



City and County of Denver 2025 Proposed Budget

**Mayor Mike Johnston
Nicole Doheny, Chief Financial Officer**

Sept. 12, 2024

2025 Budget Summary

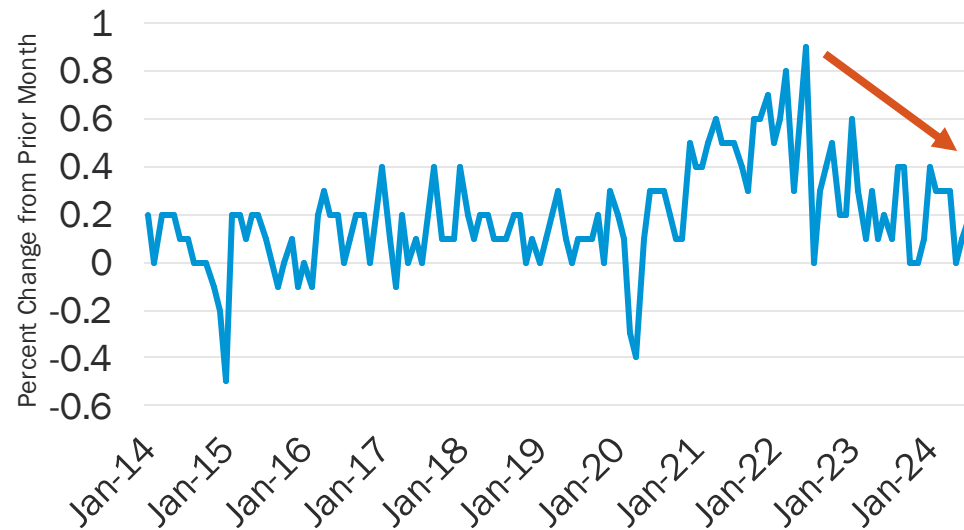
Our 2025 budget is centered around building a more vibrant, more affordable, and safer Denver for all.

- **VIBRANT DENVER:** Revitalizing downtown and opening 16th Street Mall
- **AFFORDABLE DENVER:** Increasing workforce housing and reducing street homelessness
- **SAFE DENVER:** Increasing officers and decreasing crime
- Reducing spending on newcomers and homelessness
- New **VIBRANT DENVER** focus on climate and youth
- Reducing the size and slowing the growth of government:
 - The city budget will grow just 0.6% — the slowest rate of growth in 14 years
 - A net decrease of FTE in the General Fund for the first time in over a decade

Key U.S. Economic Trends

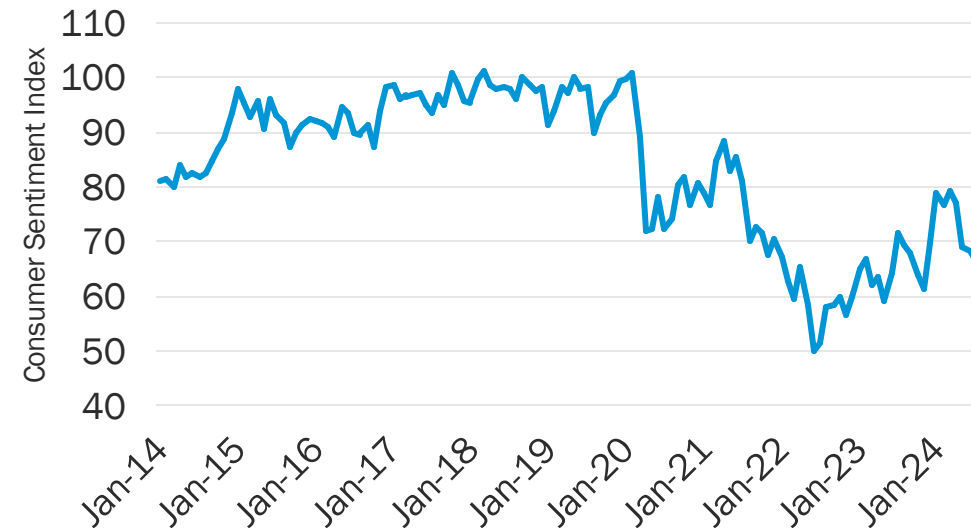
Consumer spending habits and sentiment have a direct impact on national and local economic growth. High interest rates, housing costs, and unemployment are likely driving slower growth.

Slow-down in U.S. Consumer Spending



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

U.S. Consumer Sentiment Remains Low



Source: University of Michigan Survey of Consumers

Other Cities Experiencing Similar Challenges

Seattle: [\\$260M budget gap](#)

Los Angeles: [2% budget cut](#)

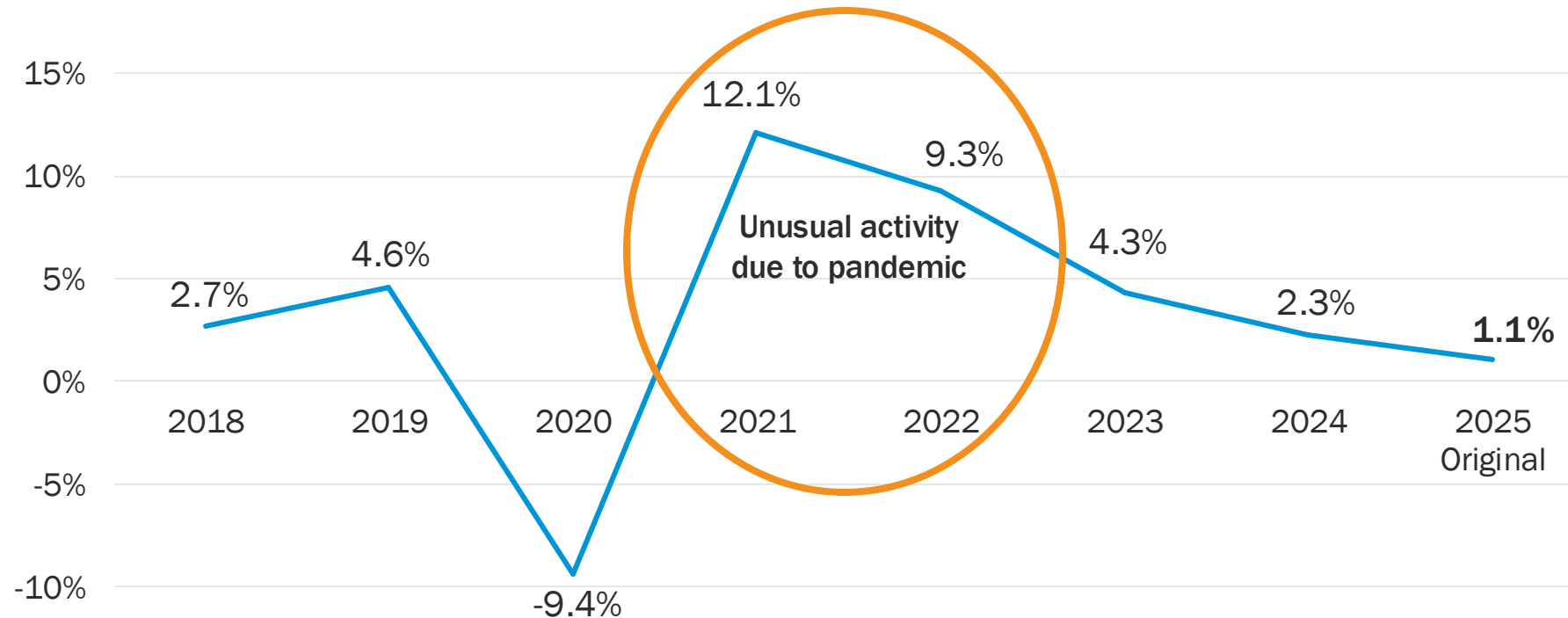
Chicago: [Citywide hiring freeze](#)



Denver's General Fund Revenue Growth Slows

While revenue has continued to grow, the rate of natural growth is expected to slow to **1.1%** in 2025 for revenue of \$1.69 billion.

General Fund Revenue Growth Rates – Year Over Year



Vibrant, Affordable, Safe Denver for All

2025 Budget Priorities

Vibrant
Denver

Affordable
Denver

Safe Denver

Great
Government

\$1.76 billion: Only 0.6% increase on 2024, smallest growth in 14 years

Vibrant Denver

Vibrant Downtown

- Open 16th Street Mall and Activate Downtown Denver
- Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

Workforce Development and Small Business Support

- Workforce Development
- Women and Minority-Owned Business Support
- Grants for Colfax and 16th Street Businesses

Affordable Denver

Affordable Housing

- Creating and Preserving Affordable Units
- Rapid Rehousing
- Affordable Homeownership

Shelter and Stability

- Rental Assistance
- Legal Eviction Defense Services
- Cold-Weather Sheltering

All in Mile High

- Continued Encampment Resolution and Permanent Closures
- Continue to Improve AIMH sites and services

Safe Denver

Investing in Our First Responders

- 168 new police recruits
- 24 new firefighters
- 60 new sheriff's deputies

Alternative Responses to Crisis

- Roads to Recovery
- STAR and Co-Responder
- Behavioral Health Solutions Center
- Office of Neighborhood Safety

Crime Prevention and Reduction

- Safe Neighborhood Plans ("PNI")
- Trust Patrols
- Group Violence Intervention
- Hot Streets Program
- Fighting Auto Theft and Vandalism

Newcomer and Homelessness Spending

Newcomer Program

- 2024 budget of \$90 million
- 2025 budget of \$12.5 million
- **Decrease of \$77 million**
- And able to bring \$22 million back to the General Fund

All in Mile High

- One-time infrastructure investments are complete
- 2024 budget of \$141 million
- 2025 budget of \$57.5 million
- **Decrease of \$84 million**

Great Government

Financial Sustainability

- Only 0.6% Increase in Spending
- Reduction of FTE without Furloughs or Layoffs
- Great Government Tiger Team

Employee Support

- 4% Merit Increase
- Employee Wellness Day
- Employee Town Halls with the Mayor and Executive Directors

High Quality Public Services

- Permitting
- Safe Streets
- Participatory Budgeting
- Office of Community Engagement

New 2025 Vibrant Denver Initiatives

Climate

- Expand Fleet Electrification and Electric Charging Infrastructure
- Improvements to Energize Denver
- Increased Alternative Modes of Travel

Youth

- Childcare
- Afterschool Programming
- Youth Violence Prevention

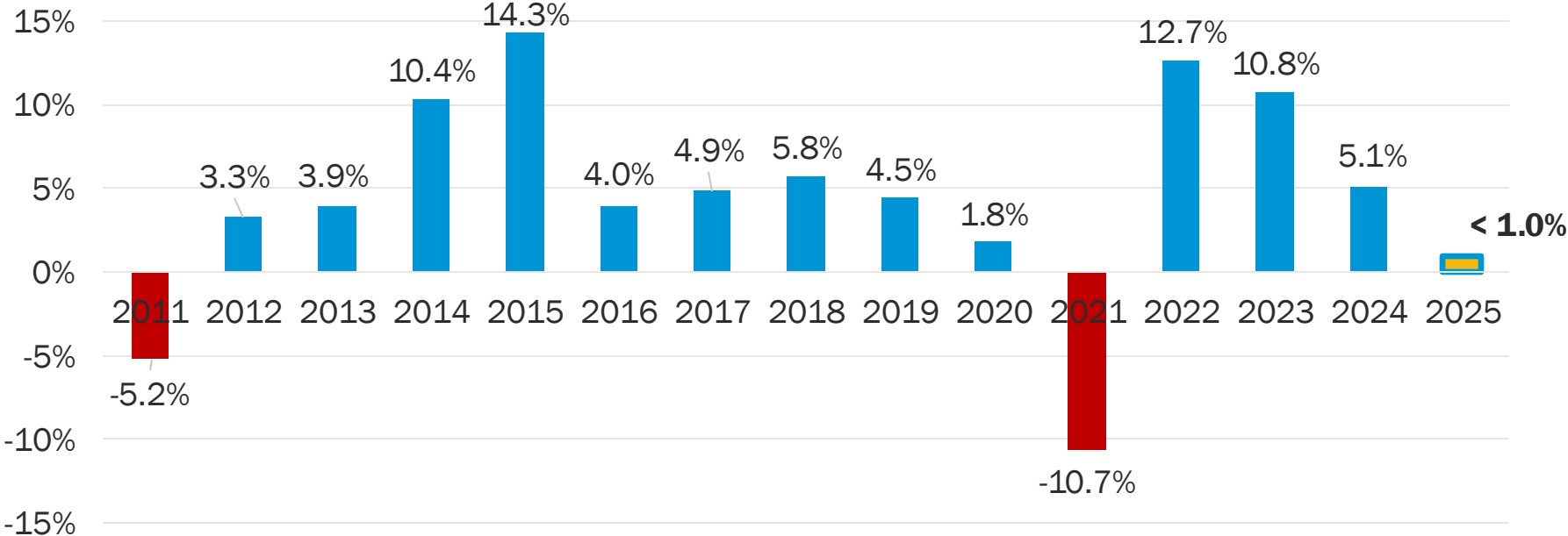


Savings Strategies

2025 General Fund Expenditures

In 2025, expenditures in the operating budget will increase by **0.6%** to \$1.76 billion — aside from the pandemic, the lowest growth rate since 2011.

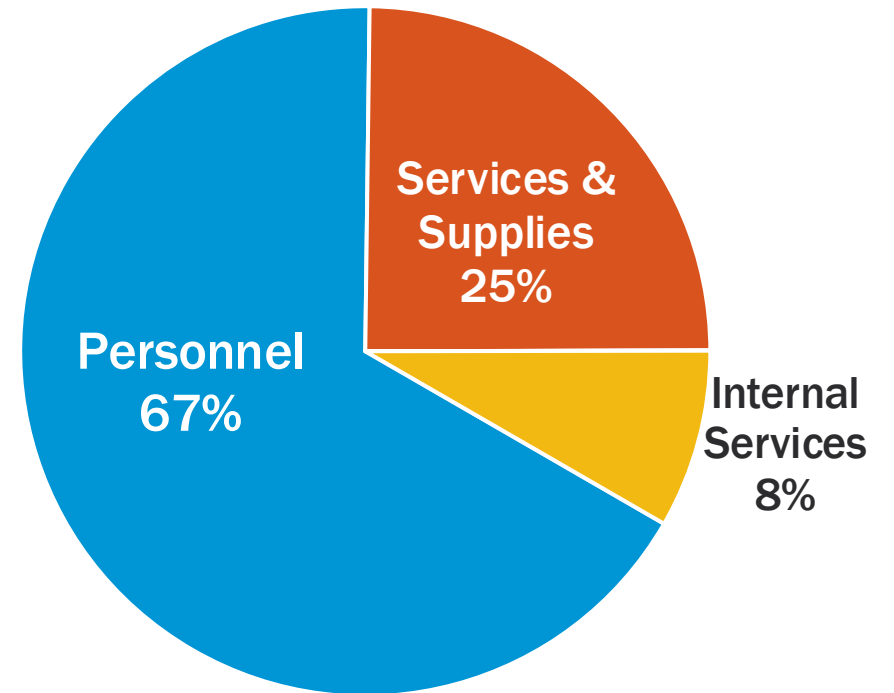
General Fund Expenditure Growth Rates – Year Over Year



Strategies to Keep Budget Growth to only 0.6%

- Holding some vacant positions
- Increasing vacancy withholdings
- Reducing supplies spending

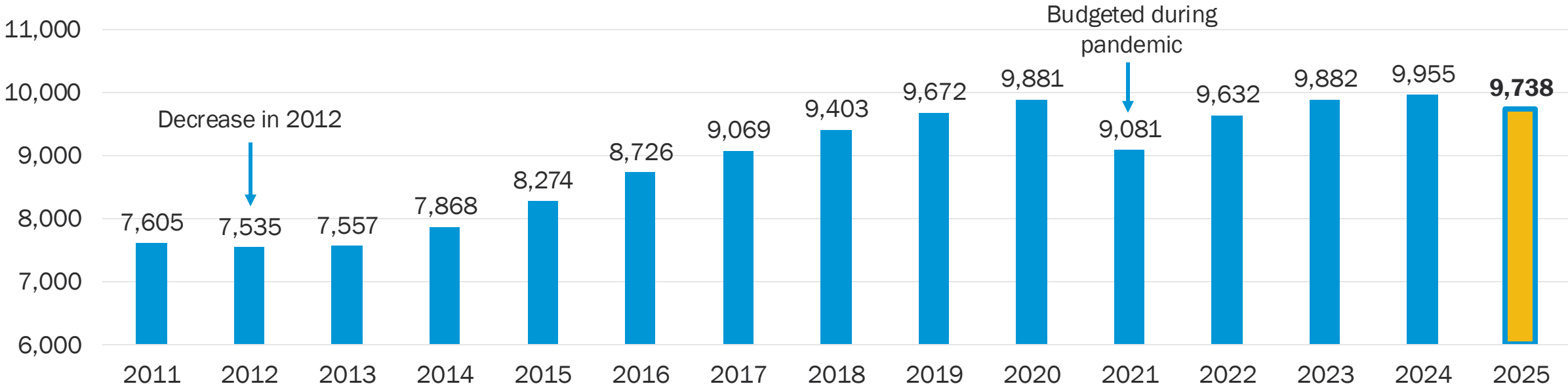
2025 General Fund Budget



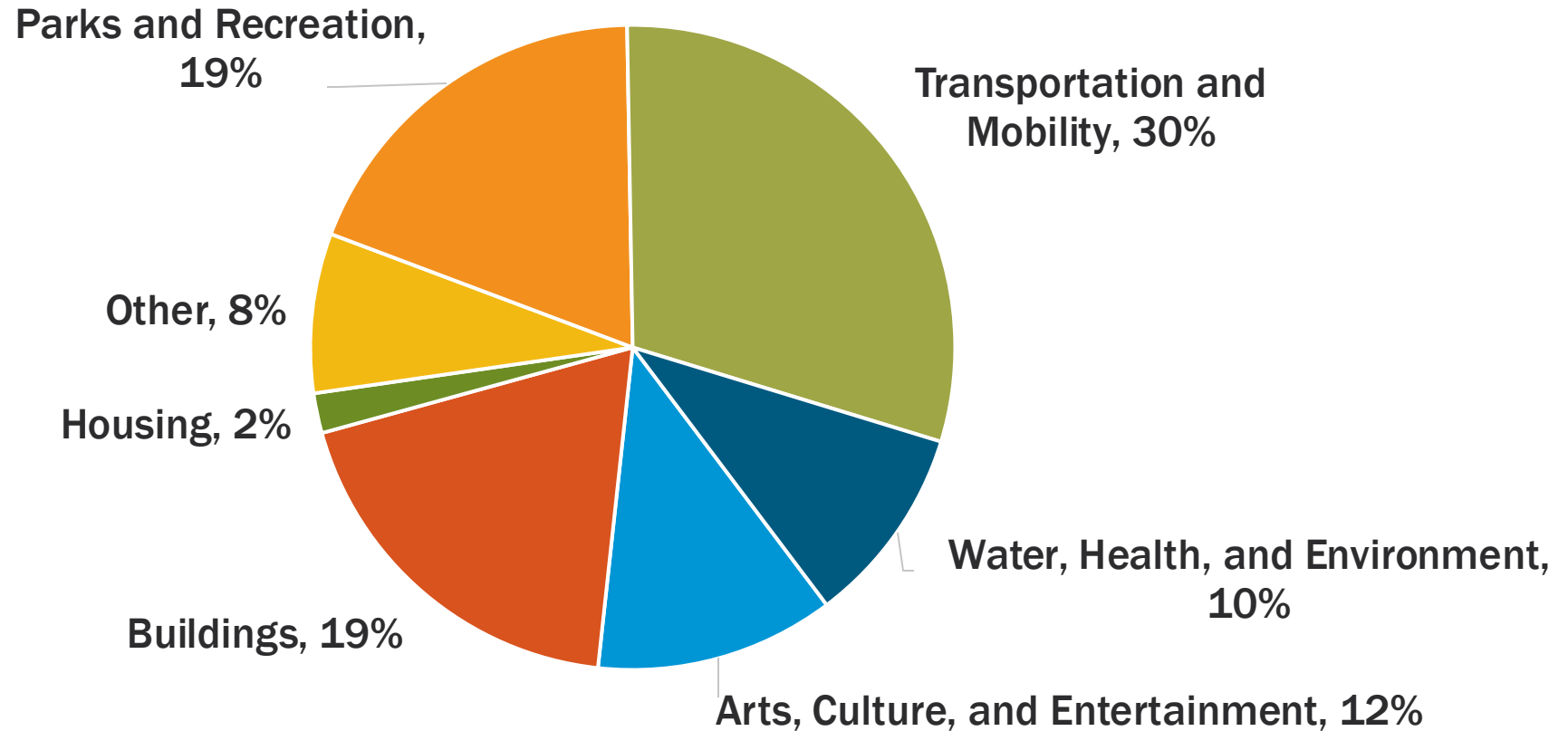
2025 General Fund Staffing

Within the General Fund, FTE will decrease for the first time since 2012 (aside from the pandemic) — with a focus on vacant positions.

Budgeted Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Positions in the General Fund



2025 Capital Improvement Funding of \$300 Million



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