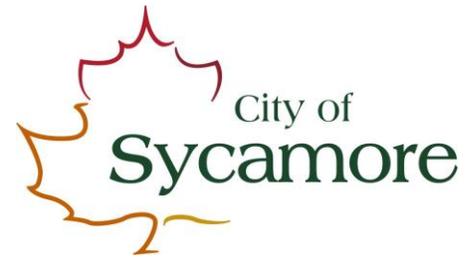


City Objectives that Drive the Budget



A municipal budget is more than an accounting of revenues and expenditures – it is a way to demonstrate priorities, achieve strategic goals, and provide exceptional services. Outlined below are six strategic objectives of the City of Sycamore. The City’s budget is designed to foster these objectives.



Unparalleled Public Safety

Our Police and Fire Departments are critical to the safety of the City. We all rely on these professional, well-trained, and right-sized departments to help us in our most desperate times. It is imperative that our first responders are equipped with all of the necessary tools and resources to answer the call we hope we never have to make.



Long-Term Financial Stability

Accessible and reliable financial information is vital to an open government. Properly-maintained reserves, annual audits, financial forecasting, and financial polices foster financial stability. Comprehensive, long-term planning of personnel, infrastructure, vehicles, buildings, technology, and unfunded mandates is essential.



Improved Capital Infrastructure

Strong communities are built upon solid infrastructure design and maintenance. All citizens deserve well-maintained roadways, water services, stormwater and wastewater services. Long-term capital plans that address such infrastructure should be clearly articulated.



Robust Economic Development

The City collaborates with commercial property owners, business owners, and developers to help them function at their highest levels. Their success contributes to the tax base, which promotes prosperity throughout the entire community.



Technology Improvements

Effective technology increases the efficiency of City employees by paring down or automating processes. It further connects the City to its residents and businesses through resources like the City’s website and social media, online submission portals, and automated billing processes, which leads to better service and shorter response times.



Community Engagement

Dynamic community engagement is evident through meaningful, reciprocal dialog between the City’s elected officials, employees, residents, businesses, and advisory groups. Together, we want to make the City the best possible place to live, work, and play.