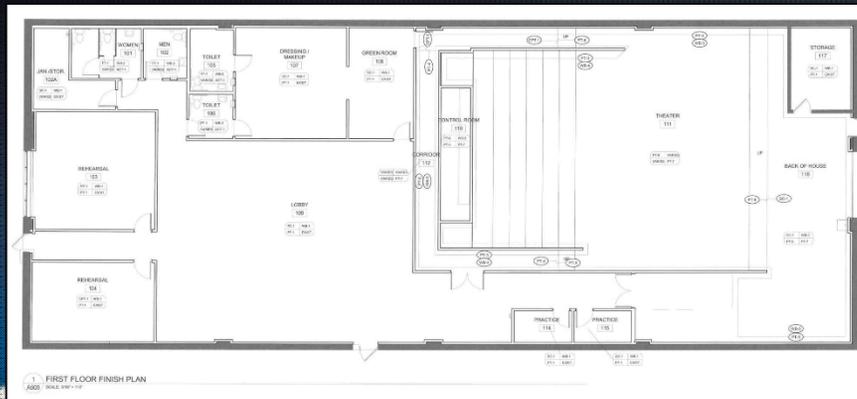
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Thriving Business Community

- Approved fire sprinkler financing program.



- Theatre Elision using it to repurpose former Mill End Fabrics building on 42nd Ave.



- Participating in Open to Business program to help small businesses and start-ups in Crystal.



Thriving Business Community



- Bass Lake Road streetscape improvements completed in 2018.
- Becker Park reconstruction in 2019.

- Total public investment of \$6.2 million.
- Two-thirds from city; one-third from other agencies (county, state and federal).





Thriving Business Community

- With or without LRT, these investments will spur private investment & redevelopment.





Council Goal: Create Strong Neighborhoods



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Strong Neighborhoods

- Reinvestment in Parks with System Master plan.
 - Welcome Park renovation.
 - MAC Park Improvements (with Three Rivers Park District).
 - Becker Park Improvements (with recreation, parks and public works and EDA).





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Strong Neighborhoods

- Public Safety Measures:
 - ✓ West Metro Home Safety Program
 - ✓ Joint Community Police Partnership
 - ✓ Coffee with a Cop
 - ✓ Shop with a Cop
 - ✓ Night to Unite
 - ✓ Run for Rocco/LEO





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Strong Neighborhoods

Home
Improvement
Assistance



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Deaf and hard-of-hearing callers should
contact the Minnesota Relay Service
at 1-800-627-3529 V/TTY or call 711



- Home improvement loans and grants.
- Local EDA and TIF funds leverage state funding and private investment.



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Strong Neighborhoods

- Surplus Property Sales to Accelerate Park Improvements
 - Convert underutilized land into usable cash for parks.
 - Allows city to accelerate park improvements vs. normal Capital Improvement Program.
 - 2018-2019 sales will yield est. \$500,000 for park improvements.





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Strong Neighborhoods

- Communications with the Community.

- ✓ New Website
- ✓ Collaborative social media tools for Facebook, Nextdoor, etc.
- ✓ Quarterly newsletter
- ✓ Recreation Brochures
- ✓ CCX Media
- ✓ Sun Post
- ✓ Custom Videos





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Strong Neighborhoods

- Community Events and Recreational Programming.
 - ✓ Cheers to Crystal
 - ✓ Movies in the Park
 - ✓ Crystal Frolics
 - ✓ Corn Feed and Car Run
 - ✓ Airport Open House
 - ✓ Water Fun Day
 - ✓ Winterfest





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Achieving a Vision Together



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For more information...

- Crystal Mayor Jim Adams
 - ✓ Call or text at 612-805-5101
- City website at www.crystalmn.gov.



Questions and Answers



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