

GLOSSARY

Airport, City of St. Louis

An enterprise fund used to account for the revenues and expenses of Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. The Airport is owned by the City of St. Louis and operated by an Airport Commission. The use of Airport revenues, derived primarily from airline payments for use of the facilities, parking fees and interest earnings, are limited to purposes of the Airport.

Aldermen, Board of

28 elected individuals representing the 28 wards of the City and a President elected city-wide who make up the City's legislative body.

Appropriation

A legal authorization to make expenditures and incur obligations for specific purposes.

Assessment

The valuation of property for the purpose of taxation.

Assessment Fund

Fund which supports the operations of the Assessor's office.

Balanced Budget

A budget in which resources available for appropriation equal or exceed planned expenditures.

Battered Persons Shelter Fund

Established by ordinance in 1992, the Battered Persons Shelter fund is used solely for providing operating expenses for shelters for battered persons. The fund is supported by a \$1.00 fee imposed on municipal ordinance violations cases filed in municipal court.

Budget

A financial plan based on anticipated revenues and expenditures for a given period.

Building Demolition Fund

Fund established to finance the demolition and board-up of dangerous buildings. The Building Demolition Fund is funded through a fee of \$2.00 per \$1,000 estimated value of any building permit issued by the City.

Capital Improvements Fund

Fund for long-term improvements and maintenance of the City's infrastructure and/or acquisition of equipment or property for public use.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax Trust Fund

Fund established for revenues received from the one-half cent sales tax for capital improvements. This fund consists of the following five accounts: Ward Capital Improvements Account (50%), Major Park Capital Improvements Account (17%), Recreation Center Capital Improvements Account (3%), Citywide Capital Improvements Account (20%) and Police Department Capital Improvements Account (10%).

Child Support Unit (Parent Locator Fund)

State supported fund through which the Circuit Attorney's Office conducts its program for recovering child support payments.

Columbia Bottoms Fund

Fund established to account for transactions relating to Columbia Bottoms, a parcel of land along the Missouri River which the City owns and leases out for private farming. With the recent sale of most of the property to the Missouri Department of Conservation, activity in this fund has been significantly reduced.

Communications (Cable) Fund

Fund established for the purpose of overseeing the cable television and communications industry in the city and establishing and managing a government access channel and necessary studio facilities. The Cable Division is funded through a 5% franchise fee imposed on Cable operators.

Community Development Agency

City agency responsible for planning and implementing the housing and economic development plans of the City of St. Louis. CDA also oversees operation, administration and programmatic and compliance monitoring of the Community Development Block Grant program as well as other federal housing programs.

Convention and Tourism Fund

Fund established to foster and promote the City's convention and tourism industry. Expenditures from the fund are approved by members of the C & T Board consisting of the Mayor, the Comptroller and the President of the Board of Aldermen.

Convention and Sports Facility Trust Fund

Fund established to help pay for the construction of the convention center expansion project. Revenues to the fund consist of the 3.5% gross receipts tax on hotel/motel

receipts. These revenues are transferred to the City's General Fund and used to help pay the City's debt on the convention facility.

Debt Service

Expenditures for principal and interest payments on loans, notes and bonds.

Debt Service Fund

Fund used to specifically track payments of principal, interest and expenses on general obligation debt.

Department

Major unit of organization in the City comprised of subunits called divisions.

Employee Health & Hospital (Benefits) Fund

A fund financed jointly by the City, its employees and retirees to ensure adequate health and hospital care for employees and retirees of the City. The income for this fund is derived from appropriations made in other City funds.

Encumbrance

An obligation for which payment is anticipated but has not yet been made. Typically encumbrances represent outstanding purchase orders or contracts. The funds appropriated for these expenses are set aside in a reserve for payment. An item will remain an encumbrance until the obligation is paid or otherwise released.

Enterprise Fund

A fund used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the cost of providing goods or services to the public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges. The City's Airport, Water and Parking Meter Divisions are enterprises.

Estimate and Apportionment, Board of

The City's chief fiscal body - comprised of the Mayor, the Comptroller and the President of the Board of Aldermen.

Expenditure

Money actually spent by the City for the programs and projects included in the approved budget.

Federal Mandate

A regulation or requirement imposed on state or local governments by the Federal government. Federal mandates include the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Americans with Disabilities Act and Underground Storage Tank Regulations.

Fiscal Year

Twelve month period to which the budget applies. In St. Louis this is July 1 to June 30.

Fund Balance

The level of funds remaining as measured generally at the conclusion of a fiscal year, after allocating for all encumbrances and other commitments. The fund balance often includes reserves set-aside to meet future obligations, (e.g. 27th pay reserve, rainy day reserve). From a fiscal policy standpoint, emphasis is often placed on the level of “unreserved” fund balance as an indicator of fiscal stability. The City’s policy is to achieve and maintain an unreserved general fund balance at a minimum of 5% of the general fund budget.

General Fund

The main operating fund of the City.

Lateral Sewer Repair Fund

Fund established in 1989 to provide the cost of the repairs of leaking lateral sewer service lines on residential properties. The Lateral Sewer Repair Program is funded by a \$28.00 annual fee on all residential property having six or less dwelling units.

Parking Funds

Funds used to track revenues and expenses of the Parking Meter Division and Kiel Parking Facility. Both of these operations are managed as separate enterprise funds by the Treasurer’s Office.

Port Authority Fund

Fund established to manage all phases of the harbor and wharves operation including enforcement of all regulations with the guidance of a Port Development Commission.

Program

A set of activities conducted by a department or division to provide a specific service.

Property Tax

A tax levied on the assessed value of property (e.g. personal, real estate).

Public Facilities Protection Corporation

A not-for-profit corporation established to provide the City with Surety Bond and Insurance coverage and general protection from judgements rendered against the City. Each year the City makes a contribution to PFPC out of the General Fund.

Revenue

Income received by the City government from sources, such as taxes, fees, user charges, grants and fines, which is used to support the government's facilities and services to the community.

Riverboat Gaming Fund

Fund established to account for revenues from riverboat gaming. Appropriations from this fund are used for three primary purposes, 1) public safety on the riverfront, 2) capital expenditures (i.e. local bridge match, etc.) and 3) economic development. Revenue from riverboat gaming leases is received through the Port Authority Fund.

Special Revenue Fund

A fund used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than special assessments, expendable trusts, or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

St. Louis Rams Practice Facility Fund

Fund established in 1995 to pay the debt on the City's \$5.0 million contribution to the construction of a practice facility for the St. Louis Rams football team. Revenues to the fund are derived from the City's 5% gross receipts tax on admissions to NFL football games. With retirement of the debt on the practice facility in FY01, this fund has become inactive. Amusement tax revenues from NFL games are now deposited directly into the City's general fund.

Street Improvement Fund (St. Louis Works)

A street and sidewalk improvement program funded primarily from a portion of City utility taxes and State motor vehicle sales tax revenues. St. Louis Works funds are appropriated under a separate ordinance on a calendar year basis.

Tax Increment Financings

Funding mechanism that uses the tax benefits generated by a development to pay the debt for improvements related to the development.

Transportation Fund

Fund used to account for revenues and appropriations from the 0.5% transportation sales tax and the 0.25% metrolink sales tax. All revenues into the transportation fund are currently appropriated to the Bi-State Development Agency that operates the regional mass transit system.

Trust and Agency Funds

Funds used to account for assets held by a government unit in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or funds.

Twenty-Seventh Pay Reserve

Reserve set aside for fiscal years in which a 27th pay day occurs. With bi-weekly pay periods, a 27th pay day will occur once every 11 years. A 27th pay day last occurred in FY95 and will occur again in FY06.

User Fees

Fees paid directly by citizens for a service used (i.e. park fees, bus fares).

Water Division Fund

An enterprise fund used to account for the revenues and expenses of the Water Division, which is owned and operated by the City and funded primarily through water sales.